

## May 2017 Commitment to Care Quality Topic of the Month

### Hats off to Texas for Ongoing Success with Antipsychotic Reduct



## NEW - National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care in Nursing Homes Data

### *Background and National Progress*

The National Partnership has a mission to deliver health care that is person-centered, comprehensive and interdisciplinary with a specific focus on protecting residents from being prescribed antipsychotic medications unless there is a valid, clinical indication and a systematic process to evaluate each individual's need.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has been tracking the progress of the National Partnership by reviewing publicly reported measures. The official measure of the Partnership is the percentage of long-stay nursing home residents who are receiving an antipsychotic medication.

CMS has promoted a multidimensional approach that includes; research, partnerships and state-based coalitions, revised surveyor guidance, training for providers and surveyors and public reporting.

In the fourth quarter of 2011 when the Partnership began monitoring, 23.9% of long-stay nursing home residents in the Nation were receiving an antipsychotic medication; since then there has been a decrease of 33.2% change to a national prevalence of 16% in the most recent data available for the fourth quarter of 2016. Success has varied by state and CMS region, with many states and regions having seen a reduction of greater than 30% change.

## Now let's talk Texas

As you probably know there has been a huge focus in Texas on antipsychotic reduction. The Texas Health Care Association (THCA) with its members and partners throughout the state have been working hard to improve not only the quality of Dementia Care provided to residents in nursing homes but also to safely reduce antipsychotic medications for those who do not have a clinical indication for it.

The NEW data as of quarter 4 of 2016 shows that Texas is continuing to have success in this area and the residents are reaping the benefits.

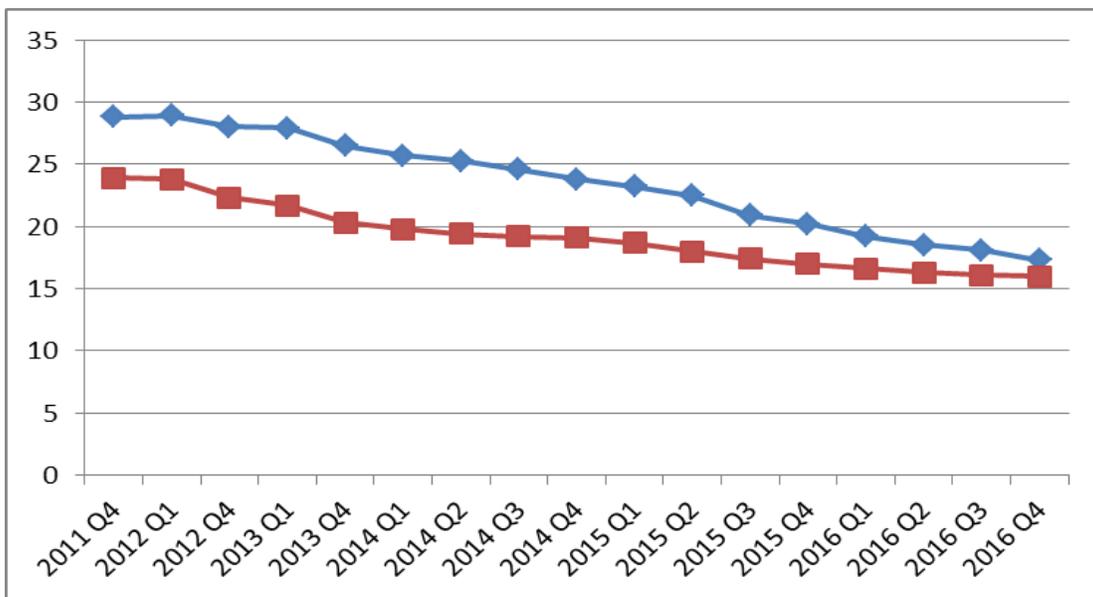
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***Texas ranked 51<sup>st</sup> in the Nation in 2014 and as of Quarter 4 of 2016 the Texas Prevalence is 17.3% which demonstrates a 40.1% change. Texas NEW ranking is 36<sup>th</sup>!***

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Yes, Texas continues to outpace the National average in overall percent change, with the Nations average improvement being **33.2%** and Texas leaping to **40.1%** change.

