Juvenile Court Mental Health Services

Department of Mental Health

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JCMHS Services

- Review of Psychotropic Medication Authorization forms
- Clinical consultation to Dependency Court
- DMH representation to the MDT Pilot Program in Pasadena Delinquency Court

JCMHS Services

- JCMHS is a multi-disciplinary team consisting of a child/adolescent psychiatrist, a psychiatric clinical pharmacist, a clinical psychologist, several psychiatric nurses and several psychiatric social workers.

Psychotropic Medication Authorization

- 8,000 - 12,000 psychotropic medication authorization forms (PMAs) from the dependency and the delinquency systems come through our office every year.
- We make a recommendation to the court whether the PMA should be approved or denied or whether it should be approved with modifications.
- JCMHS DOES NOT provide or withhold consent. The judicial officer is responsible for providing consent.

PMA Review Process

- DMH has formal practice parameters for the use of psychotropic medications in children and adolescents.
- DMH convenes a practice parameters workgroup quarterly.
- The workgroup consists of DMH and community psychiatrists and pharmacists and representatives from both USC and UCLA.
- Review of the PMAs is based on DMH practice parameters and American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry practice parameters.

PMA Review Process

- Demographic Data
  - Age
  - Weight
  - Height
  - Gender
  - Ethnicity
  - Placement

PMA Review Process

- Narrative: description of symptoms, duration and severity of symptoms, response to medications, past medication history
- Diagnosis: as it relates to symptoms
- Non-medication treatments

PMA Review Process

- Medical Conditions
  - Cardiac disorder
  - Seizure disorder
  - Others
  - Non-psychotropic medications

PMA Review Process

- Psychotropic Medications
  - Type of medications
  - Number of medications and interactions
  - Maximum dosage of medications
  - New or continuing medications
  - Past medication history
  - Plan

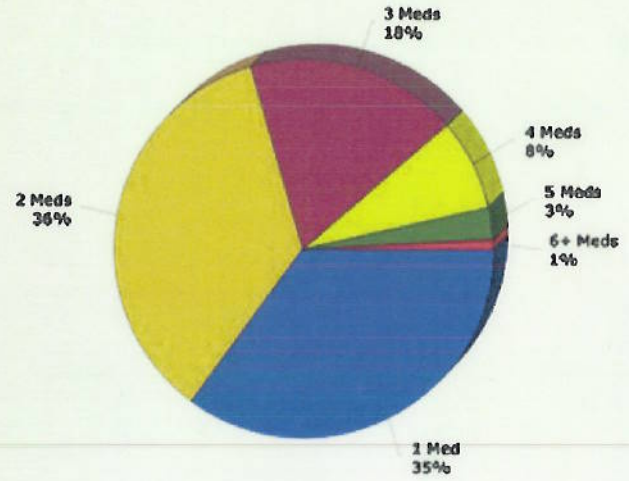
PMA Review Process

- Labs
  - Are appropriate lab tests being done/monitored/ordered?
  - How recent is lab data and how frequently are labs being checked?

PMA Review Process

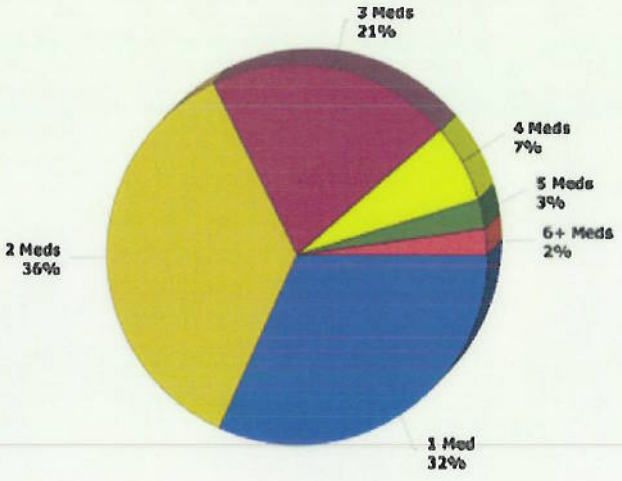
- Initial Review Decision:
  - Yes - Attach review page and send to court
  - No - Attempt to contact physician for clarification, pull history, look in IS, alert judicial officer if necessary
  - ? - Attempt to contact physician for clarification, may recommend consent for 30 days to allow time for follow-up, alert judicial officer if necessary

Group Home* Medication Request Comparison (for quarters 3 of 2009, 2010, 2011)



