Anxiety

Mental Health Care Guide for Providers

OPAL-K

Oregon Psychiatric Access Line about Kids







OPAL-K Anxiety Disorders Care Guide

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1: OPAL-K Assessment & Treatment Flow Chart for Anxiety Disorders

Considering the diagnosis of an anxiety disorder

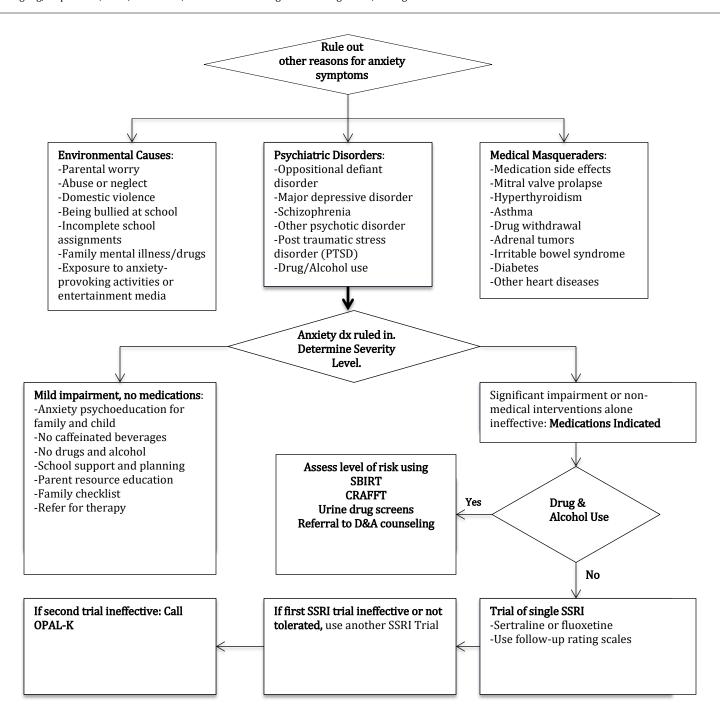
Delineate target symptoms for intervention:

Generalized Anxiety Symptoms: Chronic excessive worry in multiple areas of life such as school, home, family, world events, disasters, somatic complaints, perfectionism. Inability to manage worries. Constantly looking for reassurance.

Separation Anxiety: Excessive and developmentally inappropriate fear and distress concerning separation from home or significant attachment figures. Constant worry about safety of themselves and other family members.

Social/Specific Phobias: Intense discomfort in one or more social settings or performance situations. Discomfort associated with social scrutiny and potential embarrassment. Specific phobias manifest as fear and avoidance in response to specific or object such as animals, heights, scary figures, storms and closed spaces

Panic Disorder: Discrete episodes of intense anxiety without warning associated with autonomic arousal such as chest pain, palpitations, numbness and tingling, diaphoresis, chills, hot flashes, nausea and vomiting. Irrational agitation, feeling unreal or detached.



2: OPAL-K Assessment Guidelines for Anxiety Disorders

- 1. Rule out physical causes such as hyperthyroidism, side effects to medications (allergy/asthma medications, hypoglycemic agents, etc.), substance abuse or other medical conditions.
- 2. Children are often reticent to talk about their worries, so it is important to obtain data from other sources including parents, teachers, coaches, therapists, primary care physicians
- 3. Utilize drawings, play with family figures or other play techniques to help younger children better communicate their anxieties.
- 4. Determine the trigger(s) for the anxiety. Does the anxiety occur in response to a specific stimulus? Does it occur "out of the blue?" Does it occur in anticipation of something (e.g. going to school, taking an examination, visit with a family member, etc.)?
- 5. Understand environmental and familial factors that may affect the youth's anxiety. What is the family history of anxiety? How does the parent react to the anxiety? Are there family conflicts contributing to the anxiety?
- 6. Screen for comorbid psychiatric disorders: mood disorders, psychosis, eating disorders and disruptive behavior disorders.
- 7. Consider the use of symptom rating scales such as the Screen for Childhood Anxiety Related Disorder (SCARED) or Multiaxial Anxiety Screen for Children (MASC) to better categorize, understand, and monitor the child's anxiety symptoms.

