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Building a risk-adjusted model for monitoring psychopharmaceutical prescriptions for children in the child welfare system

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Children in the child welfare system are more likely to receive psychotropic medication prescriptions than children in the general population. This session will detail the use of administrative- and prescription-level child data and Administration on Children, Youth and Families guidelines to quantify variability in prescribing practices among prescribers for child welfare. These data were used to build a risk adjusted model that accounts for case complexity and estimates the adjusted probability of potentially inappropriate psychotropic prescriptions (i.e., red-flagged prescriptions). It is vital to monitor psychotropic prescriptions for children in the child welfare system. Quantifying variability in prescribing practices among prescribers for these children can be used to guide oversight and identify areas of needed support and intervention. The goal of this model is to promote safe and effective prescribing in this vulnerable population.

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