

Potential Inappropriate Use of Antipsychotics in Long-term Care



Year to Date
Performance

24.9%

Island Health
Target

Less than or equal to
26.1%

Performance
Assessment



Green

Performance is within the acceptable range;
continue to monitor.

What do we measure and why?

Antipsychotic drugs are sometimes used to manage behaviours of Long-term Care residents with dementia. Using these drugs raises concerns about safety and quality of care.

This indicator reports the percentage of long-term care residents who are on antipsychotic medication but do not have a diagnosis of psychosis.

The percentage is calculated by dividing the number of residents who received antipsychotic medication but do not have a diagnosis of psychosis, by the total number of residents. Residents with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, Huntington's chorea, delusions and hallucinations, and residents who are at or near end-of-life are excluded. A risk adjustment is then applied. The indicator is reported as a rolling average of the previous 12 months.

Inappropriate use of antipsychotics in long-term care is one of the nine key long-term care indicators monitored by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), and is a key indicator monitored by the Office of the Seniors Advocate.

What is the target?

Island Health's target is 26.1% or lower.

Lower rates are better.

How are we doing?

As of the third quarter of 2024/25, Island Health was meeting the target.

What actions are we taking?

There are a variety of quality improvement initiatives underway to reduce the potentially inappropriate use of antipsychotics in long-term care residents, including family engagement, increased recreational activities, and continued networking and education opportunities for facilities and staff.