Screen for Child Anxiety Related Disorders (SCARED) Parent

Version—Pg. 1 of 2 (To be filled out by the PARENT)

Name:		
Date:		

Directions:

Below is a list of statements that describe how people feel. Read each statement carefully and decide if it is "Not True or Hardly Ever True" or "Somewhat True or Sometimes True" or "Very True or Often True" for your child. Then for each statement, fill in one circle that corresponds to the response that seems to describe your child for the last 3 months. Please respond to all statements as well as you can, even if some do not seem to concern your child.

	0 Not True or Hardly Ever True	Somewhat True or Sometimes True	2 Very True or Often True
1. When my child feels frightened, it is hard for him/her to breathe.	0	0	0
2. My child gets headaches when he/she is at school.	0	0	0
3. My child doesn't like to be with people he/she doesn't know well.	0	0	0
4. My child gets scared if he/she sleeps away from home.	0	0	0
5. My child worries about other people liking him/her.	0	0	0
6. When my child gets frightened, he/she feels like passing out.	0	0	0
7. My child is nervous.	0	0	0
8. My child follows me wherever I go.	0	0	0
9. People tell me that my child looks nervous.	0	0	0
10. My child feels nervous with people he/she doesn't know well.	0	0	0
11. My child gets stomachaches at school.	0	0	0
12. When my child gets frightened, he/she feels like he/she is going crazy.	0	0	0
13. My child worries about sleeping alone.	0	0	0
14. My child worries about being as good as other kids.	0	0	0
15. When he/she gets frightened, he/she feels like things are not real.	0	0	0
16. My child has nightmares about something bad happening to his/her parents.	0	0	0
17. My child worries about going to school.	0	0	0
18. When my child gets frightened, his/her heart beats fast.	0	0	0
19. He/she gets shaky.	0	0	0
20. My child has nightmares about something bad happening to him/her.	0	0	0

4: (SCARED) - Parent Version (continued)

Screen for Child Anxiety Related Disorders (SCARED)

Parent Version—Pg. 2 of 2 (To be filled out by the PARENT)

	0 Not True or Hardly Ever True	Somewhat True or Sometimes True	2 Very True or Often True
21. My child worries about things working out for him/her.	0	0	0
22. When my child gets frightened, he/she sweats a lot.	0	0	0
23. My child is a worrier.	0	0	0
24. My child gets really frightened for no reason at all.	0	\circ	0
25. My child is afraid to be alone in the house.	0	0	0
26. It is hard for my child to talk with people he/she doesn't know well.	0	0	0
27. When my child gets frightened, he/she feels like he/she is choking.	0	0	0
28. People tell me that my child worries too much.	0	0	0
29. My child doesn't like to be away from his/her family.	0	0	0
30. My child is afraid of having anxiety (or panic) attacks.	0	0	0
31. My child worries that something bad might happen to his/her parents.	0	0	0
32. My child feels shy with people he/she doesn't know well.	0	0	0
33. My child worries about what is going to happen in the future.	0	0	0
34. When my child gets frightened, he/she feels like throwing up.	0	0	0
35. My child worries about how well he/she does things.	0	0	0
36. My child is scared to go to school.	0	0	0
37. My child worries about things that have already happened.	0	0	0
38. When my child gets frightened, he/she feels dizzy.	0	0	0
39. My child feels nervous when he/she is with other children or adults and he/she has to do something while they watch him/her (for example: read aloud, speak, play a game, play a sport.)	0	0	0
40. My child feels nervous when he/she is going to parties, dances, or any place where there will be people that he/she doesn't know well.	0	0	0
41. My child is shy.	0	0	0

SCORING:

A total score of \geq 25 may indicate the presence of an **Anxiety Disorder**. Scores higher than 30 are more specific.

A score of **7** for items 1, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 19, 22, 24, 27, 30, 34, 38 may indicate **Panic Disorder** or **Significant Somatic Symptoms**.

A score of 9 for items 5, 7, 14, 21, 23, 28, 33, 35, 37 may indicate Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

A score of 5 for items 4, 8, 13, 16, 20, 25, 29, 31 may indicate Separation Anxiety Disorder.

A score of **8** for items 3, 10, 26, 32, 39, 40, 41 may indicate **Social Anxiety Disorder**.

A score of 3 for items 2, 11, 17, 36 may indicate Significant School Avoidance.

