



NSW
Therapeutic
Advisory
Group Inc.

Advancing
quality use
of medicines
in NSW

TAG Mail: January – June 2021

Cumulative Listing of Reports, Publications, Medication Safety

TAG Mail – 24 June 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

Australian Government Department of Health

- Epidemiology [Report 43](#): Reporting period ending 6 June 2021
- COVID-19 vaccination
- ATAGI Provider guide to COVID-19 vaccination of people with immunocompromise (updated 18/06/21) - [link](#); Shared decision making guide for people with immunocompromise - [link](#); shared decision making guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning pregnancy (updated 18/06/21) - [link](#)
- Information for Immunisation Providers on Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) following COVID-19 vaccination (updated 18/06/21) - [link](#)

Consumers Health forum

- Webinar: COVID vaccine confidence and community safety with Prof Michael Kidd AM & Dr Ruth Stewart- [register](#)

NSW Health

- Clinical alert - thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) updated 17/06/21 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance in NSW - Epidemiological week 23, ending 12 June 2021 - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring [Dashboard](#) 23 June 2021
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 21 June 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 22 June 2021 - [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- COVID-19 vaccination side effects: how to manage and when to report them, updated - [link](#)

Thrombosis & Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand (THANZ)

- Suspected Vaccine-induced Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT, previously VIPIT): Blood test request form (updated 17/06/21) - [link](#)

TGA

- Promotion of COVID-19 vaccinations: further information for healthcare practitioners and other advertisers. Joint statement from the TGA and AHPRA - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report - 17-06-2021 - [link](#)
- TGA grants provisional determination for the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, Elasmomeran- [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

FIP

- Joining forces across health professionals towards improved vaccination coverage, 29 June 2021, 13:00 - 14:30 CEST – register [here](#)

WHO

- Scientific brief: Hypertension and COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Science in 5: [Episode #43](#) – Pregnancy & COVID-19; [Episode #42](#) – Vaccines and children
- A family toolbox for managing health and happiness during COVID-19 Part 1 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine tracker and landscape updated 22/06/21 - [link](#)
- WHO BioHub System for Preparedness and Response to Epidemics and Pandemics: [Concept note](#)
- WHO launches (free) mobile application for Yoga - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- COVID-19 vaccine safety updates: [Janssen](#), [Comirnaty](#), [Moderna](#), [Vaxzevria](#) (Astra Zeneca)

UK

-MHRA

- Temporary [advice](#) for management of oral retinoid medicines during the COVID-19 pandemic

-NHS England

- Long COVID: the NHS plan for 2021/22 - [link](#)

- COVID-19 vaccination: accelerating second doses for priority cohorts 1-9 – [link](#)

-NICE

- SYNE-COV for predicting COVID-19 outcomes [[MIB264](#)]

-Public Health England

- Vaccine update: issue 322, June 2021, COVID-19 phase 2 special edition - [link](#)

-RECOVERY

- RECOVERY trial finds Regeneron's monoclonal antibody combination reduces deaths for hospitalised COVID-19 patients who have not mounted their own immune response - [link](#)

-Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Regulatory-compliant supply of COVID-19 vaccines by one NHS organisation to another: Advice for senior pharmacists - [link](#)

-University of Birmingham

- Delaying second Pfizer vaccines to 12 weeks significantly increases antibody responses in older people - [link](#)

USA

-American Medical Association

- Why inequity should be treated as an unwanted variation in care - [link](#)

-American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)

- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: Monoclonal antibody therapy update

-FDA

- FDA Authorizes Revisions to Fact Sheets for REGEN-COV for Treatment of COVID-19 - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Letter: Systemic rheumatic disease flares after SARS-CoV-2 vaccination among rheumatology outpatients in New York City - [link](#)

BioRxiv pre-prints

- SARS-CoV-2 mRNA Vaccine Induces Robust Specific and Cross-reactive IgG and Unequal Strain-specific Neutralizing Antibodies in Naïve and Previously Infected Recipients - [link](#)

- Differences in IgG antibody responses following BNT162b2 and mRNA-1273 Vaccines - [link](#)

BMJ

- [Interactive practice pointer](#): Interpreting a lateral flow SARS-CoV-2 antigen test

- Global covid-19 vaccine rollout and safety surveillance—how to keep pace - [link](#)

- Editorial: Persistent pulmonary disease after acute covid-19 - [link](#)

- Views: Building a sustainable infrastructure for covid-19 vaccinations long term - [link](#)

BMJ Opinion

- "Povid:" predictions for a post-corona world - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Rapid realist [review](#) of the role of community pharmacy in the public health response to COVID-19

Circulation

- Letter: Myocarditis after BNT162b2 and mRNA-1273 Vaccination - [link](#)

- Letter: Myocarditis Temporally Associated with COVID-19 Vaccination - [link](#)

- In Depth Evaluation of a Case of Presumed Myocarditis Following the Second Dose of COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Association Between Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonist and Sodium–Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitor Use and COVID-19 Outcomes - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Association of Changes in Seasonal Respiratory Virus Activity and Ambulatory Antibiotic Prescriptions with the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Association of Convalescent Plasma Therapy with Survival in Patients With Hematologic Cancers and COVID-19 - [link](#)

J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract

- The Risk of Allergic Reaction to SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines and Recommended Evaluation and Management: A Systematic Review, Meta-analysis, GRADE Assessment, and International Consensus Approach - [link](#)

Journal of Palliative Medicine

- Acute Pain Crisis Caused by Tramadol Remdesivir Drug–Drug Interaction - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Imatinib in patients with severe COVID-19: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)

- COVID-19 vaccination in patients with α 1-antitrypsin deficiency (AATD) - [link](#)

- Safety and immunogenicity of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (AZD1222) vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 in HIV infection: a single-arm substudy of a phase 2/3 clinical [trial](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Preprint: Estimating background rates of hospital transfers and deaths in aged care facilities, following COVID-19 vaccination, Australia - [link](#)

- Perspective: Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern in the Australian context - [link](#)

medRxiv pre-prints

- Recovery from Covid-19 critical illness: a secondary analysis of the ISARIC4C CCP-UK cohort study and the RECOVER trial - [link](#)

- Brain imaging before and after COVID-19 in UK Biobank - [link](#)

Mycoses

- COVID-19-associated mucormycosis: An updated systematic review of literature - [link](#)

Nature

- [News](#): How the COVID pandemic is changing global science collaborations

- A cohort autopsy study defines COVID-19 systemic pathogenesis - [link](#)

- Mortality of patients with solid and haematological cancers presenting with symptoms of COVID-19 with vs without detectable SARS-CoV-2: a French nationwide prospective cohort study - [link](#)

- Controlling the pandemic during the SARS-CoV-2 vaccination rollout - [link](#)

- Design of COVID-19 staged alert systems to ensure healthcare capacity with minimal closures - [link](#)

- Causation or confounding: why controls are critical for characterizing long COVID - [link](#)

- [Letter](#): Has SARS-CoV-2 reached peak fitness?

