



## PRESS RELEASE

**New York State Office of Mental Health Announces New Web Resource for Persons Seeking Pharmacological Treatment of Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective Disorder**  
*Giving OMH consumers a chance to consider clozapine*

Albany, NY (November 15, 2012)- The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH), in partnership with the **Center for Practice Innovation** at **The New York State Psychiatric Institute** and **Columbia University**, is pleased to announce the web availability of the interactive educational program “*Considering Clozapine*.”

*Considering Clozapine* is part of the continued efforts by OMH to develop and implement a series of quality improvement initiatives aimed at improving the care received by New Yorkers with mental illness and their families. These efforts include the integrated treatment of co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders; reducing ineffective prescribing practices and the use of medications known to increase the risk of heart disease and other health disorders; and launching wellness programs across the state.

This web-based interactive educational program is for individuals thinking about taking the antipsychotic medication clozapine. Clozapine remains the most effective antipsychotic for individuals with schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder who have not responded to other medications. If you or a family member have such an illness and have not been able to reach your goals because of poorly controlled symptoms, a trial of clozapine may help. The *Considering Clozapine* module is designed to help you prepare for talking to your doctor about whether or not clozapine may be right for you.

Interested individuals can access *Considering Clozapine* at the link below:

<http://practiceinnovations.org/Clozapine/tabid/198/Default.aspx> 

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