

Psychotropic Medication Youth Engagement Worksheet (Ages 14 and Up)

	YES "Y"	NO "N"	N/A "X"	COMMENTS (as needed) <i>Do not include direct quotations from the youth.</i>
1. Does the youth know the name of the medication(s) being taken?				
2. Does the youth know the reason for the medication(s)?				
3. Does the youth know his or her diagnosis?				
4. Does the youth know the dosage(s)?				
5. Is the youth aware of the potential side effects?				
6. Does the youth know the medication schedule?				
7. Does the youth self-administer the meds?				
8. Does the youth know the prescribing physician's name and contact information?				
9. Does the youth know how to make an appointment with the prescribing physician?				
10. Does the youth understand the danger of stopping the meds without consulting the prescribing physician?				
11. Does the youth have medical coverage?				
12. Does the youth know how to use the medical coverage?				
13. Does the youth know how and where to refill medical prescriptions?				
14. Does the youth have copies of his/her medical records and history?				
15. Does the youth have a trusted adult to talk with about medical issues?				
16. Does the youth have contact information for the designated consulting public health nurse (PHN)?				

Name of Youth	DOB	Case Number	DCFS? Probation?
Name of Preparer	Agency	Date Prepared	

PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORKSHEET INSTRUCTIONS

The goal of this tool is to ensure that youth under the court's jurisdiction who are being administered psychotropic medication are engaged in the medication process early enough so that—when they reach the age of majority and leave the system or move to extended foster care—they are prepared to make decisions about their ongoing medical care and are capable of monitoring their medication regimen should they choose to continue it.

The worksheet itself does not accomplish this goal. **It is the job of all who are involved with the youth to engage and prepare the youth.** That includes medical professionals, caregivers, social workers, probation officers, attorneys, CASAs, and more. Achieving this goal is the responsibility of literally “the whole village” affiliated with the youth.

The worksheet is designed to provide ongoing information to the Court so the Court can exercise its oversight function to be aware of the youth's engagement in, knowledge about, and preparation for psychotropic-medication use.

For implementing the worksheet, the following points should be noted:

1. In Dependency Court, the worksheet should be attached to all JV-224 forms (County Report on Psychotropic Medication) as part of that report provided to the Court for all status-review hearings conducted for youth age 14 up until their 18th birthday.
2. In Delinquency Court, the worksheet should be attached to all JV-224 forms as part of that report provided to the Court for all status-review hearings conducted for youth age 14 up until their 18th birthday.
3. In Delinquency Court, the worksheet should be attached to all camp progress reports for youth who are being administered psychotropic medication.
4. All worksheets, along with their JV-224 forms, should be placed in the confidential envelope in the court file in both Dependency and Delinquency courts.
5. While worksheets are to be filed with the Dependency Court by social workers and with the Delinquency Court by probation officers, it is not required that they be *completed* by social workers or probation officers. Nor is it required that worksheets be completed via interviews with the youth.

While nothing prevents social workers or probation officers from completing the worksheet themselves, both departments can rely on public health nurses (PHNs), Department of Mental Health personnel, or others (by agreement) to complete the worksheet and provide it to the social worker or probation officer for filing with the court of record.

The only requirements are that the information be **accurate** and given to the social worker or probation officer **in time for court filing**.

6. In completing the worksheet, not all questions are relevant for every court hearing. It is expected that only relevant questions will be completed.
7. The Comments section needs filling in only when the person completing the worksheet deems it appropriate. It should not include direct quotations from the youth.
8. It is expected that the worksheet will be used in Court in a variety of ways. Judicial officers may ask youth in court and/or attorneys and CASAs for youth to verify the accuracy of the information checked off on the worksheet. It is further expected that judicial officers will work with those involved with the youth to ensure that any knowledge gaps the youth may have that are relevant to the youth's age and stage in the system are filled in with the aid of the members of the youth's “village”—physician, therapist, caregiver, parent, attorney, CASA, and so on.