TAG Mail 2019 (January - June)

Cumulative Listing of Reports, Publications, Medication Safety Information and Papers of Interest

TAG Mail 27 June 2019

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**AHHA
- The Health Advocate - [June 2019](#)

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)
- Palliative care services in Australia - [link](#)
- Indigenous health checks and follow-ups - [link](#)
- Regional variation in uptake of Indigenous health checks and in preventable hospitalisations and deaths - [link](#)
- Improving Indigenous identification in mortality estimates - [link](#)
- Hospital resources 2017–18: Australian hospital statistics – [link](#)

**Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) NSW
- Safe Administration of Medication Pen Devices – [link](#) (see also Safety Notice: [007/19](#))

**Department of Health
- Pain Australia: National Strategic Action Plan for Pain Management - [link](#)

**NSW Health Intranet
- [Safety Notice 007/19](#) - High Concentration Insulin Products (Updated)

**TGA
- Changes to ingredient names: End of transition period - are you ready? - [link](#)
- AusPARs:
  - [Regorafenib](#) (Stivarga®) – indication extension for treatment of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) who have been previously treated with sorafenib
  - [Sarilumab](#) (rkap) (Kevzara®) – indication extension for use in combination with non-biological Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drugs (DMARDs) or as monotherapy for the treatment of moderate to severe active Rheumatoid Arthritis in adult patients who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more DMARDs.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL
**Joint Commission**
- New, revised antimicrobial stewardship requirements for ambulatory health care organizations introduced - [link](#)
- A Decade of Preventing Harm - [link](#)

**National Pharmacy Association – Scotland**
- Dispensing and prescribing errors – Scotland Patient Safety Incident [report](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Doxylamine/pyridoxine (Xonvea) for treating nausea and vomiting of pregnancy - Evidence summary [ES20](#)
- Depression in children and young people: identification and management - guidance (NG134)
- Hypertension in pregnancy: diagnosis and management – guidance (NG133)
- Shared Learning Database: Atrial Fibrillation (AF) Holistic Care Pathway - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- How can nausea and vomiting be treated during pregnancy? - [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Technical reports to support Medication Without Harm
  -- Medication safety in [high-risk situations](#)
  -- Medication safety in [polypharmacy](#)
  -- Medication safety in [transitions of care](#)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

*electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK) - Revised SPCs*
-- Inflectra™ ([infliximab](#)): acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis added as rare adverse effect.
-- Veltassa™ ([Patiromer](#)): can be taken with or without food based on study in 114 patients that found food intake did not affect efficacy. Also as patiromer is not absorbed/metabolised by body, there are limited effects on function of other medicines.
-- Forxiga™ ([dapagliflozin](#)): angioedema added as a very rarely occurring skin and subcutaneous tissue ADR, as per recommendations from the EMA’s Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee.
-- Xarelto™ ([rivaroxaban](#)): updated in line with PRAC recommendations to advise DOACs, including rivaroxaban, are not recommended for patients with a history of thrombosis who are diagnosed with antiphospholipid syndrome, in particular for patients that are triple positive.
-- Ancotil™ ([flucytosine](#)): now advise there is insufficient evidence to support use in paediatric patients. Also advises flucytosine has a narrow therapeutic window and there is a risk of its potential toxicity at high systemic concentrations.
-- Cozaar™ ([losartan](#)): now advises that the concomitant use of ‘other drugs that may increase serum potassium (e.g. trimethoprim-containing products)’ is not recommended.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- Statement on the FDA’s benefit-risk framework for evaluating opioid analgesics - [link](#)

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice**
- Alertec™ ([modafinil](#)) has been associated with cases of major foetal congenital malformations, including congenital cardiac anomalies. It is now contraindicated in women who are pregnant or may become pregnant.

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Risk of Biologics and Glucocorticoids in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis Undergoing Arthroplasty: A Cohort Study - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Warfarin dose requirement in patients having severe thrombosis or thrombophilia - link
- Analytical efficacy and pharmacokinetics of epidural oxycodone in pain management after gynaecological laparoscopy—A randomised, double blind, active control, double-dummy clinical comparison with intravenous administration - link
- Intravenous flucloxacillin treatment is associated with a high incidence of hypokalaemia - link
- A systematic review of patient-reported outcomes associated with the use of direct-acting oral anticoagulants – link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Rising rates of colorectal cancer in younger adults - link
- Evaluating the impact of healthcare interventions using routine data - link

**Cochrane**
- Antibiotic therapy for adults with neurosyphilis - link
- Antibiotic use for irreversible pulpitis - link
- Treatment and prevention of pouchitis after ileal pouch-anal anastomosis for chronic ulcerative colitis - link
- Head-to-head oral prophylactic antibiotic therapy for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - link
- Pharmacotherapy for hypertension in adults 60 years or older - link
- Topiramate versus carbamazepine monotherapy for epilepsy: an individual participant data review - link
- Oral 5-aminosalicylic acid for maintenance of surgically-induced remission in Crohn's disease - link

**Diabetes Care**
- Efficacy and Safety of Fast-Acting Insulin Aspart Compared with Insulin Aspart, Both in Combination with Insulin Degludec, in Children and Adolescents With Type 1 Diabetes: The onset 7 Trial - link

**European Heart Journal**
- Risk of dementia in stroke-free patients diagnosed with atrial fibrillation: data from a population-based cohort - link
- A comprehensive analysis of the effects of rivaroxaban on stroke or transient ischaemic attack in patients with heart failure, coronary artery disease, and sinus rhythm: the COMMANDER HF trial - link
- Alert-based computerized decision support for high-risk hospitalized patients with atrial fibrillation not prescribed anticoagulation: a randomized, controlled trial (AF-ALERT) - link
- Platelet reactivity and clinical outcomes in acute coronary syndrome patients treated with prasugrel and clopidogrel: a pre-specified exploratory analysis from the TROPICAL-ACS trial - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Evaluation of a clinical pharmacist consultation service for patients with infectious diseases in China: a systematic review and meta-analysis - link
- Systematic review of stability data pertaining to selected antibiotics used for extended infusions in outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT) at standard room temperature and in warmer climates - link
- Case report: Aortic dissection after ramucirumab infusion - link

**JAMA**
- Association between Quantity of Opioids Prescribed after Surgery or Preoperative Opioid Use Education with Opioid Consumption - link
- Effect of 1-Month Dual Antiplatelet Therapy Followed by Clopidogrel vs 12-Month Dual Antiplatelet Therapy on Cardiovascular and Bleeding Events in Patients Receiving PCI: The STOPDAPT-2 Randomized Clinical Trial - link
- Effect of P2Y12 Inhibitor Monotherapy vs Dual Antiplatelet Therapy on Cardiovascular Events in Patients Undergoing Percutaneous Coronary Intervention: The SMART-CHOICE Randomized Clinical Trial - link
**JAMA Cardiology**
- Safety and Efficacy of Antithrombotic Strategies in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation Undergoing Percutaneous Coronary Intervention: A Network Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials - link
- Vitamin D Supplementation and Cardiovascular Disease Risks in More Than 83 000 Individuals in 21 Randomized Clinical Trials: A Meta-analysis - link
- Clinical guideline summary: 2018 American Heart Association guideline on management of blood cholesterol in patients at risk for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Use of Directly Observed Therapy to Assess Treatment Adherence in Patients with Apparent Treatment-Resistant Hypertension - link
- Anticholinergic Drug Exposure and the Risk of Dementia: A Nested Case-Control Study - link
- Association of Opioid Overdose with Opioid Prescriptions to Family Members – link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Assessment of the Appropriateness of Antibiotic Prescriptions for Infection Prophylaxis before Dental Procedures, 2011 to 2015 - link
- Posthospital Fall Injuries and 30-Day Readmissions in Adults 65 Years and Older - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- The impact of health information technology on the management and follow-up of test results – a systematic review - link
- Bridging the integration gap between patient-generated blood glucose data and electronic health records - link
- An investigation of single-domain and multidomain medication and adverse drug event relation extraction from electronic health record notes using advanced deep learning models - link

**Journal of the American Geriatrics Society**
- Adverse Effects of Pharmacologic Treatments of Major Depression in Older Adults - link

**Journal of the American College of Cardiology**

**Journal of Clinical Oncology**
- Treatment Outcomes of Immune-Related Cutaneous Adverse Events - link

**Lancet**
- Prevalence, risk factors, and management of asthma in China: a national cross-sectional study - link
- Long-term safety and efficacy of veverimer in patients with metabolic acidosis in chronic kidney disease: a multicentre, randomised, blinded, placebo-controlled, 40-week extension - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Review article: Nonnarcotic Methods of Pain Management - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- NIHR Signals
- Antimicrobial central venous catheters (CVCs) do not reduce infections in pre-term babies - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)
- Hydroxyurea Use for Sickle Cell Disease Among Medicaid-Enrolled Children - link

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management
- Analgesia and sedation post-coronary artery bypass graft surgery: a review of the literature - link

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)
- Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019) - link

**AHHA
- Deeble Issues Brief No. 31: Value Based Health Care: Setting the scene for Australia - link

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)
- Australian Burden of Disease Study 2015: Interactive data on disease burden - link
- Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease in Australia - link
- Cardiovascular disease in women—a snapshot of national statistics - link

**TGA
- Updates to the Prescribing Medicines in Pregnancy database - link
- AusPARs:
  - Rufinamide (Inovelon®) as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome in patients 4 years of age and older

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA
- Unintended discontinuation of medication following hospitalisation: a retrospective cohort study. - link
- Validation of a mobile app for reducing errors of administration of medications in an emergency. - link
- When order sets do not align with clinician workflow: assessing practice patterns in the electronic health record - link
- New persistent opioid use after postoperative intensive care in US veterans - link
- The impacts of medication shortages on patient outcomes: a scoping review - link
- Strategies to identify patient risks of prescription opioid addiction when initiating opioids for pain: a systematic review - link

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health
- Rapid Response Report: Sodium-glucose Co-transporter 2 Inhibitors for the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Rapid Response Report: Smaller Quantity Opioid Prescribing for Acute Pain: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - link

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- What Every Clinician Should Know About Improving Care for Older Adults - link
**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Ertugliflozin with metformin and a dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitor for treating type 2 diabetes – **TA583**
- Ocrelizumab for treating primary progressive multiple sclerosis – **TA585**

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society**
- Effect of statin on MS progression not related to cholesterol reduction - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Rarely Used and Urgent Medicines List- [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Adopt AWaRe: Handle antibiotics with care - new international campaign aims to reduce antimicrobial resistance and ensure access - [link](#)

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**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Acular™ (ketorolac) eye drops: ulcerative keratitis, eye swelling and ocular hyperaemia added as adverse events of unknown frequency.
  -- Eliquis™ (apixaban): highlights DOACs not recommended for patients with history of thrombosis diagnosed with antiphospholipid syndrome, in particular, triple positive patients, where use of DOACs could be associated with increased rates of recurrent thrombotic events vs. vitamin K antagonists
  -- Steglatro™ (ertugliflozin): now includes class warning that post-marketing cases of necrotising fasciitis of perineum (Fournier’s gangrene) reported with SGLT2 inhibitors and provides guidance on appropriate treatment and signs and symptoms patient should look out for.
  -- Tafinlar™ (dabrafenib): updated regarding reported cases of severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs), including Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms, which can be life-threatening or fatal with dabrafenib/trametinib combination therapy.
  -- Salofalk™ (mesalazine) 500mg gastro-resistant tablets: updated with information about sodium content: 49 mg sodium per tablet, equivalent to 2.5% of the WHO recommended maximum daily intake of 2 g sodium for an adult.
  -- Brilique™ (ticagrelor): thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura added as potential adverse effect (frequency unknown).

**EMA**
- Review of handling errors with depot formulations of leuprorelin medicines started - [link](#)

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
- Medication Safety Alert! June 20, 2019
  -- Worth repeating… Disposable pen needles and patient education
  -- FDA label guidance needed for sterile compounders
  -- Premixed vancomycin IV bag not recommended in pregnancy
  -- Conversion between oral and IV levothyroxine

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)**
- Oral retinoid medicines: revised and simplified pregnancy prevention educational materials for healthcare professionals and women - [link](#)
- Lartruvo® (olaratumab): withdrawal of the EU marketing authorisation due to lack of efficacy - [link](#)
- GLP-1 receptor agonists: reports of diabetic ketoacidosis when concomitant insulin was rapidly reduced or discontinued - [link](#)
- Direct-acting oral anticoagulants (DOACs): increased risk of recurrent thrombotic events in patients with antiphospholipid syndrome - [link](#)

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PAPERS OF INTEREST

**Arthritis and Rheumatology**
- Derivation and Validation of a Major Toxicity Risk Score Among Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drug Users Based on Data From a Randomized Controlled Trial - link

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Multicenter study to evaluate the benefits of technology-assisted workflow on i.v. room efficiency, costs, and safety in small community hospitals - link
- How often do prescribers include indications in drug orders? Analysis of 4 million outpatient prescriptions - link
- Predicting medication-associated altered mental status in hospitalized patients: Development and validation of a risk model - link

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Patterns of Opioid Administration Among Opioid-Naive Inpatients and Associations With Postdischarge Opioid Use: A Cohort Study - link
- Cardiovascular Events and Mortality in White Coat Hypertension: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Ceftriaxone induced aplastic anaemia: A deadfall trap for bone marrow - link
- Potential prediction of formulation performance in paediatric patients using biopharmaceutical tools and simulation of clinically relevant administration scenarios of nifedipine and lorazepam - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Advances in rehabilitation for chronic diseases: improving health outcomes and function - link
- How organisations contribute to improving the quality of healthcare - link
- Associations between gabapentinoids and suicidal behaviour, unintentional overdoses, injuries, road traffic incidents, and violent crime: population based cohort study in Sweden - link
- Duration of antibiotic treatment for common infections in English primary care: cross sectional analysis and comparison with guidelines - link

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Can a patient-directed video improve inpatient advance care planning? A prospective pre-post cohort study - link
- Patient safety superheroes in training: using a comic book to teach patient safety to residents - link
- Effect on secondary care of providing enhanced support to residential and nursing home residents: a subgroup analysis of a retrospective matched cohort study - link

**Clinics in Geriatric Medicine**
- Geriatric Polypharmacy Pharmacist as Key Facilitator in Assessing for Falls Risk: 2019 Update - link

**Cochrane**
- Probiotics for preventing acute otitis media in children - link
- Rapid initiation of antiretroviral therapy for people living with HIV - link
- Medical treatment for early fetal death (less than 24 weeks) - link
- Artemether for severe malaria - link
- Telephone counselling for smoking cessation - link

**European Heart Journal**
- Novel approaches to the management of chronic systolic heart failure: future directions and unanswered questions - link
- When prescribing drugs, do medical doctors and healthcare professionals realize that their patient has the long QT syndrome? - link
- Oral anticoagulants in atrial fibrillation with valvular heart disease and bioprosthetic heart valves - link
- Digoxin–mortality: randomized vs. observational comparison in the DIG trial - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Improving the aseptic transfer procedures in hospital pharmacies part A: methods for the determination of the surface bioburden on ampoules and vials - link
- Influence of drug–drug interactions on effectiveness and safety of direct-acting antivirals against hepatitis C virus - link
- Aortic dissection after ramucirumab infusion - link
- Continuing cabazitaxel beyond 10 cycles for metastatic castrate-resistant prostate cancer: is there a benefit? - link
- Late HCC onset after DAAs therapy in patients with SVR: a type D ADR that requires a longer follow-up? - link

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- Neurotoxicity in chronic lithium poisoning - link
- Education to improve vancomycin use – The perspectives of educators and education recipients - link

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- Translating research on quality improvement in five European countries into a reflective guide for hospital leaders: the ‘QUASER Hospital Guide’ - link

**JAMA**
- Primary Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death - link
- Association Between Self-reported Prenatal Cannabis Use and Maternal, Perinatal, and Neonatal Outcomes - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Assessment of Antibiotic Treatment of Cellulitis and Erysipelas: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Preexposure Prophylaxis for the Prevention of HIV Infection - link
- Patient page: Who Should Be Screened for HIV Infection? - link

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Comparative Efficacy and Acceptability of Pharmacological, Psychotherapeutic, and Combination Treatments in Adults With Posttraumatic Stress Disorder - A Network Meta-analysis - link

**Journal for Healthcare Quality**
- Effect of Patient and Provider Education on Antibiotic Overuse for Respiratory Tract Infections - link

**Journal of the American College of Cardiology**
- Ticagrelor Versus Clopidogrel in Patients With STEMI Treated With Fibrinolysis: TREAT Trial - link

**Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)**
- Standard of practice in pain management for pharmacy services - link

**Lancet**
- HIV incidence among women using intramuscular depot medroxyprogesterone acetate, a copper intrauterine device, or a levonorgestrel implant for contraception: a randomised, multicentre, open-label trial - link
- Drug-coated balloon for treatment of de-novo coronary artery lesions in patients with high bleeding risk (DEBUT): a single-blind, randomised, non-inferiority trial - link
- Methylphenidate and the risk of psychosis in adolescents and young adults: a population-based cohort study - link

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- Diagnosis and management of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia: a consensus statement from the Thrombosis and Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand HIT Writing Group - link

**Milbank Quarterly**
- A National Action Plan to Eliminate Vaccine Preventable Childhood Diseases - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- A Phase 3 Randomized Trial of Voxelotor in Sickle Cell Disease - link
- Canagliflozin and Renal Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes and Nephropathy - link
- Review article: Management of Burns - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- NIHR Signal: Providing pressurised air through a mask may improve outcomes for people with deteriorating heart failure - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)**
- Implementing Evidence-Based Strategies to Improve HPV Vaccine Delivery - link
- Electronic Communication of the Health Record and Information With Pediatric Patients and Their Guardians - link

**Prescrire – French Medical Journal**
- Issue n°205 June 2019 - link

**Public Library of Science (PLOS)**
- Diagnostic tests, drug prescriptions, and follow-up patterns after incident heart failure: A cohort study of 93,000 UK patients - link

**SAGE Open Medicine**
- Health system frameworks and performance indicators in eight countries: A comparative international analysis - link

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management**
- Use of levosimendan in acute and advanced heart failure: short review on available real-world data - link

**Thrombosis and haemostasis**
- Optimal Timing of P2Y12 Inhibitor Loading in Patients Undergoing PCI: A Meta-Analysis - link

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**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Australia’s health expenditure: an international comparison - link
- Children living in households with members of the Stolen Generations - link
- GEN Aged Care Data: My aged care region - link
- GEN Aged Care Data: Commonwealth Home Support Program - link
- GEN Aged Care Data: People leaving aged care - link
- GEN Aged Care Data: Admissions into aged care - link
- Australian Burden of Disease Study: impact and causes of illness and death in Australia - [link](#)
- Australian Burden of Disease Study 2015: Interactive data on risk factor burden - [link](#)
- Australian Burden of Disease Study 2015: Interactive data on disease burden - [link](#)
- Disease expenditure in Australia - [link](#)

**NPS MedicineWise**
- June 2019 new listings wrap-up - [link](#)
  -- Insulin aspart (Fiasp®) for diabetes mellitus
  -- Oxycodone capsules (Oxycodone BNM®) for severe disabling pain

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Evaluating the implementation and impact of a pharmacy technician-supported medicines administration service designed to reduce omitted doses in hospitals: a qualitative study - [link](#)
- Responding to health information technology reported safety events: insights from patient safety event reports - [link](#)
- Gaps in ambulatory patient safety for immunosuppressive specialty medications - [link](#)
- Opioid medication discontinuation and risk of adverse opioid-related health care events - [link](#)
- Impact of the World Health Organization surgical safety checklist on patient safety - [link](#)

**MIMS.co.uk (Monthly Index of Medical Specialties)**
- Second DPP4 inhibitor/SGLT2 inhibitor tablet ([Glyxambi®](#)) launched in UK: MIMS summary

**New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority (MEDSAFE)**
- Prescriber Update newsletter [June 2019 edition](#)
  -- NSAIDs and cardiovascular risk
  -- Dabigatran – Reduced dose recommendations
  -- Phenytoin (Dilantin) capsules formulation change – How did it affect patients?
  -- Acute pancreatitis – Sometimes triggered by medicines
  -- Zopiclone – Indicated for short-term use only
  -- The fantastic four of adverse drug reaction reporting
  -- Proton pump inhibitors and rebound acid hypersecretion – A recurring issue
  -- Gathering knowledge from adverse reaction reports: June 2019

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Xeloda™ ([capecitabine](#)): now advises that tablets should be swallowed whole and should not be crushed or cut as exposure to crushed/cut tablets can lead to eye/skin/gastric irritation, rash, headache, paraesthesia, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting.
  -- Magnesium Sulfate 50%w/v Solution for Injection or Infusion: revised to include reports of maternal and foetal skeletal adverse effects and hypocalcaemia when administered continuously for more than 5 to 7 days to pregnant women. Clinical significance is unknown.
  -- Levonelle™ ([levonorgestrel](#)) One Step/ 1500 microgram: Updated with new pharmacokinetic data in obese women and BMI impact on efficacy.
  -- Maxtrex™ ([methotrexate](#)): Thoracic pain added as an adverse event (frequency not specified).
  -- Movicol® ([macrogol](#)) preparations: Updated to highlight that Movicol is considered high in sodium, and that this should be particularly taken into account for those on a low salt diet.
  -- Remsima™ ([infliximab](#)): acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis added as a rare potential adverse effect.

**Health Canada – MedEffect e-Notice**
- Potential cancer risk associated with gentian violet - [link](#)

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
- Medication Safety Alert! June 6, 2019
-- Independent Double Checks: Worth the Effort if Used Judiciously and Properly
-- Look-alike TOUJE0 cartons and pens
-- A premixed IV bag in search of a barcode
-- Don’t prescribe refills for starter packs

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Improving care for critically ill patients with community-acquired pneumonia - link
- Development of a predictive model for drug-associated QT prolongation in the inpatient setting using electronic health record data - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Population pharmacokinetics of immediate- and prolonged-release tacrolimus formulations in liver, kidney and heart transplant recipients - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Absence of evidence to guide opioid reduction in chronic pain - link
- Can patients in hospital become guardians of antimicrobial stewardship?

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Ticagrelor plus aspirin versus clopidogrel plus aspirin for platelet reactivity in patients with minor stroke or transient ischaemic attack: open label, blinded endpoint, randomised controlled phase II trial - link

**Circulation**
- Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Heart Failure: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association and the Heart Failure Society of America - link
- Characteristics, Prevention, and Management of Cardiovascular Disease in People Living with HIV: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association - link
- Use of Guideline-Recommended Risk-Reduction Strategies among Patients with Diabetes and Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease: Insights from Getting to an Improved Understanding of Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol and Dyslipidemia Management (Gould) - link
- Effect of Dapagliflozin on Heart Failure and Mortality in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus - link

**Cochrane**
- Early versus deferred standard androgen suppression therapy for advanced hormone-sensitive prostate cancer - link
- Inhaled corticosteroids in children with persistent asthma: effects of different drugs and delivery devices on growth - link

**Diabetes Care**
- Exploring Patient Preferences for Adjunct-to-Insulin Therapy in Type 1 Diabetes - link
- Dipeptidyl Peptidase-4 Inhibitors and the Risk of Bullous Pemphigoid among Patients with Type 2 Diabetes - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Adjusting the dose in paediatric care: dispersing four different aspirin tablets and taking a proportion - link
- A cross-sectional study of psychotropic drug use in the elderly: Consuming patterns, risk factors and potentially inappropriate use - link
- Focus group study exploring the issues and the solutions to incorrect penicillin allergy-labelled patients: an antibiotic stewardship patient safety initiative - link

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- A multidisciplinary quality improvement program for older patients admitted to a vascular surgery ward - link

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**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Risk of Hospitalization for Serious Adverse Gastrointestinal Events Associated With Sodium Polystyrene Sulfonate Use in Patients of Advanced Age - link
- Understanding the Nature and Extent of Pharmaceutical Industry Payments to Nonphysician Clinicians - link

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Efficacy of Esketamine Nasal Spray Plus Oral Antidepressant Treatment for Relapse Prevention in Patients With Treatment-Resistant Depression A Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy**
- The drivers of antimicrobial use across institutions, stakeholders and economic settings: a paradigm shift is required for effective optimization – link

**Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association**
- Review of medication errors that are new or likely to occur more frequently with electronic medication management systems - link
- Improving access to important recovery information for heart patients with low health literacy: reflections on practice-based initiatives - link

**Lancet**
- Optimal dose of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, venlafaxine, and mirtazapine in major depression: a systematic review and dose-response meta-analysis - link
- Effects of saline or albumin fluid bolus in resuscitation: evidence from re-analysis of the FEAST trial - link
- Dulaglutide and cardiovascular outcomes in type 2 diabetes (REWIND): a double-blind, randomised placebo-controlled trial - link
- Dulaglutide and renal outcomes in type 2 diabetes: an exploratory analysis of the REWIND randomised, placebo-controlled trial - link
- Durability of insulin degludec plus liraglutide versus insulin glargine U100 as initial injectable therapy in type 2 diabetes (DUAL VIII): a multicentre, open-label, phase 3b, randomised controlled trial - link
- Oral semaglutide versus subcutaneous liraglutide and placebo in type 2 diabetes (PIONEER 4): a randomised, double-blind, phase 3a trial - link
- Efficacy and safety of oral semaglutide with flexible dose adjustment versus sitagliptin in type 2 diabetes (PIONEER 7): a multicentre, open-label, randomised, phase 3a trial - link
- 6 versus 12 months of adjuvant trastuzumab for HER2-positive early breast cancer (PERSEPHONE): 4-year disease-free survival results of a randomised phase 3 non-inferiority trial - link
- Quizartinib versus salvage chemotherapy in relapsed or refractory FLT3-ITD acute myeloid leukaemia (QuANTUM-R): a multicentre, randomised, controlled, open-label, phase 3 trial - link
- Neoadjuvant dabrafenib combined with trametinib for resectable, stage IIIB–C, BRAFV600 mutation-positive melanoma (NeoCombi): a single-arm, open-label, single-centre, phase 2 trial - link
- Macitentan for the treatment of portopulmonary hypertension (PORTICO): a multicentre, randomised, controlled, open-label, phase 4 trial – link
- Effects of dapagliflozin on development and progression of kidney disease in patients with type 2 diabetes: an analysis from the DECLARE–TIMI 58 randomised trial – link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Intensive Glucose Control in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes — 15-Year Follow-up - link
- Oral Semaglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes - link
- An Anti-CD3 Antibody, Teplizumab, in Relatives at Risk for Type 1 Diabetes - link
- Vitamin D Supplementation and Prevention of Type 2 Diabetes - link
- Review: Prevention of Opioid Overdose - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals**
- Smartphones instead of direct supervision can improve adherence rates for TB treatment - [link]

**Pharmacotherapy**
- Transition to oral versus continued intravenous antibiotics for patients with pyogenic liver abscesses: a retrospective analysis - [link]

**Therapeutic Advances in Cardiovascular Disease**
- Sacubitril/valsartan in cardiovascular disease: evidence to date and place in therapy – [link]
- Bleeding in patients receiving non-vitamin K oral anticoagulants: clinical trial evidence - [link]
- Direct oral anticoagulants for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation: treatment outcomes and dosing in special populations - [link]
- The effect of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors on clinical outcomes in patients with ischemic cardiomyopathy and midrange ejection fraction: a post hoc subgroup analysis from the PEACE trial - [link]

TAG Mail 6 June 2019

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**AHHA**
- The Health Advocate - June 2019

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: monitoring report 2019 - [link]
- Family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia: continuing the national story 2019 - [link]

**National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), in partnership with the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission)**
- Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019) - [link]

**Victorian Auditor-General's Office**
- Security of Patients’ Hospital Data - [link]

**Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine**
- Clinical Communiqué Volume 5 Issue 2 June 2018

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Do safety briefings improve patient safety in the acute hospital setting? A systematic review - [link]
- Catastrophic drug errors involving tranexamic acid administered during spinal anaesthesia – [link]
- Patients managing medications and reading their visit notes: a survey of OpenNotes participants - [link]

**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- New Product
  --Cablivi™ (caplacizumab) for treatment of adults experiencing an episode of acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura in conjunction with plasma exchange and immunosuppression.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- Approval of new indication: ceftolozane with tazobactam (Zerbaxa™) for hospital-acquired and ventilator-associated bacterial pneumonia
- New approval - galcanezumab for treatment of episodic cluster headache
**Health Canada**
- Health Product InfoWatch, May 2019
  -- Eliquis (apixaban): The risk of hemorrhage with the concomitant use of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) has been included in the PI
  -- Safety Brief - Fentora (fentanyl citrate, buccal/sublingual effervescent tablets) safety reminders

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement**
- How One Health System Overcame Resistance to a Surgical Checklist (May 2019) - link
  - Patient Safety Essentials Toolkit - link

**General Pharmaceutical Council - UK**
- New independent prescriber evidence framework. This new framework, which accompanies the recently revised set of standards for the education and training of pharmacist independent prescribers, aims to support, and provide guidance and clarity for course providers and pharmacist independent prescribers.

**NHS England**
- Evidence-Based Interventions: patient leaflets - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Atezolizumab in combination for treating metastatic non-squamous non-small-cell lung cancer – guidance (TA584)
- Ertugliflozin with metformin and a dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitor for treating type 2 diabetes – guidance (TA583)

**Royal College of Psychiatrists (UK)**
- Position statement on antidepressants and depression - link

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Cardiovascular outcomes with GLP-1 receptor agonists - link

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Xermelo™ (telotristat etiprate): Faecaloma, a mass of faeces most frequently noted in the rectum and sigmoid colon, added as an uncommon adverse effect.
  -- Cyramza™ (ramucirumab): Updated to include adverse drug reactions of haemangioma and thrombotic microangiopathy reported in clinical trials at a frequency of common (1.5%) and rare (0.03%), respectively, and through post-marketing reporting.
  -- Keytruda™ (pembrolizumab): haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis included as a rare adverse effect.

