



Risky.

Riskier: Prescribing Atypical Antipsychotics Without Weighing the Risks

- From 1993-2002, there was a six-fold increase in office visits for youth that included antipsychotic medications¹
- Nearly one-fourth of atypical antipsychotic claims are for children 9 years and younger²
- Children are especially susceptible to atypical adverse effects such as weight gain, elevated prolactin, extrapyramidal symptoms (EPS), and sedation³

Atypical Antipsychotics **KNOW THE RISKS BEFORE DECIDING TO PRESCRIBE**

1. Olfson M, Blanco C, Linxu L et al. National Trends in the Outpatient Treatment of Children and Adolescents With Antipsychotic Drugs. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 2006;63:679-685.
2. Curtis LH, Masselink LE, Østbye T et al. Prevalence of Atypical Antipsychotic Drug Use Among Commercially Insured Youths in the United States. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*. 2005 Apr;159(4):362-6.
3. McConville BJ, Sorter, MT. Treatment Challenges and Safety Considerations for Antipsychotic Use in Children and Adolescents With Psychoses. *J Clin Psychiatry* 2004;65 [suppl 6]:20-29.

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