



Medicines Optimisation & Prescribing Resources Signposting

	The current versions of all NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Integrated Care Board (HWICB) policies and guidance are available from the HWICB website . In the event that you have printed a copy of this document, please check the website to ensure it is the current version.
	Do you need this document in other languages or formats (i.e. large print)? Please contact the Communications Team: hw.comms@nhs.net

Recommendations:

This document provides links to useful medicines optimisation and prescribing resources produced by other organisations. It is a live document and new resource links are added as they are identified.

Anticholinergic Burden

Title	Link	Description / comments
PrescQIPP Bulletin 253: Anticholinergic Burden	https://www.prescqipp.info/our-resources/bulletins/bulletin-253-anticholinergic-burden/	This bulletin discusses the review of treatment with anticholinergic drugs and the different scales available to support review. Support materials are available to identify the risk in patients and support appropriate action to reduce anticholinergic burden. (Login required).
Polypharmacy Guidance – Medication review: Anticholinergics	http://www.polypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/polypharmacy-guidance-medicines-review/for-healthcare-professionals/hot-topics/anticholinergics/	Guidance from NHS Scotland to support assessment and reduction of anticholinergic burden.

Deprescribing

Title	Link	Description / comments
Polypharmacy: Getting our medicines right	https://www.rpharms.com/recognition/setting-professional-standards/polypharmacy-getting-our-medicines-right	Best practice guide produced by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society
Polypharmacy: Guidance for Prescribing	http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/814/PrescribingForFrailAdults-ABHBpracticalGuidance%5BMay2013%5D.pdf	Guidance from the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group that aims to address some of the problems associated with the current management of polypharmacy, particularly in the frail elderly
STOPP START Tool to Support Medication Review	https://mm.wirral.nhs.uk/document_uploads/other-topics/STOPP_START_Tool2015.pdf	Adaptation of the STOPP START medication review screening tool produced by NHS North West CSU and NHS Wirral CCG
PrescQIPP IMPACT - Improving Medicines and Polypharmacy Appropriateness Clinical Tool	https://www.prescqipp.info/umbraco/surface/authorisedmediasurface/index?url=%2fmedia%2f5518%2f268-impact-20.pdf	This bulletin provides suggestions for clinicians to optimise medicines use, and provide practical advice (where it is available) about how to safely stop/ discontinue/withdraw a medicine and issues to consider. (Login required).

Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) and Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD)

Title	Link	Description / comments
PSNC EPS home page	https://psnc.org.uk/dispensing-supply/eps/	Information and resources from the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee about EPS and eRD
NHS Digital EPS home page	https://digital.nhs.uk/services/electronic-prescription-service	Information and resources from NHS digital about EPS
Emis information about one-off nominations	EMIS guidance	Information about how to use the one-off nomination functionality on Emis
Wessex AHSN eRD home page	https://wessexahsn.org.uk/projects/120/electronic-repeat-dispensing-erd	Information and resources from the Wessex Academic Health Science Network to help GP practices and pharmacies to implement eRD

Steroid Cards

Title	Link	Description / comments
National Patient Safety Alert - Steroid Emergency Card to support early recognition and treatment of adrenal crisis in adults	NPSA Emergency Steroid Card FINAL 2.3.pdf	Joint publication regarding the implementation of the new Steroid Emergency Card. Includes details on how to order cards.

Homely Remedies Guidance

Title	Link	Description / comments
RMOC Guidance: Homely Remedies	https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/rmoc-guidance-homely-remedies/	The Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC) programme has issued guidance on homely remedies in care homes, which includes a template policy which can be adapted for local use.

STOMP Resources

Title	Link	Description / comments
RMOC: STOMP Resources	RMOC: STOMP Resources – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice	The Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC) summary of resources available to support the STOMP (stopping the overmedication of people with a learning disability, autism or both) campaign.

Drug Monitoring

Title	Link	Description / comments
Specialist Pharmacy Service Guidance	Drug Monitoring – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice	Advice on monitoring required listed by drug, written using publications and expert opinion. (New pilot service).