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- ASHP guidelines on perioperative pharmacy services - link
- Recommended quality measures for health-system pharmacy: 2019 update from the Pharmacy Accountability Measures Work Group - link
- Improving care for critically ill patients with community-acquired pneumonia - link
- Multicenter study to evaluate the benefits of technology-assisted workflow on IV room efficiency, costs, and safety in small, community hospitals - link

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- 2018 Cholesterol Clinical Practice Guidelines: Synopsis of the 2018 American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology/Multisociety Cholesterol Guideline - link
**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors lower the risk of autoimmune disease in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: A nationwide population-based cohort study - [link](#)
- The interaction between rifampicin and lamotrigine: A case report - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Estimates of all cause mortality and cause specific mortality associated with proton pump inhibitors among US veterans: cohort study - [link](#)
- Giant cell arteritis - [link](#)

**British Journal of Psychiatry**
- Clinical indicators of treatment-resistant psychosis - [link](#)

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Management of low back pain in Australian emergency departments - [link](#)
- When order sets do not align with clinician workflow: assessing practice patterns in the electronic health record - [link](#)

**Circulation**
- Rivaroxaban With or Without Aspirin in Patients with Heart Failure and Chronic Coronary or Peripheral Artery Disease: The COMPASS Trial - [link](#)

**Cochrane**
- Antidepressants plus benzodiazepines for adults with major depression - [link](#)
- Lithium for acute mania - [link](#)

**Diabetes Care**
- Updates to the Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes – [link](#)

**European Heart Journal**
- Randomized trial of ticagrelor vs. aspirin in patients after coronary artery bypass grafting: the TiCAB trial - [link](#)

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Bullous pemphigoid induced by ustekinumab: a case report - [link](#)

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- Hospitalised exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: adherence to guideline recommendations in an Australian teaching hospital - [link](#)

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- Anticoagulant medication errors in hospitals and primary care: a cross-sectional study - [link](#)

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Treatment Outcomes of Topical Calcineurin Inhibitor Therapy for Patients with Vitiligo: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- An implementation Guide to promote Sleep and reduce Sedative-Hypnotic Initiation for Noncritically Ill Inpatients - [link](#)

**JAMA Network Open**
- Assessment of the Appropriateness of Antibiotic Prescriptions for Infection Prophylaxis before Dental Procedures, 2011 to 2015 - [link](#)
- Association of Serum Cholesterol Levels with Peripheral Nerve Damage in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)
- Review: Menopausal Hormone Therapy - [link](#)

**JAMA Oncology**
- Assessment of the Safety of Pembrolizumab in Patients with HIV and Advanced Cancer—A Phase 1 Study - link

**JAMA Paediatrics
- Association of Preterm Birth with Risk of Ischemic Heart Disease in Adulthood - link

**Journal of Clinical Oncology
- Resumption of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy After Immune-Mediated Colitis - link

**Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)
- Coronal findings pertaining to non-opioid and non-benzodiazepine drug-related deaths in Australia - link
- Dexmedetomidine prescribing in Australian intensive care units: an observational study - link
- Research confidence, interest and experience of an Australian hospital pharmacy population - link
- Incorporation of a theme-based research model into a pharmacy department research program - link
- Diagnostic accuracy and adherence to treatment guidelines in adult inpatients with urinary tract infections in a tertiary hospital – link
- Treatment of sleep disturbance in older adults - link

**Lancet
- Guidelines for the management of cytomegalovirus infection in patients with haematological malignancies and after stem cell transplantation from the 2017 European Conference on Infections in Leukaemia (ECIL 7) - link
- Review: Sarcopenia - link

**Medical Journal of Australia
- Influenza and pertussis vaccination of women during pregnancy in Victoria, 2015–2017 - link

**New England Journal of Medicine
- Overall Survival with Ribociclib plus Endocrine Therapy in Breast Cancer - link
- Gemcitabine and Cisplatin Induction Chemotherapy in Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma - link
- Five-Year Outcomes with Dabrafenib plus Trametinib in Metastatic Melanoma - link
- Enzalutamide with Standard First-Line Therapy in Metastatic Prostate Cancer - link
- Intensive Glucose Control in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes — 15-Year Follow-up - link
- NIHR Signals
- Decision support tools can help GPs reduce antibiotic prescriptions for respiratory conditions - link
- 5% fluorouracil cream is the best first-line treatment for actinic keratosis skin lesions - link
- Iron deficiency in people with chronic kidney disease can be managed with either oral or IV therapy - link

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)
- The health of Australia’s prisoners 2018 - link

**CEC
- NSW Health Literacy Framework - A Guide to Action

**TGA
- AusPARs:
  - Safinamide (Xadago™) for adult patients with fluctuating idiopathic Parkinson’s disease (PD) as add-on therapy to a regimen that includes levodopa (L-DOPA).
-- Tafenoquine (as succinate) (Kozenis™) for the radical cure (prevention of relapse) of Pv malaria in patients aged 16 years and older who are receiving appropriate antimalarial therapy for the acute Plasmodium vivax infection

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL
**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Highlights from AHRQ’s Patient Safety Network - [link](#)
- Effect of restriction of the number of concurrently open records in an electronic health record on wrong-patient order errors: a randomized clinical trial – [link](#)
- Economic outcomes associated with safety interventions by a pharmacist–adjudicated prior authorization consult service - [link](#)
- Transcription errors of blood glucose values and insulin errors in an intensive care unit: secondary data analysis toward electronic medical record–glucometer interoperability - [link](#)
- Inappropriate opioid prescription after surgery – [link](#)

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Unfiltered Needles for Withdrawing Medication from Glass Ampoules for Intramuscular Injections: Safety and Guidelines - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New drugs approvals
  - [Ruxolitinib](#) for use in US for steroid-refractory acute Graft vs Host Disease (GVHD)
  - [Lenalidomide in combination with rituximab](#) for previously treated follicular lymphoma or marginal zone lymphoma

**MIMS.co.uk (Monthly Index of Medical Specialities)**
- Summary of Suliqua® (lixisenatide and insulin glargine combination)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Hyperparathyroidism (primary): diagnosis, assessment and initial management – guidance (NG 132)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- NICE Bites – [Crohn’s disease](#)
- Cardiovascular outcomes with GLP-1 receptor agonists in type 2 diabetes mellitus - [link](#)

**Therapeutics Initiative Canada**
- Epinephrine autoinjectors available in Canada

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY
**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- [Ceftriaxone](#): Advises of drug reactions with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms which can be life-threatening/fatal. Separately, some patients may experience a Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction (self-limiting reaction)-treatment should not be discontinued.
  -- Xgeva™ (denosumab): Now includes lichenoid drug eruptions as adverse reaction.
  -- [Imiquimod](#) cream: Now warns that patients should be instructed not to smoke or go near naked flames due to risk of severe burns.

**Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)**
- Take care when prescribing and dispensing levodopa-containing products- [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST
**American Journal of Medicine**

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
- Iron Supplementation Improves Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients with Heart Failure - [link]

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- 2018 Cholesterol Clinical Practice Guidelines: Synopsis of the 2018 American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology/Multisociety Cholesterol Guideline - [link]

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Opportunities for collaboration between pharmacists and clinical pharmacologists to support medicines optimisation in the UK - [link]
- Haematological adverse events associated with tyrosine kinase inhibitors in chronic myeloid leukaemia: A network meta-analysis - [link]

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Clinician-targeted interventions to improve advance care planning in heart failure: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link]
- Understanding the consequences of education inequality on cardiovascular disease: mendelian randomisation study - [link]
- Clinical Review: Diabetic ketoacidosis and hyperosmolar hyperglycemic syndrome: review of acute decompensated diabetes in adult patients - [link]
- Ultra-processed food intake and risk of cardiovascular disease: prospective cohort study (NutriNet-Santé) - [link]
- Association between consumption of ultra-processed foods and all cause mortality: SUN prospective cohort study - [link]
- Long term tapering versus standard prednisolone treatment for first episode of childhood nephrotic syndrome: phase III randomised controlled trial and economic evaluation - [link]

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Putting out fires: a qualitative study exploring the use of patient complaints to drive improvement at three academic hospitals - [link]
- Association between cultural factors and readmissions: the mediating effect of hospital discharge practices and care-transition preparedness - [link]

**Circulation**
- Effect of Alirocumab on Mortality after Acute Coronary Syndromes: An Analysis of the ODYSSEY OUTCOMES Randomized Clinical Trial - [link]
- Thirty-Day Readmission Risk Model for Older Adults Hospitalized With Acute Myocardial Infarction: The SILVER-AMI Study - [link]
- Corrie Health Digital Platform for Self-Management in Secondary Prevention after Acute Myocardial Infarction - MiCORE Rationale and Design - [link]

**Cochrane**
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccines for preventing acute otitis media in children - [link]
- Mucolytic agents versus placebo for chronic bronchitis or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - [link]
- Tramadol for osteoarthritis - [link]
- Down-titration and discontinuation strategies of tumour necrosis factor–blocking agents for rheumatoid arthritis in patients with low disease activity - [link]

**European Heart Journal**
- Immunotherapy for cardiovascular disease - [link]
- Defining high bleeding risk in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention: a consensus document from the Academic Research Consortium for High Bleeding Risk - [link]

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Case report - High-dose methotrexate-induced fulminant hepatic failure and pancytopenia in an acute lymphoblastic leukaemia paediatric patient - [link]

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- Anticoagulant medication errors in hospitals and primary care: a cross-sectional study - [link]
- Medication-related quality of care in residential aged care: an Australian experience - [link]

**JAMA**
- Evolving Issues in the Treatment of Depression- [link]
- TMAO and Heart Disease: The New Red Meat Risk? - [link]

**JAMA Cardiology**
- Effect of the PCSK9 Inhibitor Evolocumab on Total Cardiovascular Events in Patients With Cardiovascular Disease: A Pre-specified Analysis From the FOURIER Trial - [link]

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Association of Non-fasting vs Fasting Lipid Levels with Risk of Major Coronary Events in the Anglo-Scandinavian Cardiac Outcomes Trial–Lipid Lowering Arm - [link]
- An Overview of Cancer Drugs Approved by the US Food and Drug Administration Based on the Surrogate End Point of Response Rate - [link]

**JAMA Neurology**
- Association between Sumatriptan Treatment during a Migraine Attack and Central 5-HT1B Receptor Binding - [link]

**JAMA Oncology**
- Effect of Gemcitabine and nab-Paclitaxel With or Without Hydroxychloroquine on Patients With Advanced Pancreatic Cancer - A Phase 2 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link]

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- Evaluation of Methylphenidate Safety and Maximum-Dose Titration Rationale in Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder - A Meta-analysis - [link]

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Association between Parental Medical Claims for Opioid Prescriptions and Risk of Suicide Attempt by Their Children - [link]

**JAMA Surgery**
- Assessment of Anti–Factor Xa Levels of Patients Undergoing Colorectal Surgery Given Once-Daily Enoxaparin Prophylaxis: A Clinical Study Examining Enoxaparin Pharmacokinetics - [link]

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Barriers and facilitators to clinical information seeking: a systematic review - [link]
- A study of deep learning approaches for medication and adverse drug event extraction from clinical text - [link]

**Journal of the American Geriatrics Society**
- Effectiveness of Ambulatory Telemedicine Care in Older Adults: A Systematic Review - [link]

**Lancet**
- Effects of antiplatelet therapy on stroke risk by brain imaging features of intracerebral haemorrhage and cerebral small vessel diseases: subgroup analyses of the RESTART randomised, open-label trial - [link]
- Efficacy and safety of direct oral factor Xa inhibitors compared with warfarin in patients with morbid obesity: a single-centre, retrospective analysis of chart data - [link]

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- Respiratory syncytial virus-associated hospitalisations in Australia, 2006–2015 - [link]

**Neurology (American Academy of Neurology)**
- Oral anticoagulation in patients with chronic kidney disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link]

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Controlled Trial of Budesonide–Formoterol as Needed for Mild Asthma - link
- Review article: Global Elimination of Chronic Hepatitis - link
- Review Article: Contrast-Associated Acute Kidney Injury - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals**
- Smartphones may help people with diabetes manage their condition better - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)**
- Case Report: Severe Acute Respiratory Failure in Healthy Adolescents Exposed to Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole - link

**Paediatric Blood & Cancer**
- Non-neutropenic fever in children with cancer: A scoping review of management and outcome - link

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**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Implementing the Comprehensive Care Standard Identifying goals of care - link

**Audit Office of NSW**
- Governance of Local Health Districts - link

**Australian Immunisation Handbook**
- Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th edition updates on the recommended use of pertussis vaccines in pregnant women. Updates to the measles chapter have also been released by the Department of Health – link

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Palliative care services in Australia - link
- Admitted patient care 2017–18 - link

**Department of Health**
- Aged Care Quality Standards (assessment and monitoring against the new Aged Care Quality Standards starting from 1 July 2019) - link

**NSW Health Intranet**
- Autumn edition of Health News for 2019 - link
- NSW Plan for Healthy Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities: 2019-2023 - link

**PBS**
- PBS Pharmaceuticals in Hospitals Review - link
- Asthma Stakeholder Meeting December 2018 – Outcome Statement - link
- Health Technology Assessment Consumer Consultative Committee March 2019 Meeting Communiqué - link

**TGA**
- Australia’s medicine labels are becoming clearer - link
-- To support the transition to the new labels TGA have released a new poster in their suite of education materials - link
- AusPARs:
- **Adalimumab** biosimilar (Hadlima®)- indicated for reducing signs and symptoms, as well as inhibiting the progression of structural damage in adult patients with moderate to severely active rheumatoid arthritis.
- **Benralizumab** biosimilar (Fasenra®) indicated as add-on therapy in patients aged 12 years and over with severe eosinophilic asthma (blood eosinophil count ≥ 300 cells/μL or ≥ 150 cells/μL if on oral corticosteroid treatment)

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Pharmacologic and Non-pharmacologic Treatments for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder - [link](#)
- Management of Infertility - [link](#)
- Reducing three infections across cardiac surgery programs: a multisite cross-unit collaboration - [link](#)
- Clinicians’ perceptions of opioid error–contributing factors in inpatient palliative care services: a qualitative study - [link](#)
- Medicines safety in anaesthetic practice - [link](#)
- Usability and feasibility of consumer-facing technology to reduce unsafe medication use by older adults - [link](#)

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Ivermectin for Parasitic Skin Infections of Scabies: A Review of Comparative Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Ivabradine for Adults with Stable Chronic Heart Failure: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New drug approvals
  -- Combination of **avelumab and axitinib** for first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma
  -- **Venetoclax** as part of chemotherapy-free combination regimen for previously untreated patients with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia or small lymphocytic lymphoma
  -- **Teduglutide** (Gattex™) for Children with Short Bowel Syndrome
  -- **Dalteparin** (Fragmin™), first anticoagulant for pediatric VTE

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand**
- Display of combination product medicines in electronic systems - [link](#)

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement**
- How One Health System Overcame Resistance to a Surgical Checklist - [link](#)

**London: Office of Health Economics**
- Indication-Based Pricing (IBP) Discussion Paper: Should drug prices differ by indication? - [link](#)

**London: The Health Foundation**
- The improvement journey: Why organisation-wide improvement in health care matters, and how to get started - [link](#)

**National Health Service Improvement**
- Falls prevention resources - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage: diagnosis and initial management (NG126)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- What is a suitable combined oral contraceptive pill in a patient who is taking hepatic enzyme-inducing drugs, such as carbamazepine, phenytoin, rifampicin or rifabutin? - [link](#)
- Summary of Guidance and Evidence for use of Multi-Compartment Compliance Aids (MCCAs) - [link](#)

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*NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue*
**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - [link](#)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Opdivo™ (*nivolumab*): Hypoparathyroidism added as a common adverse effect.
  -- Neurontin™ (*gabapentin*): Dysphagia added as an uncommon adverse drug reaction.
  -- Viridal Duo™ (*alprostadil*): Gastrointestinal haemorrhage added as a potential adverse effect (frequency unknown). Use alprostadil cautiously in patients with a history of gastrointestinal disease (e.g. ulcers) and in those taking antithrombotics.

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice**
- Actemra® (*tocilizumab*): Risk of Hepatotoxicity: serious cases of drug-induced liver injuries reported including cases of acute liver failure requiring a transplant.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
Medication Safety Alert! May 23, 2019
- Dangerous Wrong-Route Errors with Tranexamic Acid – A Major Cause for Concern
- Dosing confusion with LENVIMA labeling
- Ten-fold overdose with levothyroxine
- Alaris pump infusion set recall
- Never underestimate the need for patient education
- Your Reports at Work: New penicillin G benzathine warning

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**
- Lemtrada™ (*alemtuzumab*): and serious cardiovascular and immune-mediated adverse reactions: new restrictions to use and strengthened monitoring requirements
  - Magnesium sulfate: risk of skeletal adverse effects in the neonate following prolonged or repeated use in pregnancy
  - Tofacitinib (Xeljanz™): restriction of 10 mg twice-daily dose in patients at high risk of pulmonary embolism while safety review is ongoing

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**Age and Ageing**
- Quality improvement strategies to prevent falls in older adults: a systematic review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Highlighting the goals for Parkinson’s care: commentary on NICE Guidelines for Parkinson’s in Adults (NG71) - [link](#)

**American Journal of Medical Quality**
- Effect of Audit and Feedback on Physician Adherence to Clinical Practice Guidelines for Pneumonia and Sepsis - [link](#)
- Improved Supervision and Safety of Discharges through Formal Discharge Education - [link](#)

**ANZ Journal of Surgery**
- Tramadol as an adjunct to intra-articular local anaesthetic infiltration in knee arthroscopy: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Development and validation of an automated algorithm for identifying patients at higher risk for drug-induced acute kidney injury - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Cases in Precision Medicine: The Role of Pharmacogenetics in Precision Prescribing - [link](#)
- Risk of Biologics and Glucocorticoids in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis Undergoing Arthroplasty: A Cohort Study - [link](#)
**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- A multiple methods approach to determine adherence with prescribed mycophenolate in children with kidney transplant - [link](#)
- Effects of Nigella sativa seeds (black cumin) on insulin secretion and lipid profile: A pilot study in healthy volunteers - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Atrial fibrillation type and renal dysfunction as important predictors of left atrial thrombus - [link](#)

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Association between cultural factors and readmissions: the mediating effect of hospital discharge practices and care-transition preparedness - [link](#)

**Cochrane**
- Interventions for preventing delirium in older people in institutional long-term care - [link](#)
- Antifibrinolytic therapy for preventing oral bleeding in patients with haemophilia or Von Willebrand disease undergoing minor oral surgery or dental extractions - [link](#)
- Calcium, vitamin D or recombinant parathyroid hormone for managing post-thyroidectomy hypoparathyroidism - [link](#)
- Comparative effectiveness of continuation and maintenance treatments for persistent depressive disorder in adults - [link](#)

**Diabetes Care**
- Dipeptidyl Peptidase 4 Inhibitors and Risk of Inflammatory Bowel Disease among Patients with Type 2 Diabetes: A Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials - [link](#)

**European Heart Journal**
- Less dementia and stroke in low-risk patients with atrial fibrillation taking oral anticoagulation - [link](#)
- β-blockers, calcium antagonists, and mortality in stable coronary artery disease: an international cohort study - [link](#)
- Myocardial injury after non-cardiac surgery: diagnosis and management - [link](#)
- Prediction of individualized lifetime benefit from cholesterol lowering, blood pressure lowering, antithrombotic therapy, and smoking cessation in apparently healthy people - [link](#)
- Relationship between body mass index and outcomes in patients with atrial fibrillation treated with edoxaban or warfarin in the ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48 trial - [link](#)
- Acute Coronary Syndromes in Cancer Patients - [link](#)

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Effects of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors and other antidepressant drugs on the risk of hip fracture: a case–control study in an elderly Mediterranean population - [link](#)

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- A RCT evaluating a pragmatic in-hospital service to increase the quality of discharge prescriptions - [link](#)

**JAMA**
- New Phenotypes for Sepsis: The Promise and Problem of Applying Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Research - [link](#)
- Artificial Intelligence in Health Care Will the Value Match the Hype? - [link](#)
- Effect of a Recombinant Human Soluble Thrombomodulin on Mortality in Patients With Sepsis-Associated Coagulopathy: The SCARLET Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Derivation, Validation, and Potential Treatment Implications of Novel Clinical Phenotypes for Sepsis - [link](#)
- Management of Hepatitis C in 2019 – [link](#)

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Dangers of Opioid Prescribing for Young Adults after Dental Procedures- [link](#)
**JAMA Neurology**
- Association between Statin Use and Risk of Dementia after a Concussion - [link](#)
- Concussions and Dementia—Are Statins the Salve in the Wound? - [link](#)

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Association between Incident Exposure to Benzodiazepines in Early Pregnancy and Risk of Spontaneous Abortion - [link](#)

**Journal of General Internal Medicine**
- Adverse Events Associated with Nonsurgical Treatments for Urinary Incontinence in Women: a Systematic Review - [link](#)

**Journal of the American College of Cardiology**
- Effect of Calcium-Channel Blocker Therapy on Radial Artery Grafts after Coronary Bypass Surgery - [link](#)

**Lancet**
- The neurocritical care of tuberculous meningitis - [link](#)
- Extending thrombolysis to 4.5–9 h and wake-up stroke using perfusion imaging: a systematic review and meta-analysis of individual patient data - [link](#)
- Safety and Efficacy of the SNAP 12-hour Acetylcysteine Regimen for the Treatment of Paracetamol Overdose - [link](#)
- Effects of antiplatelet therapy after stroke due to intracerebral haemorrhage (RESTART): a randomised, open-label trial - [link](#)
- Effects of antiplatelet therapy on stroke risk by brain imaging features of intracerebral haemorrhage and cerebral small vessel diseases: subgroup analyses of the RESTART randomised, open-label trial - [link](#)
- Eosinophil-guided corticosteroid therapy in patients admitted to hospital with COPD exacerbation (CORTICO-COP): a multicentre, randomised, controlled, open-label, non-inferiority trial - [link](#)

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- Hepatitis B management during immunosuppression for haematological and solid organ malignancies: an Australian consensus statement - [link](#)

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Muco-Obstructive Lung Diseases - [link](#)
- Early Sedation with Dexmedetomidine in Critically Ill Patients - [link](#)
- Early Neuromuscular Blockade in the Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome - [link](#)
- Benralizumab for the Prevention of COPD Exacerbations - [link](#)

**Pharmacotherapy**
- Insulin Glargine Dose and Weight Changes in Underweight, Normal Weight, and Overweight Children Newly Diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus - [link](#)
- Enoxaparin thromboprophylaxis dosing and antifactor Xa levels in low-weight patients - [link](#)

**United European Gastroenterology Journal**
- Pathophysiology and management of opioid-induced constipation: European expert consensus statement - [link](#)

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**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

*NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue*
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)
- Third comprehensive report on antibiotic resistance identifies ongoing threat - link
- Implementing the Comprehensive Care Standard: Identifying goals of care - link

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)
- Injury of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people due to transport, 2010–11 to 2014–15 - link
- Mobility scooter-related injuries and deaths - link
- Pedal cyclist injury deaths and hospitalisations 1999–00 to 2015–16 - link
- Youth justice in Australia 2017–18 – link

Palliative Care
- Position statement: Sustainable access to prescription opioids for use in palliative care

TGA
- Vaccines overview - link
- TGA presentation: ARCS Australian Pharmacovigilance Regulatory Requirements and Risk Management Plans Summit, 27 March 2019 - link
- AusPARs:
  -- Avelumab (Bavencio™) for treatment of adults and paediatric patients (12 years and older) with metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma.
  -- Sofosbuvir / Velpatasvir / Voxilaprevir (Vosevi™) for treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in adult patients, without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA
- Patient Safety Primer: Opioid Safety- link
- Structured override reasons for drug–drug interaction alerts in electronic health records - link
- Deaths among opioid users: impact of potential inappropriate prescribing practices - link
- Highlights from AHRQ's Patient Safety Network - link
  -- Understanding the clinical implications of resident involvement in uncommon operations.
  -- Psychological and psychosomatic symptoms of second victims of adverse events: a systematic review and meta-analysis.
  -- Impact of oncology drug shortages on chemotherapy treatment.

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health
- Multidisciplinary Treatment Programs for Patients with Acute or Subacute Pain: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Multidisciplinary Treatment Programs for Patients with Chronic Non-Malignant Pain: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorders during Pregnancy: A Review of Comparative Clinical Effectiveness, Safety, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Therapeutic Drug Monitoring of Vancomycin: Clinical Evidence and Cost-Effectiveness - link
- Ketamine for Pharmacological Management of Aggression and Agitation in Pre-Hospital Settings: A Review of Comparative Clinical Effectiveness, Safety and Guidelines - link

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)
- New licenced products
  -- Trilasym™ (amantadine) 50 mg/ 5 ml Oral Solution: for prophylaxis and treatment of signs and symptoms of infection caused by influenza A virus; Parkinson’s disease; and, management of painful rash in elderly or debilitated patients with herpes zoster.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA
- Maximal Usage Trials for Topically Applied Active Ingredients Being Considered for Inclusion in an Over-The -Counter Monograph: Study Elements and Considerations - link
- What's New Related to Drugs: includes shortages, recalls, trial updates, guidance documents, podcasts - link
New drug approvals
- **Aflibercept** (Eylea™) injection for diabetic retinopathy
- **Ramucirumab** monotherapy for second line treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) in those who have an alpha-fetoprotein and previously treated with sorafenib
- **IncobotulinumtoxinA** (Xeomin™) broadened indication for as first-line therapy for blepharospasm in adult patients

**GOV.UK – Department of Health & Social Care**
- Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Prescribing, Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (APRHAI) annual report, 2017 to 2018 - [link](#)

**Global Initiative for Asthma**
- 2019 updates to the Pocket Guide for Asthma Management and Prevention, as well as an updated version (2.0) of the Pocket Guide on “Diagnosis and Management of Difficult-to-treat and Severe Asthma in adolescent and adult patients – [link](#)

**GOV.UK – Department of Health & Social Care**
- Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Prescribing, Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (APRHAI) annual report, 2017 to 2018 - [link](#)

**Global Initiative for Asthma**
- 2019 updates to the Pocket Guide for Asthma Management and Prevention, as well as an updated version (2.0) of the Pocket Guide on “Diagnosis and Management of Difficult-to-treat and Severe Asthma in adolescent and adult patients – [link](#)

**London: The Health Foundation**
- Untapped potential: Investing in health and care data analytics - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Abemaciclib with fulvestrant for hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative advanced breast cancer after endocrine therapy – guidance (TA579)
- Enzalutamide for hormone-relapsed non-metastatic prostate cancer – guidance (TA580)
- Nivolumab with ipilimumab for untreated advanced renal cell carcinoma – guidance (TA581)
- Prostate cancer: diagnosis and management – guidance (NG131)
- Prostate cancer – quality standard (QS91)

**Public Health England**
- Rabies post-exposure treatment: management guidelines - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- New Product Evaluations April 2019 - [link](#)
- Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee Newsletter Issue 4 2019 - [link](#)

**The Medicines Optimisation Group East Anglia**
- Toolkit for Tackling Chronic Opioid Use in Non-Cancer Pain - [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - [link](#)
- No Time to Wait: Securing the Future from Drug-Resistant Infections – Report to the secretary-general of the United Nations - [link](#)
- World Health Organization (WHO) issues guideline on prevention of dementia - [link](#)
- WHO consolidated guidelines on drug-resistant tuberculosis treatment 2019 - [link](#)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**
- **electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
  - Revised SPCs
    -- **Prezista™ (darunavir)**: Darunavir boosted with either ritonavir or cobicistat inhibits elimination of medicines highly dependent on CYP3A for clearance. Ivabradine, dapoxetine, domperidone, and naloxegol added to list of concomitant treatments that are contraindicated.
    -- **Repatha™ (evolocumab)**: Angioedema added as a rare adverse reaction.
    -- **Venofer™ (iron sucrose)**: Influenza-like illness added as an undesirable effect; now state that anaphylactoid/anaphylactic reactions reported only in the post-marketing setting (estimated as rare); fatalities have been reported.
    -- **Jext™ (adrenaline)** pre-filled pen for injection: Now states that in patients with thick sub-cutaneous fat layer, there is a risk of adrenaline being administered in sub-cutaneous tissue which may result in a slower adrenaline absorption and a suboptimal effect, increasing the need for a second injection.
    -- **Kaletra™** (ritonavir/lopinavir) and **Norvir™** (ritonavir): all presentations - use of lopinavir and ritonavir (both CYP3A inhibitors) contra-indicated with lomitapide.

**NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue**
-- Utrogestan™ (progesterone) vaginal 200mg capsules: Failed abortion added as a contraindication. Vaginal discharge, vaginal haemorrhage and pruritus added as adverse events of unknown frequency.
-- Aripiprazole (Abilify™) injection: may cause somnolence, postural hypotension, motor and sensory instability, which may lead to falls. Caution advised when treating patients at higher risk (consider lower start dose). Oculogyric crisis listed as an adverse event.
-- Lipitor™ (atorvastatin): Lupus-like syndrome added as a very rare adverse effect.
-- Neurontin™ (gabapentin): Dysphagia added as an uncommon adverse effect.