New England Journal of Medicine

- SARS-CoV-2 Variants and Vaccines- [link](#)
- Effect of Vaccination on Household Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in England -[link](#)
- Tofacitinib in Patients Hospitalized with Covid-19 Pneumonia - [link](#)
- Treatment of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children - [link](#)
- Special Report: SARS-CoV-2 Variants and Vaccines - [link](#)
- [Correspondence](#): Three Doses of an mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine in Solid-Organ Transplant Recipients
- Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children — Initial Therapy and Outcomes - [link](#)
- Treatment of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Managing the long-term effects of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Everything you need to know about COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Pharmacy's mental health crisis: building back better post-pandemic (audio) - [link](#)

Transplantation

- [Commentary](#): SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination, Immune Responses, and Antibody Testing in Immunosuppressed Populations, Tip of the Iceberg

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

AIHW

- National Bowel Cancer Screening Program monitoring report 2021 - [link](#)
- Cancer screening programs: quarterly data - [link](#)

CATAG

- CATAG [Position statement](#) on the use of My Health Record by Australian public hospitals

NSW Health

- Increases in severe overdoses from cocaine found to contain opioids (including heroin) – public drug [alert & media release](#)
- National Indigenous Bowel Screening Pilot – final report - [link](#)
- The National Strategic Action Plan for Pain Management - [link](#)

TGA

- Pharmacovigilance Inspection Program metrics [report](#): Jan - Dec 2020
- Nicotine vaping products and vaping devices - [link](#)
- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages
- Registration of [new or extended uses](#) of registered medicine:
 - upadacitinib hemihydrate (Rinvoq) now also indicated for moderate to severe active psoriatic arthritis in adult patients who have responded inadequately to, or are intolerant to one or more DMARDs. Rinvoq may be used as monotherapy or in combination with a non-biological DMARD. Now also indicated for adults with active ankylosing spondylitis.
 - ipilimumab (Winglore, Yervoy) and nivolumab (Opdivo) in combination for first-line treatment of patients with unresectable malignant pleural mesothelioma.
 - fluticasone furoate; umeclidinium bromide; vilanterol trifenate (Trelegy Ellipta) for maintenance treatment of asthma in adult patient who are not adequately controlled with a combination of inhaled corticosteroid and a long-acting beta2-agonist.
 - encorafenib (Braftovi) in combination with cetuximab, now also indicated for the treatment of adult patients who have metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC) with a BRAF V600E mutation as detected by a validated test, and who have received prior systemic therapy.
 - avibactam sodium; ceftazidime pentahydrate (Zavicefta) for the treatment of infants and paediatric patients (≥ 3 months to < 18 years) for complicated intra-abdominal infection (cIAI) in combination with metronidazole and complicated urinary tract infection (cUTI) including pyelonephritis.
 - baloxavir marboxil (Xofluza) for post-exposure prophylaxis of influenza in patients aged 12 years of age and older following contact with an individual who has confirmed influenza.
 - ferric carboxymaltose (Ferinject) for iron deficiency when there is a clinical need to deliver iron rapidly
- Registration of [new generic medicines and biosimilar](#) medicines:

-- 10 added including adalimumab biosimilar, acyclovir, carmustine, pomalidomide, mycophenolate mofetil, bendamustine, perindopril erbumine, indapamide and perindopril erbumine, hydrocortisone sodium succinate, lacosamide.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- Jemperli ([dostarlimab](#)) - monoclonal antibody of the IgG4 isotype that binds to PD-1 receptors as monotherapy for adults with dMMR/MSI-H recurrent/advanced endometrial cancer that has progressed on or following prior treatment with a platinum-containing regimen.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Avapritinib approved for advanced systemic mastocytosis - [avapritinib](#) (Ayvakit)
- First oral blood thinning medication for Children - [dabigatran](#) (Pradaxa) approved
- Nasal antihistamine for nonprescription use - [azelastine](#) nasal spray (Astepro) approved
- [StrataGraft](#) for deep skin burns approved
- Glecaprevir/pibrentasvir ([Mavyret](#)) and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir ([Epclusa](#)) now indicated for children as young as 3.

IHI

- White [paper](#): Whole System Quality | A Unified Approach to Building Responsive, Resilient Health Care Systems

Kings Fund

- My role in tackling health inequalities: a framework for allied health professionals - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Shared decision making [NG197] - [link](#)
- Autism spectrum disorder in under 19s: support and management, updated [[CG170](#)]
- Patient experience in adult NHS services: improving the experience of care for people using adult NHS services, updated [[CG138](#)]
- Final appraisal documents
- Ixekizumab for treating axial spondyloarthritis after NSAIDs [[ID1532](#)]
- Secukinumab for treating non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis [[ID1419](#)]

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- Pharmacy can help reduce drug harms and deaths - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

CEC

- Salbutamol metered dose inhalers – Alternative adaptors available – [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Blincyto ([blinatumomab](#)) now warns that lineage switch from ALL to AML has been rarely reported in relapsed patients receiving Blincyto, including those with no immunophenotypic and/or cytogenetic abnormalities at initial diagnosis. All relapsed patients should be monitored for presence of AML.
- Ethinylestradiol/gestodene (Femodette, [Femodene](#)) and cyproterone acetate/ethinylestradiol (Dianette) tablets updated for potential drug-drug interaction of ethinylestradiol containing products with Maviret (glecaprevir/pibrentasvir) leading to risk of ALT elevations. Concomitant use is contraindicated.
- Qutenza ([capsaicin](#)) cutaneous patch revised to reiterate protective measures. Provides more precise guidance on measures to be taken when capsaicin comes in contact with eyes/mucous membranes and on course of action if respiratory irritation worsens or does not resolve.
- [Potaba](#) (potassium para-aminobenzoate) - severe cutaneous adverse reactions including drug reactions with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms- rare but potentially life threatening.

- Trulicity ([dulaglutide](#)) - delayed gastric emptying added as a rare potential adverse effect.
- Alofisel ([darvadstrocel](#)) may contain trace amounts of gentamicin (already noted that it may contain trace amounts of benzylpenicillin and streptomycin) - consider in patients with known hypersensitivity.
- Entyvio ([vedolizumab](#)) – addition of Interstitial lung disease as ADR (frequency unknown).
- Fosrenol ([lanthanum](#)) – further information on lanthanum deposition. Conditions resulting in a marked reduction of bile flow may be associated with slower elimination of lanthanum, which may result in higher plasma levels therefore monitoring of liver function tests recommended.
- Opdivo ([nivolumab](#)) - warns that immune-related adverse reactions affecting more than one body system can occur simultaneously.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- [Drug Safety Communication](#) for hand sanitizers, warning that symptoms such as headache, nausea, and dizziness can occur after applying alcohol-based hand sanitizers to the skin and inhaling the vapors that linger- [podcast](#)
- Search list of recalled metformin products - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- MHRA recalls contaminated irbesartan and losartan batches as precautionary measure - [link](#)
- Drug Safety Update [June 2021](#)
- CDK4/6 inhibitors (abemaciclib, palbociclib, ribociclib): reports of interstitial lung disease and pneumonitis, including severe cases - [link](#)
- Atezolizumab (Tecentriq) and other immune-stimulatory anti-cancer drugs: risk of severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs) - [link](#)

TGA

- Medicines Safety Updates:
- Updated contraception advice for [tamoxifen](#): recommended duration of contraception after finishing tamoxifen treatment extended from two months to nine months.
- Update - [Dienogest](#) and risk of venous thromboembolism – Updated PI documents for combined oral contraceptives containing dienogest now include more detailed information on venous thromboembolism risk.
- [Sertraline](#) and microscopic colitis: Updated PI documents for sertraline now include microscopic colitis as a potential adverse effect (unknown frequency) based on post-marketing experience.

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Barriers and strategies in developing an integrated immunization stewardship program in the health-system setting: The role of the pharmacist - [link](#)
- Old dog with new tricks: An introduction to real-world evidence for pharmacists - [link](#)
- Implementation of a clinical decision support tool at time of intramuscular penicillin G prescribing reduces medication errors - [link](#)
- Implementation of telehealth antimicrobial stewardship through partnership of an academic medical center and a community hospital - [link](#)
- Letter: Pharmacists' responsibilities in a healthy democracy - [link](#)

American Journal of Therapeutics

- Ivermectin for Prevention and Treatment of COVID-19 Infection: A Systematic Review, Meta-analysis, and Trial Sequential Analysis to Inform Clinical Guidelines - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- The Problem of Aducanumab for the Treatment of Alzheimer Disease - [link](#)
- Effect of Sotagliflozin on Total Hospitalizations in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes and Worsening Heart Failure: A Randomized Trial - [link](#)
- Management of Blood Pressure in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease Not Receiving Dialysis: Synopsis of the 2021 KDIGO Clinical Practice GuidelineFREE - [link](#) - [editorial](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Statin liver safety in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Levetiracetam in Lactation: How Much is Excreted into the Human Breast Milk? - [link](#)
- The association between increasing oral anticoagulant prescribing and atrial fibrillation related stroke in Ireland - [link](#)
- Community-based pharmacists' role in deprescribing: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Mirtazapine use may increase the risk of hypothyroxinemia in patients affected by major depressive disorder - [link](#)
- The CredibleMeds® list: usage of QT interval prolonging drugs in Germany and discordances with prescribing information - [link](#)
- Omecantiv Mecarbil Does Not Prolong QTc Intervals at Therapeutic Concentrations - [link](#)
- Implementing a specialist Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology Service in a UK Children's Hospital - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Predicting asthma-related crisis events using routine electronic healthcare data - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- P2Y12 inhibitor monotherapy or dual antiplatelet therapy after coronary revascularisation: individual patient level meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Intensity of statin therapy and muscle symptoms: a network meta-analysis of 153 000 patients - [link](#)

