



# Medication Audit Criteria and Guidelines

## Trazodone (Desyrel®)

PEFC Approved: August 2019

### Indications

- Depressive Disorders
- Insomnia

### Black Box Warning

- Increased risk of suicidal thinking and behavior in children, adolescents and young adults ( $\leq 24$  years) taking antidepressants. Monitor for worsening and emergence of suicidal thoughts and behaviors

### Contraindications

#### Absolute

- Co-administration with an MAOI, including linezolid or IV methylene blue, or use within 14 days of discontinuing an MAOI
- Concomitant use with saquinavir/ritonavir
- History of anaphylactic reaction or similarly severe significant hypersensitivity to the medication prescribed
- Recovery phase of myocardial infarction

#### Relative

- Pregnancy/nursing mothers

### Precautions

- Bipolar disorder in the absence of a mood stabilizer

- Cardiovascular disorders including arrhythmia, heart block and failure
- Diagnosis of a seizure disorder or history of seizures
- Discontinuation syndrome
- Enhanced response to alcohol, barbiturates, other CNS depressants
- History of priapism
- Hypotension, including orthostatic hypotension and syncope
- Prolonged QTc interval especially with concomitant use of CYP3A4 inhibitors or other drugs known to prolong the QTc interval and in patients with congenital long QT syndrome, hypokalemia, or hypomagnesemia
- Suicidal thoughts and behaviors in children, adolescents, and young adults ( $\leq 24$  years)

### **Adverse Reactions**

#### **Side Effects Which Require Medical Attention**

- Cardiac dysrhythmia
- Hypotension, dizziness, lightheadedness, or fainting
- Priapism
- Prolonged QT interval
- Seizure
- Serotonin syndrome
- Torsades de pointes

### **Pregnancy and Breastfeeding**

- See relative contraindication
- Review product-specific labeling. Consider risks/benefits in reviewing medication-specific labeling.

### **Drug Interactions of Major Significance**

- CYP2D6 inhibitors may raise levels of m-chlorophenylpiperazine (mCPP)

## Trazodone (Desyrel®)

---

- CYP3A4 substrate. If used with a potent CYP3A4 inhibitor, a lower dose should be considered.
- MAOIs including linezolid or IV methylene blue

See Table A: Cytochrome P450 Drug Metabolism/Inhibition

Trazodone:

Substrate of 3A4,5,7

### **Special Populations**

- Safety and efficacy have not been established in children younger than 18 years
- Geriatric: Less likely to tolerate oral once daily dosing; consider divided doses for the treatment of depression
- Renal impairment: dosage adjustment not required
- Hepatic impairment: has not been studied. Use with caution

### **Patient Monitoring Parameters**

- CBC — baseline and as clinically indicated
- EKG - as clinically indicated
- Monitor for emergence of suicidal ideation or behavior
- Pregnancy test — baseline and as clinically indicated

### **Dosing**

- See HHSC Psychiatric Drug Formulary for dosage guidelines.
- Exceptions to maximum dosage must be justified as per medication rule.