**EMA**
- Dupixent™ (dupilumab) licensed for severe asthma with type II inflammation, as characterised by raised blood eosinophils and/or raised fractional exhaled nitric oxide.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
Medication Safety Alert! May 9, 2019
-- As Approval of Medical Cannabis Spreads State by State, Product Labeling Improvements Are a Must
-- Fasting during Ramadan and safe drug administration
-- A mitoMYcin-mitoXANTRONE mix-up

**Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)**
- Review of the risks of harm and chance of benefit of Cafergot (ergotamine tartrate + caffeine) under section 36 of the Medicines Act 1981 - link
- Actemra® (tocilizumab) - A new important identified risk: Hepatoxicity
- Risk of infections with Prolia™ (denosumab)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**
**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Current interventions to promote safe and appropriate pain management - link
- Development and validation of a medication regimen complexity scoring tool for critically ill patients - link

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Fournier Gangrene Associated with Sodium–Glucose Cotransporter-2 Inhibitors: A Review of Spontaneous Postmarketing Cases - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Perpetrator effects of ciclosporin (P-glycoprotein inhibitor) and its combination with fluconazole (CYP3A inhibitor) on the pharmacokinetics of rivaroxaban in healthy volunteers - link

**British Journal of Surgery**
- Reducing surgical mortality in Scotland by use of the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Hyponatraemia in primary care - link
- Investigating vitamin B12 deficiency - link
- Association of habitual glucosamine use with risk of cardiovascular disease: prospective study in UK Biobank - link
- Breast cancer risk in transgender people receiving hormone treatment: nationwide cohort study in the Netherlands - link
- Chronic use of tramadol after acute pain episode: cohort study - link
- Thyroid hormones treatment for subclinical hypothyroidism: a clinical practice guideline

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Major reductions in unnecessary aspartate aminotransferase and blood urea nitrogen tests with a quality improvement initiative - link
- Altering standard admission order sets to promote clinical laboratory stewardship: a cohort quality improvement study - link

**Clinics in Geriatric Medicine**
- The Overlap between Falls and Delirium in Hospitalized Older Adults: A Systematic Review

**Cochrane**
- Interventions for hand eczema - link
- Probiotics for the prevention of paediatric antibiotic-associated diarrhoea - link
- Enteral lactoferrin for the treatment of sepsis and necrotizing enterocolitis in neonates - link

**European Heart Journal**
- Long-term proarrhythmic pharmacotherapy among patients with congenital long QT syndrome and risk of arrhythmia and mortality - link
- Spontaneous haemorrhage on apixaban masquerading as obstructive cholangitis after heart surgery - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- New direct-acting antivirals for hepatitis C treatment and neuropsychiatric symptoms in psychiatric risk groups - link
- A case of probable piperacillin/tazobactam-induced bone marrow suppression in a pregnant woman - link
- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR): EAHP position paper - link
- Procurement: EAHP position paper - link
- Review of studies examining microbial contamination of vials used for preparations done with closed-system drug transfer devices - link

**Health Affairs**
- A Culture Of Openness Is Associated With Lower Mortality Rates Among 137 English National Health Service Acute Trusts - link

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- Are General Practitioners getting the information they need from hospitals and specialists to provide quality cancer care for Indigenous Australians? - link
- Antimicrobial stewardship in diabetic ketoacidosis: a single centre experience - link

**JAMA**
- Abnormal Uterine Bleeding in Reproductive-Age Women - link

**JAMA Cardiology**
- Antibacterial Activity of Ticagrelor in Conventional Antiplatelet Dosages against Antibiotic-Resistant Gram-Positive Bacteria - link
- Analysis of Outcomes in Ischemic vs Nonischemic Cardiomyopathy in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Multiple Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma in Immunosuppressed vs Immunocompetent Patients - link
- Risk of Serious Infection in Patients Receiving Systemic Medications for the Treatment of Psoriasis - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Electrocardiographic Changes after Overdose of Epinephrine in a Patient With Anaphylaxis - link
- The Dangers of Ignoring the Beers Criteria—The Prescribing Cascade - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Association of High Intakes of Vitamins B6 and B12 from Food and Supplements with Risk of Hip Fracture among Postmenopausal Women in the Nurses’ Health Study - link
- Association of a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy Program with Transmucosal Fentanyl Prescribing - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Frequency of Intracranial Hemorrhage with Low-Dose Aspirin in Individuals without Symptomatic Cardiovascular Disease - link
- Association of Intensive Blood Pressure Reduction with Risk of Hematoma Expansion in Patients with Deep Intracerebral Hemorrhage - link

**JAMA Oncology**
- Another Treatment Option for Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma with Portal Vein Thrombosis in China - link
- Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy - link

**JAMA Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery**
- Evaluation of Prolonged vs Short Courses of Antibiotic Prophylaxis Following Ear, Nose, Throat, and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Systems engineering and human factors support of a system of novel EHR-integrated tools to prevent harm in the hospital - link

**Lancet**
- Pomalidomide, bortezomib, and dexamethasone for patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma previously treated with lenalidomide (OPTIMISM): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial - link
- Prophylactic antibiotics in the prevention of infection after operative vaginal delivery (ANODE): a multicentre randomised controlled trial - link
- The contribution of injection drug use to hepatitis C virus transmission globally, regionally, and at country level: a modelling study - link
- Estimates of global chemotherapy demands and corresponding physician workforce requirements for 2018 and 2040: a population-based study – link
- New asthma treatment recommendations - link
- Understanding the mechanisms of reversal of type 2 diabetes - link

**Longwoods Healthcare Quarterly**
- Closed-Loop Medication System: Leveraging Technology to Elevate Safety - link
- Generational Differences in Hospital Technology Adoption: A Cross-Sectional Study - link
- Optimizing Nursing Practice through Integration of Best Practice Guidelines into Electronic Medical Records - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Thrombolysis Guided by Perfusion Imaging up to 9 Hours after Onset of Stroke - link
- A Randomized Trial of Progesterone in Women with Bleeding in Early Pregnancy - link
- Dabigatran for Prevention of Stroke after Embolic Stroke of Undetermined Source - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)**
- Standardizing Clinical Response to Results of Lead Screening: A Quality Improvement Study - link

**Pharmacotherapy**
- Alteplase Therapy for Acute Ischemic Stroke in Pregnancy: Two Case Reports and a Systematic Review of the Literature - link
- Falsely Elevated Vancomycin Concentrations in a Patient Not Receiving Vancomycin - link

**Public Library of Science (PLOS)**
- Health professional beliefs, knowledge, and concerns surrounding medicinal cannabis – A systematic review - link
TAG Mail 9 May 2019

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)
- Physical activity during pregnancy 2011–12 - [link](#)
- Cervical screening in Australia 2019- [link](#)
- Incidence of insulin-treated diabetes in Australia - [link](#)

**TGA
- Australian Public Assessment Reports for prescription medicines (AusPARs) - [link](#)
  -- Olaparib (Lynparza®) as monotherapy for maintenance treatment of patients with platinum sensitive relapsed BRCA-mutated (germline or somatic) high grade serous epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer who are in response (complete response or partial response) after platinum based chemotherapy.
  -- Dexamethasone (intravitreal implant) (Ozurdex®) for macular oedema due to Branch Retinal Vein Occlusion (BRVO) or Central Retinal Vein Occlusion (CRVO); non-infectious uveitis affecting the posterior segment of the eye.
  -- Evolocumab (Repatha®) for prevention of cardiovascular events
- Other
  -- Management and communication of medicine shortages and discontinuations in Australia. Guidance for sponsors and other stakeholder bodies - [link](#)
  -- Medicine Shortages in Australia: Reporting obligations and the TGA’s compliance framework - [link](#)
  -- 2019 seasonal influenza vaccines - [link](#)
  -- TGA presentation: ARCS Australian Pharmacovigilance Regulatory Requirements and Risk Management Plans Summit, 27 March 2019 - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA
- Telehealth for Acute and Chronic Care Consultations - [link](#)
- Long-Term Drug Therapy and Drug Holidays for Osteoporosis Fracture Prevention: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Reduced verification of medication alerts increases prescribing errors - [link](#)

**British National Formulary (BNF)
- April BNF eNewsletter [link](#)

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health
- Lidocaine 2% with Epinephrine versus Lidocaine 1% with Epinephrine for Patients Requiring Local Anesthesia: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines- [link](#)
- Long-Acting Insulin Analogues versus Human NPH Insulin for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes and Unresponsive to Non-insulin Therapies: Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines – [link](#)

**European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- EMA annual report 2018 published - [link](#)

**FDA
- New drug approvals
  -- Kadcyla™ (Trastuzumab) as adjuvant treatment of people with HER2-positive early breast cancer who have residual invasive disease after taxane and Herceptin-based treatment given before surgery.
  -- Dengvaxia™, live, attenuated vaccine to prevent dengue disease caused by all dengue virus serotypes (1, 2, 3, and 4) for people aged 9 through 16 years who have previously had laboratory-confirmed dengue infection and who live in endemic areas.

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
**Institute for Healthcare Improvement**
- The Business Case for Becoming an Age-Friendly Health System - [link](#)
- Age-Friendly Health Systems: Guide to Using the 4Ms in the Care of Older Adults - [link](#)

**NHS Improvement**
- Writing a criteria-led discharge policy - [link](#)

**National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine**
- Pain Management for People with Serious Illness in the Context of the Opioid Use Disorder Epidemic - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK Guidance**
- Durvalumab for locally advanced unresectable non-small-cell lung cancer after platinum-based chemoradiation (TA578)
- Crohn’s disease: management (NG129)
- Ulcerative colitis: management (NG130)
- Abemaciclib with fulvestrant for treating hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative advanced breast cancer after endocrine therapy (TA579)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- New Medicines Newsletter April 2019 - [link](#)
- Medicines Use and Safety Updates - [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - [link](#)

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**MEDICATION SAFETY**
**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Kyprolis™ (*carfilzomib*): Cytomegalovirus infection added as an uncommon adverse effect.
  -- Lemtrada™ (*alemtuzumab*): Treatment should only to be initiated in adults with highly active relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis despite adequate course of treatment with at least 2 other disease modifying treatments, or where all other disease modifying treatments are otherwise unsuitable.
  -- Lonquex™ (*lipegfilgrastim*): Nausea added as a very common adverse effect.

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice**
- Alert: Paclitaxel-Coated Balloons and Paclitaxel-Eluting Stents for the Treatment of Peripheral Arterial Disease and the Potential Risk of Long-Term All-Cause Mortality - [link](#)

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**PAPERS OF INTEREST**
**American Journal of Cardiology**
- Meta-Analysis of Direct-Acting Oral Anticoagulants Compared with Warfarin in Patients >75 Years of Age - [link](#)

**American Urological Society**
- Diagnosis and Treatment of Early Stage Testicular Cancer: AUA Guideline (2019) - [link](#)

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Improving efficiency of financial authorization by establishing a standard infusion workflow - [link](#)
- Readiness to implement vancomycin monitoring based on area under the concentration–time curve: A cross-sectional survey of a national health consortium - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**

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*NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue*
- Fournier Gangrene Associated with Sodium–Glucose Cotransporter-2 Inhibitors: A Review of Spontaneous Postmarketing Cases - link
- Patent Foramen Ovale and Ischemic Stroke in Patients with Pulmonary Embolism: A Prospective Cohort Study - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Effects of cladribine tablets on heart rate, atrio-ventricular conduction and cardiac repolarization in patients with relapsing multiple sclerosis - link
- Availability and readability of patient education materials for deprescribing: An environmental scan - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Effects of tolvaptan add-on therapy in patients with acute heart failure: meta-analysis on randomised controlled trials - link
- Atrial fibrillation type and renal dysfunction as important predictors of left atrial thrombus - link
- Efficacy of pharmacological therapies in patients with IBS with diarrhoea or mixed stool pattern: systematic review and network meta-analysis - link

**Circulation**
- Comparison of the Effects of Glucagon-Like Peptide Receptor Agonists and Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitors for Prevention of Major Adverse Cardiovascular and Renal Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus - link
- Individual Treatment Effect Estimation of 2 Doses of Dabigatran on Stroke and Major Bleeding in Atrial Fibrillation: Results from the RE-LY Trial - link

**Cochrane**
- Anti-vascular endothelial growth factor for neovascular age-related macular degeneration - link
- Interventions for infantile seborrhoeic dermatitis (including cradle cap) - link
- Once daily long-acting beta2-agonists and long-acting muscarinic antagonists in a combined inhaler versus placebo for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Deprescribing practices for anticonvulsants after benign seizures secondary to high-dose tranexamic acid in a single, large UK cardiothoracic centre - link
- Cost-effectiveness analysis of infliximab, adalimumab, golimumab, vedolizumab and tofacitinib for moderate to severe ulcerative colitis in Spain - link
- Effectiveness and safety of pirfenidone for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis - link

**Diabetes care**
- Effect of Flash Glucose Monitoring Technology on Glycemic Control and Treatment Satisfaction in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes - link

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- Bedside medication delivery programs: suggestions for systematic evaluation and reporting - link
- Patient education in relation to informational needs and postoperative complications in surgical patients - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Assessment of the development of new regional dermatoses in patients treated for atopic dermatitis with dupilumab - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Association between State Laws Facilitating Pharmacy Distribution of Naloxone and Risk of Fatal Overdose- link
- Association of Treatment With 5α-Reductase Inhibitors with Time to Diagnosis and Mortality in Prostate Cancer- link
- Cardiovascular Outcomes of Calcium-Free vs Calcium-Based Phosphate Binders in Patients 65 Years or Older With End-stage Renal Disease Requiring Hemodialysis - [link]

**JAMA Neurology**
- The Final Nail in the Coffin of Disease Modification for Dopaminergic Therapies - [link]
- Effect of a Quality Improvement Intervention on Adherence to Therapies for Patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke and Transient Ischemic Attack - [link]

**JAMA Ophthalmology**
- Association of Statin Use and High Serum Cholesterol Levels with Risk of Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma - [link]

**JAMA Surgery**
- Guidelines for Perioperative Care in Cardiac Surgery: Enhanced Recovery after Surgery Society Recommendations - [link]

**Lancet**
- Co-formulated bictegravir, emtricitabine, and tenofovir alafenamide versus dolutegravir with emtricitabine and tenofovir alafenamide for initial treatment of HIV-1 infection - [link]
- Risk of HIV transmission through condomless sex in serodifferent gay couples with the HIV-positive partner taking suppressive antiretroviral therapy (PARTNER) - [link]
- Microbial evolutionary medicine: from theory to clinical practice - [link]
- Drug-eluting or bare-metal stents for percutaneous coronary intervention: a systematic review and individual patient data meta-analysis of randomised clinical trials - [link]
- Gentamicin compared with ceftriaxone for the treatment of gonorrhoea (G-ToG): a randomised non-inferiority trial - [link]
- Best practice in managing postoperative pain - [link]
- Series: Digital Oncology - [link]

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Eculizumab in Aquaporin-4–Positive Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder - [link]

**Pharmacotherapy**
- The Potential for QTc Prolongation with Chronic Azithromycin Therapy in Adult Cystic Fibrosis Patients - [link]
- Implementation of a stewardship initiative on respiratory viral PCR-based antibiotic de-escalation - [link]

**Prescrire – French Medical Journal**
- Prescrire International issue no. 204 May 2019 - [link]

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management**
- Rivaroxaban in atrial fibrillation cardioversion: an update - [link]

**Thrombosis and Haemostasis**
- Optimal Timing of P2Y12 Inhibitor Loading in Patients Undergoing PCI: A Meta-Analysis - [link]
- Incident Atrial Fibrillation, Dementia and the Role of Anticoagulation: A Population-Based Cohort Study - [link]
- Long-Term Management of Venous Thromboembolism: Lessons from EINSTEIN CHOICE and Other Extension Trials - [link]
**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**ACI**
- Clinician Connect **April 2019**
- Strategic Plan 2019-2022 - [link](#)

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Implementing the Comprehensive Care Standard: Identifying goals of care, April 2019 - [link](#)
- Consultation report- Patient safety and quality improvement in primary health care - [link](#)

**AHHA**
- The Health Advocate April 2019 - [link](#)

**Grattan Institute**
- Commonwealth Orange Book 2019: Policy priorities for the federal government - [link](#)

**NSW Health Intranet**
- Measles awareness poster for travellers - [link](#)

**PBS**
- Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits 1 May 2019 Update - [link](#)
- Changes to Proton Pump Inhibitor restrictions level - [link](#)
- Recommendations made by PBAC March 2019 - [link](#)

**TGA**
- Management and communication of medicines shortages and discontinuations in Australia - [link](#)
- Medicine Shortages in Australia: Reporting obligations and the TGA’s compliance framework - [link](#)

**Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine**
- Future Leaders **April Communiqué**!

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- The impact of errors on healthcare professionals in the critical care setting - [link](#)
- Effects of chemotherapy prescription clinical decision-support systems on the chemotherapy process: a systematic review - [link](#)
- A systematic literature review and narrative synthesis on the risks of medical discharge letters for patients’ safety - [link](#)
- What words convey: the potential for patient narratives to inform quality improvement - [link](#)

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Prescription Monitoring Programs for Optimizing Medication Use and Preventing Harm: A Review of Safety and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Fluoroquinolones for the Treatment of Otitis Media: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorder: A Review of Comparative Clinical Effectiveness, Safety, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Non-Insulin Therapies versus Prandial Insulin for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes: Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Blunt Needles for Withdrawing from Multi-dose Vials: Safety and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Fluoroquinolones for the Treatment of Intra-Abdominal Infections: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Fluoroquinolones for the Treatment of Urinary Tract Infection: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)

**FDA**
- New drug approvals:
  - Pembrolizumab in combination with axitinib for first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma
  - Risankizumab-rrzaa (Skyrizi™) for treatment of severe plaque psoriasis in adults who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy
  - Halobetasol Propionate and Tazarotene (Duobrii™) Lotion 0.01%/0.045% for Plaque Psoriasis in adults
  - Belimumab for paediatric patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)
  - Glecaprevir and pibrentasvir (Mavyret™) for the treatment of all six hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotypes in children ages 12 to 17 years

**Health Canada**
- Health Product InfoWatch, April 2019
  -- Darzalex™ (daratumumab): Cases of hepatitis B virus (HBV) reactivation, some with a fatal outcome, reported.
  -- Opsumit™ (macitentan) safety review evaluating the risk of liver injury.

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand**
- Quality improvement toolkit using falls prevention as a topic of interest - link

**NHS England**
- The Atlas of Shared Learning - Case study - The ‘Getting Clozapine Right’ initiative at Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Tildrakizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis— guidance (TA575)
- Brentuximab vedotin for treating CD30-positive cutaneous T-cell lymphoma – guidance (TA577)
- Stroke and transient ischaemic attack in over 16s: diagnosis and initial management – guidance (NG128)
- Suspected neurological conditions: recognition and referral – guidance (NG127)

**Pharmacy Connection Canada**
- Opioid Policy Establishes Expectations For Safe And Appropriate Opioid Use - link
- Incidents Associated with Missed Medication Doses: A Multi-Incident Analysis - link

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - link

MEDICATION SAFETY
**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Cobicistat: advise not to initiate darunavir/cobicistat (DRV/co) during pregnancy, and to switch to alternative regimen such as DRV/ritonavir for women who become pregnant during therapy with DRV/co in alignment with the SPCs for Prezista™ and Rezolsta™.
  -- Adempas™ (riociguat): updated regarding use with concomitant potent multi pathway CYP/P-gp and BCRP inhibitors and recommended starting dose of 0.5mg TDS to mitigate hypotension risk. Monitor for signs/symptoms of hypotension on initiation and for patients on higher doses.
  -- Enbrel™ (etanercept): now includes lichenoid skin reactions as a rare adverse event based on evidence from cumulative review and the known association of TNF inhibitors with skin reactions.
  -- Cetirizine: prospectively collected data on pregnancy outcomes do not suggest potential for maternal or foetal/embryonic toxicity above background rates; cetirizine passes into breast milk so a risk of side effects in breastfed infants cannot be excluded.
  -- Dacogen™ (decitabine): hyperglycaemia added as a “very common” adverse effect.
  -- Victoza™ (liraglutide) injection
    SPC advises blood glucose self-monitoring to adjust dose of sulfonylurea and insulin, esp when liraglutide is started and insulin is reduced, using a stepwise approach. DKA has been reported in insulin-dependent patients after rapid discontinuation or dose reduction of insulin.

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
**EMA**
- EMA recommends withdrawal of marketing authorisation for olaratumab (Lartruvo™) - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- FDA Adds Boxed Warning to Insomnia Drugs - [link](#)

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
- Medication Safety Alert! April 25, 2019
  --What's in a Name? Newborn Naming Conventions and Wrong-Patient Errors
  --Intravenous (IV) route added to Par Pharmaceutical's EPINEPHrine injection vials, but…
  --Compounded topical pain creams to be examined

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**
- Elvitegravir boosted with cobicistat: avoid use in pregnancy due to risk of treatment failure and maternal-to-child transmission of HIV-1 - [link](#)

**Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)**
- New adverse drug reaction: important identified risk of Hepatitis B (HBV) reactivation associated with the use of DARZALEX® (daratumumab)

**NHS Improvement**
- Rapid Over Infusion of Parenteral Nutrition (PN) - update to Patient Safety Alert
  NHS/PSA/W/2017/005 issued Sept 2017

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Using artificial intelligence in health-system pharmacy practice: Finding new patterns that matter - [link](#)
  - Multicenter study to evaluate the benefits of technology-assisted workflow on IV room efficiency, costs, and safety in small, community hospitals - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Long-Term Drug Therapy and Drug Discontinuations and Holidays for Osteoporosis Fracture Prevention: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
  - National Institutes of Health Pathways to Prevention Workshop: Research Gaps for Long-Term Drug Therapies for Osteoporotic Fracture Prevention - [link](#)
  - Long-Term Weight Loss with Metformin or Lifestyle Intervention in the Diabetes Prevention Program Outcomes Study - [link](#)

**ANZ Journal of Surgery (Royal Australasian College of Surgeons)**
- Quality improvement in surgery: introduction of the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program into New South Wales – [link](#)

**Arthritis and Rheumatology**
- 2019 American College of Rheumatology/Arthritis Foundation Guideline for the Treatment of Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis: Therapeutic Approaches for Non-Systemic Polyarthritis, Sacroiliitis, and Enthesitis - [link](#)
  - Comparative Risk of Venous Thromboembolism in Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients Receiving Tofacitinib Versus Those Receiving Tumor Necrosis Factor Inhibitors: An Observational Cohort Study - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Intravenous flucloxacillin treatment is associated with a high incidence of hypokalemia - [link](#)
  - Pharmacodynamics of rituximab on B lymphocytes in paediatric patients with autoimmune diseases - [link](#)
  - Opportunities for collaboration between pharmacists and clinical pharmacologists to support medicines optimisation in the UK – [link](#)
**British Journal of General Practice**
- Statins for primary prevention of cardiovascular disease: modelling guidelines and patient preferences based on an Irish cohort - link
- Thromboembolic and haemorrhagic events in patients with atrial fibrillation: a prospective cohort study in UK primary and secondary care – link
- The Patient-Held Active Record of Medication Status (PHARMS) study: a mixed-methods feasibility analysis – link

**British Journal of Psychiatry**
- Off-label use of ketamine for treatment-resistant depression in clinical practice: European perspective - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Statins for the primary prevention of cardiovascular disease: an overview of systematic reviews - link
- Case report Nitrofurantoin: friend or foe? - link
- Persistence with opioids post discharge from hospitalisation for surgery in Australian adults: a retrospective cohort study - link

**Circulation**
- Twenty-Four-Hour Blood Pressure–Lowering Effect of a Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitor in Patients with Diabetes and Uncontrolled Nocturnal Hypertension Results from the Randomized, Placebo-Controlled SACRA Study - link
- Combination Antiplatelet and Oral Anticoagulant Therapy in Patients with Coronary and Peripheral Artery Disease – link

**Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics**
- Innovation in Pharmacovigilance: Use of Artificial Intelligence in Adverse Event Case Processing - link

**Cochrane**
- Brivaracetam add-on therapy for drug-resistant epilepsy - link
- Prolonged thromboprophylaxis with low molecular weight heparin for abdominal or pelvic surgery - link
- Supplemental perioperative intravenous crystalloids for postoperative nausea and vomiting - link
- Hydroxyurea (hydroxycarbamide) for transfusion-dependent β-thalassaemia - link
- Multiple-micronutrient supplementation for women during pregnancy - link
- Haloperidol discontinuation for people with schizophrenia - link
- Strategies to improve adherence and continuation of shorter-term hormonal methods of contraception - link
- Different doses, durations and modes of delivery of nicotine replacement therapy for smoking cessation - link
- Eradication therapy for Burkholderia cepacia complex in people with cystic fibrosis - link
- Metformin and second- or third-generation sulphonylurea combination therapy for adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus - link
- Probiotics for the prevention of pediatric antibiotic-associated diarrhea - link
- Prophylactic oxytocin for the third stage of labour to prevent postpartum haemorrhage - link
- Risk-reducing medications for primary breast cancer: a network meta-analysis - link
- Anti-vascular endothelial growth factor for neovascular age-related macular degeneration - link

**Diabetes Care**
- Changes in Serum Calcitonin Concentrations, Incidence of Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma, and Impact of Routine Calcitonin Concentration Monitoring in the EXenatide Study of Cardiovascular Event Lowering (EXSCEL) - link
- Early Intervention for Diabetes in Medical and Surgical Inpatients Decreases Hyperglycemia and Hospital-Acquired Infections: A Cluster Randomized Trial - link

**Geriatrics & Gerontology International**
- Association between sleep characteristics and antihypertensive treatment in older adults - [link](#)

**JAMA**
- Metformin in 2019 - [link](#)

**JAMA Cardiology**
- Association of Rivaroxaban with Thromboembolic Events in Patients With Heart Failure, Coronary Disease, and Sinus Rhythm: A Post Hoc Analysis of the COMMANDER HF Trial - [link](#)
- Estimation of the Required Lipoprotein(a)-Lowering Therapeutic Effect Size for Reduction in Coronary Heart Disease Outcomes - A Mendelian Randomization Analysis - [link](#)
- Evaluation and Treatment of Patients with Bradycardia and Cardiac Conduction Delay - [link](#)

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Evaluation of Ivermectin vs Permethrin for Treating Scabies—Summary of a Cochrane Review - [link](#)

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Diagnostic Performance of Creatinine-Based Equations for Estimating Glomerular Filtration Rate in Adults 65 Years and Older - [link](#)

**JAMA Network Open**
- Association between Opioid Dose Variability and Opioid Overdose among Adults Prescribed Long-term Opioid Therapy - [link](#)

**JAMA Neurology**
- Association between Peripheral Neuropathy and Exposure to Oral Fluoroquinolone or Amoxicillin-Clavulanate Therapy - [link](#)
- Risk for Major Hemorrhages in Patients Receiving Clopidogrel and Aspirin Compared with Aspirin Alone after Transient Ischemic Attack or Minor Ischemic Stroke - A Secondary Analysis of the POINT Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

**JAMA Oncology**
- Treatment-Related Adverse Events of PD-1 and PD-L1 Inhibitors in Clinical Trials - [link](#)
- Association of Checkpoint Inhibitor–Induced Toxic Effects with Shared Cancer and Tissue Antigens in Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer - [link](#)

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- Glucocorticoids for Croup in Children - [link](#)
- Duration of Immunity and Effectiveness of Diphtheria-Tetanus–Acellular Pertussis Vaccines in Children - [link](#)

**JAMA Surgery**
- Association of Duration and Type of Surgical Prophylaxis With Antimicrobial-Associated Adverse Events - [link](#)

**Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)**
- Collaborative doctor–pharmacist prescribing in the emergency department and admissions unit: a study of accuracy and safety - [link](#)
- Interventions to improve the continuity of medication management upon discharge of patients from hospital to residential aged care facilities - [link](#)
- Influence of the expertise, collaborative efforts and trustworthiness of pharmacists on the prescribing decisions of physicians - [link](#)
- Selection and use of decision support alerts in electronic medication management systems in Australian hospitals: a survey of implementers - [link](#)
- Paediatric use of medications and adherence apps: a qualitative analysis of the perspectives of children and parents - [link](#)
- The potential impact of an electronic medication management system on safety-critical prescribing errors in an emergency department - [link](#)

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**Lancet**
- Effect of ultra-short-term treatment of patients with iron deficiency or anaemia undergoing cardiac surgery: a prospective randomised trial - link
- Inappropriate opioid prescription after surgery - link
- Perioperative opioid analgesia—when is enough too much? A review of opioid-induced tolerance and hyperalgesia - link

**Nature Communications**
- Molecular dissection of box jellyfish venom cytotoxicity highlights an effective venom antidote - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Liraglutide in Children and Adolescents with Type 2 Diabetes - link
- Early or Delayed Cardioversion in Recent-Onset Atrial Fibrillation - link
- Catheter Ablation of Ventricular Arrhythmias - link
- Heart and Lung Transplants from HCV-Infected Donors to Uninfected Recipients - link
- Hazardous Chemical Emergencies and Poisonings - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals**
- Getting hospital patients up and moving shortens stay and improves fitness - link
- Intravenous magnesium can reduce shivering in patients after surgery - link
- Treating asymptomatic MRSA on discharge from hospital reduces risk of later infection - link

**Pharmacotherapy**
- Efficacy of Tramadol for Pain Management in Patients Receiving Strong Cytochrome P450 2D6 Inhibitors - link

**Stroke**
- Optimal Duration of Aspirin Plus Clopidogrel After Ischemic Stroke or Transient Ischemic Attack: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - link
- Intravenous Magnesium Sulfate in Acute Stroke - A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials - link

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**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**AHHA**
- The Health Advocate - April 2019

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia 2017–18: key findings- link

**TGA**
- 2019 seasonal influenza vaccines - link
- AusPARs - link
- Midostaurin - link

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards user guide for governing bodies - link
- Osteoarthritis of the knee: A decision support tool for patients considering treatment options - link

**PBS**
- Public Consultation – PBS Process Improvements Stage 1, closes 29 April 2019

*NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue*
- PD-L(1) checkpoint inhibitor Stakeholder Meeting Outcome Statement - link

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL
**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- AHRQ Advances Efforts To Battle Opioid Epidemic - link
- Using incident reports to assess communication failures and patient outcomes – link
- A qualitative analysis of outpatient medication use in community settings: observed safety vulnerabilities and recommendations for improved patient safety - link
- Systems engineering and human factors support of a system of novel EHR-integrated tools to prevent harm in the hospital - link
- Minimizing Opioid Prescribing in Surgery (MOPiS) initiative: an analysis of implementation barriers - link
- The effect of a residential care pharmacist on medication administration practices in aged care: a controlled trial - link

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)**
- Standard-Duration Versus Extended-Duration Dual Antiplatelet Therapy Following Percutaneous Coronary Intervention: A Review - link
- Remote Monitoring for Chronic Cardiac Conditions: Clinical Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness - link

**eMC**
- New products
  -- Cuprior (trientine tetrahydrochloride) tablets
  New licensed product for the treatment of Wilson's disease in adults, adolescents and children ≥ 5 years intolerant to D-penicillamine therapy.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New drug approvals
  -- License extension for Keytruda™ (pembrolizumab) as monotherapy for first-line treatment of stage III non-small cell lung cancer.
  -- Erdafitinib (Balversa™) for treatment of locally advanced or metastatic bladder cancer with genetic alterations known as fibroblast growth factor 3 or 2.

**Health Canada**
- Optimizing the Use of Real World Evidence to Inform Regulatory Decision-Making- link

**Joint Commission**
- Bringing perioperative emergency manuals to your institution: a "How To" from concept to implementation in 10 steps - link

**MHRA**
- Medicines with teratogenic potential: what is effective contraception and how often is pregnancy testing needed? - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Key Therapeutic Topics
  -- Asthma: medicines safety priorities KTT5
  -- Hypnotics KTT6
  -- Antipsychotics in people living with dementia KTT7
  -- Type 2 diabetes mellitus: medicines optimisation priorities KTT12
  -- Wound care products KTT14
  -- Acute kidney injury (AKI): use of medicines in people with or at increased risk of AKI KTT17
  -- Multimorbidity and polypharmacy KTT18
  -- Safer insulin prescribing KTT20
  -- Medicines optimisation in chronic pain KTT21
  -- Chemotherapy dose standardization KTT22
  -- Suicide prevention: optimising medicines and reducing access to medicines as a means of suicide KTT24
**NHS Evidence**
- Surgical site infections: prevention and treatment - guideline NG125
- Caesarean section - clinical guideline CG132
- Ertugliflozin as monotherapy or with metformin for treating type 2 diabetes – TA572
- Update to Delirium: prevention, diagnosis and management: CG103. Update March 2019
- Daratumumab with bortezomib and dexamethasone for previously treated multiple myeloma - TA573
- Certolizumab pegol for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis – guidance (TA574)

**Public Health England**
- PGD templates for oseltamivir for pre and post exposure prophylaxis of avian influenza flu - link

**Therapeutics Initiative Canada**
- Therapeutics Letter 118: Trends in utilization of proton pump inhibitors in British Columbia

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - link
- Guideline: recommendations on digital interventions for health system strengthening - link
- Guidelines for malaria vector control - link
- New measles surveillance data for 2019 - link

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised annual risk acknowledgement form to support Valproate Pregnancy Prevention Programme
- Revised SPCs
-- Steglatro™ (ertugliflozin L-pyroglutamic acid): Further guidance on monitoring patients at higher risk of amputation events, counselling patients on the importance of preventative footcare and maintaining adequate hydration and when to consider withdrawing treatment.
-- Glivec™ (imatinib): Thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA) added as a rare adverse reaction. If lab or clinical findings linked to TMA occur, treatment should be discontinued and thorough evaluation for TMA carried out.
-- Vidaza™ (azacitidine): Pericarditis added as an uncommon adverse event.