Developed by Boris Birmaher, M.D., Suneeta Khetarpal, M.D., Marlane Cully, M.Ed., David Brent M.D., and Sandra McKenzie, Ph.D., Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, University of Pgh. (10/95). E-mail: birmaherb@msx.upmc.edu

5: (SCARED) - Child Version

Screen for Child Anxiety Related Disorders (SCARED)

CHILD Version—Page 1 of 2 (to be filled out by the CHILD)

Developed by Boris Birmaher, M.D., Suneeta Khetarpal, M.D., Marlane Cully, M.Ed., David Brent, M.D., and Sandra McKenzie, Ph.D., Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, University of Pittsburgh (October, 1995). E-mail: birmaherb@upmc.edu

See: Birmaher, B., Brent, D. A., Chiappetta, L., Bridge, J., Monga, S., & Baugher, M. (1999). Psychometric properties of the Screen for Child Anxiety Related Emotional Disorders (SCARED): a replication study. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 38(10), 1230–6.

Name:	Date:

Directions:

Below is a list of sentences that describe how people feel. Read each phrase and decide if it is "Not True or Hardly Ever True" or "Somewhat True or Sometimes True" or "Very True or Often True" for you. Then, for each sentence, fill in one circle that corresponds to the response that seems to describe you *for the last 3 months*.

	0	1	2	
	Not True or Hardly Ever True	Somewhat True or Sometimes True	Very True or Often True	
1. When I feel frightened, it is hard to breathe	0	0	0	PN
2. I get headaches when I am at school.	0	0	0	SH
3. I don't like to be with people I don't know well.	0	0	0	sc
4. I get scared if I sleep away from home.	0	0	0	SP
5. I worry about other people liking me.	0	0	0	GD
6. When I get frightened, I feel like passing out.	0	0	0	PN
7. I am nervous.	0	0	0	GD
8. I follow my mother or father wherever they go.	0	0	0	SP
9. People tell me that I look nervous.	0	0	0	PN
10. I feel nervous with people I don't know well.	0	0	0	sc
11. I get stomachaches at school.	0	0	0	SH
12. When I get frightened, I feel like I am going crazy.	0	0	0	PN
13. I worry about sleeping alone.	0	0	0	SP
14. I worry about being as good as other kids.	0	0	0	GD
15. When I get frightened, I feel like things are not real.	0	0	0	PN
16. I have nightmares about something bad happening to my parents.	0	0	0	SP
17. I worry about going to school.	0	0	0	SH
18. When I get frightened, my heart beats fast.	0	0	0	PN
19. I get shaky.	0	0	0	PN
20. I have nightmares about something bad happening to me.	0	0	0	SP

6: (SCARED) - Child Version (continued)

Screen for Child Anxiety Related Disorders (SCARED)

CHILD Version—Page 2 of 2 (to be filled out by the CHILD)

	0 Not True or Hardly Ever True	1 Somewhat True or Sometimes True	Very True or Often True	
21. I worry about things working out for me.	0	0	0	GD
22. When I get frightened, I sweat a lot.	0	0	0	PN
23. I am a worrier.	0	0	0	GD
24. I get really frightened for no reason at all.	0	0	0	PN
25. I am afraid to be alone in the house.	0	0	0	SP
26. It is hard for me to talk with people I don't know well.	0	0	0	sc
27. When I get frightened, I feel like I am choking.	0	0	0	PN
28. People tell me that I worry too much.	0	0	0	GD
29. I don't like to be away from my family.	0	0	0	SP
30. I am afraid of having anxiety (or panic) attacks.	0	0	0	PN
31. I worry that something bad might happen to my parents.	0	0	0	SP
32. I feel shy with people I don't know well.	0	0	0	sc
33. I worry about what is going to happen in the future.	0	0	0	GD
34. When I get frightened, I feel like throwing up.	0	0	0	PN
35. I worry about how well I do things.	0	0	0	GD
36. I am scared to go to school.	0	0	0	SH
37. I worry about things that have already happened.	0	0	0	GD
38. When I get frightened, I feel dizzy.	0	0	0	PN
39. I feel nervous when I am with other children or adults and I have to do something while they watch me (for example: read aloud, speak, play a game, play a sport).	0	0	0	sc
40. I feel nervous when I am going to parties, dances, or any place where there will be people that I don't know well.	0	0	0	sc
41. I am shy.	0	0	0	sc