Canadian Journal of Health Technologies

- Laxatives and Erectile Dysfunction Medications to Treat Side Effects of Opioid Agonist and Methadone Maintenance Therapy - [link](#)

Circulation

- Recognition, Prevention, and Management of Arrhythmias and Autonomic Disorders in Cardio-Oncology: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association - [link](#)

Clinical Gastroenterology & Hepatology

- Prevalence and Factors Associated With Statin Use among Patients with Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease in the TARGET-NASH Study

Cochrane

- Eslicarbazepine acetate add-on therapy for drug-resistant focal epilepsy - [link](#)
- Low-dose oral misoprostol for induction of labour - [link](#)
- Prophylactic drug management for febrile seizures in children - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Feasibility of once weekly exenatide-LAR and enhanced diabetes care in Indigenous Australians with type 2 diabetes. (Long-acting-Once-Weekly-Exenatide laR-SUGAR, "Lower SUGAR" study) - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Use of Lipid-Lowering Therapies over 2 Years in GOULD, a Registry of Patients with Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease in the US - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Editorial: Overuse of Levothyroxine in Patients with Subclinical Hypothyroidism: Time to "Leve"-Out-Thyroxine - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Associations of Suicidality Trends with Cannabis Use as a Function of Sex and Depression Status - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Association of Modifiable Risk Factors with Early Discontinuation of Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy: A Post Hoc Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Surgery

- Concerns about Recommendations for Perioperative Cannabis Use – [letter](#) – [letter](#) - [reply](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Appropriate Systemic Therapy Dosing for Obese Adult Patients with Cancer: ASCO Guideline Update - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Editorial: A national standard that will influence global efforts to protect antibiotics - [link](#)
- Attitudes, barriers and facilitators of hospital pharmacists conducting practice-based research: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Osteoporosis in older people - [link](#)
- Editorial: The best today for a better tomorrow: a standard of practice to both recognise and develop infectious diseases pharmacy - [link](#)
- GMO Medicines and hospital pharmacy practice: a review - [link](#)

Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf

- Advanced medication reconciliation: a systematic review of the impact on medication errors and adverse drug events associated with transitions of care - [link](#)

Lancet

- Safety and efficacy of pioglitazone for the delay of cognitive impairment in people at risk of Alzheimer's disease (TOMMORROW): a prognostic biomarker study and a phase 3, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)
- Safety, efficacy, and tolerability of efgartigimod in patients with generalised myasthenia gravis (ADAPT): a multicentre, randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Hospital-treated infectious diseases and the risk of dementia: a large, multicohort, observational study with a replication cohort - [link](#)

EClinicalMedicine

- GLP-1 based therapies and disease course of inflammatory bowel disease – [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI)

- Diabetes and Frail Older Patients: Glycemic Control and Prescription Profile in Real Life - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- [Perspective](#): When will opioid agonist therapy become a normal part of comprehensive health care?
- Letter: Buprenorphine: extended-release formulations “a game changer”! - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

- Intravitreal ranibizumab versus aflibercept versus bevacizumab for macular oedema due to central retinal vein occlusion: the LEAVO non-inferiority three-arm RCT - [link](#)
- NIHR alert - Gabapentin does not reduce long-term pelvic pain and has unpleasant side effects - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Chemotherapy is harming the environment: it is time for regulators, manufacturers and pharmacy to take action - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 17 June 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- ATAGI statement on revised recommendations: use of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca for those aged 60 years and above, 17 June 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Australia: Epidemiology Report 42: Reporting period ending 23 May 2021 - [link](#)
- ATAGI: update following weekly COVID-19 meeting - [9 June 2021](#); Clinical guidance on use of COVID-19 vaccine in Australia in 2021 (updated 10/06/21) - [link](#)
- PHLN statement on using saliva as a respiratory specimen for SARS-CoV-2 testing - [link](#)
- COVID-19 guidelines for infection prevention and control in residential care facilities - [link](#)
- Guidance on the use of PPE for health care workers in the context of COVID-19 - [link](#)

- COVID-19 vaccination:
 - Shared decision making guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning pregnancy (updated 10/06/21) - [link](#)
 - AstraZeneca vaccine risk-benefit printable - [link](#)
- CDNA guidelines for the prevention, control & public health management of COVID-19 outbreaks in:
 - Correctional and detention facilities in Australia - [link](#)
 - Residential care facilities in Australia - [link](#)
 - Disability residential services - The Disability Supplement - [link](#)
- One page summary: Information about the Novavax vaccine for COVID-19 [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and updated recommendations as at [10/06/2021](#)
- Currently reviewing evidence to develop recommendations and flowcharts to guide practice in areas including: aspirin, aerosol generating procedures and behaviours, budesonide, corticosteroids, human umbilical cord mesenchymal stem cells, hydroxychloroquine plus azithromycin, ivermectin, immunoglobulin plus methylprednisolone, post-exposure hydroxychloroquine prophylaxis, proxalutimide, REGN-COV2, sofosbuvir-lepidasvir, sotrovimab, care of people with post-acute COVID-19.

NSW Health

- COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance in NSW - Epidemiological week 22, ending 5 June 2021 - [link](#)
- Statewide Protocol for the Supply or Administration of COVID-19 Vaccine ([PD2021_015](#))
- Authority to Supply Poisons and Restricted Substances – Registered nurses, midwives and authorised pharmacists - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- COVID-19 [Monitor](#) 17 June 2021
- Risk Monitoring [Dashboard](#) 17 June 2021
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 16 June 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 15 June 2021 - [link](#)
 - COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 15 June 2021 - [link](#)
 - Post-acute sequelae of COVID-19. Last updated 10 June 2021 - [link](#)

Thrombosis & Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand (THANZ)

- Suspected Vaccine-induced Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT, previously VIPIT): Blood test request form (updated 17 June) - [link](#)

TGA

- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report - 10-06-2021 – [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Update on SARS-CoV-2 nomenclature variants - [link](#)
- Update on WHO Interim recommendations on COVID-19 vaccination of pregnant and lactating women - [link](#)
- Young people and COVID-19: Behavioural considerations for promoting safe behaviours - [link](#)
- Joint Statement from ICMRA and WHO for healthcare professionals: How COVID-19 vaccines are regulated for safety and effectiveness (Revised 11 June 2021) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine tracker and landscape - [link](#)
- Annexes to the interim recommendations for use of [Janssen](#), [Moderna](#), [Pfizer](#) vaccines - [link](#)
- Statement for healthcare professionals: How COVID-19 vaccines are regulated for safety and effectiveness - [link](#)
- Updated recommendations for use of Pfizer–BioNTech, Moderna and Janssen vaccines against COVID-19 (15/06/21) - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- COVID-19 vaccines: update on ongoing evaluation of myocarditis and pericarditis - [link](#)

- Vaxzevria: EMA advises against use in people with history of capillary leak syndrome - [link](#)
- Conclusion of signal of sinus bradycardia with Veklury (remdesivir) - recommendation to add as an adverse reaction of unknown frequency to PIs - [link](#)

NZ

Medsafe

- Myocarditis – a potential adverse reaction to Comirnaty (Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine) - [link](#)

UK

- MHRA

- Updated Publication of Remdesivir guidance for patients hospitalised with Covid-19 (adults and children aged 12 years and older) - [link](#)

-Public Health England

- COVID-19 vaccine product information [posters](#)

-RECOVERY trial

- News: Regeneron's monoclonal antibody combination reduces deaths for hospitalised COVID-19 patients who have not mounted their own immune response - [link](#), pre-print article not yet available

-Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- British Transplantation Society guidance during COVID-19 - [link](#)

USA

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- COVID-19 Vaccines While Pregnant or Breastfeeding (updated 09/06/21) - [link](#)

- Selected Adverse Events Reported after COVID-19 Vaccination (updated 11/06/21) - [link](#)

-- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWRs):

- Emergency Department Visits for Suspected Suicide Attempts among Persons Aged 12–25 Years Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic - US, Jan 2019–May 2021 - [link](#)

- Genomic Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 Variants Circulating in the US, Dec 2020-May 2021 - [link](#)

- Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Administration of Selected Routine Childhood and Adolescent Vaccinations - 10 U.S. Jurisdictions, March–Sept 2020 - [link](#)

- Decreases in COVID-19 Cases, Emergency Department Visits, Hospital Admissions, and Deaths among Older Adults Following the Introduction of COVID-19 Vaccine, 6 Sept 2020-1 May 2021 - [link](#)

-FDA

- FDA extends expiration dating of Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

- Real-world risk evaluation of remdesivir in patients with an estimated glomerular filtration rate of less than 30 mL/min - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Safety and Immunogenicity of a Third Dose of SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients: A Case Series - [link](#)

- Severe Exacerbations of Systemic Capillary Leak Syndrome after COVID-19 Vaccination: A Case Series

Annals of Neurology

- Case reports: Guillain-Barré syndrome variant occurring after SARS-CoV-2 vaccination - [link](#)

- Case reports: Guillain-Barré syndrome following ChAdOx1-S/nCoV-19 vaccine - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Immunogenicity and safety of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine in adult patients with autoimmune inflammatory rheumatic diseases and in the general population: a multicentre [study](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- American College of Rheumatology Guidance for the management of pediatric rheumatic disease during the covid-19 pandemic: Version 2 - [link](#)

BMJ

- Public acceptance of COVID-19 vaccines: cross-national evidence on levels and individual-level predictors using observational data - [link](#)
- The UPTAKE study: a cross-sectional survey examining the insights and beliefs of the UK population on COVID-19 vaccine uptake and hesitancy - [link](#)
- Risk of hospital admission for patients with SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7: cohort analysis - [link](#)
- Best Practice:
 - Updated guides on COVID-19 (last updated 10/06/2021) - [link](#)
 - Management of coexisting conditions in the context of COVID-19 (last updated 10/06/2021) - [link](#)
 - Characterising the background incidence rates of adverse events of special interest for covid-19 vaccines in eight countries: multinational network cohort study - [link](#)

International Journal of Obesity

- Obesity and mortality in critically ill COVID-19 patients with respiratory failure - [link](#)

JAMA

- Trends in Venous Thromboembolism Anticoagulation in Patients Hospitalized with COVID-19 - [link](#), commentary [link](#)
- Incidence of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children among US Persons Infected with SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Immunogenicity of COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines in Pregnant and Lactating Women - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Research letter: Association of COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine with Ipsilateral Axillary Lymph Node Reactivity on Imaging - [link](#)

Journal of Critical Care

- Successful treatment of acute spleno-porto-mesenteric vein thrombosis after ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine. A case report - [link](#)

Lancet

- Letter: COVID-19 vaccine efficacy data: solid enough to delay second dose? - [link](#); authors' [reply](#)
- Letter: SARS-CoV-2 Delta VOC in Scotland: demographics, risk of hospital admission, and vaccine effectiveness - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia treated with immunoglobulin and argatroban - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Editorial: Should we vaccinate children against SARS-CoV-2? - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Discontinuation versus continuation of renin-angiotensin-system inhibitors in COVID-19 (ACEI-COVID): a prospective, parallel group, randomised, controlled, open-label trial - [link](#), commentary [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)

- Preprint: Australian New Zealand approach to diagnosis and management of vaccine induced immune thrombosis and thrombocytopenia - [link](#)

Nature Medicine

- Evidence for increased breakthrough rates of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern in BNT162b2-mRNA-vaccinated individuals - [link](#)
- Editorial: Embrace the WHO's new naming system for coronavirus variants - [link](#)
- First-dose ChAdOx1 and BNT162b2 COVID-19 vaccines and thrombocytopenic, thromboembolic and hemorrhagic events in Scotland – [link](#), commentary [link](#)
- Commentary: Anticoagulation in COVID-19: reaction to the ACTION trial - [link](#)
- Brief Communication: Community-level evidence for SARS-CoV-2 vaccine protection of unvaccinated individuals - [link](#)

MedRxiv pre-prints

- Safety, Immunogenicity, and Efficacy of a COVID-19 Vaccine (NVX-CoV2373) Co-administered With Seasonal Influenza Vaccines - [link](#)
- The 5-months impact of tozinameran (BNT162b2) mRNA vaccine on kidney transplant and chronic dialysis patients - [link](#)

Nature Microbiology

- Commentary: SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Interest and Concern naming scheme conducive for global discourse - [link](#)

NEJM

- Pathologic Antibodies to Platelet Factor 4 after ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Vaccination - [link](#)

PLOS ONE

- Screening for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR: Saliva or nasopharyngeal swab? Rapid review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Drug-drug interactions between treatment specific pharmacotherapy and concomitant medication in patients with COVID-19 in the first wave in Spain - [link](#)

The Journal of Antibiotics

- The mechanisms of action of Ivermectin against SARS-CoV-2: An evidence-based clinical review article - [link](#)

Vaccine

- Conference report: Evaluation of post-introduction COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness: Summary of interim guidance of the World Health Organization - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Chronic pain and brain injury – new patient resources - [link](#)
- NSW mechanical cardiopulmonary resuscitation (mCPR) clinical practice guide – adult patients - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards (second edition) updated May 2021 - [link](#)
- Implementation Guide for the Surveillance of Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Antenatal care during COVID-19, 2020 - [link](#)
- Stillbirths and neonatal deaths in Australia 2017–2018 - [link](#)

NPS Medicinewise

- New survey results shine a light on health literacy in Australia - [link](#); report [link](#)

TGA

- Communicating about COVID-19 vaccines: Updated [guidance](#) clarifying the interaction between TGA and AHPRA advertising guidelines. 16 June 2021
- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages (updated 15/06/2020)
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
-- [Deutetrabenazine](#) (Austedo) - for chorea associated with Huntington's disease; tardive dyskinesia in adults
-- [Esllicarbazepine acetate](#) (Zebinix) – monotherapy for partial-onset seizures, with or without secondary generalisation, in adults with newly diagnosed epilepsy; adjunctive therapy in adults, adolescents and children aged above 6 years, with partial- onset seizures with or without secondary generalisation.
-- [Risdiplam](#) (Evrysdi) - for 5q spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) in patients aged 2 months and older.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- Skyrizi ([risankizumab](#)) for moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in adults who are candidates for systemic therapy.

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- PRAC meeting [highlights](#): review of signal of increased risk of major cardiovascular events and cancer with Xeljanz concluded.

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Nivolumab for previously treated unresectable advanced or recurrent oesophageal cancer [\[TA707\]](#)
- NICE draft guidance does not recommend risdiplam (Evrysdi) for treating spinal muscular atrophy - [link](#)
- Final Appraisal documents:
 - Adalimumab, etanercept, infliximab, certolizumab pegol, golimumab, tocilizumab and abatacept for moderate rheumatoid arthritis after conventional DMARDs have failed (partial review of TA375) [ID2710] - [link](#)
 - Enzalutamide for treating hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate ID1605 - [link](#)
 - Nivolumab with ipilimumab for previously treated metastatic colorectal cancer with high microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficiency - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Ibrance ([palbociclib](#)) - Cutaneous lupus erythematosus added as uncommon potential adverse effect.
- [Entresto](#) (sacubitril/valsartan) - splitting or crushing of tablets is not recommended; increases in serum lithium reported during concomitant administration with lithium; psychiatric disorders including hallucinations, paranoia & sleep disorders added as rare ADRs.
- Indocid ([indomethacin](#)) Suppositories - concomitant indomethacin and vancomycin may have additive nephrotoxic effects in premature neonates being treated for patent ductus arteriosus.
- Norditropin ([somatropin](#)) - although rare, pancreatitis should be considered in somatropin-treated patients who develop abdominal pain especially in children; gynecomastia in adults and children included as an uncommon adverse effect.
- [Influvac sub-unit Tetra](#) and Tetra MYL (quadrivalent influenza vaccines) - new paediatric indication in children aged 6 – 35 months of age.
- Palexia ([tapentadol](#)) warns long-term maternal use of opioids during pregnancy may lead to newborn experiencing subsequent neonatal withdrawal syndrome which can be life-threatening if not recognized & treated; antidote should be readily available. It also notes lack of human data on fertility.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Recalls More Metformin Extended-Release Tablets Because of NDMA Levels - [link](#)

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP)

- Medication Safety Alert! [June 17, 2021](#)
- Identifying Color Additives in Regulated Drug [Products](#)
- How will PCA (patient-controlled analgesia) be administered to patients during an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging)?
- Unreadable expiration dates and barcodes
- “What happens if you give potassium chloride IV (intravenous) push?”