**EMA**
- Use of alemtuzumab for multiple sclerosis restricted whilst review is ongoing. Following new reports of immune-mediated conditions including autoimmune hepatitis and haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis, healthcare professionals are advised to restrict use of alemtuzumab to patients with highly active disease until the review has concluded.
- Review of risks with high-strength estradiol-containing creams for treating vaginal atrophy: Due to concerns of similar adverse effects to those associated with the use of estradiol in systemic HRT e.g. venous thromboembolism, stroke and endometrial cancer, review will assess risk of systemic absorption.

**Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)**
- Hydrochlorothiazide: risk of non-melanoma skin cancer - link

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**
- Belimumab (Benlysta™): increased risk of serious psychiatric events seen in clinical trials. Increased risk of depression, suicidal ideation or behaviour, or self-injury observed in patients with SLE receiving belimumab vs placebo plus standard therapy. Healthcare professionals are advised to assess patients before and during treatment with belimumab.
- Elvitegravir boosted with cobicistat; avoid use in pregnancy due to risk of treatment failure and maternal-to-child transmission of HIV-1. Pharmacokinetic data show low exposure values of elvitegravir with cobicistat during 2nd/3rd trimester pregnancy
- Yellow fever vaccine (Stamaril™) and fatal adverse reactions: extreme caution needed in people who may be immunosuppressed and those 60 years and older. Following two fatal
adverse reactions, yellow fever vaccine must not be given to anyone with a history of thymus dysfunction or who is immunosuppressed.

**TGA
- Medicines Safety Update: Fluoroquinolone antibiotics and risk of aortic aneurysm/dissection - [link](#)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST
**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)
- Implementation of a pharmacy technician residency program in a tertiary care teaching hospital - [link](#)
- Reducing opioid use for chronic pain in older adults - [link](#)
- Drug formulary decision-making: Ethnographic study of 3 pharmacy and therapeutics committees - [link](#)
- A systematic approach to optimize electronic health record medication alerts in a health system - [link](#)
- Current practices in the delivery of pharmacogenomics: Impact of the recommendations of the Pharmacy Practice Model Summit - [link](#)
- Use of specific anti-Xa levels in acute kidney injury to transition patients from oral factor Xa inhibitors to i.v. heparin infusion - [link](#)
- Use of continuous infusion ceftolozane–tazobactam with therapeutic drug monitoring in a patient with cystic fibrosis - [link](#)
- Evaluating containment effectiveness of A2 and B2 biological safety cabinets - [link](#)
- Implementation of the flipped residency research model to enhance residency research training - [link](#)
- Patterns and characteristics associated with surface contamination of hazardous drugs in hospital pharmacies - [link](#)
- Predictors of *Clostridioides difficile* recurrence across a national cohort of veterans in outpatient, acute, and long-term care settings - [link](#)
- Apparent interference with extracorporeal membrane oxygenation by liposomal amphotericin B in a patient with disseminated blastomycosis receiving continuous renal replacement therapy - [link](#)
- Direct oral anticoagulants versus aspirin for venous thromboembolism prophylaxis after orthopedic surgery - [link](#)

**Brain
- Multiple sclerosis: effect of beta interferon treatment on survival - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
- Effects of dapagliflozin vs vildagliptin on cardiometabolic parameters in diabetic patients with coronary artery disease: a randomised study - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- Stress related disorders and risk of cardiovascular disease: population based, sibling controlled cohort study - [link](#)
- Sub-optimal cholesterol response to initiation of statins and future risk of cardiovascular disease - [link](#)
- Real-world persistence and adherence with oral bisphosphonates for osteoporosis: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Direct oral anticoagulation and mortality in moderate to high-risk atrial fibrillation - [link](#)

**Circulation
- Biomarkers of Dietary Omega-6 Fatty Acids and Incident Cardiovascular Disease and Mortality: An Individual-Level Pooled Analysis of 30 Cohort Studies - [link](#)
- Association between Secondary Prevention Medication Use and Outcomes in Frail Older Adults after Acute Myocardial Infarction - [link](#)

**Clinics in Geriatric Medicine

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NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
- Geriatric Polypharmacy: Pharmacist as Key Facilitator in Assessing for Falls Risk: 2019 Update – [link]

**Cochrane**
- Antioxidants for male subfertility - [link]
- Medical treatment for botulism - [link]
- Adjuvant therapy with antidepressants for the management of inflammatory bowel disease - [link]
- First aid glucose administration routes for symptomatic hypoglycaemia - [link]
- Barriers and facilitators to the implementation of doctor-nurse substitution strategies in primary care: a qualitative evidence synthesis - [link]

**Diabetes Care**
- Ambulatory Blood Pressure Reduction with SGLT-2 Inhibitors: Dose-Response Meta-analysis and Comparative Evaluation with Low-Dose Hydrochlorothiazide - [link]

**Health Affairs**
- News Media Reporting On Medication Treatment For Opioid Use Disorder Amid The Opioid Epidemic – [link]

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy in Non-Metastatic Breast Cancer- A Study on Practice Trends in a Regional Cancer Treatment Service - [link]

**JAMA Cardiology**
- 2018 American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology/Multisociety Guideline on the Management of Blood Cholesterol–Secondary Prevention - [link]

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Use of Opioid Overdose Deaths Reported in One State’s Criminal Justice, Hospital, and Prescription Databases to Identify Risk of Opioid Fatalities - [link]

**JAMA Network Open**
- Effect of Human Papillomavirus Vaccine to Interrupt Recurrence of Vulvar and Anal Neoplasia (VIVA)- [link]

**JAMA Oncology**
- Current Landscape of Immunotherapy in Breast Cancer - A Review [link]

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- World Health Organization Treatment Recommendations for Non-severe Fast-Breathing Pneumonia Need to Be Updated - [link]

**JAMIA**
- The effect of medication cost transparency alerts on prescriber behavior - [link]
- The impact of health information technology on the management and follow-up of test results – a systematic review - [link]
- Successful deployment of drug-disease interaction clinical decision support across multiple Kaiser Permanente regions - [link]
- Data, capacity-building, and training needs to address rural health inequities in the Northwest United States: a qualitative study - [link]

**Journal of Clinical Oncology**
- Management of Cancer-Associated Anemia With Erythropoiesis-Stimulating Agents: ASCO/ASH Clinical Practice Guideline Update - [link]

**Journal of Health Services Research & Policy**
- Australian pharmacy perspectives on increasing access to medicines through reclassification - [link]
- Awareness as a dimension of health care access: exploring the case of rural palliative care provision in Canada - [link]
- Patient and public involvement in the design, administration and evaluation of patient feedback tools, an example in psychiatry: a systematic review and critical interpretative synthesis - [link]

**Journal of Pain**
- Eighteen-Year Trends in the Prevalence of, and Health Care Use for, Noncancer Pain in the United States: Data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey - [link]

**Journal of Patient Experience**
- Accuracy of Inpatient Recall of Interaction with a Pharmacist: A Validation Study From 2 Acute Care Teaching Hospitals - [link]

**Lancet**
- Albuminuria-lowering effect of dapagliflozin alone and in combination with saxagliptin and effect of dapagliflozin and saxagliptin on glycaemic control in patients with type 2 diabetes and chronic kidney disease (DELIGHT): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial
- Therapeutic interventions in patients with prolonged disorders of consciousness - [link]
- Levetiracetam versus phenytoin for second-line treatment of paediatric convulsive status epilepticus (EcLiPSE): a multicentre, open-label, randomised trial - [link]
- Levetiracetam versus phenytoin for second-line treatment of convulsive status epilepticus in children (ConSEPT): an open-label, multicentre, randomised controlled trial - [link]
- A global scientific strategy to cure hepatitis B - [link]
- Transition from acute to chronic pain after surgery - [link]
- Chlorhexidine for metal cleaning in reducing catheter-associated urinary tract infections: a multicentre stepped-wedge randomised controlled trial – [link]

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- NIHR Signals
  -- When is it best to start the Parkinson’s drug, levodopa? - [link]
  -- Switching to oral antibiotics early for bone and joint infections gave similar results to continuing intravenous therapy- [link]

**NEJM**
- Clinical practice: Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Adults – [link]

**Pharmacotherapy**
- Efficacy and Safety of Once-Weekly versus Twice-Weekly Bortezomib in Patients with Hematologic Malignancies: A Meta-analysis with Trial Sequential Analysis - [link]
- The Association between Central Nervous System-Active Medication Use and Fall-Related Injury in Community-Dwelling Older Adults with Dementia - [link]
- Evaluation of Clinical and Safety Outcomes Following Uncontrolled Tacrolimus Conversion in Adult Transplant Recipients - [link]
- Effects of Norepinephrine and Vasopressin Discontinuation Order in the Recovery Phase of Septic Shock: A Systematic Review and Individual Patient Data Meta-Analysis - [link]

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Public reporting of safety and quality in public and private hospitals – Literature review and environment scan - [link]
- Public reporting of safety and quality in public and private hospitals – Report on consumer and clinician focus groups and expert interviews - [link]

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**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- GEN Aged Care Data: People's care needs in aged care - [link](#)
- GEN Aged Care Data: People using aged care - [link](#)

**Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) NSW**
- Medication Safety and Quality Program Newsletter - MSQ Connect, [Issue 9, February 2019](#)

**MIMS.co.uk (Monthly Index of Medical Specialities)**
- Compare COPD inhalers and insulin pens with new MIMS tables - [link](#)

**NPS MedicineWise**
- Australian Prescriber: Volume 42 Issue 2: influenza; drug-induced movement disorders; immune checkpoint inhibitors in malignancy, - [link](#)
- RADAR: April 2019 new listings wrap-up: bictegravir/tenofovir/alafenamide; eptifibatide; idostaurin; nusinersen; pralatrexate; safinamide – [link](#)

**NSW Health Intranet**
- ‘Don't risk severe flu’ brochure - [link](#)
- Mental Health Safety and Quality in NSW: Implementation Update February 2019 - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**eMC (UK)**
- New products
  -- Iloprost 100 micrograms/ml concentrate for infusion for treatment of severe Raynaud's phenomena in patients with progressive trophic disorders and for severe chronic ischaemia of lower limbs in patients at risk of amputation, in whom surgical revascularisation/angioplasty has failed or is not indicated.
  -- Lokelma™ (sodium zirconium cyclosilicate) oral suspension: A non-absorbed, non-polymer inorganic powder with a uniform micropore structure that preferentially captures potassium in exchange for hydrogen and sodium cations, licensed for the treatment of hyperkalaemia in adult patients.

**FDA**
- New drug approvals:
  -- First two-drug complete regimen, Dovato® (dolutegravir and lamivudine) for HIV-infected patients who have never received antiretroviral treatment
  -- Supplemental approval for Ibrance® (palbociclib) in combination with an aromatase inhibitor or fulvestrant to include men with hormone receptor-positive (HR+), human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative (HER2-) advanced or metastatic breast cancer
  -- Reintroduction of Zelnorm™ (tegaserod), a twice-daily oral treatment for Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation (IBS-C) in women under 65
  -- Romosozumab (Evenity®) for treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women with a history of osteoporotic fracture or multiple risk factors for fracture, or those who have failed or are intolerant to other osteoporosis therapies.
  -- Certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®) for adults with nonradiographic axial spondyloarthritis who have objective signs of inflammation

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand**
- Reducing harm from falls: Recommended evidence-based resources 2019 Reducing Harm from Falls - [link](#)

**Midlands Therapeutics Review and Advisory Committee (MTRAC)**
- Considerations for commissioners: Tapentadol PR

**National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine**
- Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Save Lives - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Specialist neonatal respiratory care for babies born preterm (NG124) - guidance
- Urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse in women: management – guidance (NG123)

**Pennsylvania Patient Safety Advisory**
- Exploring Vulnerability to Patient Safety Events along the Age Continuum - link
- Drug Shortages: Shortchanging Quality and Safe Patient Care - link
- Safety Stories: Missing the Mark - link

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Can acetarsol be used to treat proctitis? - link
- New Medicines Newsletter March 2019
- New Product Evaluations March 2019

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- A healthier humanity: the WHO investment case for 2019-2023 - link
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - link
- WHO Guidelines for the pharmacological and radiotherapeutic management of cancer pain in adults and adolescents - link

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  - Spinraza™ (nusinersen): Aseptic meningitis added as potential adverse effect (unknown frequency)
  - Oxycodeone products (OxyContin, OxyNorm, Longtec, Shortec): Updated to warn concomitant administration of oxycodone with serotonin agents, such as SSRIs or SNRIs, may cause serotonin toxicity. Oxycodone should be used with caution and dose may need to be reduced in patients using these medications.
  - Infliximab: Lichenoid reactions added as rare potential adverse effect.
  - Betmiga® (mirabegron): Confusional state added as potential adverse effect (frequency unknown)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- E-cigarette: Safety Communication - Related to Seizures Reported Following E-cigarette Use, Particularly in Youth and Young Adults
- FDA identifies harm reported from sudden discontinuation of opioid pain medicines and requires label changes to guide prescribers on gradual, individualized tapering

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice**
- Benlysta™ (belimumab) - Increased Risk of Serious Depression, Suicidal Ideation or Behaviour, or Self-Injury
- Health Canada advises Allergan of its intent to suspend its licences for Biocell breast implants as a precautionary measure - link

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
- Medication Safety Alert! April 11, 2019
  - Sidebar: ISMP Impact on the Healthcare Community
  - Worth repeating…PCA pump keys available online
  - Risk of IV bupivacaine administration
  - Morphine vial tampering
  - NCCN and The Joint commission back ISMP vinca alkaloids “Call to Action”
  - Sound-alike antidote error prevention
  - Overdoses related to “pill dumping” into a spare medication vial
  - Acute Care Action Agenda (January - March 2019)

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**
- Good clinical practice for clinical trials - link

**TGA**
- Breast implant associated-anaplastic large cell lymphoma (BIA-ALCL) - [link](#)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Medical Quality**
- Improving Heart Failure Readmission Costs and Outcomes With a Hospital-to-Home Readmission Intervention Program - [link](#)
- An Initiative to Decrease Time to Antibiotics for Patients With Fever and Neutropenia - [link](#)

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Practice-enhancing publications about the medication use process in 2017 - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Intensive Models of Hepatitis C Care for People Who Inject Drugs Receiving Opioid Agonist Therapy: A Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Practice-enhancing publications about the medication use process in 2017 - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Intensive Models of Hepatitis C Care for People Who Inject Drugs Receiving Opioid Agonist Therapy: A Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Osteoanabolic and dual action drugs - [link](#)
- Predicting the dose of vancomycin in ICU patients receiving different types of RRT therapy: a model-based meta-analytic approach - [link](#)
- Methadone dosing strategies in preterm neonates can be simplified - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Anticoagulation therapy in heart failure and sinus rhythm: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion versus multiple daily injection regimens in children and young people at diagnosis of type 1 diabetes: pragmatic randomised controlled trial and economic evaluation - [link](#)
- Medicinal use of cannabis based products and cannabinoids - [link](#)
- Off-label drug prescriptions in French general practice: a cross-sectional study - [link](#)

**British Journal of Psychiatry**
- Clinical and biological effects of long-term lithium treatment in older adults with amnestic mild cognitive impairment: randomised clinical trial - [link](#)

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Assessing the quality of health care in the management of bronchiolitis in Australian children: a population-based sample survey - [link](#)
- Improving rates of ferrous sulfate prescription for suspected iron deficiency anaemia in infants - [link](#)

**Circulation**
- Effectively Initiating and Maintaining Anticoagulation in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)
- Empagliflozin and the Risk of Heart Failure Hospitalization in Routine Clinical Care: A First Analysis from the Empagliflozin Comparative Effectiveness and Safety (EMPRIZE) Study - [link](#)
- Device Therapy and Arrhythmia Management in Left Ventricular Assist Device Recipients: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association - [link](#)
- Angiotensin Receptor Neprilysin Inhibitor for Functional Mitral Regurgitation - [link](#)

**Cochrane**
- Long-term antibiotics for preventing recurrent urinary tract infection in children - [link](#)
- Herbal medicinal products or preparations for neuropathic pain - [link](#)
- Non-antistreptococcal interventions for acute guttate psoriasis or an acute guttate flare of chronic psoriasis - [link](#)
- Glucocorticosteroids for people with alcoholic hepatitis - [link](#)

**Critical Care Medicine**
- The Effect of Vitamin C on Clinical Outcome in Critically Ill Patients: A Systematic Review with Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials - [link](#)
**Diabetes Care**  
- Glucose Variables in Type 1 Diabetes Studies with Dapagliflozin: Pooled Analysis of Continuous Glucose Monitoring Data from DEPICT-1 and -2 - [link](#)

**Diabetic Medicine**  
- Cardiovascular efficacy and safety of sodium-glucose co-transporter-2 inhibitors and glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists: a systematic review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)

**Health Technology Assessment**  
- Adalimumab in combination with methotrexate for refractory uveitis associated with juvenile idiopathic arthritis: a RCT - [link](#)

**Internal Medicine Journal**  
- Rituximab Therapy in Interstitial Lung Disease associated with Rheumatoid Arthritis - [link](#)  
- Discharge treatment with ACE inhibitor/ARB after a heart failure hospitalization is associated with a better prognosis irrespectively of left ventricular ejection fraction - [link](#)  
- Differential Clinical Characteristics, Management, and Outcome of Delirium among Ward Compared with ICU Patients - [link](#)  
- What's new in lipid lowering therapies in diabetes? - [link](#)

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**  
- Quality of diabetes care in cancer: a systematic review - [link](#)  
- Wide variation and patterns of physicians’ responses to drug–drug interaction alerts - [link](#)  
- Not feeling ready to go home: a qualitative analysis of chronically ill patients’ perceptions on care transitions - [link](#)

**JAMA**  
- Diagnosis and Management of Crohn Disease - [link](#)  
- Association of HIV Preexposure Prophylaxis with Incidence of Sexually Transmitted Infections Among Individuals at High Risk of HIV Infection - [link](#)

**JAMA Cardiology**  
- Effect of a Multifaceted Quality Improvement Intervention on the Prescription of Evidence-Based Treatment in Patients at High Cardiovascular Risk in Brazil: The BRIDGE Cardiovascular Prevention Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)  
- 2018 American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Multisociety Guideline on the Management of Blood Cholesterol Primary Prevention - [link](#)

**JAMA Network Open**  
- Association of Maternal Use of Benzodiazepines and Z-Hypnotics during Pregnancy with Motor and Communication Skills and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Symptoms in Preschoolers - [link](#)

**JAMA Neurology**  
- Recurrent Stroke With Rivaroxaban Compared With Aspirin According to Predictors of Atrial Fibrillation. Secondary Analysis of the NAVIGATE ESUS Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)  
- Fulminant Hepatitis Associated with Echovirus 25 During Treatment with Ocrelizumab for Multiple Sclerosis - [link](#)

**Lancet**  
- Smoking cessation for people with severe mental illness (SCIMITAR+): a pragmatic randomised controlled trial - [link](#)  
- Dose recommendations for anticancer drugs in patients with renal or hepatic impairment - [link](#)  
- Fully closed-loop insulin delivery in inpatients receiving nutritional support: a two-centre, open-label, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)  
- A global scientific strategy to cure hepatitis B - [link](#)
**Medical Journal of Australia**
- The impact of rapid molecular diagnostic testing for respiratory viruses on outcomes for emergency department patients - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Benralizumab for PDGFRA-Negative Hypereosinophilic Syndrome - link
- Adjunctive Intermittent Pneumatic Compression for Venous Thromboprophylaxis - link
- Full Study Report of Andexanet Alfa for Bleeding Associated with Factor Xa Inhibitors - link
- Levothyroxine in Women with Thyroid Peroxidase Antibodies before Conception - link
- Pembrolizumab Treatment for Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- NIHR Signals
  -- Communication problems are top of patients’ concerns about hospital care - link
  -- One gram a day of omega-3 supplements does not reduce the risk of cancer or cardiovascular disease - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)**
- Tofacitinib Treatment of Refractory Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis - link
- Antibiotic Prescribing during Pediatric Direct-to-Consumer Telemedicine Visits - link

**Pharmacotherapy**
- Impact of Sofosbuvir-Based Therapy on Liver Transplant Candidates with Hepatitis C Virus Infection - link
- Conversion from Vancomycin Trough Concentration–Guided Dosing to Area Under the Curve–Guided Dosing Using Two Sample Measurements in Adults: Implementation at an Academic Medical Center - link
- Proton Pump Inhibitors and Risk of Acute and Chronic Kidney Disease: A Retrospective Cohort Study - link
- Tolvaptan for Volume Management in Heart Failure - link
- Synthetic Cannabinoid-Associated Multiple Organ Failure: Case Series and Literature Review - link

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management**
- Interprofessional safety reporting and review of adverse events and medication errors in critical care - link

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**AIHW**
- National opioid Statistics Annual Data Collection (NOPSAD) 2018 - link

**AHHA**
- The Health Advocate - April 2019 - link

**Heart Foundation**
- Clinical factsheets to complement our comprehensive clinical guidelines:
  -- Atrial fibrillation screening and diagnostic work up
  -- Stroke prevention in non-valvular atrial fibrillation using CHA2DS2-VA score
  -- Diagnosis and classification of heart failure
  -- Pharmacological management of Chronic Heart Failure with reduced left ventricular ejection fraction (HFrEF)
Pharmacy Council of NSW
- Changes To Routine Inspection Procedures - link
- Are You Recording The Correct Information? - link
- Think Before You Compound That Medicine - link
- Ensure You're Able To Dispense That Script! - link

**PBS**
- Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee (DUSC) Outcome Statement 7-8 February 2019: Bendamustine for indolent non-Hodgkins lymphoma (INHL) and mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) and Eculizumab for atypical haemolytic uraemic syndrome (aHUS) - link

**Safer Care Victoria**
- Change package regarding use of a patient's own adrenaline (epinephrine) autoinjector in hospital - link

**TGA**
- Guidance for TGO 101- Standard for tablets, capsules and pills - link
- New AusPARs:
  -- Ertugliflozin and erthropilofloxin combinations with sitagliptin and metformin [Steglatro®, Steglujan®, Segluromet®] - link
  -- Apalutamide [Erlyan®] - link

**Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine**
- Clinical Communique March 2019: focus on human factors - link

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL
**British National Formulary**
- Newsletter covers new monographs, dose changes for pembrolizumab, adalimumab, imipenem with cilastatin, anthrax vaccine and Japanese encephalitis vaccine, and MHRA advice on tapentadol and ipilimumab

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Pharmaceutical Reviews Update 6 - link

**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- New products
  -- Rucaparib (Rubraca): as monotherapy for maintenance treatment of adults with platinum-sensitive relapsed high-grade epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube, or primary peritoneal cancer responding to platinum-based chemotherapy

**European Medicines Agency (EMA)**
- Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 25-28 March 2019 - link
- Questions & answers: EU actions to prevent medicine shortages due to Brexit - link
- 20 years of sampling and testing programme for medicines authorised for the EU - link
- Confirms omega-3 fatty acids medicines are not effective in preventing further heart problems after a heart attack - link

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- FDA approves new oral treatment for multiple sclerosis - link
- Statement by FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D., on new strategies to modernize clinical trials to advance precision medicine, patient protections and more efficient product development - link

**Health Quality and safety Commission New Zealand**
- Reducing harm from falls: Recommended evidence-based resources 2019 - link

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement**
- Advancing the Safety of Acute Pain Management - link
- The Missing piece in Improvement: Understanding How to Motivate Change - link
**Midlands Therapeutics Review and Advisory Committee**
- Considerations for Commissioners Tapentadol (Palexia SR®) - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse in women: management - link
- Specialist neonatal respiratory care for babies born preterm - link
- NICE impact mental health - link
- New Key Therapeutic Topics
  -- Shared decision making - link
  -- Suicide prevention: optimizing medicines and reducing access to medicines as a means of suicide - link

**Public Health England**
- NHS RightCare Toolkit: Physical ill-health and CVD prevention in people with severe mental illness (SMI) - link

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society**
- Rescheduling of gabapentin and pregabalin to Schedule 3 Controlled Drugs from 1 April 2019 - link

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Should patients on statins take Coenzyme Q10 supplementation to reduce the risk of statin-induced myopathy? - link
- How to minimise the risks of medication errors with rivastigmine patches - link
- Patient Group Directions (PGDs) for administration of contrast media in radiology services and exemplar PGD templates – link

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Benralizumab (Fasenra): includes anaphylactic reactions and anaphylaxis within the hypersensitivity reactions subsection
  -- Levetiracetam (Keppra): provides clarification of dosing in renal impairment and categorises delirium and encephalopathy as rare adverse reactions.
  -- Infliximab (Remicade): updated to include lichenoid reaction as a rare adverse reaction.
  -- Guselkumab (Tremfya) serious hypersensitivity reactions have been reported in the post-market setting. Some cases occurred several days after treatment with guselkumab, including cases with urticaria and dyspnoea.
- Deferiprone (Ferriprox): dose adjustment is not required in mild, moderate, or severe renal impairment or mild-moderate hepatic impairment. However, safety and pharmacokinetics are not known in end stage renal disease and severe hepatic impairment.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
- Medication Safety Alert!
- Improving Intravenous Drug Delivery Safety - link

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**
- Focus on Three Psychoactive Drugs - link
- Field Safety Notice: 25 to 29 March - link

**TGA**
- Mylanta Antacid Double Strength Oral Liquid 500 mL Product defect correction - link

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

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*NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue*
**American Journal of Health System Pharmacy**
- Pharmacogenomic potential in advanced cancer patients- link
- The opioid crisis: Origins, trends, policies, and the roles of pharmacists-link
- Derivation and validation of a hospital all-cause 30-day readmission index-link
- Development of an iterative validation process for a 30-day hospital readmission prediction index-link
- Instilling value, quality, and safety through hematology and oncology stewardship-link
- Drug formulary decision-making: Ethnographic study of 3 pharmacy and therapeutics committees-link
- Implementation of a controlled substance collection receptacle-link

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Rituximab for Myalgic Encephalitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome - link
- Pharmacologic and Nonpharmacologic Treatments for Urinary Incontinence in Women: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis of Clinical Outcomes - link
- Use of low Dose Aspirin and Mortality after prostate Cancer Diagnosis: A Nationwide Cohort Study- link

**Australian Health Review**
- Financial costs associated with monopolies on biologic medicines in Australia- link
- End-of-life care in hospital: an audit of care against Australian national guidelines - link
- Failure to access prescribed pharmaceuticals by older patients with chronic conditions- link
- Shared decision making implementation: a case study analysis to increase uptake in New South Wales- link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Population/regional differences in efficacy of 3 drug categories (antidiabetic, respiratory and psychotropic agents) among East Asians: A retrospective study based on multiregional clinical trials - link
- Patterns of gabapentin and pregabalin use and misuse: Results of a population-based cohort study in France - link
- Open-label study to evaluate trifluridine/tipiracil safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics in patients with advanced solid tumours and hepatic impairment - link

**BMJ Open**
- Clinical characteristics and lipid lowering treatment of patients initiated on proprotein convertase subtilisin-kexin type 9 inhibitors: a nationwide cohort study- link
- Impact of bacterial probiotics on obesity, diabetes and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease related variables: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials- link

**BMJ**
- British Medical Association policy paper on prevention before cure: prioritising population health- link

**Cochrane Reviews**
- Support during pregnancy for women at increased risk of low birthweight babies- link
- Lifestyle changes in women with polycystic ovary syndrome- link
- Benzodiazepines versus placebo for panic disorder in adults- link
- Brivaracetam add-on therapy for drug-resistant epilepsy- link
- Vaccines for preventing rotavirus diarrhoea: vaccines in use - link

**Diabetes Care**
- Association between Topical Corticosteroid Use and Type 2 Diabetes in Two European Population-Based Adult Cohorts - link

**European Heart Journal**
- Metformin prescription and aortic aneurysm: systematic review and meta-analysis-link
- Oral anticoagulation among atrial fibrillation patients with anaemia: an observational cohort study - link

**JAMA**
- Management of Small Kidney Tumors in 2019 - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Assessment of Topical Corticosteroid Prescribing, Counseling, and Communication among Dermatologists and Pharmacists - link
- Application of Topical Phosphodiesterase 4 Inhibitors in Mild to Moderate Atopic Dermatitis - link
- Association of Ustekinumab vs TNF Inhibitor Therapy with Risk of Atrial Fibrillation and Cardiovascular Events in Patients with Psoriasis or Psoriatic Arthritis - link
- Evaluation of Prospective HLA-B*13:01 Screening to Prevent Dapsone Hypersensitivity Syndrome in Patients with Leprosy - link
- Screening HLA to Prevent Severe Drug Reactions—A Devil's Advocate Perspective - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Clinician-Family Communication about Patients' Values and Preferences in Intensive Care Units - link
- Estimation of Study Time Reduction Using Surrogate End Points Rather Than Overall Survival in Oncology Clinical Trials - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Antiepileptic Drug Treatment Patterns in Women of Childbearing Age with Epilepsy - link

**JAMA Oncology**
- Safety, Tolerability, and Management of Toxic Effects of Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase Inhibitor Treatment in Patients with Cancer - link
- US Food and Drug Administration Approval of New Drugs Based on Noninferiority Trials in Oncology - link

**JAMA Ophthalmology**
- Association of Ledipasvir-Sofosbuvir Treatment with Uveitis in Patients Treated for Hepatitis C - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Disconnected: a survey of users and nonusers of telehealth and their use of primary care - link
- Comparison of blockchain platforms: a systematic review and healthcare examples - link
- Novel displays of patient information in critical care settings: a systematic review --link

**Journal of Clinical Oncology**
- Treatment of Multiple Myeloma: ASCO and CCO Joint Clinical Practice Guideline - link

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- New guidelines from the Thrombosis and Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand for the diagnosis and management of venous thromboembolism - link
- Nicotine and other potentially harmful compounds in “nicotine-free” e-cigarette liquids in Australia - link

**Monthly Index of Medical Specialties (MIMS)**
- MIMS table of oral iron supplements for iron-deficiency states - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- A Trial of a Shorter Regimen for Rifampin-Resistant Tuberculosis - link
- Darolutamide in Nonmetastatic, Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer - link
- Antibacterial Envelope to Prevent Cardiac Implantable Device Infection - link

**Prescrire**
**The Lancet**  
- Regulating endocrine disruptors linked to cancer - [link](#)  
- Tetanus - [link](#)  

**The Lancet Oncology**  
- Gene-expression profiling of bortezomib added to standard chemoimmunotherapy for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (REMoDL-B): an open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial - [link](#)  

**Therapeutic Advances in Psychopharmacology**  
- Restarting antidepressant and antipsychotic medication after intentional overdoses: need for evidence-based guidance - [link](#)  

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**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**  

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**  
- Cancer in Australia 2019 - [link](#); in brief - [link](#)  
- Mental health services in Australia - [link](#)  

**PBS**  
- PBAC Report now available - Options for listing PD-(L)1 checkpoint inhibitors for multiple cancer indications on the PBS - [link](#)  

**TGA**  
- Pharmacovigilance Inspection Program Metrics Report: Sep 2017 - Dec 2018 - [link](#)  
- Listed and assessed listed medicines: Application and submission user guide - [link](#)  
- ACSS public statement, 14-15 May 2018 - [link](#)  
- New AusPARs:  
  -- Live attenuated chimeric yellow fever dengue virus (serotypes 1 and 2 and 3 and 4) [Dengvaxia™] - [link](#)  

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**  

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**  
- Improving Opioid Management - [link](#)  
- Highlights from AHRQ's Patient Safety Network - [link](#)  
- Current Issue - [link](#)  

**British Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (BACPR)**  
- The BACPR Standards and Core Components for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and Rehabilitation 2017 (3rd Edition) - [link](#)  

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**  
- Combination Agents for Multiple Myeloma: Comparative Clinical Effectiveness - [link](#)  
- Intranasal Corticosteroids for the Management of Chronic Rhinosinusitis or Nasal Polyposis in Cystic Fibrosis: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness - [link](#)  
- Ivabradine for Adults with Stable Chronic Heart Failure: Clinical Effectiveness - [link](#)  

**MHRA**  
- New products/indications  
  -- Mabthera™ (rituximab): Now licensed for the treatment of moderate to severe pemphigus vulgaris. The entire SPC has been updated to include relevant information for this indication.
-- Praluent™ (alirocumab): License extension for alirocumab to reduce cardiovascular risk by lowering LDL-C levels, as an adjunct, in adults with established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease.

