NEW: Medicines Shortages and Patient Group Directions
This Q&A provides support on the use of PGDs during a medication shortage. It reminds users that PGDs cannot be used for unlicensed medicines and suggests some strategies when developing PGDs to pre-empt common shortages.

NEW: Community Pharmacy NSAID Safety Audit 2018-19
The report of this audit conducted as part of the Quality Payment Scheme for 2018/19 has now been published. The audit included more than 90,000 patients aged over 65 prescribed oral NSAIDs; more than 9,000 patients not co-prescribed gastroprotection were referred to prescribers for a review.

NEW: WHO Good Practice Repository is open again
If you have a practice example that contributes to medication safety, we would like you to share your example on the WHO Good Practice Repository. The submission form can be found here.

NEW from QA: Guidance on In Use Shelf Life for Eye Drops and Ointments
This document takes a risk based approach to assigning the in-use shelf life for eye drops used in UK hospitals based on the risks of the patient population, the risk of microbial contamination and the risk of microbial proliferation.

Network Events
- 11 February 2020 PGD Learning Event: For those new to PGDs. Register here
- 25 February 2020 MUSN - Shared Decision Making in Medicine Use: Making it Practical Register here

Webinar Programme
- 8 January 2020 Human Factors with Amandeep Setra from UCL. Register here
- 12 February 2020 Health & Justice with Denise Farmer. Registration details to follow

Can’t find a resource? Find our most popular resources here

Recent Resources

Medicines Optimisation
- RECENT: Prioritising pharmaceutical care delivery in the acute inpatient setting: Literature review
- RECENT: Medicines Use and Safety Team – Annual Report 2018-19
- DOACs in Renal Impairment: Practice Guide to Dosing Issues
- Medicine Optimisation for adults in Domiciliary Care Settings

Medicines Safety
- NEW: WHO Good Practice Repository open again
- NEW from QA: Guidance on In Use Shelf Life for Eye Drops and Ointments
- UPDATE from UKMi: In use product safety assessment report for insulin glargines
- From UKMi: Summary of Guidance and Evidence for use of Multi-Compartment Compliance Aids
- In use safety of intravenous magnesium sulfate
- Implementing Patient Safety Alert 18: Anticoagulant therapy

Governance
- NEW: Medicines Shortages and Patient Group Directions
- RECENTLY UPDATED: Who can supply or administer CDs under a PGD?
- National Ambulance Patient Group Directions
- Written Instruction for the administration of seasonal ‘flu vaccination
- Can PGDs be used as part of a clinical trial, study or pilot?
- PGDs and Occupational Health Schemes
- When PGDs are not required
- Medicines Governance Do Once Programme
Collaborative Audits

- CURRENT: National community pharmacy NSAID safety audit 2019/20
  [here](CL)
- NEW: National community pharmacy NSAID safety audit 2018/19 report
  [link](CL)
- MO in Health and Justice (HJ) Services: A report from a national audit of RPS standards
  [link](DF)

Work in Progress

- Guidance on Executive Responsibilities for Medicines within Healthcare Organisations
  [AC]
- Polypharmacy – medication review of cardiovascular medicines
  [LO/AW]
- Transcribing - mapping the process and assessing the risk
  [TR]
- Clinical prioritisation in acute care
  [BJ]

Network Events

Forthcoming events in 2020:

- **Webinar: Human Factors** Amandeep Setra 8 January 2020 Register
  [here](CL)
- **PGD Learning Event:** For those new to PGDs 11 February 2020 London. Register
  [here](DF)
- **Webinar: Health & Justice** Denise Farmer 12 February 2020 Registration details to follow
  [here](DF)
- **MUSN Shared Decision Making in Medicine Use: Making it Practical** 25 February 2020 Register
  [here](DF)
- **Webinar: Clinical Prioritisation by GP practice pharmacists** Rory Donnelly 11 March 2020. Registration details to follow

Recent Past Events:

- **Webinar: Medication Safety At Home – Key Findings From a Parent Focus Group** Stephen Morris
  11 December 2019 [link](CL)
- **OPNet: Supporting people to age well: Opportunities in the NHS Long Term Plan** 27 November
  2019 [link](CL)
- **Webinar: Medicine Safety – 2020** Judith Hendley (NHSE/I), Ruth Dales & Jay Hamilton (Health Innovation Manchester & Nicola Wake (SPS) 13 November 2019 [link](CL)
- **MUSN: Patient safety: The national strategy and examples from practice** 23 October 2019 [link](CL)
- **Webinar: Gosport: Then and Now** Sarah Dennison (CQC) & John Hayhurst (NHS England) 9
  October 2019 [link](CL)

Publications

- Bhatti S, Wake N, Jani Y **Evaluating the effectiveness of digital communication within the Medication Safety Officer network** UKCPA Poster Presentation [link](CL)
- Jubraj B **I’m proud of pharmacists taking the lead on World Patient Safety Day** The Pharmaceutical Journal October 2019 [link](CL)
- Smith H, Miller K, Barnett N, Oboh L et al **Person-Centred Care Including Deprescribing for Older People** Pharmacy 2019, 7(3), 101; [link](CL)
- Jubraj B, Marvin V, Ward E **Developing a doctor–pharmacist consensus on medicine-related problems in older adults.** Clinical Pharmacist. April 2019 Volume 11 No 4 [link](CL)
- Barnett N **Opportunities for collaboration between pharmacists and clinical pharmacologists to support medicines optimisation in the UK.** Br J Clin Pharmacol 15 Apr 2019 [link](CL)
- Wake N **How to investigate and manage a medication incident** The Pharmaceutical Journal February 2019 [link](CL)

Contacts

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