



South Dakota  
Department of  
**Social Services**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES

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**Attention: South Dakota Medicaid Providers**

**From: South Dakota Medicaid**

**RE: Metabolic Screening as Part of Prescribing Antipsychotic Medications**

Antipsychotic medications have been associated with increased risks of cardiometabolic side effects. Antipsychotic-induced adverse cardiometabolic effects, such as weight gain, high blood pressure, alterations in glucose metabolism and lipid dysregulation, are well-recognized risk factors for cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) and diabetes. Clinical guidelines [published in the National Center for Biotechnology Information \(NCBI\)](#) call for regular physical health assessments and laboratory monitoring to prevent and detect adverse cardiometabolic effects of antipsychotic medications.

In 2020, about 23 percent of South Dakota Medicaid recipients ages 1 to 17 years old with two or more antipsychotic medications dispensed also received the recommended metabolic screens required to meet best practice for this population.

Medicaid is encouraging providers to review their case load of recipients receiving antipsychotic medications and establish protocols to ensure that these metabolic screens are conducted as part of their care.

Sincerely,

South Dakota Medicaid