

Charleston/Dorchester Mental Health Center

**POLICY ON NEUROLEPTIC INDUCED MOVEMENT DISORDERS**

Neuroleptic medication can induce a variety of movement disorders.

These medication side effects include Parkinsonism, dystonia, akathisia, tremor and tardive dyskinesia.

The Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale (AIMS) was designed to periodically assess for:

1. The presence of a movement disorder.
2. The progression of a movement disorder.

Center clients who have taken any neuroleptic, including ASCENDING, for at least three (3) consecutive months need to have a baseline AIMS.

A repeat AIMS is required at least every three (3) months thereafter while on neuroleptics.

The AIMS evaluation will be performed by or under the direction of the physician. The physician may complete the AIMS during a PMA, or a licensed professional nurse may complete the AIMS as an integral part of medication monitoring. Any significant decline in the abnormal/involuntary movement scale will be reported to the physician for follow-up.

The AIMS will be part of the Health Evaluation form or PMO form and filed in the medical record under Section C .

*Deborah S. Blalock*

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Date