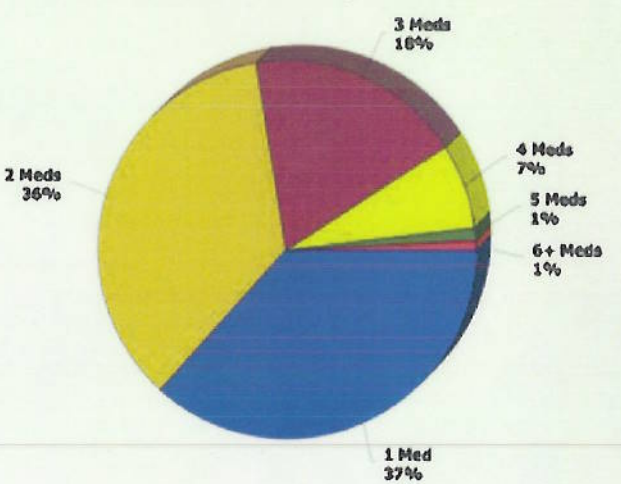
2009 Q3

CYQuarter	Number of Meds	Number of Children	Percentage
2009 Q3	1	181	35%
	2	184	36%
	3	93	18%
	4	41	8%
	5	13	3%
	6+	1	1%
	Total	513	



2010 Q3

CYQuarter	Number of Meds	Number of Children	Percentage
2010 Q3	1	171	32%
	2	195	36%
	3	112	21%
	4	36	7%
	5	14	3%
	6+	8	2%
	Total	536	



2011 Q3

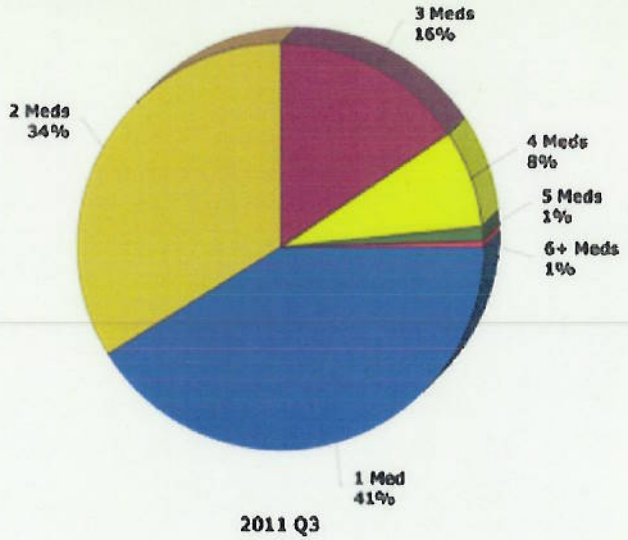
CYQuarter	Number of Meds	Number of Children	Percentage
2011 Q3	1	190	37%
	2	186	36%
	3	94	18%
	4	38	7%
	5	6	1%
	6+	4	1%
	Total	518	

Number of Meds
1 Med 2 Meds 3 Meds 4 Meds 5 Meds 6+ Meds

*Group Homes from both Dependency and Delinquency systems

JCMHS Services – Gia Crecelius MD, Jane Tesoro PharmD – 3/21/2012

Dependency Courts Medication Request Distribution



Number of Meds
1 Med | 2 Meds | 3 Meds | 4 Meds | 5 Meds | 6+ Meds

CYQuarter	Number of Meds	Number of Children	Percentage
2011 Q3	1	239	41%
	2	200	34%
	3	92	16%
	4	41	8%
	5	6	1%
	6+	4	1%
	Total	582	

PMA Consent

	2009	2010	2011
YES	4441	6017	5440
NO	749	1286	1366
% Approval (YES)	86%	82%	80%

Medication Distribution for Children 0-5 Years of Age (2009-2011)

Number of Children	29
Number of medications	35
ADHD medication	21
Hypnotics	6
Antidepressant PTSD	3
Antipsychotic PDD	5

Medication Distribution for Children 0-5 Years of Age (2009-2011)

JCMHS Recommendation	YES	22
	NO	3
	?	10
Judicial Consent	YES	17
	NO	18

JCMHS Consultation Service

- JCMHS provides a consultation service to the Dependency Courts.
- We accept referrals for questions about mental health issues.
- We are able to review medication management, assist with diagnostic questions, assist in linkage to services, etc. Referrals must have a mental health component.

JCMHS Consultation Service

- If we open a case, we do a face-to-face evaluation with the child/adolescent.
- We are able to consult with caregivers, group-homes, residential placements.
- Since we are a consultation service, we only make recommendations. It is up to the attorneys/judicial officers to act upon them.
- We do not provide treatment or do psychological/psychoeducational testing.

JCMHS Consultation

- JCMHS performed over 225 consultations in 2011 at the request of dependency attorneys and judicial officers.

JCMHS Consultation Process

- Referrals: as they pertain to medication questions
  - Unresolved PMA problems - contact child's attorney and/or judicial officer for referral to assess the child
  - Child's attorney and/or judicial officer can contact JCMHS for help with the child's mental health needs

JCMHS Consultation Process

- Consultation Process:
  - Review of records
  - Gather information from all available sources
  - Perform face-to-face assessment
  - Consult with treating physicians/therapists/school/caretakers/other personnel
  - Assist with Team Decision Meeting arrangement

JCMHS Consultation Process

- Provide written report to court including assessment and recommendations
- Assist with linkage to services
- We are always available to meet with judicial officers and attorneys to review consultation and recommendation.