Joint Commission

- Quick Safety 59: Safe patient use of insulin pumps and CGM devices during hospitalization - [link](#)

NHS England

- Letter to women and girls taking sodium valproate - [link](#)

SIGN

- Managing suspected lower urinary tract infection (UTI) in adult women - [link](#)

TGA

- Medical Device Safety Update: TGA response to ACCC safety and information standards - Consumer goods with button batteries - [link](#)
- Novartis-Bio Somatropin Human Growth Hormone (HGH): Counterfeit Somatropin HGH vials pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Relationships between creatinine increase and mortality rates in patients given vancomycin in 76 hospitals: The increasing role of infectious disease pharmacists - [link](#)

Ann Pharmacother

- Impact of opioid administration in the intensive care unit and subsequent use in opioid-naïve patients - [link](#)

British Journal of Dermatology

- British Association of Dermatologists guidelines for biologic therapy for psoriasis 2020: a rapid update - [link](#)

British Journal of Pharmacology

- Insights into the mechanisms underlying opioid use disorder and potential treatment strategies - [link](#)
- Perspectives for therapy of treatment-resistant depression - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Clozapine-induced myocarditis: electronic health register analysis of incidence, timing, clinical markers and diagnostic accuracy - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Postoperative low molecular weight heparin bridging treatment for patients at high risk of arterial thromboembolism (PERIOP2): double blind randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

CHEST Journal - American College of Chest Physicians

- Effect of Ultrashort-Acting β -Blockers on Mortality in Patients with Sepsis with Persistent Tachycardia despite Initial Resuscitation. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Intravesical gemcitabine for non-muscle invasive bladder cancer - [link](#)
- Pre-emptive and preventive NSAIDs for postoperative pain in adults undergoing all types of surgery - [link](#)
- Medical abortion offered in pharmacy versus clinic-based settings - [link](#)
- Oral antibiotics for chronic blepharitis - [link](#)

EClinicalMedicine

- Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis in patients treated with immune checkpoint inhibitors: A safety analysis of clinical trials and FDA pharmacovigilance database - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Unexpected overdose of oral cyclosporine in a kidney transplant patient: a case report - [link](#)

Heart

- Sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors as a treatment for heart failure - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Psychiatric disorders of the combination of levetiracetam either with lacosamide or perampanel: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)

- Evaluation of rivaroxaban-, apixaban- and dabigatran-associated hemorrhagic events using the FDA-Adverse event reporting system (FAERS) database - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effects of Intravenous Eptinezumab vs Placebo on Headache Pain and Most Bothersome Symptom When Initiated During a Migraine Attack. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#) - [editorial](#)
- Acute Treatments for Episodic Migraine in Adults. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Association of Maternal Influenza Vaccination During Pregnancy With Early Childhood Health Outcomes - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Pharmacy and Therapeutics

- Efficacy and safety of interleukin-17 inhibitors in the treatment of chronic rheumatic diseases: A combined and updated meta-analysis - [link](#)

J Pharm Pract

- Effects of pharmacist-conducted medication reconciliation at discharge on 30-day readmission rates of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

- NIHR Signals
- Nurses and pharmacists are key to improving access to end of life medicines for people being cared for at home - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Trends in Diabetes Treatment and Control in U.S. Adults, 1999–2018 - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Impact of CYP3A5 Phenotype on Tacrolimus Time in Therapeutic Range and Clinical Outcomes in Pediatric Renal and Heart Transplant Recipients - [link](#)
- The Immunomodulatory Effects of Opioids and Implications for Intensive Care Unit Populations - [link](#)
- Risks and mitigation strategies to prevent etoposide infusion-related reactions in children - [link](#)
- Therapeutic review of cabotegravir/rilpivirine long-acting antiretroviral injectable and implementation considerations at an HIV specialty clinic - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Pyronaridine–artesunate real-world safety, tolerability, and effectiveness in malaria patients in 5 African countries: A single-arm, open-label, cohort event monitoring study - [link](#)
- Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, and serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors for anxiety, obsessive-compulsive, and stress disorders: A 3-level network meta-analysis - [link](#)

Res Social Adm Pharm

- Medicine self-administration errors in the older adult population: a systematic review - [link](#)

Stroke

- Twelve-Month Outcomes of the AFFINITY Trial of Fluoxetine for Functional Recovery after Acute Stroke: AFFINITY Trial Steering Committee on Behalf of the AFFINITY Trial Collaboration - [link](#)

Thrombosis and Haemostasis

- Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor Sunitinib Delays Platelet-Induced Coagulation: Additive Effects of Aspirin - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 10 June 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- ATAGI update following weekly COVID-19 meeting – [2 June 2021](#)
- Information for Immunisation Providers on Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) following COVID-19 vaccination (updated 3/6/21) - [link](#)
- ATAGI clinical guidance on COVID-19 vaccine in Australia in 2021 (updated 03/06/21) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Australia: Epidemiology Report 41. Reporting period ending 9 May 2021 - [link](#)
- Provider guide to COVID-19 vaccination of people with immunocompromised (updated 3/6/21) - [link](#)
- Guidance for in-home and community aged care providers on reporting of COVID-19 vaccinations of the workforce - [link](#)
- [Guidance](#) for residential aged care providers on reporting of COVID-19 vaccinations of the workforce
- Updated ATAGI advice on administering seasonal influenza vaccines in 2021 (timing of administering influenza vaccines and COVID-19 vaccines now 7 days - [link](#)
- Joint [statement](#) between RANZCOG and ATAGI about COVID-19 vaccination for pregnant women

AIHW

- Hospital activity low during early months of COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM)

- Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome following COVID-19 vaccination. Assessment of patients presenting to the Emergency Department with TTS symptoms - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and updated recommendations as at [03/06/2021](#)
- New: Sarilumab upgraded to a conditional recommendation; Colchicine changes to Do Not Use; Angiotensin 2 receptor agonist (C21) and Camostat mesilate added to list of 'only in clinical trials'
- Updated: Hydroxychloroquine

NSW Health

- COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance in NSW - Epidemiological week 21, ending 29/05/21 – [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard: Healthcare settings. Updated 9 June 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Monitor: COVID-19 vaccines, cases and variants. Updated 10 June 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 9 June 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 8 June 2021 - [link](#)
 - COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 8 June 2021 - [link](#)
 - Post-acute sequelae of COVID-19. Last updated 8 June 2021 - [link](#)

TGA

- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report - 03-06-2021 - [link](#)
- New regulatory arrangements support businesses and health professionals to communicate and incentivise COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)
- Communicating about COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Misleading radio messages about COVID-19 vaccine safety - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19: [8 June 2021](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine tracker and landscape - [link](#)
- How to manage COVID-19 vaccines without VVM at vaccination service points? - [link](#)
- Interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine, CoronaVac, developed by Sinovac - [link](#), related annexes [link](#); background document [link](#)
- Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Science in 5: Vaccines, pregnancy, menstruation, lactation and fertility - [link](#)
- COVID-19 strategic preparedness and response plan: monitoring and evaluation [framework](#), 11/5/21