SCORING:
A total score of \geq 25 may indicate the presence of an Anxiety Disorder. Scores higher than 30 are more specific. TOTAL =
A score of 7 for items 1, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 19, 22, 24, 27, 30, 34, 38 may indicate Panic Disorder or Significant Somatic
Symptoms. PN =
A score of 9 for items 5, 7, 14, 21, 23, 28, 33, 35, 37 may indicate Generalized Anxiety Disorder. GD =
A score of 5 for items 4, 8, 13, 16, 20, 25, 29, 31 may indicate Separation Anxiety SOC. SP =
A score of 8 for items 3, 10, 26, 32, 39, 40, 41 may indicate Social Anxiety Disorder . SC =
A score of 3 for items 2, 11, 17, 36 may indicate Significant School Avoidance . SH =

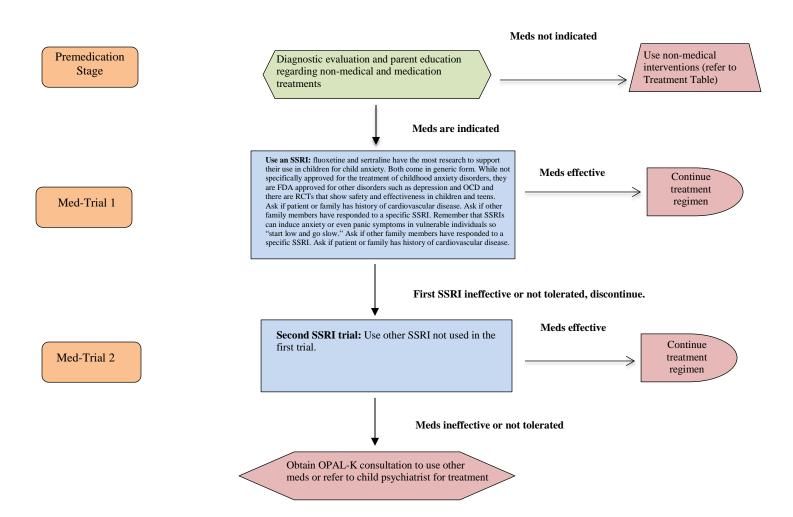
For children ages 8 to 11, it is recommended that the clinician explain all questions, or have the child answer the questionnaire sitting with an adult in case they have any questions.

The SCARED is available at no cost at www.wpic.pitt.edu/research under tools and assessments, or at www.pediatric bipolar.pitt.edu under instruments.

7: OPAL-K Treatment Guidelines for Anxiety Disorders

- 1. Educate primary caregivers about the nature of anxiety, how it can affect family relationships (how the child's anxiety symptoms "control" the family), how family members can inadvertently perpetuate the symptoms through their own anxiety and how to support the child in overcoming the anxiety. Assist family members in setting appropriate limits for the child (i.e., insisting that the child go to school and helping child to succeed in doing so).
- 2. Help parents of children with separation anxiety disorder (SAD) develop a "shared-vision" with the treatment team on the antecedents to separation symptoms and the types of effective parental interventions.
- 3. Warn anxious youth and their parents to minimize or eliminate intake of caffeine, a known cause of anxiety.
- 4. If psychotherapy is used as the first-line treatment, the use of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), a standardized manualized treatment, is preferred due to its evidence base for efficacy over "play-therapy" or supportive interventions.
- 5. Remember that SSRI's can induce anxiety or even panic symptoms in vulnerable individuals, so "start low and go slow."
- 6. Recent randomized clinical trials (RCTs) have shown that a combination of pharmacotherapy and psychotherapy to be superior to either treatment alone.
- 7. No single intervention will work alone. Strategies should include participation of school staff, family members, primary care clinicians and mental health professionals.

