



SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS IN TREATMENT RECORD DOCUMENTATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry publishes Practice Parameters. These Practice Parameters, or clinical practice guidelines, can be downloaded from their website at http://www.aacap.org/cs/root/member_information/practice_information/practice_parameters/practice_parameters.

Some of the special topics covered include:

- Assessment of a Child and Adolescent
- ADHD (adopted by ValueOptions in 2007)
- Assessment of the Family

In the guidelines for **Assessment of a Child and Adolescent**, components that should be documented in a developmental assessment are presented (pages 7 to 10). For therapists who are not physicians, some information regarding physical development and the most recent medical examination may be obtained by contacting the pediatrician.

Please see the guidelines for a discussion on the various components of a developmental history and assessment including:

- Family and Peer Relations
- Physical development and medical history
- Emotional Development, Temperament, and Mental State
- Development of Conscience and Values
- Interests, Hobbies, Talents, and Avocations
- Prior Psychiatric Treatment History

In the **new ADHD Parameter**, specific treatment recommendations are made. **Recommendation 6** gives a thoughtful discussion regarding the components that should be included in a treatment plan for the patient with ADHD (page 11). The authors stress the importance of the plan including parental and child psychoeducation about ADHD and its various treatment options.

Specific treatment modalities and their efficacies are explored throughout the guidelines. For example, **Recommendation 10** states that medication alone may be sufficient if there is a robust response along with normative functioning in academic, family, and social functioning. **Recommendation 11** discusses the conditions in which there is an advantage to a combination of behavioral and pharmacological treatment.

For more information regarding ValueOptions' standards for treatment record documentation please refer to your Provider Handbook.

2007 Treatment Record Review Child & Adolescent Elements Not Meeting Threshold