Europe

EMA

- EMA raises awareness of clinical care recommendations to manage suspected thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome - [link](#)

- EU regulators develop recommendations to forecast demand of medicines - [link](#)
- Reflection paper on forecasting demand for medicinal products in the EU/EEA - [link](#)
- Vaxzevria/COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca: Risk of thrombosis in combination with thrombocytopenia - Updated information (02/06/21) - [link](#)
- Evaluating the use of COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna in young people aged 12 to 17 - [link](#)

UK

- GOV.UK
- [Guidance](#): COVID-19 vaccination: blood clotting information for healthcare professionals updated
- MHRA
- The MHRA concludes positive safety profile for Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine in 12- to 15-year-olds – [link](#)
- NICE
- COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19 updated to recommend not using azithromycin - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Answers to Medicines Optimisation questions common to all COVID-19 vaccines: Using COVID-19 vaccines during hot weather - [link](#)
- British Transplantation Society guidance during COVID-19 (open-access) - [link](#)

USA

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- MMWR and Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR):
- Hospitalization of Adolescents Aged 12-17 Years with Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Severity and COVID-19 Associated Deaths among Hospitalized Patients with HIV Infection - [link](#)
- Excess Death Estimates in Patients with End-Stage Renal Disease - [link](#)
- Patterns in COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage, by Social Vulnerability and Urbanicity - [link](#)
- FDA
- Reissued letter of Authorization for REGEN-COV (Casirivimab and Imdevimab) treatment for COVID-19: authorising a dosage change from casirivimab 1200 mg/imdevimab 1200 mg to casirivimab 600 mg/imdevimab 600 mg - [link](#)
- These updates are also included in Fact Sheet for [Health Care Providers](#), Fact Sheet for [Patients, Parents, and Caregivers](#), [FAQ](#) on the Emergency Use Authorization of REGEN-COV (Casirivimab and Imdevimab) and Dear Healthcare Provider [Letter](#).
- The Joint Commission
- COVID-19 Q&A Webinar for Behavioral Health Care – [link](#); extra Q&A slides [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Perinatology

- Neonates Born to COVID-19 Mother and Risk in Management within 4 Weeks of Life: A Single-Center Experience, Systematic Review, and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- The “Black Fungus” in India: The Emerging Syndemic of COVID-19–Associated Mucormycosis - [link](#)

Australian Journal of General Practice

- Immunising older Australians: Pre-COVID-19 vaccine perspectives from GP training - [link](#)

BMJ

- BMJ Best Practice updates COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Clinical Updates: Virtual and in-person cardiac rehabilitation - [link](#)
- Practice Pointer: Mask related acne (“maskne”) and other facial dermatoses - [link](#)

BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine

- Characteristics, quality and volume of the first 5 months of the COVID-19 evidence synthesis infodemic: a meta-research study - [link](#)

BMJ Simulation & Technology enhances Learning

- Systematic literature search, review & dissemination methodology for the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Cardiovascular drugs & COVID-19 clinical outcomes: living systematic review & meta-analysis - [link](#)

Communications Biology

- SARS-CoV-2 proteins and anti-COVID-19 drugs induce lytic reactivation of an oncogenic virus - [link](#)

Eur J Hosp Pharm

- Letter: Benefit versus toxicity risk of digoxin in patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

Inflammation Research

- Acute reduction of visual acuity and visual field after Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine 2nd dose: a case report - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Bamlanivimab vs Placebo on Incidence of COVID-19 among Residents and Staff of Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living Facilities. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#), commentary [link](#)
- Underlying Medical Conditions Associated With Severe COVID-19 Illness Among Children - [link](#), associated [commentary](#)

Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry

- Neurology and neuropsychiatry of COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis of the early literature reveals frequent CNS manifestations and key emerging narratives - [link](#)

Lancet

- Therapeutic versus prophylactic anticoagulation for patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 and elevated D-dimer concentration (ACTION): open-label, multicentre, randomised, controlled trial - [link](#)
- Neutralising antibody activity against SARS-CoV-2 VOCs B.1.617.2 and B.1.351 by BNT162b2 vaccination - [link](#)
- Co-infections, secondary infections, and antimicrobial use in patients hospitalised with COVID-19 during the first pandemic wave from the ISARIC WHO CCP-UK study: a multicentre, prospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Clinical picture article: Portal vein thrombosis associated with ChAdOx1 nCov-19 vaccination - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Education: COVID-19 swab-related skull base injury - [link](#)
- MJA Podcast Episode 21: Brace for major COVID-19 outbreak, with Prof Nick Talley - [link](#)
- Trajectories of depression and anxiety symptoms during the COVID-19 pandemic in a representative Australian adult cohort - [link](#) - [editorial](#)

medRxiv

- Serial intervals observed in SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 variant cases - [link](#)
- Aspirin in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 (RECOVERY): a randomised, controlled, open-label, platform [trial](#) (finding that aspirin does not improve survival for these patients)

Nature

- Nasal delivery of an IgM offers broad protection from SARS-CoV-2 variants - [link](#)
- Effects of potent neutralizing antibodies from convalescent plasma in patients hospitalized for severe SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)
- Podcast: Uncertainty and the COVID 'lab-leak' theory - [link](#)
- News feature: Six months of COVID vaccines: what 1.7 billion doses have taught scientists - [link](#)

Nature Communications

- SARS-CoV-2 RNAemia and proteomic trajectories inform prognostication in COVID-19 patients admitted to intensive care - [link](#)

Nature Reviews Endocrinology

- Commentary: The emerging osteo-metabolic phenotype of COVID-19: clinical and pathophysiological aspects - [link](#)

NEJM

- Editorial: SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine–Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia - [link](#)
- [Perspective](#): Identifying and Tracking SARS-CoV-2 Variants — A Challenge and an Opportunity
- Letter: Delayed Large Local Reactions to mRNA Covid-19 Vaccines in Blacks, Indigenous Persons, and People of Color - [link](#)
- Safety and Efficacy of Single-Dose Ad26.COVS Vaccine against Covid-19 - [link](#)
- Adjunct Immune Globulin for Vaccine-Induced Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Case Report: Symptomatic Acute Myocarditis in Seven Adolescents Following Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccination - [link](#)

Postgraduate Medical Journal

- Association between IL-6 and severe disease and mortality in COVID-19 disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Chronic liver disease not a significant comorbid condition for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Modeling of aerosol transmission of airborne pathogens in ICU rooms of COVID-19 patients with acute respiratory failure - [link](#)
- Association between D-dimer level and chest CT severity score in patients with SARS-COV-2 pneumonia - [link](#)

The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal

- Transient Cardiac Injury in Adolescents Receiving the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)

Vaccines

- Efficacy and Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Department of Health

- CTG script changes starting 1 July [*Note that hospital prescribers are now able to prescribe CTG prescriptions but they need to be dispensed at a community pharmacy; public hospital pharmacies are still not able to dispense CTG PBS prescriptions*]. Resources available: [Fact Sheet 1 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#); [Fact Sheet 2 – Community Pharmacies](#); [Fact Sheet 3 – Hospital Pharmacies](#); [Fact Sheet 4 – Prescribers, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners & Peak Bodies](#); [Frequently Asked Questions for all stakeholder groups](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Cancer data in Australia - [link](#)
- My Hospitals: Admitted patient care 2019-20 (updated) - [link](#)
- Interfaces between aged care & health systems in Australia—where do older Australians die? - [link](#)

Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) NSW

- Monthly Medication Safety Update May 2021 - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Policy Directive: Smoking Cessation Brief Intervention in Oral Health Settings ([PD2021_016](#))

PBS

- Post-market review of medicines for smoking cessation - [link](#)

TGA

- Changes to the Medicine Shortage Reporting system - [link](#)

- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - [Esllicarbazepine acetate](#) (Zebinix®) indicated as monotherapy in treatment of partial-onset seizures, with or without secondary generalisation, in adults with newly diagnosed epilepsy; adjunctive therapy in adults, adolescents and children aged above 6 years, with partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalisation.
 - [Deutetrabenazine](#) (Austedo®) indicated for treatment of: chorea associated with Huntington's disease; tardive dyskinesia in adults