**GOV.UK**
- Guidance:
  -- Psychotropic drugs and people with learning disabilities or autism - link
  -- Productive healthy ageing: interventions for quality of life. Interventions that can be made by pharmacy teams, to improve quality of life for older people - link

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New approvals/indications
  -- Brexanolone (Zulresso®) for post-partum depression - link
  -- License extension of atezolizumab (Tecentriq®) in combination with chemotherapy as first-line treatment for extensive-stage small cell lung cancer
  -- Prograf® Granules (tacrolimus for oral suspension) approved for pediatric liver, heart, and kidney transplant patients

**National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine**
- Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Save Lives – consensus study report - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Shared Learning Database: Consensus based national antimicrobial stewardship competencies for UK undergraduate healthcare professional education - link

**Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**
- Antimicrobial Resistance - Tackling the Burden in the European Union - link

**Pennsylvania Patient Safety Advisory**
- Drug Shortages: Shortchanging Quality and Safe Patient Care - link
  - Exploring Vulnerability to Patient Safety Events along the Age Continuum - link

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society**
- Calls for greater pharmacist role in prescription drug dependency - link
  - Building up the pharmacy workforce - link

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee Newsletter Issue 2 2019 - link

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - link

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
-- Educational Risk Minimisation Materials to help reduce the risk associated with using carbimazole or thiarmazole containing products
-- Educational Risk Minimisation Guide to help reduce the risk associated with using Namuscla® (mexiletine hydrochloride)
-- Educational Risk Minimisation Materials to help reduce the risk associated with using Zessly® (infliximab)
-- Revised SPCs
  -- FEIBA™ (Factor VIII Inhibitor Bypassing Activity) :advises isohemagglutinins may interfere with serological tests; and, increased risk of thrombotic microangiopathy with FEIBA in patients receiving emicizumab prophylaxis.
  -- Revolade™ (eltrombopag): updated with information related to liver functions tests, thrombotic and thromboembolic complications and myelodysplastic syndrome.
**EMA**
- Increased risk of blood clots in lungs and death with higher dose of Xeljanz (tofacitinib) for rheumatoid arthritis - [link](#)

**MHRA**
- Letters and drug alerts sent to healthcare professionals in February 2019 - [link](#)
- Medicines with teratogenic potential: what is effective contraception and how often is pregnancy testing needed? [link](#)
- Onivyde (irinotecan, liposomal formulations): reports of serious and fatal thromboembolic events - [link](#)
- Fluoroquinolone antibiotics: new restrictions and precautions for use due to very rare reports of disabling and potentially long-lasting or irreversible side effects - [link](#)

**Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)**
- Outcome of the consultation on the proposed warning statement regarding a fire hazard on the labels of paraffin-based skin products - [link](#)

**TGA**
- **Tofacitinib Safety Alert:** Clinical study finds increased risk of blood clots in the lungs and of death in rheumatoid arthritis patients on high dose
- Breast implant associated cancer (BIA-ALCL) - [link](#)
- Consumer information: Understanding the harms of selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMs) - [link](#)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Implementation of pharmacy morbidity, mortality, and process improvement rounds - [link](#)
- Summaries of safety labeling changes approved by FDA—Boxed warnings highlights, October–December 2018 - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Acute Illness Associated with Cannabis Use, by Route of Exposure: An Observational Study - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Clinical implications of the association between fluoroquinolones and tendon rupture: The magnitude of the effect with and without corticosteroids - [link](#)

**BMC Health Services Research**
- The impact of implementing a hospital electronic prescribing and administration system on clinical pharmacists' activities - a mixed methods study - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Does fluoxetine improve recovery after stroke? - [link](#)

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Variation in use and outcomes related to midline catheters: results from a multicentre pilot study - [link](#)
- Standardising hospitalist practice in sepsis and COPD care - [link](#)

**Cochrane**
- Systemic corticosteroids for the management of cancer-related breathlessness (dyspnoea) in adults - [link](#)
- Hydroxyurea (hydroxycarbamide) for transfusion-dependent β-thalassaemia - [link](#)
- Second-generation antidepressants for preventing seasonal affective disorder in adults - [link](#)
- Palliative interventions for controlling vaginal bleeding in advanced cervical cancer - [link](#)
- Outpatient treatment for people with cancer who develop a low-risk febrile neutropaenic event - [link](#)
- Electroconvulsive therapy for treatment-resistant schizophrenia - link
- Linezolid for drug-resistant pulmonary tuberculosis - link
- Memantine for dementia - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Safety, time and cost evaluation of automated and semi-automated drug distribution systems in hospitals: a systematic review - link

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- Improving survival in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma related to chronic hepatitis C and B but not in those related to non-alcoholic steatohepatitis or alcoholic liver disease: a 20-year experience from a national programme - link
- Management of Stroke in the Australian Indigenous Population: From Hospitals to Communities - link
- A retrospective pharmaceutical financial benefits and cost avoidance analysis of clinical trial participation in the Australian haematology setting - link

**JAMA**
- Effect of Additional Oral Semaglutide vs Sitagliptin on Glycated Hemoglobin in Adults with Type 2 Diabetes Uncontrolled with Metformin Alone or With Sulfonylurea - link
- The Future of the GLP-1 Receptor Agonists - link
- Management of Patients with Severe Aortic Stenosis with Transcatheter Valve Replacement - link
- The Uncertain Effect of Financial Incentives to Improve Health Behaviours - link

**JAMA Cardiology**
- JAMA Cardiology—The Year in Review, 2018 - link
- Risk of Cardiovascular Disease and Mortality in Young Adults with End-stage Renal Disease - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Evaluation of Low-Dose, Low-Frequency Oral Psoralen–UV-A Treatment With or Without Maintenance on Early-Stage Mycosis Fungoides - link
- Psoralen Plus UV-A Therapy in the 21st Century - link
- JAMA Dermatology—The Year in Review, 2018 - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- What Should I Know About Opioids? - link
- Aspirin Use and Risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Hepatitis B - link
- A Clinical Overview of Off-label Use of Gabapentinoid Drugs - link
- JAMA Internal Medicine—The Year in Review, 2018 - link

**JAMA Oncology**
- JAMA Oncology—The Year in Review, 2018 - link
- Implications of the Parenteral Opioid Shortage for Prescription Patterns and Pain Control among Hospitalized Patients With Cancer Referred to Palliative Care - link

**JAMA Ophthalmology**
- Age-Related Eye Disease Study Report 39 - link
- JAMA Ophthalmology—The Year in Review, 2018 - link

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- JAMA Psychiatry—The Year in Review, 2018 - link

**Journal of General Internal Medicine**
- Associations between Polypharmacy, Symptom Burden, and Quality of Life in Patients with Advanced, Life-Limiting Illness - link

**Lancet**
- When ethics and politics collide in donor-funded global health research - link

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
- Long-term efficacy and safety of obeticholic acid for patients with primary biliary cholangitis: 3-year results of an international open-label extension study - link

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- Volume 210 Issue 5 - link
  -- Guideline Summary: The Thrombosis and Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand guidelines for the diagnosis of venous thromboembolism
  -- Identifying the cultural heritage of patients during clinical handover and in hospital medical records
  --The burden of pancreatic cancer in Australia attributable to smoking

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Volatile Anesthetics versus Total Intravenous Anesthesia for Cardiac Surgery - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) UK**
- Management of labour - link

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**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Alcohol and other drug use in regional and remote Australia: consumption, harms and access to treatment 2016–17 - link
  - The health of Australia’s females - link
  - The health of Australia’s males - link

**TGA**
- Brexit - Implications for therapeutic goods in Australia - link
- Webinar: Permitted indications for listed medicines - link

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Highlights from AHRQ's Patient Safety Network - link
- New Video: Surveys on Patient Safety Culture Use in Different Care Settings - link
- Question Builder App - helps patients and caregivers prepare for medical appointments and maximise visit time

**EMA**
- Emicizumab (Hemlibra™) licence extended for the prevention of bleeding episodes in people with severe haemophilia A without factor VIII inhibitors

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- Nalmefene HCl injection granted fast track designation for the emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose - link
- Statement by FDA Commissioner on new strategies to modernize clinical trials to advance precision medicine, patient protections and more efficient product development - link

**NHS England**
- Sepsis guidance implementation advice for adults - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Delirium: prevention, diagnosis and management- Clinical guideline (CG103): update
Olanzapine removed from guideline regarding management of a person with delirium who is distressed or considered a risk to themselves or others and where verbal and non-verbal de-escalation techniques are ineffective or inappropriate.

**Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK**
- Latest Issue # 157 - Risk reduction and management of delirium - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Chloramphenicol: is it safe in breastfeeding? - [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - [link](#)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- **Halaven®** (eribulin): Hypocalcaemia added as a common adverse reaction. Correct prior to initiating treatment; periodic monitoring is recommended during therapy.
  -- **Keppra®** (leviracetam): Can be used during pregnancy, if after careful assessment it is considered clinically needed; lowest effective dose is recommended. Also, a bitter taste may be experienced after oral administration.
  -- **Prucalopride**: Migraine and vertigo added as uncommon adverse events.
  -- **Otezla™** (apremilast): Updated with additional adverse drug reactions: angioedema (frequency unknown) and urticaria (uncommon frequency).
  -- **Ofloxacin**: increased risk of aortic aneurysm and dissection after intake of fluoroquinolones, particularly in the older population reported. Use fluoroquinolones only after careful risk assessment.
  -- **Allopurinol**: Anaphylactic reaction added as a very rare adverse drug reaction.
  -- **Nuvaring™** (etonogestrel and ethinylestradiol) vaginal delivery system: updated re reports of ring breakage during concomitant use of intravaginal preparations, including antimycotic, antibiotic and lubricant products.

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice**
- **Atezolizumab** (Tecentriq®) – Risk of immune-related myositis
- **Tofacitinib** (Xeljanz™ or Xeljanz XR™)- Increased risk of blood clots in the lungs and of death in rheumatoid arthritis patients taking high dose

**Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)**
- Outcome of the consultation on the proposed warning statement regarding a fire hazard on the labels of paraffin-based skin products - [link](#)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Impact of hydrocodone reclassification on analgesic prescribing in the Veterans Health Administration - [link](#)
- Comparative effectiveness of pharmacist care delivery models for hepatitis C clinics - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Comparative Efficacy of Therapies for Treatment of Depression for Patients Undergoing Maintenance Hemodialysis: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Vaccination for Prevention of Herpes Zoster and Related Complications: Input for National Recommendations - [link](#)
- Predicting Bleeding Risk to Guide Aspirin Use for the Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease: A Cohort Study - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Efficacy and safety of sapropterin dihydrochloride in patients with phenylketonuria: A meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - link
- Five-year trends in acetaminophen use exceeding the recommended daily maximum dose - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- Asymptomatic bacteriuria in pregnancy: systematic reviews of screening and treatment effectiveness and patient preferences - link
- Antithrombotic therapy in patients undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation - link
- Re-engineering the post-myocardial infarction medicines optimisation pathway: a retrospective analysis of a joint consultant pharmacist and cardiologist clinic model - link
- Criminalisation of unintentional error in healthcare in the UK: a perspective from New Zealand – link

**BMJ Quality and Safety
- Bending the cost curve: time series analysis of a value transformation programme at an academic medical centre - link
- Variation in use and outcomes related to midline catheters: results from a multicentre pilot study - link
- Evolving quality improvement support strategies to improve Plan–Do–Study–Act cycle fidelity: a retrospective mixed-methods study - link
- Reinvigorating stagnant science: implementation laboratories and a meta-laboratory to efficiently advance the science of audit and feedback - link

**Circulation
- 2019 ACC/AHA Guideline on the Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease - link
- Effects of Canagliflozin on Heart Failure Outcomes Associated with Preserved and Reduced Ejection Fraction in Type 2 Diabetes: Results from the CANVAS Program - link

**Cochrane
- Antioxidants for male subfertility - link
- Multiple-micronutrient supplementation for women during pregnancy - link

**Diabetes care
- Long-term Effects of Metformin on Diabetes Prevention: Identification of Subgroups That Benefited Most in the Diabetes Prevention Program and Diabetes Prevention Program Outcomes Study - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy
- Fingolimod in multiple sclerosis: profile of use in habitual practice - link
- A retrospective analysis of plasma concentration monitoring of fluorouracil in patients with advanced colorectal cancer - link
- Prescription of proton pump inhibitors in older adults with complex polytherapy - link

**Health Informatics Journal
- Essential activities for electronic health record safety: A qualitative study – link

**JAMA
- Effect of Catheter Ablation vs Antiarrhythmic Drug Therapy on Mortality, Stroke, Bleeding, and Cardiac Arrest among Patients with Atrial Fibrillation - The CABANA Randomized Clinical Trial - link
- Effect of Catheter Ablation vs Medical Therapy on Quality of Life among Patients with Atrial Fibrillation - The CABANA Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**JAMA Cardiology
- Electronic Health Record Data Quality Issues Are Not Remedied by Increasing Granularity of Diagnosis Codes - link

**JAMA Dermatology
- Occurrence of Extensive Cutaneous Human Papillomavirus Infection after Initiation of Tofacitinib Therapy - link
**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Association of Daily Aspirin Therapy with Risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis B - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Trends and Patterns of Geographic Variation in Opioid Prescribing Practices by State, United States, 2006-2017 - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Changes in the Risk of Reaching Multiple Sclerosis Disability Milestones in Recent Decades: A Nationwide Population-Based Cohort Study in Sweden - link

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- Survival Trends in Infants Undergoing Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplant - link
- Management of Pediatric Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease - link

**JAMIA**
- Evaluating visual analytics for health informatics applications: a systematic review from the American Medical Informatics Association Visual Analytics Working Group Task Force on Evaluation - link
- Patient free text reporting of symptomatic adverse events in cancer clinical research using the National Cancer Institute’s Patient-Reported Outcomes version of the Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (PRO-CTCAE) - link

**Lancet**
- Global, regional, and national burden of epilepsy, 1990–2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016 - link
- Remaining challenges for prevention and control of hand, foot, and mouth disease - link
- Recommendations for analytical antiretroviral treatment interruptions in HIV research trials—report of a consensus meeting - link
- Measuring quality of care for all women and newborns: how do we know if we are doing it right? A review of facility assessment tools - link
- Deferoxamine mesylate in patients with intracerebral haemorrhage (i-DEF): a multicentre, randomised, placebo-controlled, double-blind phase 2 trial - link
- Review: Management of opioid use disorder in the USA: present status and future directions - link
- Checkpoint inhibitor-induced insulin-dependent diabetes: an emerging syndrome - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- One Month of Rifapentine plus Isoniazid to Prevent HIV-Related Tuberculosis - link
- Comparison of Dual Therapies for Lowering Blood Pressure in Black Africans - link
- Antithrombotic Therapy after Acute Coronary Syndrome or PCI in Atrial Fibrillation - link
- Antibody-Based Ticagrelor Reversal Agent in Healthy Volunteers - link

**NPS MedicineWise**
- Anxiety disorders: use of evidence-based treatments - link

**Pediatrics**
- The Increasing Burden of Psychiatric Emergencies: A Call to Action - link
- The Effects of Early Nutritional Interventions on the Development of Atopic Disease in Infants and Children: The Role of Maternal Dietary Restriction, Breastfeeding, Hydrolyzed Formulas, and Timing of Introduction of Allergenic Complementary Foods - link

**Prescrire – French Medical Journal**
- March 2019 - link

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management**
- Choosing the right inhaler for your asthma or COPD patient - link
- Barriers to achieving asthma control in adults: evidence for the role of tiotropium in current management strategies - link

**Thrombosis and haemostasis**
- Direct oral anticoagulants in patients with venous thromboembolism and thrombophilia: a systematic review and meta-analysis - link

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Certification framework for digital mental health services - link

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Child protection Australia 2017–18 - link
- The views of children and young people in out-of-home care: overview of indicator results from second national survey, 2018 - link
- Insights into vulnerabilities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 50 and over—in brief - link

**Cognitive Decline Partnership Centre**
- Clinical practice guidelines and principles of care for people with dementia - link
- Diagnosis, treatment and care for people with dementia: A consumer companion guide

**NSW Health Intranet**
- Influenza Vaccination Provider Toolkit - link
- NSW Health Data Governance Framework - link

**PBS**
- Direct-acting Antivirals for Hepatitis C Outcome Statement - link

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Improving Access to and Usability of Systematic Review Data for Health Systems Guidelines Development - link
- Using electronic health records to identify adverse drug events in ambulatory care: a systematic review - link
- Prescribing in 2019: what are the safety concerns? - link
- Unintended patient safety risks due to wireless smart infusion pump library update delays - link

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Inhaled Corticosteroids for Cystic Fibrosis: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness - link

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New drug approvals
  -- Dupixent® (dupilumab) for moderate-to-severe Atopic Dermatitis in Adolescents
  -- Atezolizumab (Tecentriq, Genentech/Roche) plus the chemotherapy nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane, Celgene) for the first-line treatment of unresectable locally advanced or metastatic, PD-L1-positive triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC).
  -- Netarsudil and latanoprost ophthalmic solution (Rocklatan™) to decrease elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension

**NHS England**
- Guidance document: Rescheduling of Gabapentin and Pregabalin as Schedule 3 Controlled Drugs

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
- NHS England Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response Guidance for the initial management of self presenters from incidents involving hazardous materials - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Tisagenlecleucel for treating relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma after 2 or more systemic therapies (guidance) TA567

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- Antimicrobial stewardship programmes reduce antibiotic use in long-term care homes - link

**Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK**
- Risk reduction and management of delirium - link

**The King’s Fund (UK)**
- Public satisfaction with the NHS and social care in 2018: Results from the British Social Attitudes survey - link
- Payments and contracting for integrated care: The false promise of the self-improving health system - link
- Primary care networks explained - link

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- WHO launches new global influenza strategy - link

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  - Entyvio™ (vedolizumab): should be discontinued by week 10 in patients with ulcerative colitis and week 14 in patients with Crohn's disease if no evidence of therapeutic effect. Herpes zoster added as an uncommon adverse effect.
  - Remicade (infliximab): now includes acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP) as a rare adverse effect.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
Medication Safety Alert! March 14, 2019
- ISMP Calls on FDA – No More Syringes for Vinca Alkaloids!
- Top 10 Tips for keeping pets safe around human medications
- Neuromuscular blocker storage
- Diluent given without vancomycin
- Package insert mistaken as label

**New safety information from Astra Zeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim and Merck Sharpe & Dohme distributed to Healthcare Professionals 25 February 2019: Risk of necrotising fasciitis of the perineum (Fournier’s gangrene) with SGLT2 inhibitors.**
(This letter was forwarded to TAG members - formal communication from TGA not currently available)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- New Product Evaluations February 2019: abemaciclib; acalabrutinib, adstiladrin, axicabtagene ciloleucel, bevacizumab, BIIB092, buprenorphine depot (Buvidal), cabozantinib, dabrafenib, daratumumab, dexmedetomidine, dovirine, encorafenib, esketamine, eslicarbamazepine, lenalidomide, LY-900014 (ultra-rapid lispro), nivolumab, pembroluzimab, pioglitazone, relatilmab, rivaroxaban, romiplostim, ropeginterferon alfa-2B, sacubitril valsartan, tisagenlecleucel, tofacitinib, venetoclax.
- Medicines Use and Safety Update March 2019

**TGA**
- Safety advisory – Morphine Sulfate Injection BP 30 mg in 1 mL ampoule: Section 19A product not for epidural or intrathecal use
**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**Journal of Addiction Medicine**
- Patient-centered Outcomes in Participants of a Buprenorphine Monthly Depot (BUP-XR) Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Multicenter, Phase 3 Study - [link](#)

**Arthritis and Rheumatology**
- Chronic Opioid Use in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Prevalence and Predictors - [link](#)

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Novel tool supports appropriate outpatient antimicrobial use - [link](#)
- Midostaurin for the management of FLT3-mutated acute myeloid leukemia and advanced systemic mastocytosis - [link](#)
- Low-dose corticosteroids in septic shock: Has the pendulum shifted? - [link](#)
- Impact of a pharmacist-driven education initiative on treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria - [link](#)
- The effect of an interprofessional pain service on nonmalignant pain control - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Dual Receipt of Prescription Opioids from the Department of Veterans Affairs and Medicare Part D and Prescription Opioid Overdose Death Among Veterans: A Nested Case–Control Study - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Relationship between allograft cyclosporin concentrations and P-glycoprotein expression in the 1st month following renal transplantation - [link](#)

**British Journal of General Practice**
- Patients’ understanding of cellulitis and their information needs: a mixed-methods study in primary and secondary care - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Use of postmenopausal hormone therapy and risk of Alzheimer’s disease in Finland: nationwide case-control study - [link](#)
- Joint association of urinary sodium and potassium excretion with cardiovascular events and mortality: prospective cohort study - [link](#)

**BMJ Heart**
- Proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin 9 inhibitors in reducing cardiovascular outcomes: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Relationship between nursing home quality indicators and potentially preventable hospitalisation - [link](#)
- Development and performance evaluation of the Medicines Optimisation Assessment Tool (MOAT): a prognostic model to target hospital pharmacists’ input to prevent medication-related problems - [link](#)

**Circulation**
- Stroke Outcomes in the COMPASS Trial - [link](#)
- Anti-Inflammatory Therapy with Canakinumab for the Prevention of Hospitalization for Heart Failure - [link](#)

**Cochrane**
- Probiotics to prevent infantile colic - [link](#)
- Early and late adverse renal effects after potentially nephrotoxic treatment for childhood cancer - [link](#)
- Once daily long-acting beta2-agonists and long-acting muscarinic antagonists in a combined inhaler versus placebo for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - [link](#)
**Diabetes Care**
- Underuse of Medications and Lifestyle Counseling to Prevent Cardiovascular Disease in Patients with Diabetes - [link](#)
- Efficacy and Safety of Empagliflozin in Renal Transplant Recipients with Post transplant Diabetes Mellitus - [link](#)

**Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism**
- Effect of SGLT2 inhibitors on cardiovascular, renal and safety outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and chronic kidney disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

**European Heart Journal**
- Pretreatment with P2Y12 receptor antagonists in ST-elevation myocardial infarction: a report from the Swedish Coronary Angiography and Angioplasty Registry - [link](#)
- Febuxostat for Cerebral and CaRdiorenovascular Events PrEvEntion StuDy - [link](#)

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- The impact of implementing a pharmacy technician role as part of a nursing team in an acute admissions unit - [link](#)

**International Journal of Clinical Practice**
- Risk of cutaneous adverse reactions associated with allopurinol or febuxostat in real-world patients: A nationwide study - [link](#)

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- A cluster randomised controlled feasibility study of nurse-initiated behavioural strategies to manage interruptions during medication administration - [link](#)

**JAMA**
- Association of Tramadol with All-Cause Mortality among Patients with Osteoarthritis - [link](#)

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Non-melanoma Skin Cancer Frequency and Risk Factors in Australian Heart and Lung Transplant Recipients - [link](#)

**JAMA Facial Plastic Surgery**
- Assessment of Persistent and Prolonged Postoperative Opioid Use among Patients Undergoing Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery - [link](#)

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Patient Outcomes after Hospital Discharge to Home with Home Health Care vs to a Skilled Nursing Facility - [link](#)

**JAMA Network Open**
- Combined Association of Body Mass Index and Alcohol Consumption With Biomarkers for Liver Injury and Incidence of Liver Disease - A Mendelian Randomization Study - [link](#)
- Assessment of Risk of Harm Associated with Intensive Blood Pressure Management among Patients with Hypertension Who Smoke - A Secondary Analysis of the Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial - [link](#)

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Can lay-people identify a drug-induced QT interval prolongation? A psychophysical and eye-tracking experiment examining the ability of non-experts to interpret an ECG - [link](#)
- Disconnected: a survey of users and nonusers of telehealth and their use of primary care - [link](#)
- Novel displays of patient information in critical care settings: a systematic review - [link](#)

**Journal of the American College of Cardiology**
- Effects of Sacubitril/Valsartan on Biomarkers of Extracellular Matrix Regulation in Patients With HFrEF - [link](#)
- Dual Antiplatelet Therapy Duration Based on Ischemic and Bleeding Risks after Coronary Stenting - link

**Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association**
- Going digital: a checklist in preparing for hospital-wide electronic medical record implementation and digital transformation - link
- Model for integrated care for chronic disease in the Australian context: Western Sydney Integrated Care Program - link
- Failure to access prescribed pharmaceuticals by older patients with chronic conditions - link
- Readmissions following hospitalisations for cardiovascular disease: a scoping review of the Australian literature - link

**Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association**
- Going digital: a checklist in preparing for hospital-wide electronic medical record implementation and digital transformation - link
- Model for integrated care for chronic disease in the Australian context: Western Sydney Integrated Care Program - link
- Failure to access prescribed pharmaceuticals by older patients with chronic conditions - link
- Readmissions following hospitalisations for cardiovascular disease: a scoping review of the Australian literature - link

**Journal of Patient Safety**
- “I Am Administering Medication—Please Do Not Interrupt Me”: Red Tabards Preventing Interruptions as Perceived by Surgical Patients - link

**Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management**
- Engineering a foundation for partnership to improve medication safety during care transitions - link
- ‘You feel like you haven’t got any control’: A qualitative study of side effects from medicines - link
- High-risk medications identified from the Danish Patient Safety Database and the challenge of dissemination - link

**Lancet**
- Management of epilepsy in women - link
- Heart failure drug treatment - link
- Efficacy and safety of intravenous ceftriaxone at home versus intravenous flucloxacillin in hospital for children with cellulitis (CHOICE): a single-centre, open-label, randomised, controlled, non-inferiority trial - link
- A mobile device application to reduce medication errors and time to drug delivery during simulated paediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation: a multicentre, randomised, controlled, crossover trial - link

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- Deprescribing cholinesterase inhibitors and memantine in dementia: guideline summary - link
- Identifying the cultural heritage of patients during clinical handover and in hospital medical records - link
- Seroprevalence of Q fever among metropolitan and non-metropolitan blood donors in New South Wales and Queensland, 2014–2015 - link
- The burden of pancreatic cancer in Australia attributable to smoking - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- A Trial of a Shorter Regimen for Rifampin-Resistant Tuberculosis - link
- Randomized Trial of Four Treatment Approaches for Actinic Keratosis - link

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**ACI**
- Lymphoedema: A guide for clinical services - link
- February 2019 Clinician Connect - link
- Strategic Plan 2019–2022 - link

**Bureau of Health Information**
**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- People in short-term or emergency accommodation: a profile of Specialist Homelessness Services clients - [link](#)

**NSW Health**
- NSW Immunisation Schedule (March 2019) - [link](#)

**TGA**
- AusPARs
  -- [Abatacept](Orencia®) extension of indications to for the treatment of active psoriatic arthritis (PsA) in adults when the response to previous disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) therapy has been inadequate. Orencia can be used with or without non-biologic DMARDs.
  -- [mepolizumab](Nucala™) as an add-on treatment for relapsing or refractory Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (EGPA) in adult patients aged 18 years and over.
  -- [daptomycin](Cubicin™) for staphylococcus aureus Bloodstream Infections (Bacteraemia)
  -- [rivaroxaban](Xarelto™) in combination with aspirin for the prevention of major cardiovascular events in patients with coronary artery disease (CAD) and/or peripheral artery disease (PAD).
  -- [cinnarizine/dimenhydrinate](Cizigo™, Cizinate™, Cizere™) for short-term, symptomatic treatment of vertigo of various causes, in adults who have not responded to alternative treatments.

- Registration of [new or extended uses of registered medicines](#)
- [lanadelumab](Takhzyro™) is indicated for routine prevention of recurrent attacks of hereditary angioedema (C1-Esterase-inhibitor deficiency or dysfunction) in patients aged 12 years and older.

