



Guidelines for Psychotropic Medication Consent

Parent gives permission, Youth consents <i>(Committed and Non-Committed Youth)</i>	→	Initiate or Continue Medication
Youth over the age of 18, Youth consents	→	Initiate or Continue Medication
Youth does NOT consent <i>(Committed and Non-Committed Youth)</i>	→	Avoid medication. If there is a high level of need, contact DJJ Consulting Psychiatrist within 48 hours. Address in treatment team.
Parent does not give permission <i>(Committed and Non-Committed Youth)</i>	→	Avoid medication. If there is a high level of need, contact DJJ Consulting Psychiatrist within 48 hours.
Difficulty contacting parent/guardian, Youth consents		
Committed youth, Medication Initiation	→	Authorized DJJ staff may sign consent. If there is a low level of need, wait 1-2 weeks for non-DJJ guardian consent before giving medication. If there is a high level of need, give medication pending non-DJJ guardian consent – no need to wait 1-2 weeks.
Committed youth, Medication Continuation	→	Give medication pending non-DJJ guardian consent. Authorized DJJ staff may sign consent.
Non-Committed youth, Medication Initiation	→	Avoid medication. If there is a moderate or high level of need, contact DJJ Consulting Psychiatrist within 48 hours.
Non-Committed youth, Medication Continuation	→	Avoid medication. If there is a moderate or high level of need, may continue medication. Document justification for continuing medication in progress note weekly. If no consent after 2-4 weeks, contact DJJ Consulting Psychiatrist.

The DJJ Consulting Psychiatrist should be consulted when there is any concern regarding consent issues.

Depending on the situation, court or DFCS involvement may be needed.

In moderate need situations, a face-to-face evaluation of the youth by a second psychiatrist may be needed.