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- First Dose of Antibiotics Administered Using Intravenous Push Versus Intravenous Mini Bag Systems - [link](#)
- Monitoring Patients with Psychotic Disorders for Clozapine-Induced Myocarditis or Cardiomyopathy – [link](#)
- Switching From Reference to Biosimilar Filgrastim in Pediatric Patients – [link](#)
- Abiraterone Acetate for Metastatic Castration-Sensitive Prostate Cancer - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- Evrysdi ([risdiplam](#)) for the treatment of 5q spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) in patients 2 months of age and older
- Alymsys ([bevacizumab](#)), biosimilar medicinal product licensed for treatment of carcinoma of colon or rectum, breast, non-small cell lung, renal cell, epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer, and carcinoma of cervix
- COVID-19 Vaccine [Janssen](#) suspension for injection

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- EU regulators develop recommendations to forecast demand of medicines - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA In Brief: FDA provides new guidance to further enhance the security of prescription drugs in the U.S. supply chain - [link](#)
- FDA's decision to approve new treatment for Alzheimer's Disease - [link](#) - Aduhelm ([aducanumab](#)) – [label/PI](#)
- FDA approves therapy for pediatric patients with serious rare blood disease, Ultomiris (ravulizumab-cwvz) - [link](#)
- FDA approves drug to treat smallpox, Tembexa (brincidofovir) - [link](#)
- FDA approves first treatment for patients with plasminogen deficiency, a rare genetic disorder, Ryplazim (plasminogen, human-tvmh) - [link](#)
- FDA approves new drug treatment for chronic weight management, first since 2014, Wegovy (semaglutide) - [link](#)
- Secukinumab, IL-17 Inhibitor, approved for pediatric psoriasis - [link](#)
- New Drug approvals
 - [ibrexafungerp](#) (Brexafemme) for vulvovaginal candidiasis in adult females and pediatric females who have begun menstruating.
 - olanzapine/samidorphan ([Lybalvi](#)) for schizophrenia in adults and certain aspects of bipolar I disorder in adults

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Ciplaglusidase alfa with miglustat in the treatment of late-onset Pompe disease - [link](#)

NHS Scotland

- Following accepted for use:
 - 5-aminolevulinic acid ([Alacare](#)) for treatment of mild actinic keratoses lesions – [link](#)
 - Baricitinib ([Olumiant](#)) accepted for restricted use within NHS Scotland for moderate to severe atopic dermatitis
 - Mogamulizumab ([Poteligeo](#)) for treatment of mycosis fungoides or Sézary syndrome
 - Nintedanib ([Ofev](#)) for treatment of chronic fibrosing interstitial lung diseases

- Trifluridine/tipiracil ([Lonsurf](#)) for treatment of metastatic gastric cancer
- Vigabatrin ([Kigabeg](#)) for treatment of infantile spasms and resistant partial epilepsy

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Atezolizumab monotherapy for untreated advanced non-small-cell lung cancer [[TA705](#)]
- Ozanimod for treating relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis [[TA706](#)]

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Summary of biopharmaceutical stability data reviewed and available extended shelf-life data V3 - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (GLASS) Report: 2021 - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Ibrance ([palbociclib](#)) - cutaneous lupus erythematosus added as potential ADR (frequency uncommon)
- Dailiport and Adoport ([tacrolimus](#)) warns co-administration with metamizole, an inducer of metabolising enzymes including CYP2B6 and CYP3A4, may reduce tacrolimus plasma levels and potentially clinical efficacy
- Zydol ([tramadol](#)) XL - adrenal insufficiency (AI) section amended to advise that opioid analgesics may occasionally cause reversible AI requiring monitoring and glucocorticoid replacement therapy
- [Extavia](#) (recombinant interferon beta-1b) - cases of thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA), manifested as thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura or haemolytic uraemic syndrome (including fatal cases), and cases of haemolytic anaemia not associated with TMA, reported with interferon beta products
- Kisplyx ([lenvatinib](#)) updated to note in patients with renal cell carcinoma, the pharmacokinetics of everolimus not significantly affected by concomitant lenvatinib.
- [Pfizer](#) BNT162b2 RNA COVID-19 Vaccine to cover use in younger age group of 12 years upwards
- Venclyxto ([venetoclax](#)) to cover use in combination with a hypomethylating agent for adult patients with newly diagnosed acute myeloid who are ineligible for intensive chemotherapy. [Updated recommendations](#) on tumour lysis syndrome (TLS) in CLL patients - Fatal cases of TLS observed even in patients receiving the lowest titrated dose

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Drug Safety [Podcast](#): Due to risk of serious liver injury, FDA restricts use of obeticholic acid (Ocaliva) in primary biliary cholangitis (PBC) patients with advanced cirrhosis

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Labelling update regarding the use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) beyond 20 weeks of pregnancy and risk of kidney damage to unborn babies - [link](#)
- Summary Safety Review - Dopamine agonists (apomorphine-, bromocriptine-, cabergoline-, pergolide-, pramipexole-, quinagolide-, ropinirole-, rotigotine-containing products) - [link](#)

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA

- Acute Care Medication Safety Alert! [June 3, 2021](#)
- Administration of Concentrated Potassium Chloride for Injection during a Code: Still Deadly! – [link](#)
- ADRENALIN (EPINEPHrine) vials look similar to COVID-19 vaccine vials
- Proper interpretation of expiration date format
- Confusing labeling on a two-dose blister

Joint Commission

- Safe patient use of insulin pumps and CGM devices during hospitalization - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Guidance: Trichloroethylene: health effects, incident management and toxicology - [link](#)

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Prescriber Update [June 2021](#) includes:
 - Colchicine: painful insights from recent poisoning data in New Zealand
 - Medicines monitoring: Pregabalin and the possible risk of bullous dermatitis and exfoliating skin reaction
 - Small increased risk of postpartum haemorrhage with use of serotonergic antidepressants close to delivery
 - The paradox of opioid-induced hyperalgesia

MIMS, UK

- First NovoRapid insulin biosimilar launched, insulin aspart ([Trurapi](#))

NSW Health

- Safety Notice 012/21: Enoxaparin (Clexane®) 20 mg and 40 mg syringes – Disruption to supply - [link](#)

PDL

- Dispensing errors arising with:
 - semaglutide (Ozempic) pens delivering 0.25 mg (initiation phase, weekly for 4 weeks) and 0.5 mg (maintenance phase)
 - atropine 1% eyedrops for low-strength atropine eyedrops to correct myopia (near sightedness) in children and teenagers (which needs compounding)
 - combination products eg statins/ezetimibe, perindopril/amlodipine and oxycodone/naloxone
 - mg/mL mixtures prescribed in milligrams instead of millilitres eg methadone 5mg /mL, various strengths of morphine liquid and prednisolone mixture 5 mg/mL

TGA

- Ospolot (sulthiame) tablets 200 mg. Product Defect Alert –child-resistant caps may not function correctly - [link](#)
- Zostavax vaccine: Safety measures to address risk of infection with the vaccine virus - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Provider work life, comprehensive medication management, and the quadruple aim - [link](#)
- Transition from IV epoprostenol to oral treprostinil in a patient with group 1 pulmonary arterial hypertension - [link](#)
- Bayesian-estimated vancomycin area under the curve using a single trough concentration vs 2 concentrations - [link](#)
- Optimization of critical care pharmacy clinical services: A gap analysis approach – [link](#)
- Antiplatelet therapy with or without anticoagulant therapy for lower extremity peripheral artery disease: A systematic review - [link](#)
- Reassessing predialysis goals for serious methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus infections - [link](#)
- Managing infliximab infusions after a drug holiday - [link](#)