- [lifitegrast](Xiidra™) eye drops for moderate to severe dry eye disease in adults for whom prior use of artificial tears has not been sufficient
- [binimetinib](Mektovi™) in combination with encorafenib (Braftovi™) for the treatment of adult patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma with a BRAF V600E or V600K mutation, as detected by a validated test.

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Assessment of the FDA Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy for transmucosal immediate-release fentanyl products - [link](#)
- Screening for adverse drug events: a randomized trial of automated calls coupled with phone-based pharmacist counselling - [link](#)

**British National Formulary (BNF)**
- February BNF [eNewsletter](#)

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Tetrasodium Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid for Locking Central Venous Access Devices in Parenteral Feeding: Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Tiered Care for Chronic Non-Malignant Pain: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)

**Diabetes UK**
- Factsheet: Us, diabetes and a lot of facts and stats - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New drug approvals
  - Spravato™ ([esketamine](#)) nasal spray medication for treatment-resistant depression

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*NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue*
- Tremfya™ (guselkumab) One-Press Patient-controlled Injector for Adults with Moderate-to-Severe Plaque Psoriasis
- Gloperba™ (colchicine) oral solution 0.6 mg/5 mL, the first liquid formulation of colchicine, for prophylaxis of gout flares in adults

**GOV.UK
- Guidance: Influenza post exposure prophylaxis and treatment: Patient group direction (PGD) templates - [link](#)

**Health Canada
- Health Product InfoWatch, February 2019

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- Selected Resources: Improving Opioid and Pain Management - [link](#)
- "Conversation Ready": A Framework for Improving End-of-Life Care (Second Edition) - [link](#)

**New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority – MEDSAFE
- Prescriber Update - March 2019

**NHS Improvement
- Never Events data - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK
- Abemaciclib with an aromatase inhibitor for previously untreated, hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative, locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer - technology appraisal guidance (TA563)
- Encorafenib with binimetinib for unresectable or metastatic BRAF V600 mutation-positive melanoma – technology appraisal guidance (TA562)
- Venetoclax with rituximab for previously treated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia - Technology appraisal guidance (TA561)
- Benralizumab for treating severe eosinophilic asthma (TA565) – guidance
- Intrapartum care for women with existing medical conditions or obstetric complications and their babies (NG121) – guidance
- Alcohol Withdrawal Management for acute admissions to hospital - [link](#)

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society
- Medication errors: where do they happen? - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services
- What is the sodium content of medicines? - [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)
- A healthier humanity: the WHO investment case for 2019-2023 - [link](#)

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)
- Revised SPCs
  -- Velcade® (bortezomib): thrombotic microangiopathy (rare), chalazion and blepharitis (uncommon) added as adverse effects.
  -- Zytiga™ (abiraterone): treatment with prednisone/prednisolone in combination with Ra-223 is contraindicated due to an increased risk of fractures and trend for increased mortality among asymptomatic/mildly symptomatic patients.
  -- Proleukin™ (aldesleukin): hyponatraemia, hypophosphataemia and influenza like illness added as common adverse events.
  -- Tecentriq™ (atezolizumab): Immune related nephritis added as a potential adverse effect. Monitor for changes in renal function. Withhold treatment in Grade 2 nephritis and start systemic corticosteroids (1-2mg/kg/day of prednisone or equivalent).

**MIMS.co.uk (Monthly Index of Medical Specialities)
- Initiating Combined Hormonal Contraception - link
- Rise in drug shortages ‘causing patient harm’, say GPs - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)
- NIHR Signals
- Medication to reduce stomach acid may increase risk of hip fractures - link

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)
- Tool offers non opioid options for acute migraine in the emergency department - link
- Intervention capture helps guide Veterans Affairs pharmacy expansion - link

**Annals of Internal Medicine
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccination and Autism: A Nationwide Cohort Study - link
- Summaries for patients: The MMR Vaccine Is Not Associated with Risk for Autism - link
- Use of Low-Dose Aspirin and Mortality after Prostate Cancer Diagnosis: A Nationwide Cohort Study - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
- Under-representation of elderly in clinical trials: An analysis of the initial approval documents in the Food and Drug Administration database - link
- Associations of statin use with glycaemic traits and incident type 2 diabetes - link

**British Journal of General Practice
- Prescribing benzodiazepines in general practice - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- Which drugs are best for treating severe hypertension in pregnancy? - link
- Acute dual antiplatelet therapy for minor ischaemic stroke or transient ischaemic attack - link
- Association of genetically predicted testosterone with thromboembolism, heart failure, and myocardial infarction: Mendelian randomisation study in UK Biobank - link
- Use of postmenopausal hormone therapy and risk of Alzheimer’s disease in Finland: nationwide case-control study - link

**British Journal of Psychiatry
- Changes in prescribing for bipolar disorder between 2009 and 2016: national-level data linkage study in Scotland - link

**BMJ Quality and Safety
- Quality & safety in the literature: May 2019 - link

**Cochrane
- Antiamoebic drugs for treating amoebic colitis - link
- Potentiators (specific therapies for class III and IV mutations) for cystic fibrosis - link
- Print-based self-help interventions for smoking cessation - link
- Adjuvant gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogues for the prevention of chemotherapy-induced premature ovarian failure in premenopausal women - link
- Epidural analgesia for adults undergoing cardiac surgery with or without cardiopulmonary bypass - link
- Outpatient versus inpatient treatment for acute pulmonary embolism – link

**Diabetes Care
- Long-term Association of Depression Symptoms and Antidepressant Medication Use with Incident Cardiovascular Events in the Look AHEAD (Action for Health in Diabetes) Clinical Trial of Weight Loss in Type 2 Diabetes - link
- Improved Time in Range and Glycemic Variability with Sotagliflozin in Combination with Insulin in Adults With Type 1 Diabetes: A Pooled Analysis of 24-Week Continuous Glucose Monitoring Data From the inTandem Program - link
**Drug Safety**
- The Prevalence of Dose Errors Among Paediatric Patients in Hospital Wards with and without Health Information Technology: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- The impact of implementing a pharmacy technician role as part of a nursing team in an acute admissions unit - link

**JAMA Cardiology**
- Association of Initial and Serial C-Reactive Protein Levels With Adverse Cardiovascular Events and Death After Acute Coronary Syndrome – A Secondary Analysis of the VISTA-16 Trial - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Use of Antibiotics for Dermatologic Procedures From 2008 to 2016 - link
- Development and Validation of a Risk Prediction Model for In-Hospital Mortality among Patients with Stevens-Johnson Syndrome/Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis—ABCD-10 - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Association of Adding Aspirin to Warfarin Therapy without an Apparent Indication with Bleeding and Other Adverse Events - link
- Association of Urinary Oxalate Excretion with the Risk of Chronic Kidney Disease Progression - link
- Measuring Hospital-Acquired Complications Associated with Low-Value Care - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Association of Long-term Use of Low-Dose Aspirin as Chemoprevention with Risk of Lung Cancer - link
- Association of Antidementia Therapies with Time to Skilled Nursing Facility Admission and Cardiovascular Events among Elderly Adults with Alzheimer Disease - link
- Factors Associated with Acute Pain Estimation, Postoperative Pain Resolution, Opioid Cessation, and Recovery – Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**JAMA Oncology**
- Patient page: Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- The impact of mobile technology on teamwork and communication in hospitals: a systematic review - link

**Journal of Palliative Medicine**
- Relationship of Cannabis Use to Patient-Reported Symptoms in Cancer Patients Seeking Supportive/Palliative Care - link

**Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)**
- Prescribing errors and adverse drug reaction documentation before and after implementation of e-prescribing using the Enterprise Patient Administration System - link
- Hospital discharge opioid guidelines and policies: a Victorian survey - link

**Lancet**
- Tapering of SSRI treatment to mitigate withdrawal symptoms - link
- Antibiotic prescription for febrile children in European emergency departments: a cross-sectional, observational study - link
- Semaglutide once weekly as add-on to SGLT-2 inhibitor therapy in type 2 diabetes (SUSTAIN 9): a randomised, placebo-controlled trial - link
- Association between urinary community-acquired fluoroquinolone-resistant Escherichia coli and neighbourhood antibiotic consumption: a population-based case-control study - link
- Quantitative contribution of efflux to multi-drug resistance of clinical Escherichia coli and Pseudomonas aeruginosa strains - link
**NPS MedicineWise**  
- March 2019 new listings wrap-up - [link](#)

**Prescrire – French Medical Journal**  
- Prescrire International issue 202 March 2019 - [link](#)  
- Melatonin: significant adverse effects - [link](#)  
- High-strength insulins: think and act in units of insulin to prevent errors - [link](#)

**Thrombosis and Haemostasis**  
- Improving the Prescription of Oral Anticoagulants in Atrial Fibrillation: A Systematic Review - [link](#)  
- PCSK9 in Haemostasis and Thrombosis: Possible Pleiotropic Effects of PCSK9 Inhibitors in Cardiovascular Prevention - [link](#)

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**TAG Mail 28 February 2019**

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**  
- National Standard Medication Chart (NSMC) Audit System User Guide - [link](#)

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**  
- GEN Aged Care Data: Government spending on aged care - [link](#)  
- GEN Aged Care Data: Services and places in aged care - [link](#)  
- Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment: Oral Health Program July 2012 to December 2017 - [link](#)  
- National Social Housing Survey 2018: Key results - [link](#)

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement**  
- Advancing the Safety of Acute Pain Management - [link](#)

**FDA**  
- New approvals  
  -- **Trifluridine/tipiracil** (Lonsurf™) for adults with previously treated advanced gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma  
  -- **Turoctocog alfa pegol** (Esperoct™) for patients with hemophilia A

**GOV.UK**  
- Guidance: Widening the availability of naloxone - [link](#)  
- Policy paper: Dementia 2020 challenge: progress review - [link](#)

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society**  
- The Carter review: how are hospitals measuring up? - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**  
- NICE Bites – COPD - [link](#)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**  
- Revised SPCs  
  -- **Coversyl™** (perindopril arginine): Raynaud's Phenomenon added as adverse effect (unknown frequency).  
  -- **Lonquex™** (lipegfilgrastim): Haemoptysis (common) and pulmonary haemorrhage (uncommon) added as adverse effects.
-- Sutent (sunitinib): Cases of aortic aneurysm and/or dissection have been reported. Consider risk in patients with risk factors such as hypertension or history of aneurysm. Colitis added as uncommon ADR.

-- Advagraf™ and Modigraf™ (tacrolimus): The effect of switching ciclosporin to tacrolimus and its effect on mycophenolic acid exposure added. Updated to include thrombotic microangiopathy, and optic neuropathy as adverse effects, advises increased risk of viral hepatitis.

-- Cerazette (desogestrel): Depressed mood and depression are well known ADRs- can be serious and is a well-known risk factor for suicidal behaviour and suicide. Users advised to contact their physician in case of mood changes.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA
- Statement from FDA Commissioner on the Agency’s 2019 policy and regulatory agenda for continued action to forcefully address the epidemic of opioid abuse - link
- Increased risk of death with febuxostat: Health care professionals advised to reserve febuxostat for use only in patients who have failed or do not tolerate allopurinol.
- Safety trial finds increased risk of pulmonary embolus and death with higher dose of tofacitinib in rheumatoid arthritis patients.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA
- Medication Safety Alert! February 28, 2019
  -- Your Attention Please… Designing Effective Warnings
  -- Enoxaparin syringe failures
  -- Mix-ups between dexamethasone and dexmedetomidine
  -- Administration of wrong vaccine prepared by another
  -- Worth repeating… High-alert medication stickers may not improve safety

**TGA
- TGA laboratory testing: Survey of human insulin products - link
- Notification of a new proprietary ingredient - link
- ‘Sartan’ blood pressure medicines - TGA investigation - potential contamination with N-nitroso compounds - link

PAPERS OF INTEREST
**Arthritis and Rheumatology
- Derivation and Validation of a Major Toxicity Risk Score Among NSAID Users Based on Data from a Randomized Controlled Trial - link

**Annals of Internal Medicine
- Comparative Efficacy of Therapies for Treatment of Depression for Patients Undergoing Maintenance Hemodialysis: A Randomized Clinical Trial - link
- Predicting Bleeding Risk to Guide Aspirin Use for the Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease: A Cohort Study - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
- Discontinuation of medications at the end of life: A population study in Belgium, based on linked administrative databases - link
- The skeletal impact of cancer therapies - link
- Health care professionals' attitudes towards deprescribing in older patients with limited life expectancy: A systematic review – link
- Population pharmacokinetics of lenalidomide in patients with B-cell malignancies - link

**British Journal of General Practice
- GPs' management of polypharmacy and therapeutic dilemma in patients with multimorbidity: a cross-sectional survey of GPs in France - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- Management of perinatal depression with non-drug interventions - link
- Duration of antibiotic treatment for common infections in English primary care: cross sectional analysis and comparison with guidelines - link
- Antibiotic management of urinary tract infection in elderly patients in primary care and its association with bloodstream infections and all-cause mortality: population based cohort study - link
- Practice: How to prescribe loop diuretics in oedema - link

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Contribution of adverse events to death of hospitalised patients - link

**Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)**
- Associations between low- and high-dose oral fluconazole and pregnancy outcomes: 3 nested case–control studies - link

**Circulation**
- Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in High-Risk Pediatric Patients: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association - link
- Management of Cardiovascular Disease in Women with Breast Cancer - link
- Comparison of the Effects of Glucagon-Like Peptide Receptor Agonists and Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitors for Prevention of Major Adverse Cardiovascular and Renal Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Cardiovascular Outcomes Trials - link
- Cardiovascular Disease-Related Morbidity and Mortality in Women with a History of Pregnancy Complications - Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - link

**Cochrane**
- Phosphodiesterase 5 inhibitors for pulmonary hypertension - link
- Intermittent iron supplementation for reducing anaemia and its associated impairments in adolescent and adult menstruating women - link
- Parenteral versus oral iron therapy for adults and children with chronic kidney disease - link
- Antimicrobial agents for preventing urinary tract infections in adults undergoing cystoscopy - link
- Corticosteroids as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of influenza - link
- Paracetamol versus placebo for knee and hip osteoarthritis - link

**European Heart Journal**
- Dabigatran dual therapy with ticagrelor or clopidogrel after percutaneous coronary intervention in atrial fibrillation patients with or without acute coronary syndrome: a subgroup analysis from the RE-DUAL PCI trial - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Review of economic data on closed system transfer drug for preparation and administration of hazardous drugs - link
- Usefulness of therapeutic drug monitoring of piperacillin and meropenem in routine clinical practice: a prospective cohort study in critically ill patients - link
- Position paper: Biosimilar medicines - link

**JAMA**
- Effect of Patient-Centered Transitional Care Services on Clinical Outcomes in Patients Hospitalized for Heart Failure. The PACT-HF Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Analysis of Readmissions Following Hospitalization for Cellulitis in the United States - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Antiplatelet Therapy vs Anticoagulation Therapy in Cervical Artery Dissection - The Cervical Artery Dissection in Stroke Study (CADISS) Randomized Clinical Trial Final Results - link

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Association of Delirium Response and Safety of Pharmacological Interventions for the Management and Prevention of Delirium. A Network Meta-analysis - [link](#)

**JAMA Surgery**
- Association between Long-term Opioid Use in Family Members and Persistent Opioid Use after Surgery among Adolescents and Young Adults - [link](#)

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- A systematic review of the effects of implementing clinical pathways supported by health information technologies - [link](#)

**Journal of the American Geriatrics Society**
- Effect of Monthly High-Dose Vitamin D on Mental Health in Older Adults: Secondary Analysis of a RCT - [link](#)
- Pharmacological Management of Delirium in the Intensive Care Unit: A Randomized Pragmatic Clinical Trial - [link](#)

**Lancet**
- Automated insulin dosing guidance to optimise insulin management in patients with type 2 diabetes: a multicentre, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- A mobile device application to reduce medication errors and time to drug delivery during simulated paediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation: a multicentre, randomised, controlled, crossover trial - [link](#)
- Use of metformin to treat pregnant women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PregMet2): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- Victoria's voluntary assisted dying law: clinical implementation as the next challenge - [link](#)

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Rivaroxaban for Thromboprophylaxis in High-Risk Ambulatory Patients with Cancer - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- NIHR Signals
- Updated evidence on progesterone to prevent preterm birth in at-risk pregnancies - [link](#)
- Treating vitamin D deficiency may reduce exacerbations of COPD - [link](#)
- Prolonging anticoagulant treatment after abdominal cancer surgery reduces clot risk - [link](#)

**NPS MedicineWise**
- Can vitamin C help type 2 diabetes? - [link](#)

**Thrombosis and Haemostasis**
- Antiplatelet Therapy versus Anticoagulation after Surgical Bioprosthetic Aortic Valve Replacement: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

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### TAG Mail 21 February 2019

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Revised Fact Sheet 7: Governing body attestation statement - [link](#)
- CARAlert Data Update 10 – 1 November to 31 December 2018 - [link](#) (CAR=Critical Antimicrobial Resistances)

**AHHA**
- The Health Advocate - February 2019 - [link](#)

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Data sources for monitoring overweight and obesity in Australia - [link](#)
- MyHospitals: Healthcare-associated Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infections in public and private hospitals in 2017–18 - link
- Bloodstream infections associated with hospital care 2017–18: Australian hospital statistics - link
- Hospitalised injury among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 2011–12 to 2015–16 - link

**NSW Health Intranet**
- Health News Summer Edition 2019 - link

**TGA**
- AusPARs:
  - Everolimus (Afinitor®) - Major variation (new indication) - Adjunctive treatment of patients ≥ 2 years with Tubular Sclerosis Complex (TSC) and associated refractory seizures.
  - Recombinant varicella zoster virus glycoprotein E antigen (Shingrix®) - for prevention of herpes zoster and post herpetic neuralgia in adults 50 years of age or older

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Addressing Social Isolation to Improve the Health of Older Adults: A Rapid Review - link
- Patient involvement in evaluation of safety in oral antineoplastic treatment: a failure mode and effects analysis in patients and health care professionals - link
- Evaluation of an electronic dosing calculator to reduce pediatric medication errors - link
- Implementation of bar-code medication administration to reduce patient harm - link

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Tiered Care for Chronic Non-Malignant Pain: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Ulipristal versus Levonorgestrel for Emergency Contraception: A Review of Comparative Cost Effectiveness - link
- CADTH Pharmaceutical Reviews Update — Issue 5

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand**
- Zero seclusion measurement: A family of measures - link

**Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership**
- Clinically Integrated Supply Chain Infrastructure in Health Systems: The Opportunity to Improve Quality and Safety - link

**GOV.UK**
- Case Study: Pharmacist-led virtual clinics to optimise anticoagulation in AF - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Opioid dependence: buprenorphine prolonged-release injection (Buvidal)—evidence summary (ES19)
- Serious eye disorders—quality standard (QS180)
- Antenatal care for uncomplicated pregnancies—Clinical guideline (CG62)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Tamoxifen and SSRI or SNRI antidepressants – is there an interaction? - link

**Therapeutics Initiative Canada**
- [117] Gabapentin and pregabalin: Are high doses justified? - link

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
-- Dacogen™ (decitabine): cases of cardiomyopathy with cardiac decompensation, sometimes reversible after treatment discontinuation, dose reduction or corrective treatment, reported in postmarketing setting. Patients should be monitored for heart failure signs and symptoms.

-- Gemfibrozil: addition of enzalutamide to the existing list of CYP2C8 substrates that can interact with gemfibrozil; and co-administration of gemfibrozil with enzalutamide may increase the risk of seizures.

-- Indapamide: concomitant treatment may increase the incidence of hypersensitivity reactions to allopurinol.

-- Rifampicin containing products: may cause vitamin K dependent coagulopathy and severe bleeding. Monitor occurrence of coagulopathy in patients at bleeding risk.

-- Eluxadoline: potential for mild induction of CYP3A4; reduced systemic exposure to medicinal products metabolised by CYP3A4 when co-administered with eluxadoline

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New drug approval: triclabendazole (Egaten™) to treat fascioliasis in patients >6 years

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice**
- Health Canada recommends that children and youth not use cough and cold products that contain opioids - [link](#)

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**
- Drug Safety Updates:
  -- Carbimazole - increased risk of congenital malformations; strengthened advice on contraception when used during pregnancy, particularly in first trimester and at high doses (>15mg carbimazole daily). Women of childbearing potential should use effective contraception during treatment with carbimazole.
  -- Carbimazole and risk of acute pancreatitis – cases reported very infrequently; if acute pancreatitis occurs, treatment should be discontinued immediately. Re-exposure may result in life-threatening acute pancreatitis.
  -- SGLT2 inhibitors and reports of Fournier's gangrene. If suspected, cease SGLT2 inhibitor and start treatment urgently. Advise patients to seek urgent medical attention if they experience severe pain, tenderness, erythema, or swelling in genital or perineal area, accompanied by fever or malaise.
  -- Letter to healthcare professionals advising no new patients to be started on olaratumab (Lartruvo™) - clinical studies in patients with advanced soft tissue sarcoma showed no survival benefit.

**NSW Health Safety Notice**
- SN:002/12 Morphine sulfate 30mg/ml injection - disruption to supply (Supercedes SN:007/18)
- SN 001/19 Thiopental injection (Pentothal®) disruption to supply – update: at the time of writing the safety notice, there was no stock availability of any brand. This situation has now changed and there is limited emergency stock available, only for patients where no other alternatives are suitable.

**TGA safety alert**
- Jurnista™ (hydromorphone hydrochloride) prolonged-release - Product defect correction - [potentially damaged tablets](#)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**
**American Heart Association (AHA)**
- Efficacy and Safety of Apixaban versus Warfarin in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation and Extremes in Body Weight: Insights from the ARISTOTLE Trial - [link](#)

**American Journal of Medicine**
- Concomitant Use of Direct Oral Anticoagulants with Antiplatelet Agents and the Risk of Major Bleeding in Patients with Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)
**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Development and implementation of a strategy to ensure outpatient access to medications started in the inpatient setting - [link](#)
- Safety of high-dose intravenous labetalol in hypertensive crisis - [link](#)
- Use of a tablet computer application to engage patients in updating their medication list - [link](#)
- Adverse drug reactions in the Veterans Affairs healthcare system: Frequency, severity, and causative medications analyzed by patient age - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Vaccination for Prevention of Herpes Zoster and Related Complications: Input for National Recommendations - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Clinical and translational pharmacology of drugs for the prevention and treatment of bone metastases and cancer-induced bone loss - [link](#)
- Post-marketing dosing changes in the label of biologicals - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Effectiveness and safety of electronically delivered prescribing feedback and decision support on antibiotic use for respiratory illness in primary care: REDUCE cluster randomised trial - [link](#)
- Enterovirus as trigger of coeliac disease: nested case-control study within prospective birth cohort - [link](#)
- Trends in survival after a diagnosis of heart failure in the United Kingdom 2000-2017: population based cohort study - [link](#)
- Association between statin use and herpes zoster: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Increased risk of bisphosphonate-related osteonecrosis of the jaw in patients with Sjögren’s syndrome: nationwide population-based cohort study - [link](#)

**BMJ Annals of Rheumatic Diseases**
- Risk of serious infections in tocilizumab versus other biologic drugs in patients with rheumatoid arthritis: a multidatabase cohort study - [link](#)

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- A qualitative positive deviance study to explore exceptionally safe care on medical wards for older people - [link](#)

**Canadian Journal of Cardiology**
- Marijuana Lollipop-Induced Myocardial Infarction - [link](#)

**Cochrane**
- Antibiotic treatment for newborns with congenital syphilis - [link](#)
- Calcium antagonists for acute ischemic stroke - [link](#)
- Desmopressin acetate (DDAVP) for preventing and treating acute bleeds during pregnancy in women with congenital bleeding disorders - [link](#)

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Effect of Roux-en-Y gastric bypass on the bioavailability of metoprolol from immediate and controlled release tablets: a single oral dose study before and after surgery - [link](#)
- Relapse prevention interventions for smoking cessation - [link](#)
- Current situation of carboplatin desensitisation protocols in the hospitals of Spain - [link](#)
- Vancomycin pharmacokinetics in critically ill neonates receiving extracorporeal membrane oxygenation - [link](#)

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- The effects of empagliflozin treatment on cardiac function and structure in patients with type 2 diabetes – a cardiac MR study - [link](#)
- Cognitive function during exacerbations of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease - [link]
- Impact of access to novel therapies on the initial management of castrate-resistant prostate cancer: an Australian multicentre study - [link]
- Decision-making for older patients by Australian and New Zealand doctors with Advance Care Directives: A vignette based study - [link]

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- Developing medical record-based, healthcare quality indicators for psychiatric hospitals in China: a modified Delphi-Analytic Hierarchy Process study - [link]

**JAMA**
- Effect of a Resuscitation Strategy Targeting Peripheral Perfusion Status vs Serum Lactate Levels on 28-Day Mortality among Patients with Septic Shock – The ANDROMEDA-SHOCK Randomized Clinical Trial - [link]
- Effect of Intravenous Acetaminophen vs Placebo Combined with Propofol or Dexmedetomidine on Postoperative Delirium among Older Patients Following Cardiac Surgery - The DEXACET Randomized Clinical Trial - [link]

**JAMA Cardiology**
- Association of Statin Adherence with Mortality in Patients With Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease - [link]

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Association of Systemic Antibiotic Treatment of Acne with Skin Microbiota Characteristics - [link]

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Factors Associated with High-Quality Guidelines for the Pharmacologic Management of Chronic Diseases in Primary Care – A Systematic Review - [link]

**JAMA Network Open**
- Risk Assessment After a Severe Hospital-Acquired Infection Associated With Carbapenemase-Producing Pseudomonas aeruginosa - [link]
- Prevalence, Underlying Causes, and Preventability of Sepsis-Associated Mortality in US Acute Care Hospitals - [link]
- Association of Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drug Prescriptions with Kidney Disease among Active Young and Middle-aged Adults - [link]
- Use of Prescription Opioids and Initiation of Fatal 2-Vehicle Crashes - [link]
- Analysis of Benefit of Intensive Care Unit Transfer for Deteriorating Ward Patients – A Patient-Centered Approach to Clinical Evaluation - [link]

**JAMA Neurology**
- Association Between ABCB1 Polymorphisms and Outcomes of Clopidogrel Treatment in Patients with Minor Stroke or Transient Ischemic Attack – Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - [link]
- Clinical Outcomes of Escalation vs Early Intensive Disease-Modifying Therapy in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis - [link]

**JAMA Oncology**
- Therapeutic Options for Neuroendocrine Tumors – A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis - [link]

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- A Clinical Prediction Rule to Identify Febrile Infants 60 Days and Younger at Low Risk for Serious Bacterial Infections - [link]
- 2018 Update on Pediatric Medical Overuse – A Review - [link]

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Association of Cannabis Use in Adolescence and Risk of Depression, Anxiety, and Suicidality in Young Adulthood – A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link]
- Comparative Effectiveness of Adjunctive Psychotropic Medications in Patients with Schizophrenia - link
- Association of Antipsychotic Polypharmacy vs Monotherapy with Psychiatric Rehospitalization among Adults with Schizophrenia - link

**JAMA Surgery**
- Does This Patient Have a Severe Snake Envenomation? – The Rational Clinical Examination Systematic Review - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Robust clinical marker identification for diabetic kidney disease with ensemble feature selection - link

**Journal of Pain and Symptom Management**
- Safe and Appropriate Use of Methadone in Hospice and Palliative Care: Expert Consensus White Paper - link

**Journal of Patient Experience**
- Standardising the collection of patient-reported experience measures to facilitate benchmarking and drive service improvement - link
- Developing the first pan-Canadian acute care patient experiences survey - link
- Improving the patient experience through patient portals: Insights from experienced portal users - link
- What older adults want from their health care providers - link

**Lancet**
- Efficacy and safety of a monthly buprenorphine depot injection for opioid use disorder: a multicentre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial - link
- Use of metformin to treat pregnant women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PregMet2): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial - link
- Global, regional, and national burden of epilepsy, 1990–2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016 - link
- Trends in hospitalisation rates for inflammatory bowel disease in western versus newly industrialised countries: a population-based study of countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development - link
- Association of Community Factors with Hospital-onset Clostridioides (Clostridium) difficile Infection: A Population Based U.S.-wide Study - link
- Seminar: Ebola virus disease - link
- Review Article: Aspiration Pneumonia - link
- Review Article: Glycaemic variability in diabetes: clinical and therapeutic implications - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Decolonization to Reduce Postdischarge Infection Risk among MRSA Carriers - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)- Signals**
-- Honey may help painful mouth inflammation caused by cancer treatments - link
-- A high omega-6 fatty acid diet is unlikely to prevent cardiovascular disease or deaths - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)**
- Opioid-Related Critical Care Resource Use in US Children’s Hospitals - link
- Length of Stay and Cost of Pediatric Readmissions - link
- Poverty, Transportation Access, and Medication Nonadherence - link

**Prescriber UK**
- Drug management in patients with reduced kidney function - link
- Prescribing for patients with chronic fatigue syndrome - link
- Benefits of a comprehensive COPD inhaler identification aid - link
- Ixekizumab: targeting plaque psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis - link

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management**
- Risk and incidence of fatal adverse events associated with immune checkpoint inhibitors: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

**TAG Mail 14 February 2019**

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**
- Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)
  - Improving national reporting on diabetes in pregnancy: technical report - [link](#)
  - Diabetes in pregnancy 2014–2015 - [link](#)

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**
- Management of Acute Withdrawal and Detoxification for Adults who Misuse Methamphetamine: A Review of the Clinical Evidence and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Chlorhexidine Gluconate for Skin Preparation during Stereotactic Core Biopsy of the Breast: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Combination Therapy for the Treatment of Central Nervous System Malignancies: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Privigen™ (human normal immunoglobulin): new indication: treatment of secondary immunodeficiencies in patients who suffer from severe or recurrent infections, ineffective antimicrobial treatment and either proven specific antibody failure or serum level of <4 g/L.

