

Fairview Pharmacy Clozapine Monitoring Program

Better Persistency with Pharmacy Support

Fairview Pharmacy Services developed the pharmacy-driven clozapine monitoring program to support the University of Minnesota Psychiatry Clinic and its patients receiving clozapine. Patients enrolled in the program are significantly more persistent than patients who are not enrolled.



Almost 4 times more likely to be persistent after just 90 days



Nearly 70% remain persistent with their clozapine therapy

Overview and Challenges

Clozapine is an atypical antipsychotic most commonly used for treatment of patients with schizophrenia who have not adequately responded to first-line antipsychotic treatment. Challenges of clozapine use include:

- Risk of severe neutropenia, which can lead to serious infection and death
- Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) requirements, which are complex and time-consuming for clinic staff
- The high frequency of laboratory monitoring – while many patients have limited means of transportation

Pharmacy-based strategies that support psychiatric health

Fairview Pharmacy offers comprehensive services for the successful use of clozapine including:

 <p>Enrollment of patients in clozapine monitoring and REMS programs, and ongoing management of the complex REMS requirements for clozapine therapy.</p>	 <p>Coordination of all laboratory services - including mobile phlebotomy team for home lab draws - and recording of lab results into REMS and electronic health record systems.</p>	 <p>Patient support services including reminder calls for refills and lab draws, Medication Therapy Management (MTM) consultations, and recommendations for appropriate follow-up.</p>	 <p>On-site pharmacists at the University of Minnesota Psychiatry Clinic (Riverside Campus) who interface with patients and the care team.</p>
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Fairview Pharmacy's clozapine monitoring services are available to any clinic that prescribes clozapine. **Call 612-273-1300** to learn more about program options.

REMS management*

The complex REMS requirements for clozapine therapy are managed by the pharmacy team, including:

- Enrollment as a certified clozapine REMS pharmacy
- REMS registration for each patient
- Assessment and documentation of lab values (notification to prescriber if values are out of range)
- Dispensing of clozapine per REMS requirements
- Communication of any issues with prescriber

Patient lab/refills

Pharmacists coordinate the complex schedule of lab draws and refills:

First 6 months:

1X per week draws/refills

7-12 months:

1X every 2 weeks draws/refills

1 year and beyond:

1X per month draws/refills

About Fairview Pharmacy

Fairview Pharmacy Services is a national leader in the development of ambulatory pharmacy-related services. In addition to more than 35 retail pharmacies, we offer a wide range of service programs designed to optimize health outcomes and manage costs.

For more information visit fairviewrx.org.



* REMS, or Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy, is a program required by the FDA to ensure that the benefits of a drug outweigh the risks. The FDA has determined that a REMS is necessary for clozapine.