8: OPAL-K Medication Treatment Algorithm for Anxiety Disorders



9: OPAL-K Medication Table for Anxiety Disorders

(Medication information from www.epocrates.com)

Drug/Category	Dosing/	FDA Approval	Comments/	Warnings/	Cost for
	Half-life		Monitoring	Precautions	Monthly Supply
Fluoxetine (Prozac)	Initial dosing: 10-20 mg/day	Approved for treatment of depression in youth ages 8 years and older	Weight gain unusual Sedation unusual Sexual dysfunction not unusual Higher rates of drug- drug interactions	Increase of birth defects if given during 3 rd trimester Higher rates of drugdrug interactions than other SSRIs	Generic 10 mg - \$\$ 20 mg - \$\$ 40 mg - \$\$\$
Forms Available: tablets, pulvules and liquid	Maximum dosing: 30- 60 mg/day		Rarely lethal in monotherapy overdose	Monitor ECG for prolonged QT	Prozac 10 mg - \$\$ 20 mg - \$\$ 40 mg - \$\$\$
selective serotonin reuptake inhibiter	Half-life: 48-72 hrs, active				
(SSRI)	metabolites 2 weeks				
Sertraline (Zoloft)	Initial dosing: 12.5-25 mg/day	Approved for treatment of OCD in youth ages 6 years and older	Higher rates of diarrhea than other SSRIs. Sexual dysfunction not uncommon Rarely lethal in monotherapy	Rare/mild dopamine reuptake blocking activity could contribute to agitation, anxiety and agitation early in dosing	Generic 25 mg - \$\$ 50 mg - \$\$ 100 mg - \$\$
Forms Available: tablets and liquid	Maximum dosing: 200 mg/day		overdose Weight gain and sedation uncommon		25 mg - \$\$\$\$ 50 mg - \$\$\$\$ 100 mg - \$\$\$\$
(SSRI)	Half-life: 22-36 hrs, active metabolites 62-104 hrs				
Escitalopram	Initial dosing:	Approved for treatment of	May have faster onset than		<u>Lexapro</u> 5 mg -
(Lexapro)	5-10 mg/day	depression in youth 12 years and older	citalopram because of higher potency May be better		\$\$\$\$ 10 mg -
Forms Available: tablets and liquid	Maximum do		tolerated than citalopram Fewer drug-drug		\$\$\$\$ 20 mg - \$\$\$\$
(SSRI)	20 mg/day		interactions than other SSRIs		
	Half-life: 27-				

10: OPAL-K Anxiety Intervention Checklist for Families and their Anxious Child

Living with a child who has anxiety symptoms can be frustrating and at times scary. The following checklist can help families become more effective in managing the behavior issues associated with anxious children and adolescents.

Help your child develop or practice anxiety reduction coping skills and if needed set up a written plan for handling anxiety states and a quiet place to use healthy coping skills
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Check in with student about work load and adjust as needed (late arrival or early dismissal, decreased number of classes and assignment requirements) Be aware of multiple truancies or absences and communicate this to parents Report excessive irritability or social crises to parents Assist in evaluation for Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 accommodations when indicated
Recognize my symptoms of anxiety and what tends to trigger anxiety reactions Learn anxiety reduction coping skills from my doctor, parents or counselor and practice them Identify any negative self talk and replace with positive thoughts Reward yourself for practicing and using your anxiety reduction skills Schedule time for relaxation and rest Tell your parents if your anxiety is becoming overwhelming so they can schedule an appointment with your doctor or therapist Tell your parents if you are so worried that you're thinking of hurting yourself or someone else

11: OPAL-K Anxiety Disorder Resources for Patients, Families and Teachers

Books

"The Anxiety Cure for Kids: A Guide for Parents" by Elizabeth DuPont Spencer, Robert DuPont, Caroline DuPont (2003) - A text for parents, but good for teachers, coaches, therapists and nurses too. Helps in understanding how to help anxious children; has many practical tips.

"Freeing Your Child From Anxiety: Powerful, Practical Solutions to Overcome Your Child's Fears, Worries, and Phobias" by Tamar Chansky, Ph.D. (2004) http://tamarchansky.com/books

"What To Do if you Worry Too Much" by Dawn Huebner, Ph.D. (2005) (Interactive self-help guide for 6-12 year olds and their parents) http://www.dawnhuebnerphd.com

Websites

Anxiety and Depression Association of America (Psychoeducational information for families and youth with anxiety symptoms and includes educational videos) https://www.adaa.org

NIMH website on Anxiety (Information for families on anxiety disorders including OCD and PTSD)

http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/anxiety-disorders/index.shtml?wvsessionid=wv650bd43245ce405884dd789794894544

Anxiety BC: A Canadian-based website for families with children or adolescents with anxiety disorders

https://anxietycanada.com/

12: OPAL-K Anxiety Disorders Resources for Clinicians

"Modular Cognitive-Behavior Therapy for Childhood Anxiety Disorders" by Bruce Chorpita (2006)