**EMA**
- Biosimilar medicines: Overview - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- Cablivi™ (caplacizumab-yhdp) approved for the treatment of adults with acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (aTTP)
- FDA Panels Endorse Ketamine Nasal Spray for Resistant Depression - [link](#)

**Joint Commission**
- Sentinel Event Data Summary - [link](#)

**NHS England**
- Rescheduling of Gabapentin and Pregabalin as Schedule 3 Controlled Drugs - [Briefing Note](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Cough (acute): antimicrobial prescribing- guidance (NG120)
- Shared learning database:
  - Improving baseline assessment for newly diagnosed hypertensive patients and optimising therapy - [link](#)
  - Improving educational resources for people with back pain in Sheffield – [link](#)

**Scottish Medicine Consortium**
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto) is accepted for restricted use within NHS Scotland for prevention of atherothrombotic events

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Maintaining Patency of Central Venous Catheters in Adults: RMOC Position Statement advises that there is no role for routine use of heparinised saline lock for the purpose of maintaining patency of a central venous catheter (CVC) in adults, and that sodium chloride 0.9% is suitable for locking CVCs in the majority of adult patients.
MEDICATION SAFETY

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)
- Revised SPCs
  -- Adenocor™ (adenosine): reports of cerebrovascular accident/TIA, secondary to the haemodynamic effects of adenosine, and myocardial infarction shortly after use
  -- Tacrolimus (Prograf™) - various preparations
Now includes viral hepatitis as a potential opportunistic infection that patients taking immunosuppressants, including tacrolimus, may be at increased risk of developing.
-- Cetirizine preparations
Nightmares (very rare), arthralgia (frequency unknown) and acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis (very rare) are now listed as potential adverse effects of treatment.

**EMA
- EMA start review of study on bleeding risk with direct oral anticoagulants - link

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA
- Medication Safety Alert! February 14, 2019
  -- Another Round of the Blame Game: A Paralyzing Criminal Indictment that Recklessly "Overrides" Just Culture
  -- Sidebar 1: System vulnerabilities that contributed to the error
  -- Sidebar 2: When did human error become a crime?
  -- Sidebar 3: Updated Guidelines for the Safe Use of Automated Dispensing Cabinets
  -- More on fuzzy matching

**Specialist Pharmacy Service
- Shortage of urokinase injection (Syner-KINASE®) 10,000 IU, 25,000 IU and 100,000 IU Powder for solution for injection or infusion - memo advises on managing existing stock and alternative treatment options - link

**TGA safety alert
- Jurnista™ (hydromorphone hydrochloride) prolonged-release - Product defect correction - potentially damaged tablets

PAPERS OF INTEREST

**American Heart Association – Stroke
- Canagliflozin and Stroke in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus – link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
- Gabapentin and pregabalin to treat aggressivity in dementia: a systematic review and illustrative case report - link
- Optimising infliximab induction dosing for patients with ulcerative colitis - link

**British Journal of General Practice
- Efficiency versus thoroughness in medication review: a qualitative interview study in UK primary care - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- Pharmacological interventions for prevention and management of delirium in intensive care patients: a systematic overview of reviews and meta-analyses - link
- Effectiveness and safety of electronically delivered prescribing feedback and decision support on antibiotic use for respiratory illness in primary care: REDUCE cluster randomised trial - link
- Practice: Chronic rhinosinusitis - link
- Review: Overview of Gilbert’s syndrome - link
- Review: Management for women with subclinical hypothyroidism in pregnancy - link

**BMJ Heart
- Re-engineering the post-myocardial infarction medicines optimisation pathway: a retrospective analysis of a joint consultant pharmacist and cardiologist clinic model - link

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Are more experienced clinicians better able to tolerate uncertainty and manage risks? A vignette study of doctors in three NHS emergency departments in England - link

**Cochrane**
- N-acetylcysteine as an adjuvant therapy for Helicobacter pylori eradication - link
- Combined hormonal contraceptives for heavy menstrual bleeding - link
- Antibiotics for induction and maintenance of remission in Crohn's disease - link

**Diabetes Care**
- International Consensus on Risk Management of Diabetic Ketoacidosis in Patients with Type 1 Diabetes Treated with Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter (SGLT) Inhibitors - link
- Association of Insulin Dose, Cardiometabolic Risk Factors, and Cardiovascular Disease in Type 1 Diabetes during 30 Years of Follow-up in the DCCT/EDIC Study - link
- Association of Diabetes and Glycated Hemoglobin with the Risk of Intracerebral Hemorrhage: A Population-Based Cohort Study - link

**Diabetes Care**
- Combined Hormonal Contraceptives for Heavy Menstrual Bleeding - link
- Antibiotics for Induction and Maintenance of Remission in Crohn's Disease - link

**Diabetes Care**
- Combined Hormonal Contraceptives for Heavy Menstrual Bleeding - link
- Antibiotics for Induction and Maintenance of Remission in Crohn's Disease - link

**JAMA**
- Effect of Combination of Paracetamol (Acetaminophen) and Ibuprofen vs Either Alone on Patient-Controlled Morphine Consumption in the First 24 Hours after Total Hip Arthroplasty – The PANSAlD Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Assessment of Racial/Ethnic and Income Disparities in the Prescription of Opioids and Other Controlled Medications in California - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Assessment of a Personalized Approach to Predicting Postprandial Glycemic Responses to Food Among Individuals without Diabetes - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Pioglitazone Therapy in Patients with Stroke and Prediabetes – A Post Hoc Analysis of the IRIS Randomized Clinical Trial - link
- Association Between ABCB1 Polymorphisms and Outcomes of Clopidogrel Treatment in Patients with Minor Stroke or Transient Ischemic Attack – Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**JAMA Oncology**
- Safety and Efficacy of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy in Patients with HIV Infection and Advanced-Stage Cancer: A Systematic Review - link

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- Global Case-Fatality Rates in Pediatric Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock – A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Speech recognition for clinical documentation from 1990 to 2018: a systematic review - link

**Journal of the American College of Cardiology**
- Rivaroxaban, Aspirin, or Both to Prevent Early Coronary Bypass Graft Occlusion: The COMPASS-CABG Study – link

**Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association**
- Factors associated with unplanned readmissions in a major Australian health service - link
- Financial costs associated with monopolies on biologic medicines in Australia - link

**Lancet**

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
- Intensive blood pressure reduction with intravenous thrombolysis therapy for acute ischaemic stroke (ENCHANTED): an international, randomised, open-label, blinded-endpoint, phase 3 trial - [link](#)
- Clinical outcomes in patients with chronic hepatitis C after direct-acting antiviral treatment: a prospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Increasing the dose intensity of chemotherapy by more frequent administration or sequential scheduling: a patient-level meta-analysis of 37 298 women with early breast cancer in 26 randomised trials - [link](#)
- Trends in hospitalisation rates for inflammatory bowel disease in western versus newly industrialised countries: a population-based study of countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development - [link](#)
- Neuropsychiatric symptoms in Tanzanian HIV-infected children receiving long-term efavirenz treatment: a multicentre, cross-sectional, observational study - [link](#)
- Drug susceptibility testing and mortality in patients treated for tuberculosis in high-burden countries: a multicentre cohort study - [link](#)
- Protection against varicella with two doses of combined measles-mumps-rubella-varicella vaccine or one dose of monovalent varicella vaccine: 10-year follow-up of a phase 3 multicentre, observer-blind, randomised, controlled trial - [link](#)
- Pembrolizumab plus trastuzumab in trastuzumab-resistant, advanced, HER2-positive breast cancer (PANACEA): a single-arm, multicentre, phase 1b–2 trial - [link](#)
- Patient-reported outcomes following enzalutamide or placebo in men with non-metastatic, castration-resistant prostate cancer (PROSPER): a multicentre, randomised, double-blind, phase 3 trial - [link](#)
- Comparison of prasugrel and clopidogrel in patients with non-cardioembolic ischaemic stroke: a phase 3, randomised, non-inferiority trial (PRASTRO-I) - [link](#)

**Longwoods Healthcare Quarterly**
- Safety and Quality of Care for Seniors Living with Dementia - [link](#)
- Putting a Population Health Lens to Multimorbidity in Ontario - [link](#)

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- New guidelines from the Thrombosis and Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand for the diagnosis and management of venous thromboembolism - [link](#)
- Current thinking in the health care management of children with cerebral palsy - [link](#)

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Full Study Report of Andexanet Alfa for Bleeding Associated with Factor Xa Inhibitors - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- NIHR Signals
- Decontamination of the mouth or digestive tract was not linked to reductions in drug-resistant bloodstream infections in the intensive care unit - [link](#)
- Treatments for depression may help irritable bowel symptoms - [link](#)
- A commonly-used antidepressant doesn’t improve recovery after stroke - [link](#)

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)**
- Trends in Pediatric Hospitalizations and Readmissions: 2010–2016 - [link](#)
- Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Effectiveness and Herd Protection in Young Women - [link](#)
- Questions and Concerns about HPV Vaccine: A Communication Experiment - [link](#)
- Live Attenuated and Inactivated Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness - [link](#)
- Factors Associated With Rotavirus Vaccine Coverage - [link](#)

**Prescrire International in English**
- Prescrire International issue 201 February 2019: includes review of midostaurin in mastocytosis and some types of acute myeloid leukaemia; dinutuximab for neuroblastoma with accompanying editorial commentary; drug-induced cholelithiasis; gadolinium, MRI and pregnancy; dolutegravir and pregnancy; reviews of simple febrile seizures in a child and post-partum haemorrhage - [link](#)
**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Australian Sentinel Events List – Version 2
- The Third Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018 - link

**AHHA**
- State of the Australian Healthcare Industry Report: Top Trends Transforming Australia's healthcare sector in 2019 and Beyond (survey of 116 Australian and New Zealand senior healthcare professionals to find out what they think are the major innovations, challenges and opportunities that will fundamentally transform healthcare in the coming years) - link

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Towards estimating the prevalence of female genital mutilation/cutting in Australia - link
- Indicators of socioeconomic inequalities in cardiovascular disease, diabetes and chronic kidney disease - link
- Potentially preventable hospitalisations in Australia by small geographic areas - link
- Musculoskeletal conditions and comorbidity in Australia - link

**PBS**
- Biosimilar Uptake Drivers - link

**Queensland Health**
- Guideline for the Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) in Adult Hospitalised Patients December 2018 – link
- Guideline overview flow chart: Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) in Adult Hospitalised Patients - link

**TGA**
- Evidence guidelines: Guidelines on the evidence required to support indications for listed complementary medicines - link

**Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine**
- Future Leaders Communiqué - January edition

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Systematic review of computerized prescriber order entry and clinical decision support - link
- Quality improvement priorities for safer out-of-hours palliative care: lessons from a mixed-methods analysis of a national incident-reporting database - link
- A partially structured postoperative handoff protocol improves communication in 2 mixed surgical intensive care units: findings from the Handoffs and Transitions in Critical Care (HATRICC) prospective cohort study - link
- Data omission by physician trainees on ICU rounds - link

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Switching from Herceptin or other trastuzumab biosimilars to biosimilar Ogviri - link
- CADTH and NICE: new collaboration to offer parallel scientific advice to pharmaceutical companies to facilitate evidence generation for the Canadian and English markets- link

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New drug approvals
  - Caplacizumab (Cablivi™) as the first specific therapy for adults with acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (aTTP)
  - Prabotulinumtoxina-xvfs (Jeuveau™) an acetylcholine release inhibitor and a neuromuscular blocking agent indicated for the temporary improvement in the appearance of moderate to
severe glabellar lines associated with corrugator and/or procerus muscle activity in adult patients

**EMA**
- Public consultation on key principles for the electronic product information of EU medicines
- Share - link
- Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) of the EMA has recommended an additional indication for dapagliflozin for use in adults with type 1 diabetes who meet certain criteria - link

**Health Canada**
- Health Product InfoWatch – January 2019

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand**
- Evidence review to inform development of the mental health and addiction quality improvement programme ‘Learning from adverse events and consumer experience’ project - link

**GOV.UK**
- UK One Health Report: antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance in animals and humans - link

**NHS England**
- Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS FT: Improving initial sepsis management - link

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society**
- Polypharmacy: Getting our medicines right - link

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**

**Medication Safety**
**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Gilenya™ (fingolimod hydrochloride): post-marketing reports of rare cases of tumefactive lesions associated with multiple sclerosis relapse and hence, in cases of severe relapse, perform MRI to exclude tumefactive lesions. Consider discontinuation on a case-by-case basis.
  -- Jardiance (empagliflozin) and Synjardy (empagliflozin/metformin) tablets – warning added about necrotising fasciitis of the perineum (Fourier’s gangrene; frequency not known), a rare but serious and potentially life-threatening event that requires urgent surgical intervention and antibiotic treatment.
  -- Lumigan™ (bimatoprost) eye drops: The following ADRs were added: dizziness, ocular discomfort, photophobia, skin discoloration (periocular) and hypertension (frequency not known).
  -- Rifadin™ (rifampicin): Now warns that rifampicin may cause vitamin K dependent coagulopathy and severe bleeding. Monitoring recommended for patients with bleeding risk. Consider supplemental vitamin K when relevant (vit K deficiency, hypoprothrombinemia).

**Health Canada – Recalls & Safety alerts**
- Hydrochlorothiazide and the risk of non-melanoma skin cancer - link

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
- Guidelines for Safe Electronic Communication of Medication Information - link

**Papers of Interest**
**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- ASHP Statement on Advocacy as a Professional Obligation - link
- Quality indicators to measure the effect of opioid stewardship interventions in hospital and emergency department settings - link

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Compounded Topical Pain Creams to Treat Localized Chronic Pain: A Randomized Controlled Trial - link
- Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule, United States, 2019 - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Ischaemic colitis associated with intravitreal administration of aflibercept: A first case report - link
- Systematic external evaluation of published population pharmacokinetic models of mycophenolate mofetil in adult kidney transplant recipients co-administered with tacrolimus - link

**British Journal of Psychiatry**
- Effect of antidepressant switching between nortriptyline and escitalopram after a failed first antidepressant treatment among patients with major depressive disorder - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Clinical review: Peripartum cardiomyopathy - link
- Acute care assessment of older adults living with frailty - link
- Doxylamine/pyridoxine for nausea and vomiting in pregnancy – link
- Economic impact of potentially inappropriate prescribing and related adverse events in older people: a cost-utility analysis using Markov models - link
- Maximising the impact of patient reported outcome assessment for patients and society - link
- Is failure to act on discharge summaries causing harm in general practice? - link
- Assessing the readability and patient comprehension of rheumatology medicine information sheets: a cross-sectional Health Literacy Study - link

**BMJ Heart**
- Hospital-based quality improvement interventions for patients with heart failure: a systematic review - link

**Cochrane**
- Interventions to promote patient utilisation of cardiac rehabilitation - link
- Interventions for treating urinary incontinence after stroke in adults - link

**Drug Safety**
- Evaluation of Harm Associated with High Dose-Range Clinical Decision Support Overrides in the Intensive Care Unit - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- Microbiological validation of a robot for the sterile compounding of injectable non-hazardous medications in a hospital environment - link
- Results of EAHP’s 2018 Survey on Medicines Shortages - link

**Health Affairs**
- A Transitioning Epidemic: How the Opioid Crisis is Driving the Rise in Hepatitis C - link

**Heart, Lung and Circulation**
- Changes in Statin Prescription Patterns in Patients Admitted to an Australian Geriatric Subacute Unit - link
- Cost-Effectiveness of Ivabradine in the Treatment of Chronic Heart Failure - link
- Development of Acute Decompensated Heart Failure among Hospital Inpatients: Incidence, Causes and Outcomes - link

**Health Expectations**
- A 5-facet framework to describe patient engagement in patient safety - link
- Enacting person-centredness in integrated care: A qualitative study of practice and perspectives within multidisciplinary groups in the care of older people - link
- What's the problem with patient experience feedback? A macro and micro understanding, based on findings from a three-site UK qualitative study - link
- Current trends in patient and public involvement in cancer research: A systematic review - link

**Health Informatics Journal
- Current challenges in health information technology–related patient safety - link

**Human Factors: The Journal of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society
- The Effect of Cognitive Load and Task Complexity on Automation Bias in Electronic Prescribing - link

**Internal Medicine Journal
- Is there a role for proton pump inhibitor prophylaxis in haematology patients? - link

**JAMA
- Association of Pharmaceutical Industry Marketing of Opioid Products with Mortality from Opioid-Related Overdoses - link
- Effect of Electroencephalography-Guided Anesthetic Administration on Postoperative Delirium among Older Adults Undergoing Major Surgery - The ENGAGES Randomized Clinical Trial - link
- Reducing the Expert Halo Effect on Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committees - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine
- 2018 Update on Medical Overuse - link

**JAMA Network Open
- Prevention of Prescription Opioid Misuse and Projected Overdose Deaths in the United States - link

**JAMA Oncology
- Derivation of Anthracycline and Anthraquinone Equivalence Ratios to Doxorubicin for Late-Onset Cardiotoxicity - link

**JAMA Paediatrics
- Long-term Association of 13-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Implementation With Rates of Community-Acquired Pneumonia in Children - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)
- Spell checker for consumer language (CSpell) - link

**Lancet
- Efficacy and safety of statin therapy in older people: a meta-analysis of individual participant data from 28 randomised controlled trials - link
- Pharmacological treatments for generalised anxiety disorder: a systematic review and network meta-analysis - link
- Prehospital transdermal glyceryl trinitrate in patients with ultra-acute presumed stroke (RIGHT-2): an ambulance-based, randomised, sham-controlled, blinded, phase 3 trial - link
- Emerging cancer trends among young adults in the USA: analysis of a population-based cancer registry - link
- Pharmacologic management of cognitive impairment induced by cancer therapy - link

**Medical Journal of Australia
- Research

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
--Pregabalin misuse-related ambulance attendances in Victoria, 2012–2017: characteristics of patients and attendances - link
--Intensive lipid-lowering therapy in the 12 months after an acute coronary syndrome in Australia: an observational analysis- link
-Perspectives
--Improving drug allergy management in Australia: education, communication and accurate information- link
--Let's talk about cytotoxic chemotherapy dosing: unravelling adjustments and off-protocol prescribing- link
--Pregabalin misuse: the next wave of prescription medication problems- link
--High intensity lipid-lowering therapy after acute coronary syndromes: room for improvement-link

**New England Journal of Medicine
- Acute Infection and Myocardial Infarction - link
- A Randomized Trial of E-Cigarettes versus Nicotine-Replacement Therapy - link
- Omadacycline for Community-Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia - link
- Omadacycline for Acute Bacterial Skin and Skin-Structure Infections - link

** Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) iLibrary
- Health literacy for people-centred care - link

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management
- Risk of immune-related adverse events associated with ipilimumab-plus-nivolumab and nivolumab therapy in cancer patients - link

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA
**Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
Strategies for outcomes-focused and value-based healthcare: A Blueprint For A Post-2020 National Health Agreement - link

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)
- National cancer screening programs participation data - link
- Indicators of socioeconomic inequalities in cardiovascular disease, diabetes and chronic kidney disease - link

**TGA
- Review of the Narcotic Drugs Act 1967 - Public meetings
Meeting venues added: Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne
- AusPARs:
  - Glecaprevir / pibrentasvir (Maviret®) - indicated for the treatment of adult patients with chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotype 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 infection with or without compensated cirrhosis.
  - Ferric derisomaltose (Monfer®) - indicated for the treatment of iron deficiency in adults, when oral iron preparations are ineffective or cannot be used and where there is a clinical need to deliver iron rapidly

**Pharmaceutical Society of Australia
- Medicine Safety: Take Care

**Productivity Commission
-Report on Government Services 2019-primary and community health
REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- The impact of technology on safe medicines use and pharmacy practice in the US - [link](#)

**British Association for Sexual Health and HIV**
- National guideline for the management of infection with Neisseria gonorrhoeae (2019) - [link](#)

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs and Hypertension: Safety - [link](#)
- Decolonization for the Treatment of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Chlorhexidine for Oral Care: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)

**Department of Health & Social Care (UK)**
- 20-year vision and 5-year national action plan on antimicrobial resistance - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- New approvals:
  - Ibrutinib (Imbruvica, Pharmacyclics and Janssen) in combination with obinutuzumab (Gazyva, Roche) for use in untreated patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma (CLL/SLL) - [link](#)

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand**
- Acetylcysteine for the treatment of paracetamol overdose and toxicity – 2-bag dosing guidance - [link](#)

**Joint Commission**
- Developing a reporting culture: learning from close calls and hazardous conditions - [link](#)

**MIMS.co.uk (Monthly Index of Medical Specialties)**
- Buvidal™ ([buprenorphine](#)) once weekly or monthly injection is licensed for the treatment of opioid dependence in adults and adolescents aged 16 years or over, within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment.

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Triptans and SSRI or SNRI antidepressants – is there an interaction? - [link](#)
- Which oral vitamin D dosing regimens correct deficiency in pregnancy? - [link](#)
- What is the most appropriate antidepressant to use in people with epilepsy? - [link](#)

**The King’s Fund (UK)**
- The NHS long-term plan explained - [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Medical management of abortion - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- New products
  - Erleada™ ([apalutamide](#))- an orally administered, selective androgen receptor (AR) inhibitor that binds directly to the ligand-binding domain of the AR, for treatment of non-metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer in men at high risk of developing metastatic disease.
  - Namuscla™ ([mexiletine](#)), a sodium channel blocker, for the symptomatic treatment of myotonia in adult patients with non-dystrophic myotonic disorders.
- Revised SPCs
  - Selincro™ ([nalmefene](#)): angiodema, urticaria, pruritus, rash, erythema, and priapism added as adverse effects (frequency unknown).

 NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
-- Gemfibrozil: contraindication of concomitant administration of gemfibrozil with selexipag added as co-administration doubled exposure (AUC) to selexipag and increased exposure to active metabolite by approximately 11-fold.
-- Onivyde™ (rinotecan hydrochloride trihydrate): use associated with thromboembolic events e.g. pulmonary embolism, venous thrombosis and arterial thromboembolism.
-- Dexmedetomidine hydrochloride: updated regarding hyperthermia- discontinue treatment in the event of a sustained unexplained fever and is not recommended for use in malignant hyperthermia-sensitive patients. Updated information regarding common symptoms of overdose.
-- Marvelon™ (ethinylestradiol/ desogestrel): depression, a known adverse effect of contraceptive use, is also a risk factor for suicidal behaviour and suicide. Women should be advised to contact their physician in case of mood changes and depressive symptoms. -- RoActemra™ (tocilizumab) – hypofibrinogenaemia added as a common adverse drug reaction (≥ 1/100 to < 1/10).
-- Tamiflu™ (oseltamivir) – the recommended dose in immunocompromised adults is 75 mg twice daily for 10 days, initiated as soon as possible within the first two days of onset of symptoms of influenza. There are no studies of a shorter course of oseltamivir in this patient group.
-- Zepatier™ (elbasvir/grazoprevir): hypoglycaemia may occur during treatment. Glucose levels of patients with diabetes initiating therapy should be closely monitored, particularly within the first 3 months, and their medication modified when necessary.
-- Ativan™ (lorazepam): use with caution in elderly due to the risk of sedation and/or musculoskeletal weakness that can increase risk of falls, with serious consequences. These patients should be given a reduced dose (50%) and titrated accordingly.
-- Nimenrix™ (meningococcal group A, C, W-135 and Y conjugate vaccine): increased risk of invasive disease caused by Neisseria meningitidis group A, C, W-135 and Y.
-- Rifadin™ (rifampicin): may cause vitamin K dependent coagulopathy and severe bleeding. Monitoring is recommended for patients at increased bleeding risk. Supplemental vitamin K should be considered when appropriate (vit K deficiency, hypoprothrombinemia). See UKMi comment
-- Zostavax™ (varicella-zoster virus, live, attenuated vaccine): large observational study did not indicate an increased risk for developing herpes zoster after concomitant administration of Zostavax and a 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine.

**Health Canada
- Lartruvo® (olaratumab) - New clinical trial information: did not confirm the clinical benefit in prolonging lives of patients with advanced or metastatic soft tissue sarcoma when used in combination with doxorubicin compared to doxorubicin alone.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA
- Medication Safety Alert! January 31, 2019
- Your Reports at Work: FDA tells pen injector needle manufacturers to improve patient instructions for use
- For medication orders, “fuzzy matching” is fuzzy illogical
- Acute Care Action Agenda (October – December 2018)

PAPERS OF INTEREST
**American Diabetes Association - Diabetes Care
- A Randomized Controlled Trial on the Safety and Efficacy of Exenatide Therapy for the Inpatient Management of General Medicine and Surgery Patients With Type 2 Diabetes - link

**American Heart Association (AHA)
- 2019 AHA/ACC/HRS Focused Update of the 2014 AHA/ACC/HRS Guideline for the Management of Patients with Atrial Fibrillation - link

**Australian Journal of Primary Health
- Deprescribing for older adults in Australia: factors influencing GPs - link
American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)
- Understandability, actionability, and readability of online patient education materials about diabetes mellitus - link
- Implementation of a workflow system with electronic verification for preparation of oral syringes - link
- Development and implementation of a strategy to ensure outpatient access to medications started in the inpatient setting - link
- Hemorrhagic conversion after alteplase administration in a patient with vasculitis and acute ischemic stroke - link
- Development of a required longitudinal residency experience focused on deprescribing - link
- Musculoskeletal toxicities in patients receiving concomitant statin and daptomycin therapy - link
- Medication review in older adults: Importance of time to benefit - link
- Development and validation of a dynamic inpatient risk prediction model for clinically significant hypokalemia using electronic health record data - link
- Developing and evaluating a pharmacy technician home visit program - link
- Comparison of real-world outcomes in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation treated with direct oral anticoagulant agents or warfarin - link

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
- Review: Antiresorptive agents’ bone-protective and adjuvant effects in postmenopausal women with early breast cancer - link
- Ensuring continuity of patient care across the healthcare interface: Telephone follow-up post-hospitalization - link
- New steps in infliximab therapeutic drug monitoring in patients with inflammatory bowel diseases – link

British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- Comparative effectiveness of rituximab, abatacept, and tocilizumab in adults with rheumatoid arthritis and inadequate response to TNF inhibitors: prospective cohort study - link
- Reporting, presentation and wording of recommendations in clinical practice guideline for gout: a systematic analysis - link

BMJ Heart
- Review: Management of blood pressure in heart failure - link

Cochrane
- Digital interventions for the management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - link
- Oral H1 antihistamines as ‘add-on’ therapy to topical treatment for eczema - link
- Pregabalin for neuropathic pain in adults - link
- Antibiotics for treating urogenital Chlamydia trachomatis infection in men and non-pregnant women - link
- Topiramate for juvenile myoclonic epilepsy - link
- Pharmacotherapies for cannabis dependence - link

Dr Foster (UK)
- Insight report: High intensity users of A&E departments – link

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy
- Seizures and quinolone antibiotics in children: a systematic review of adverse events - link

Health Technology Assessment
- Vitamin D supplementation to prevent acute respiratory infections: individual participant data meta-analysis - link

Internal Medicine Journal
- Patterns of immunotherapy use and management of toxicities in regional and tertiary settings - link
**International Journal for Quality in Health Care Assurance**
- Effective quality systems: implementation in Australian public hospitals - link

**JAMA**
- Effect of Intensive vs Standard Blood Pressure Control on Probable Dementia - A Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Association of HLA Antigen Mismatch with Risk of Developing Skin Cancer after Solid-Organ Transplant - link
- Safety and Efficacy of Methotrexate for Chinese Adults with Psoriasis With and Without Psoriatic Arthritis - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Association of Antibiotic Treatment with Outcomes in Patients Hospitalized for an Asthma Exacerbation Treated with Systemic Corticosteroids - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Patterns in Outpatient Benzodiazepine Prescribing in the United States - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Prediction Tools for Psychiatric Adverse Effects after Levetiracetam Prescription - link

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Association of Aripiprazole with the Risk for Psychiatric Hospitalization, Self-harm, or Suicide - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- An expandable approach for design and personalization of digital, just-in-time adaptive interventions - link

**Journal of Pain Research**
- Safety of oral methylnaltrexone for opioid-induced constipation in patients with chronic noncancer pain - link

**Lancet**
- Seminar: Osteoporosis - link
- Seminar: Dengue - link
- β-Blocker Therapy and Risk of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease – A Danish Nationwide Study of 1·3 Million Individuals - link

**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Review Article: Opioid Tolerance in Critical Illness - link
- Effect of Adding Azithromycin to Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention - link
- Dapagliflozin and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes - link
- Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotics for Bone and Joint Infection - link

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**
- NIHR Signals
- Lifestyle changes may be more important than drugs for mild hypertension - link
- Warfarin and newer anticoagulants equally effective for long-term treatment of blood clots - link
- Several antibiotics appear effective against early-stage Lyme disease - link

**NPS MedicineWise**
- Dolutegravir + rilpivirine fixed-dose combination (Juluca®): new antiretroviral available on PBS - link

**Pain Medicine**
- Does Opioid Tapering in Chronic Pain Patients Result in Improved Pain or Same Pain vs Increased Pain at Taper Completion? A Structured Evidence-Based Systematic Review - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)
- Continuous Versus Intermittent Vancomycin Infusions in Infants: A Randomized Controlled Trial - link
- Trends in Outpatient Antibiotic Use in 3 Health Plans - link

**Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society
- Pediatric Antibiotic Stewardship Program (ASP) Toolkit - link

**Palliative Medicine
- Quality improvement priorities for safer out-of-hours palliative care: Lessons from a mixed-methods analysis of a national incident-reporting database - link

**Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy
- The proportion, conditions, and predictors of emergency department visits that can be potentially managed by pharmacists with expanded scope of practice – link

**Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management
- New therapies for the treatment of heart failure: a summary of recent accomplishments - link

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**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**AHHA**
- Call for the establishment of a primary health care national minimum data set - link

**NSW Health Intranet**
- Thiopental injection (Pentothal®) disruption to supply - link
- Management of people with HIV who risk infecting others - link

**TGA**
- AusPARs:
  - Trametinib and Dabrafenib (Mekinist™ and Tafinlar™) - Extension of indication for the combination of both drugs to be used for the adjuvant treatment of patients with Stage III melanoma with a BRAF V600 mutation, following complete resection.
  - Influenza virus haemagglutinin (Afluria Quad™) - Extension of indication for use in persons aged 5 years and over

**The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)**
- Five steps towards excellent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare - link

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand**
- Open Book: Dispensing errors: Learning from the national primary care patient experience survey (Jan 2019) - link

**New Zealand Ministry of Health**
- Passing of the Misuse of Drugs (Medicinal Cannabis) Amendment Act means some products containing cannabidiol (CBD) are now prescription medicines only - link

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society**
- Brexit update: President responds - link
- We talk to Channel 5 about medicine shortages - link
- Medicine shortages in the news - link

** World Health Organisation (WHO)
- Country profiles of mental health resources published - link

MEDICATION SAFETY

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
  -- Prevyms™ (letermovir) for prophylaxis of CMV reactivation and disease in adult CMV-seropositive recipients of allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplant
  -- Hydrocortisone 10mg Soluble Tablets licensed for replacement therapy in congenital adrenal hyperplasia in children; and also for the emergency treatment of severe bronchial asthma, drug hypersensitivity reactions, serum sickness, angioneurotic oedema and anaphylaxis in adults and children.