Long-Stay Off-Label Use of Antipsychotic Medication



The **Blue line** represents **Texas**, which the **Red line** represents the current **National** average.

### *How should Texas capitalize on the Success?*

There are numerous ways to capitalize on the momentum that has been created in our state. Below are just a few ideas you could do during **National Nursing Home Week (NNHW) May 14 – 20, 2017**:

- Take the opportunity to share your success with others through local media, and word of mouth;
- Celebrate with your Workforce;
- Communicate your communities success with your local representative, let them know that the quality of care is improving;
- Continue to be educated and educate your staff on new ideas and interventions.

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***Established by the American Health Care Association (AHCA) in 1967 and always beginning on Mother's Day, NNHW provides an opportunity for residents and their loved ones, staff, volunteers, and surrounding communities to recognize the role of Nursing Homes in caring for America's seniors and individuals with disabilities.***

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For more ideas on celebrating NNHW Click [Here to go to AHCA's Website](#), don't forget you will need your AHCA login information.

### *What should I do if my center hasn't had success yet?*

Now is the perfect time to take advantage of the numerous resources that have been developed in Texas.

**Reducing  
Antipsychotic  
Usage begins  
with...**



**The One a Month campaign and website** is aimed to continue building on success in lowering the use of off label antipsychotics in the treatment of some Texas nursing home residents.

The effort involves partnering with nursing home providers statewide to commit to transitioning at least one resident a month off of these medications by using nonpharmacological interventions.

[One a Month website](#) *No login required.*

The [One a Month website](#) has a tools sections for the audiences below:

**Tools for Families** Practical tools to have difficult conversations about antipsychotic reduction with your residents' families.

**Tools for Physicians**

Physician to physician guidance from AMDA and other resources that will help you be effective in reaching your physicians regarding antipsychotic reduction.

**Tools for Facilities**

Numerous tools to assist facilities to be successful in reducing antipsychotics.



Center for Excellence in  
**Long Term Care**

*[The Center for Excellence in Long Term Care](#)* is a partnership between the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

- Nurses at all levels of licensure (APRNS, RNs, LVNs)
- Certified Nursing Assistants
- Nursing Facility Administrators
- Physicians
- Family Caregivers and others

**Reducing Antipsychotic Use in Long Term Care Facilities in Texas**

A series of six modules, which provides a thorough review of anti-psychotic medications, covering their use and misuse for physicians, nurse practitioners, directors of nursing, administrators, nurses and CNAs.



### Save the Date

August 7 – 8, 2017 at the Crown Plaza  
Austin

Day 1: Advancing Nursing in Long-Term  
Care

Day 2: Dementia in Long-Term Care and  
Community Settings

Registration opens May 15<sup>th</sup>!

### Featuring:

Alice Bonner – Consultant to CMS on the Dementia Focused Survey  
Dr. Susan Wehry – Developer of OASIS Dementia Academy  
G. Allen Power, MD – Dementia Expert



### The Virtual Dementia Tour, “Your Window into Their World,”<sup>®</sup>

simulates the physical and mental challenges people with dementia face. This training allows caregivers to “experience” dementia for themselves by providing a tool that allows them to move from sympathy to empathy and better understand the behaviors and needs of their residents. People who experience this sensory training have a greater understanding of the realities of living with dementia.

This training is also available across the state either through Joint Training opportunities or on-site at nursing homes. For more information, or to request a Virtual Dementia Tour in your facility, please email [TQM@dads.state.tx.us](mailto:TQM@dads.state.tx.us).

As previously mentioned the resources and tools go on and on. Make a plan and get started. If you would like assistance with trying to determine where to start and if your nursing home is a Member of THCA, give me a call at **512-458-1257** or email me at [gbwilliams@txhca.org](mailto:gbwilliams@txhca.org), that’s what I’m here for.

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