"Phobic and Anxiety Disorders in Children and Adolescents: A Clinician's Guide to Effective Psychosocial and Pharmacological Interventions" by Editors: Thomas H. Ollendick and John S. March (2003)

(A comprehensive textbook on youth anxiety disorders for clinicians)

"Coping Cat Workbook, Second Edition (Child Therapy Workbooks Series)" by Philip C. Kendall and Kristina A. Hedtke (2006)

Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Anxious Children: Therapist Manual, Third Edition" by Philip C. Kendall and Kristina A. Hedtke (2006)

"The Coping Cat Parent Companion" by Philip C. Kendall, Ph.D., ABPP and Jennifer L. Podell (2010)

"The C.A.T. Project Workbook For The Cognitive Behavioral Treatment Of Anxious Adolescents" by Philip C. Kendall, Muniya Choudhury, Jennifer Hudson and Alicia Webb (2002)

"The C.A.T. Project" Manual For The Cognitive Behavioral Treatment Of Anxious Adolescents by Philip C. Kendall, Muniya Choudhury, Jennifer Hudson and Alicia Webb (2002)

SCARED Self Report for youth 8 years and older Free download of anxiety scale that can be used to assess and track anxiety http://www.familytherapeutics.com/forms/SCARED%20forms.pdf

"Anxiety in adolescents: Update on its diagnosis and treatment for primary care providers" by R. S. Siegel and D. P. Dickstein (2012) (Review of assessment and treatment of anxiety disorders in adolescents

https://www.dovepress.com/anxiety-in-adolescents-update-on-its-diagnosis-and-treatment-for-prima-peer-reviewed-article-AHMT-recommendation1

"Pediatric Social Phobia and Selective Mutism" by Bettina E Bernstein et al. (2014) http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/917147-overview

"Psychosocial Interventions for School Refusal Behavior in Children and Adolescents" by Armando Pina, Argero Zerr, Nancy Gonzales and Claudio Ortiz (2009) http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2747113/

"School Refusal in Children and Adolescents" by Wanda P. Freemont, M.D. (2003) http://www.aafp.org/afp/2003/1015/p1555.html

13: OPAL-K Anxiety Disorders Resources for Clinicians (continued)

"Shyness Versus Social Phobia in US Youth" by Marcy Burstein, Ph.D., Leila Ameli-Grillon, B.A., Kathleen Merikangas, Ph.D. (2011) http://pediatrics.aappublicatio">http://pediatrics.aappublicatio"ns.org/content/early/2011/10/14/peds.2011-1434.abstract

"Separation Anxiety Disorder in Youth: Phenomenology, Assessment, and Treatment" by Jill

Ehrenreich, Lauren Santucci and Courtney Weiner (2008) http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2788956/

"Separation Anxiety and School Refusal" by Bettina Bernstein, D.O., (2013) (A good review of separation anxiety treatment recommendations for Primary Care Clinicians) http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/916737-clinical

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Kendall PC, Aschenbrand SG, Hudson JL (2003), Child focused treatment of anxiety. In: Evidence-Based Psychotherapies for Children and Adolescents, Kazdin AE, Weisz JR, eds. New York: The Guilford Press, pp 81-100.

Kodish I, Rockhill C, Varley C. Pharmacotherapy for anxiety disorders in children and adolescents. Pediatr Clin North Am. 2011 Feb;58(1):55-72.

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Strawn JR, McReynolds DJ. An evidence-based approach to treating pediatric anxiety diosrders. Current Psychiatry 2012;11(9):16-21.

Suveg C, Hudson JL, Brewer G, et al. Cognitive-behavioral therapy for anxiety-disordered youth: Secondary outcomes from a randomized clinical trial evaluating child and family modalities. Journal of Anxiety Disorders 2009;23: 341–349.

Wren FJ, Bridge JA, Birmaher. Screening for Childhood Anxiety Symptoms in Primary Care: Integrating Child and Parent Reports. J Am Acad Child Adoelesc Psychiatry 2004; 43:11364-1371.

Walkup JT, Albano AM, Piancentini J, et al. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Sertraline, or a Combination in Childhood Anxiety. NEJM 2008;359(26):2753-2766.