- Revised SPCs
  -- Latuda™ (lurasidone): warns that co-administration of lurasidone and posaconazole (PS), a strong CYP3A4 inhibitor, resulted in ~ 4-5 fold increase in lurasidone exposure and effect continued up to 2-3 weeks after cessation of posaconazole co-administration.
  -- Stelara™ (ustekinumab): advises of cases of allergic alveolitis and eosinophilic pneumonia during post-approval use of ustekinumab. If infection has been excluded and diagnosis is confirmed, ustekinumab should be discontinued and appropriate treatment instituted.
  -- Alimta™ (pemetrexed): advises infectious and non-infectious disorders of the dermis, the hypodermis and/or the subcutaneous tissue e.g. acute bacterial dermo-hypodermitis, pseudocellulitis, dermatitis have been reported (unknown frequency).
  -- Xgeva™ (denosumab): advises atypical femoral fracture reclassified as an uncommon adverse reaction (≥ 1/1,000 to < 1/100; previously classified as rare; ≥ 1/10,000 to < 1/1,000)
  -- Juluca™ (rilpivirine hydrochloride/dolutegravir sodium): includes preliminary data suggesting an increased incidence of neutral tube defects (0.9%) in mothers exposed to dolutegravir at the time of conception vs non-dolutegravir containing regimens (0.1%). Use of dolutegravir not recommended in pregnancy.
  -- Keytruda™ (pembrolizumab): pure red cell aplasia and Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada syndrome (a multisystem autoimmune disease) added as rare adverse effects (≥ 1/10,000 to < 1/1,000).
  -- Meronem™ (meropenem): warning about severe cutaneous adverse reactions and acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis (unknown frequency) added
  -- Otezla™ (apremilast): angioedema (unknown frequency) and urticaria (uncommon) added
  -- Amphotericin B Lipid Complex Infusion: nephrogenic diabetes insipidus added as potential adverse effect (frequency unknown)

**EMA
- Erleada™ (apalutamide) for non-metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer where there is a high risk of developing metastatic disease

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA
- Medication Safety Alert! January 17, 2019
  -- Safety Enhancements Every Hospital Must Consider in Wake of Another Tragic Neuromuscular Blocker Event
  -- Finalized guidelines for electronic communication
  -- Flavoring should not be part of a drug name

PAPERS OF INTEREST

**Age and Ageing
- The electronic frailty index as an indicator of community healthcare service utilisation in the older population - link

**American Journal of Medical Quality
- A Dashboard for Monitoring Opioid-Related Adverse Drug Events Following Surgery Using a National Administrative Database - link
- Introduction of a Mobile Adverse Event Reporting System Is Associated with Participation in Adverse Event Reporting - link
- An Innovative Perioperative Pain Program for Chronic Opioid Users: An Academic Medical Center’s Response to the Opioid Crisis - link

**Arthritis and Rheumatology**
- Efficacy and Safety of Febuxostat Extended and Immediate Release in Patients with Gout and Renal Impairment: A Phase III Placebo-Controlled Study - link

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- ASHP Foundation Pharmacy Forecast 2019: Strategic Planning Advice for Pharmacy Departments in Hospitals and Health Systems - link
- New drugs and dosage forms - link

**BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology**
- Nifedipine alone or combined with sildenafil citrate for management of threatened preterm labour: a randomised trial - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- A population pharmacokinetic model to predict the individual starting dose of tacrolimus in adult renal transplant recipients - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Clinical updates: Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG): a practical approach for long term management - link
- How to get started in quality improvement - link
- Benefits and harms of pregabalin in the management of neuropathic pain: a rapid review and meta-analysis of randomised clinical trials - link
- Appropriateness of outpatient antibiotic prescribing among privately insured US patients: ICD-10-CM based cross sectional study - link

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Evaluation of an electronic health record structured discharge summary to provide real time adverse event reporting in thoracic surgery - link

**Circulation**
- Stroke Outcomes in the Cardiovascular OutcoMes for People using Anticoagulation StrategieS (COMPASS) Trial - link

**Cochrane**
- Disease management interventions for heart failure - link
- Alpha-glucosidase inhibitors for prevention or delay of type 2 diabetes mellitus and its associated complications in people at increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes mellitus - link
- Gonadotrophins for ovulation induction in women with polycystic ovary syndrome - link
- Adrenaline and vasopressin for cardiac arrest - link
- Methotrexate for psoriatic arthritis - link
- Adverse events in people taking macrolide antibiotics versus placebo for any indication - link
- Interventions for emergency contraception - link
- Oral H1 antihistamines as ‘add-on’ therapy to topical treatment for eczema - link

**Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism**
- Exenatide use and incidence of pancreatic and thyroid cancer: A retrospective cohort study - link

**European Heart Journal**
- Efficacy and safety of aspirin for primary prevention of cardiovascular events: a meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis of randomized controlled trials - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
- Analysis of the impact of antimicrobial management and rational use of antibiotics - [link](#)

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- Immediate Cephalosporin Allergy - [link](#)

**JAMA**
- Reducing the Expert Halo Effect on Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committees - [link](#)
- Breast Cancer Treatment - A Review - [link](#)
- Association of Aspirin Use for Primary Prevention with Cardiovascular Events and Bleeding Events - A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

**JAMA Cardiology**
- Cardiovascular Risk Factors Associated With Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)
- Cost-effectiveness of Canakinumab for Prevention of Recurrent Cardiovascular Events - [link](#)

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Trends in Oral Antibiotic Prescription in Dermatology, 2008 to 2016 - [link](#)

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Association of 30-Day Mortality with Oral Step-Down vs Continued Intravenous Therapy in Patients Hospitalized with Enterobacteriaceae Bacteremia - [link](#)

**JAMA Network Open**
- Trends in Opioid Use in Pediatric Patients in US Emergency Departments From 2006 to 2015 - [link](#)
- Association of Pharmaceutical Industry Marketing of Opioid Products With Mortality From Opioid-Related Overdoses - [link](#)

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- Diagnosis and Management of Kawasaki Disease - [link](#)

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Exploring Comorbidity Within Mental Disorders Among a Danish National Population - [link](#)

**JAMA Surgery**
- Association between Postoperative Delirium and Long-term Cognitive Function after Major Nonemergent Surgery - [link](#)

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Measuring the rate of manual transcription error in outpatient point-of-care testing - [link](#)
- Spell checker for consumer language (CSpell) - [link](#)

**Journal for Healthcare Quality**
- Subsequent Fracture Prevention in Patients 50 Years and Older With Fragility Fractures A Quality Improvement Initiative - [link](#)
- Improving Geriatric Care Processes on Two Medical-Surgical Acute Care Units A Pilot Study - [link](#)
- Decreasing the Time to Administration of First Dose of Antibiotics in Children with Severe Sepsis - [link](#)

**Lancet**
- Efficacy and safety of oral basal insulin versus subcutaneous insulin glargine in type 2 diabetes: a randomised, double-blind, phase 2 trial - [link](#)
- Safety and efficacy of CVT-301 (levodopa inhalation powder) on motor function during off periods in patients with Parkinson's disease: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial - [link](#)
- Inhaled liposomal ciprofloxacin in patients with non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis and chronic lung infection with Pseudomonas aeruginosa (ORBIT-3 and ORBIT-4): two phase 3, randomised controlled trials - [link](#)
- Confronting the most challenging risk factor: non-adherence - [link](#)
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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) NSW
- New resources for VTE Risk Assessment:
  -- HETI learning module on the electronic VTE Risk Assessment Tool in the Cerner eMR (course code: 212082420)
  -- An updated paper VTE Risk Assessment Tool (changes made) now available for order

**PBS
- Improving Access to medicines - Improved Payment Administration - link

**TGA
- Video: About the Therapeutic Goods Administration - link
- AusPAR Ixekizumab (Taltz®) extended indication for active psoriatic arthritis in adult patients who have responded inadequately, or who are intolerant, to previous DMARD therapy. Taltz® may be used as monotherapy or in combination with a conventional DMARD.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA
- The effect of cognitive load and task complexity on automation bias in electronic prescribing - link

**EMA
- EMA has published a revision of its guideline on the evaluation of human medicines indicated for the treatment of bacterial infections - link

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand
- 5 Questions to ask about your medications – consumer safety poster - link
- Mental health and addiction tools and resources – link

**London: Department of Health & Social Care
- The Women’s Mental Health Taskforce: final report - link

**New York: The Commonwealth Fund
- What is the status of women’s health and care in the U.S. compared to ten other countries? - link

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK
- Regorafenib for previously treated advanced hepatocellular carcinoma – guidance (TA555)
- Pembrolizumab with pemetrexed and platinum chemotherapy for untreated, metastatic, non-squamous non-small-cell lung cancer- guidance (TA557)
- Cerebral palsy in adults- guidance (NG119)

**Pennsylvania Patient Safety Advisory**  
- Perioperative Medication Errors: Uncovering Risk from Behind the Drapes - [link](#)

**Public Health England**  
- Health matters: reducing health inequalities in mental illness - [link](#)  
- Guidance: Cardiovascular disease prevention: applying All Our Health - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**  
- New Product Evaluations December 2018 - [link](#)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**
**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**  
- New Product: Steglatro™ (ertugliflozin) tablets  
- Revised SPCs  
  -- Nuelin™ (theophylline): recent myocardial infarction and acute tachyarrhythmia added as contra-indications, and hyperglycaemia, hyperuricaemia and electrolyte imbalance added as potential adverse effects.  
  -- Oncaspar™ (pegaspargase): embolism (including pulmonary embolism, venous thromboembolism, limb venous thrombosis and superficial thrombosis) added as a very common adverse effect.  
  -- Dantrium™ (dantrolene): updated on the potential risk for undissolved crystals in the reconstituted product. To minimise this risk, a filtration device should be used after reconstitution.  
  -- Zimovane™ (zopiclone): reinforced warnings on the risks of abuse and dependence with long term therapy. Risk of abuse and dependence is also greater in psychiatric disorders and/or alcohol, substance or drug abuse. Treatment should not exceed 4 weeks including the period of tapering off.  
  -- Propofol: Updated with respect to use in sedation in the ICU- treatment should immediately be discontinued should organ system failure or significant metabolic derangements develop.  
  -- Effient™ (prasugrel): updated to advise of a delayed and decreased exposure to oral P2Y12 inhibitors, including prasugrel and active metabolite, in patients with ACS treated with morphine. This interaction may be related to reduced GI motility and apply to other opioids  
- Lipitor™ (atorvastatin) tablets  
Updated to advise that co-administration with products containing glecaprevir or pibrentasvir is contraindicated; and in patients taking hepatitis C antiviral agents elbasvir/grazoprevir, dose of atorvastatin should not exceed 20 mg/day.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**  
- Drug Approvals  
  -- Cabozantinib (Cabometyx™) for use in patients with liver cancer (new indication)

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice**  
- Ulipristal acetate - Assessing the potential risk of rare but serious liver injury

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**  
- Ipilimumab (Yervoy): reports of cytomegalovirus (CMV) gastrointestinal infection or reactivation - [link](#)  
- Tapentadol (Palexia): risk of seizures and reports of serotonin syndrome when co-administered with other medicines - [link](#)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**
**American Society of Hematology**  
- ASH Clinical Practice Guidelines on Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Antibiotic allergy labels in hospitalized and critically ill adults: A review of current impacts of inaccurate labelling - link

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- Review: Herpes zoster infection - link
- Review: Sepsis associated acute kidney injury - link
- Use of hormone replacement therapy and risk of venous thromboembolism: nested case-control studies using the QResearch and CPRD databases - link

**BMJ Thorax
- Vitamin D to prevent exacerbations of COPD: systematic review and meta-analysis of individual participant data from randomised controlled trials - link

**BMJ Quality and Safety
- Impact of a national QI programme on reducing electronic health record notifications to clinicians - link

**Canadian Journal of Anaesthesia
- The perioperative patient on buprenorphine: a systematic review of perioperative management strategies and patient outcomes - link

**CHEST journal - American College of Chest Physicians
- Inhaled Tranexamic Acid for Hemoptyis Treatment - link

**Circulation
- Linagliptin Effects on Heart Failure and Related Outcomes in Individuals with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus at High Cardiovascular and Renal Risk in CARMELINA - link
- Medication Discontinuation in the IMPROVE-IT Trial - link

**Cochrane
- Inhaled steroids with and without regular salmeterol for asthma: serious adverse events - link
- Treatment of epilepsy for people with Alzheimer's disease - link

**Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism
- Sustained 52-week efficacy and safety of triple therapy with dapagliflozin plus saxagliptin versus dual therapy with sitagliptin added to metformin in patients with uncontrolled type 2 diabetes - link
- PCSK9 inhibitor therapy: A systematic review and meta-analysis of metabolic and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with diabetes - link

**European Heart Journal
- Relationship between body mass index and outcomes in patients with atrial fibrillation treated with edoxaban or warfarin in the ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48 trial - link
- Prediction of individual life-years gained without cardiovascular events from lipid, blood pressure, glucose, and aspirin treatment based on data of more than 500 000 patients with Type 2 diabetes mellitus - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy
- Guide to undertaking person-centred inpatient (ward) outpatient (clinic) and dispensary-based pharmacy consultations - link
- Pilot study to evaluate knowledge of person-centred care, before and after a skill development programme, in a cohort of preregistration pharmacists within a large London hospital - link
- Application of vancomycin in patients with augmented renal clearance - link
- Investigation of meropenem stability after reconstitution: the influence of buffering and challenges to meet the NHS Yellow Cover Document compliance for continuous infusions in an outpatient setting - link

**Health Affairs
- Divergence In Recent Trends In Deaths From Intentional And Unintentional Poisoning - [link](#)

**International Journal for Quality in Health Care**
- The future of health systems to 2030: a roadmap for global progress and sustainability - [link](#)
- Reduction and follow-up of hospital discharge letter delay using Little’s law - [link](#)

**JAMA**
- Effect of Low-Dose Intracoronary Alteplase during Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention on Microvascular Obstruction in Patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction - A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Evaluation and Management of Penicillin Allergy: A Review - [link](#)

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Association of Dipeptidyl Peptidase 4 Inhibitor Use with Risk of Bullous Pemphigoid in Patients with Diabetes - [link](#)

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide Monoclonal Antibody Treatments for Migraine - [link](#)

**JAMA Ophthalmology**
- Association of Statin Therapy With Prevention of Vision-Threatening Diabetic Retinopathy - [link](#)

**Journal of Health Services Research & Policy**
- The challenge of determining appropriate care in the era of patient-centered care and rising health care costs - [link](#)

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- The Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy infant feeding for allergy prevention guidelines - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) - NIHR Signals**
- Adding low dose theophylline to inhaled corticosteroids does not reduce COPD exacerbations - [link](#)
- Combining mirtazapine with other antidepressants is not effective for treatment-resistant depression - [link](#)
- The benefits of commonly used blood pressure and cholesterol lowering treatment can last 16 years - [link](#)

**Pediatrics**
- Ranitidine-Induced Delirium in a 7-Year-Old Girl: A Case Report - [link](#)

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**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**
- Guidelines on Perioperative Management of Anticoagulant and Antiplatelet Agents - [link](#)
- Intravenous Unfractionated Heparin Recommended Standard - [link](#)

**MIMS Monthly Update - January 2019**
- New medications:
  -- Avanafil (Spedra®) for erectile dysfunction in adult males.
  -- Cerliponase alfa (rch) for CLN2 disease, also known as TPP1 deficiency
  -- Durvalumab (rch) (Imfinzi®) for locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma with disease progression during or following platinum-containing chemotherapy, or disease progression within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant treatment with platinum-containing chemotherapy.

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 NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
-- Safinamide (mesilate) (Xadago®) for fluctuating idiopathic Parkinson’s disease (PD) in adults as add-on therapy to a regimen that includes levodopa.
-- Tafenoquine (succinate) (Kodatef®): antimalarial that kills the developing asexual, developing exoerythrocytic, and latent hypnozoites of malaria parasites

**NSW Health Intranet
- Safety Notice 021/18: Discontinuation of nifedipine (twice daily products) and patient safety risks with alternative

**Pharmacy Council of NSW
- Amendment to the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008 to regulate the following as Type A drugs of addiction:
  1. cannabis (when in Schedule 8)
  2. tetrahydrocannabinols (when in Schedule 8)
  3. unregistered drugs of addiction (including compounded Schedule 8 medicines).

**TGA
- Medicine shortages guidance and resources - Information for sponsors and health professionals - link
- New AusPARs:
  - Peramivir (Rapivab®) indicated for the treatment of acute influenza infection in adults and children 2 years and older who have been symptomatic for no more than two days.

**Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine
- Clinical Communiquè – December

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL
**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA
- A web application to involve patients in the medication reconciliation process: a user-centered usability and usefulness study - link

**BNF/BNFC eNewsletter December 2018
- Three new drug monographs have been added to BNF as well as dose changes for: antibiotics for Lyme disease, dabigatran, gabapentin, influenza vaccine, roflumilast, and tapentadol. Updated guidance on management of Lyme disease and rheumatoid arthritis also included.

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health
- Rapid Sequence Induction Agents for Emergency Intubation: Comparative Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - link
- Strategies for the Management of Latent or Previously Treated Tuberculosis: Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Continuous Glucose Monitoring for Patients with All Diabetes Types: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - link
- Atypical Injectable Antipsychotics for Schizophrenia or Bipolar Disorder: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness - link
- Subcutaneous Butterfly Lines for Medication Administration: Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - link

**European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- Human medicines highlights 2018 - link

**Health Canada
- Health Product InfoWatch - December 2018

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK
- Lenvatinib for untreated advanced hepatocellular carcinoma – guidance (TA551)
- Liposomal cytarabine–daunorubicin for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia – guidance (TA552)
- Pembrolizumab for adjuvant treatment of resected melanoma with high risk of recurrence – guidance (TA553)
- Pancreatic cancer- Quality standard (QS177)
- Tisagenlecleucel for treating relapsed or refractory B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in people aged up to 25 years – guidance (TA554)
- Bronchiectasis (non-cystic fibrosis), acute exacerbation: antimicrobial prescribing- guidance (NG117)
- Renal and ureteric stones: assessment and management- guidance (NG118)

**Royal College of General Practitioners UK (RCGP)
- Guidance for GPs on cannabis-based medicines and products - link

**Specialist Pharmacy Services
- New Medicines Newsletter December 2018 - link
- Medicines Use and Safety Update January 2019 - link
- Which opioids can be used in renal impairment? - link
- What is the risk of interaction between opioids and monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs)? - link
- What is the first choice antidepressant for patients with renal impairment? - link
- NICE Bites: Prostatitis - link
- Which medicines require extra care when switching between liquid and tablet/capsule formulations? - link
- NOACs and Antidepressants – What are the risks of using these together and how should these risks be managed? - link

**Therapeutics Initiative Canada
- New drug for cystic fibrosis: Regulatory approval, clinical uncertainty? - link

MEDICATION SAFETY
**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC)
- Revised SPCs
  -- Ciprofloxacin: epidemiologic studies report an increased risk of aortic aneurysm and dissection after intake of fluoroquinolones, particularly in the older population.
  -- Valproic acid / sodium valproate: Haemorrhage (common) and vasculitis (uncommon) listed as potential adverse effects.
  -- Kisplyx™ and Lenvima™ (lenvatinib mesilate): Pneumothorax and nephrotic syndrome added as new adverse drug reactions (uncommon frequency).
  -- Cerezyme™ (imiglucerase): Advises that no case of overdose has been reported. Doses up to 240 U/kg body weight once every two weeks have been used.
  -- Diprivan™ (propofol): Section 4.5 corrected to state that profound hypotension (not hypertension as in previous SPC) has been reported following anaesthetic with propofol in patients treated with rifampicin.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA
- FDA safety announcement about increased risk of ruptures or tears in the aorta blood vessel with fluoroquinolone antibiotics in certain patients. FDA now require a new warning about this risk be added to the prescribing information and patient Medication Guide for all fluoroquinolones
- New approvals
  -- First and Only Digital Inhaler with Built-In Sensors – ProAir® Digihaler™ (albuterol sulfate 117 mcg) Inhalation Powder
  -- Tagraxofusp-erzs (Elzonris™) for the treatment of blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm
  -- Levodopa inhalation powder (Inbrija™) for intermittent treatment of “off” episodes in people with Parkinson's disease who are already taking an oral carbidopa-levodopa regimen
  -- Andexanet alfa (Andexxa™) a factor Xa reversal agent

**Health Canada – MedEffect Notice
- Xarelto® (rivaroxaban) - Increase in all-cause mortality, thromboembolic and bleeding events in patients after transcatheter aortic valve replacement
**MIMS Monthly Update - January 2019**

- New Contraindications
  -- Atazanavir (sulfate)/cobicistat (Evotaz®) should not be used in combination with glecaprevir/pibrentasvir because of the increased risk of ALT elevations due to an increase in glecaprevir and pibrentasvir plasma concentrations. Coadministration of Evotaz® with the antipsychotic lurasidone is contraindicated due to the potential for serious and/or life-threatening events or loss of virologic response and possible resistance.
  -- Doxycycline hyclate (hydrochloride) (Doryx®): concurrent use of tetracycline and methoxyflurane has been reported to result in fatal renal toxicity.
  -- Fosamprenavir (calcium) (Telzir)/ritonavir: must not be administered concomitantly with lurasidone.
  -- Imipramine hydrochloride (Tofranil®): contraindicated in children under 18 years of age for the treatment of depression or other psychiatric disorders.

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Cardiology**
- Meta-Analysis of Effects of Digoxin on Survival in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation or Heart Failure: An Update - [link](#)

**Anesthesia and Analgesia**
- Regional Analgesia Added to General Anesthesia Compared with General Anesthesia Plus Systemic Analgesia for Cardiac Surgery in Children: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

**Annals of Intensive Care**
- Caring for the critically ill patients over 80: a narrative review - [link](#)

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Fracture Risk after Initiation of Use of Canagliflozin: A Cohort Study - [link](#)
- Cost-Effectiveness of Alirocumab: A Just-in-Time Analysis based on the ODYSSEY Outcomes Trial - [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- A systematic review of clinicians' views and experiences of direct-acting oral anticoagulants in the management of nonvalvular atrial fibrillation - [link](#)
- The influence of heart failure on the pharmacokinetics of cardiovascular and non-cardiovascular drugs: a critical appraisal of the evidence - [link](#)
- The journey of metformin from glycaemic control to mTOR inhibition and the suppression of tumour growth - [link](#)
- Anticholinergic exposure and cognitive decline in older adults: effect of anticholinergic exposure definitions in a 3-year analysis of the multidomain Alzheimer preventive trial (MAPT) study - [link](#)
- Prevalence and incidence of prescription opioid analgesic use in Australia - [link](#)
- Comparative safety and effectiveness of direct oral anticoagulants in patients with atrial fibrillation in clinical practice in Scotland - [link](#)
- A clinical trial on the acute effects of methadone and buprenorphine on actual driving and cognitive function of healthy volunteers - [link](#)
- The impact of tacrolimus exposure on extrarenal adverse effects in adult renal transplant recipients - [link](#)
- Identification of behaviour change techniques in deprescribing interventions: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Dual antiplatelet therapy with aspirin and clopidogrel for acute high risk transient ischaemic attack and minor ischaemic stroke: a clinical practice guideline - [link](#)
- Use of C-reactive protein to tailor antibiotic use: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Update on the evidence for oral B12 supplements to treat deficiency - [link](#)
- Triple inhaled therapy versus dual inhaled therapy for COPD - [link](#)
- Stopping, rationalising or optimising antipsychotic drug treatment in people with intellectual disability and/or autism - link
- MI risk associated with naproxen and diclofenac in spondyloarthritis - link
- Association of a label of penicillin allergy with increased risk of MRSA and Clostridium difficile infection - link

**Circulation**
- Metformin Improves Insulin Sensitivity and Vascular Health in Youth with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus - link
- Tailoring Antiplatelet Therapy Intensity to Ischemic and Bleeding Risk - link
- Clinical Utility of Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement Information System Domain Scales - link

**Cochrane**
- Dual combination therapy versus long-acting bronchodilators alone for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD): a systematic review and network meta-analysis - link
- Inhaled steroids with and without regular salmeterol for asthma: serious adverse events - link
- Betahistine for tinnitus - link
- Tranexamic acid for patients with nasal haemorrhage (epistaxis) - link
- Alpha-glucosidase inhibitors for prevention or delay of type 2 diabetes mellitus and its associated complications in people at increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes mellitus - link
- Perioperative intravenous ketamine for acute postoperative pain in adults - link
- Uterotonic agents for preventing postpartum haemorrhage: a network meta-analysis - link
- Early discontinuation of antibiotics for febrile neutropenia versus continuation until neutropenia resolution in people with cancer - link
- Iron for the treatment of restless legs syndrome - link
- Acetyl-L-carnitine for patients with hepatic encephalopathy - link
- Disease management interventions for heart failure - link
- Cognitive behavioural therapy plus standard care versus standard care for people with schizophrenia - link
- Psychological therapies for anxiety and depression in children and adolescents with long-term physical conditions - link
- Restriction of salt, caffeine and alcohol intake for the treatment of Ménière’s disease or syndrome - link

**European Heart Journal**
- β-blockers, calcium antagonists, and mortality in stable coronary artery disease: an international cohort study - link
- When is it appropriate to stop non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants before catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation? A multicentre prospective randomized study - link
- Efficacy and safety of reduced-dose non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants in patients with atrial fibrillation: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - link
- Clinical outcomes, edoxaban concentration, and anti-factor Xa activity of Asian patients with atrial fibrillation compared with non-Asians in the ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48 trial - link

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- A case report of photodermatoses induced by the antifungal drug terbinafine - link
- Inpatients’ satisfaction towards information received about medicine - link

**European Journal of Preventive Cardiology**
- Depression, antidepressants, and the risk of non-valvular atrial fibrillation: A nationwide Danish matched cohort study - link

**European Respiratory Journal**
- Triple therapy versus single and dual long-acting bronchodilator therapy in COPD: a systematic review and meta-analysis - link

**Internal Medicine Journal**

NSW TAGMail January – June 2019 – Cumulative Issue
- The Use of Biologic Agents in the Management of Uveitis - link

**JAMA**
- Rethinking How Antibiotics Are Prescribed - Incorporating the 4 Moments of Antibiotic Decision Making into Clinical Practice - link
- Association of Pharmacological Treatments with Long-term Pain Control in Patients with Knee Osteoarthritis - A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - link
- Clinical Update - Perioperative Glucose Control in Patients with Diabetes Undergoing Elective Surgery - link

**JAMA Cardiology**
- Interindividual Variation in Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol Level Reduction with Evolocumab - An Analysis of FOURIER Trial Data - link
- Estimated 5-Year Number Needed to Treat to Prevent Cardiovascular Death or Heart Failure Hospitalization with Angiotensin Receptor-Neprilysin Inhibition vs Standard Therapy for Patients With Heart Failure With Reduced Ejection Fraction: An Analysis of Data From the PARADIGM-HF Trial - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Association of Parenteral Anticoagulation Therapy with Outcomes in Chinese Patients Undergoing Percutaneous Coronary Intervention for Non–ST-Segment Elevation Acute Coronary Syndrome - link
- Association of Corticosteroid Treatment with Outcomes in Adult Patients with Sepsis - A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - link
- Patient resource: Vitamins and Nutritional Supplements - What Do I Need to Know? - link
- Association of the Trauma of Hospitalization With 30-Day Readmission or Emergency Department Visit - link
- Association of Prescribed Opioids with Increased Risk of Community-Acquired Pneumonia among Patients With and Without HIV - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- US National Trends in Pediatric Deaths from Prescription and Illicit Opioids, 1999-2016 - link
- Association of Second-line Antidiabetic Medications with Cardiovascular Events among Insured Adults with Type 2 Diabetes - link
- Assessment of Guideline Discordance with Antimicrobial Prophylaxis Best Practices for Common Urologic Procedures - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Association of Rituximab Treatment with Disability Progression among Patients with Secondary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis - link

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- Effect of Intranasal Ketamine vs Fentanyl on Pain Reduction for Extremity Injuries in Children - The PRIME Randomized Clinical Trial - link

**JAMA Psychiatry**
- Association Between Antidepressant Drug Use and Hip Fracture in Older People Before and After Treatment Initiation - link

**JAMA Surgery**
- Association Between Antithrombotic Medication Use after Bioprosthetic Aortic Valve Replacement and Outcomes in the Veterans Health Administration System - link

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- Designing a medication timeline for patients and physicians - link

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- Effects of fluoxetine on functional outcomes after acute stroke (FOCUS): a pragmatic, double-blind, randomised, controlled trial - link
- Use of liraglutide and risk of major cardiovascular events: a register-based cohort study in Denmark and Sweden - link
- Sofosbuvir–velpatasvir for treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus infection in Asia: a single-arm, open-label, phase 3 trial - link
- Safety of elvitegravir, cobicistat, emtricitabine, and tenofovir alafenamide in HIV-1-infected adults with end-stage renal disease on chronic haemodialysis: an open-label, single-arm, multicentre, phase 3b trial - link
- Safety and efficacy of nabiximols on spasticity symptoms in patients with motor neuron disease (CANALS): a multicentre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 2 trial - link
- Identifying English Practices that Are High Antibiotic Prescribers Accounting for Comorbidities and Other Legitimate Medical Reasons for Variation - link
- Review: Antibiotic allergy - link
- Insomnia disorder subtypes derived from life history and traits of affect and personality - link
- New pharmacological strategies for protecting kidney function in type 2 diabetes - link

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- Fracture Prevention with Zoledronate in Older Women with Osteopenia - link
- Haloperidol and Ziprasidone for Treatment of Delirium in Critical Illness - link
- Cardiovascular Risk Reduction with Icosapent Ethyl for Hypertriglyceridemia – link

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- NIHR Signals
  -- Home-based cardiac rehabilitation for heart failure has high rates of participation - link
  -- Thyroid hormone treatment does not help adults with mildly abnormal thyroid tests - link
  -- Antidepressants do not help treat depression in people living with dementia - link
  -- People leaving hospital after medical illness do not benefit from extended clot reducing treatment - link

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- Trends in Outpatient Antibiotic Use in 3 Health Plans - link
- Mupirocin for Staphylococcus aureus Decolonization of Infants in Neonatal Intensive Care Units - link
- Youth and the Opioid Epidemic - link

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- Prescrire International issue 199 December 2018 - link

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- Calcium and vitamin D supplementation with 3-year denosumab treatment is beneficial to enhance bone mineral density in postmenopausal patients with osteoporosis and rheumatoid arthritis - link

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- The antifibrinolytic and anti-inflammatory effects of multiple doses of oral tranexamic acid in total knee arthroplasty patients: a randomized controlled trial - link