Arthritis and Rheumatology

- Effect of Serum Urate Lowering with Allopurinol on Blood Pressure in Young Adults: A Randomized, Controlled, Crossover Trial - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Letter: Vitamin B12 inactivation may not be the only cause of acquired peripheral neuropathy in chronic nitrous oxide users - [link](#)
- Corticosteroid use, myocardial injury and in-hospital cardiovascular events in patients with community-acquired pneumonia - [link](#)
- Evaluation of safety and pharmacokinetics of bismuth-containing quadruple therapy with either vonoprazan or lansoprazole for Helicobacter pylori eradication - [link](#)
- Comparison of effectiveness and safety between ticagrelor and clopidogrel in patients with acute coronary syndrome and on dialysis in Taiwan - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Nortriptyline for pain in knee osteoarthritis: a double-blind randomised controlled trial in New Zealand general practice - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Effect of dexamethasone on complications or all-cause mortality after major non-cardiac surgery: multicentre, double blind, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

BMJ Family Medicine and Community Health

- Do statins reduce mortality in older people? Findings from a longitudinal study using primary care records - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Understanding decisions about antibiotic prescribing in ICU: an application of the Necessity Concerns Framework - [link](#)

Canadian Journal of Health Technologies

- Models of Care for Chronic Pain - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Slow versus fast subcutaneous heparin injections for prevention of bruising & site pain intensity - [link](#)

- Anthelmintics for people with neurocysticercosis - [link](#)

- Methods for managing miscarriage: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)

EClinical Medicine

- SGLT2 inhibitors decrease cardiovascular death and heart failure hospitalizations in patients with heart failure: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Morphine and fentanyl exposure during therapeutic hypothermia does not impair neurodevelopment - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- The effect of intravenous ferric carboxymaltose on health-related quality of life in iron-deficient patients with acute heart failure: the results of the AFFIRM-AHF study - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Tezacaftor-ivacaftor use in routine care of adults with cystic fibrosis: a medicine use evaluation - [link](#)

- Clinical frailty and polypharmacy in older emergency critical care patients: a single-centre retrospective case series - [link](#)

- Lower risk of stroke after alcohol abstinence in patients with incident atrial fibrillation: a nationwide population-based cohort study - [link](#)

Health Expectations

- Developing & user testing new pharmacy label formats—A study to inform labelling standards - [link](#)

Heart

- Effectiveness of angiotensin-neprilysin inhibitor treatment versus renin-angiotensin system blockade in older adults with heart failure in clinical care - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Long term safety and efficacy of sub-lingual ketamine troches / lozenges in chronic non-malignant pain management - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Comparison of opioid prescribing upon hospital discharge in patients receiving tapentadol versus oxycodone following orthopaedic surgery - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Safety Concerns With Glass Particle Contamination: Improving the Standard Guidelines for Preparing Medication Injections - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Reduced-Dose vs High-Dose Glucocorticoids Added to Rituximab on Remission Induction in ANCA-Associated Vasculitis. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Effect of the Million Hearts Cardiovascular Disease Risk Reduction Model on Initiating and Intensifying Medications. A Prespecified Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Editorial: Association of Fetal Exposure to Newer Antiseizure Medications with Neurodevelopment A Step Toward a Better Understanding - [link](#)
- Two-Year-Old Cognitive Outcomes in Children of Pregnant Women with Epilepsy in the Maternal Outcomes and Neurodevelopmental Effects of Antiepileptic Drugs Study - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Updates to the Pediatrics Asthma Management Guidelines - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Association of Opioid Agonist Treatment with All-Cause Mortality and Specific Causes of Death Among People With Opioid Dependence. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Randomized Phase III Postoperative Trial of Platinum-Based Chemotherapy Versus Capecitabine in Patients with Residual Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Following Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy: ECOG-ACRIN EA1131 - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Effect of pharmacist education and intervention on ketorolac prescribing in an emergency department - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Daratumumab plus pomalidomide and dexamethasone versus pomalidomide and dexamethasone alone in previously treated multiple myeloma (APOLLO): open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Lancet Public Health

- Viewpoint: HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis: scaling up for impact now and in the future - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Adjuvant Olaparib for Patients with BRCA1- or BRCA2-Mutated Breast Cancer - [link](#)
- Special article: Trends in Diabetes Treatment and Control in U.S. Adults, 1999–2018 – [link](#)
- Review article: Recent Advances in the Treatment of Melanoma - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Outcomes of Adult Patients in the Intensive Care Unit with Pseudomonas aeruginosa Pneumonia Who Received an Active Anti-Pseudomonal β -Lactam: Does “S” Equal Success in the Presence of Resistance to other Anti-Pseudomonal β -Lactams? - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 2 June 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- COVID-19 vaccination – Vaccine dose policy (updated 30/5/21) - [link](#)
- ATAGI update following weekly COVID-19 meeting. 26 May 2021 - [link](#)

AHHA

- Deeble Institute Issues Brief No. 40: Managing the long term health consequences of COVID-19 in Australia - [link](#)

NSW Health

- COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance in NSW - Epidemiological week 20, ending 22/5/21 - [link](#)
- Management of COVID-19 Pfizer (Comirnaty™) vaccine from freezer to refrigerator (updated 25/5/21) - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard – Healthcare settings. Updated 26 May 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Monitor: COVID-19 vaccines, cases and variants. Updated 27 May 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
-- COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 31 May 2021 - [link](#)
-- SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 31 May 2021 - [link](#)
-- COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 31 May 2021 - [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- Influenza vaccines and COVID-19 - [link](#)

TGA

- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report - 27-05-2021 - [link](#)
- Advertising COVID-19 vaccines to the Australian public - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

FIP

- [Webinar](#): Drugs to tackle a pandemic – something old and something new (two case studies: the repurposing of remdesivir and the development of an mRNA-based vaccine) 3 June 2021, 9pm AEDT

OECD

- [OECD initiative](#) for safe international mobility during the COVID-19 pandemic (including blueprint)

WHO

- Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 25 May 2021 - [link](#)
- Interim guidance: Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Scientific Brief: Technical note on delayed shipments for the ChAdOx1-S [recombinant] vaccines: what are the implications for the administration of second doses? - [Link](#)
- Operational guide for engaging communities in contact tracing - [link](#)
- Science in 5: Transmission indoors and outdoors - [link](#)
- WHO COVID-19 prison surveillance protocol: monitoring and reporting COVID-19 in prisons and other places of detention - [link](#)
- WHO announces simple, easy-to-say labels for SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Interest and Concern (labelled using letters of the Greek Alphabet, i.e., Alpha, Beta, Gamma, which will be easier and more practical to discussed by non-scientific audiences) - [link](#) (BBC news [article](#))
- COVID-19 situation [dashboard](#)
- New COVID-19 courses including new language translations - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- Insufficient data on use of inhaled corticosteroids to treat COVID-19 - [link](#)
- First COVID-19 vaccine approved for children aged 12 to 15 in EU - [link](#)
- Reply to open letter from 'Doctors for COVID ethics' concerning COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

UK

-MHRA

-- One-dose Janssen COVID-19 vaccine approved by the MHRA - [link](#)
-- Decision documents: Regulatory approval of COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen - [link](#)

-NICE

-- COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19 [[NG191](#)] updated for remdesivir and colchicine
-Public Health England

- Vaccines highly effective against B.1.617.2 variant after 2 doses - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Dosing information for COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)
- Information and guidance specific to COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen - [link](#)
- UK Chemotherapy Board
- Clinician FAQs and guidance on COVID-19 vaccine for patients receiving systemic anti-cancer therapy (SACT). Version 4.0 - [link](#)

USA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: FDA Authorizes Sotrovimab for Treatment of COVID-19; reply re: Pfizer Storage Temps
- AHRQ
- Safety of Vaccines Used for Routine Immunization in the United States: An Update - [link](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Science Brief: COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination (last updated 27/5/21) - [link](#)
- Selected Adverse Events Reported after COVID-19 Vaccination (updated 27/5/21) - [link](#)
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: COVID-19 Vaccine Breakthrough Infections Reported to CDC - [link](#)
- FDA
- FDA Authorizes Additional Monoclonal Antibody (sotrovimab) for Treatment of COVID-19 - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

- Lessons from the mismanagement of the COVID-19 pandemic: A blueprint to reform CDC - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Methotrexate hampers immunogenicity to BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine in immune-mediated inflammatory disease - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- COVID-19 Outcomes in Patients with Systemic Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases Compared to the General Population: A US Multicenter, Comparative Cohort Study - [link](#)

British Journal of Anaesthesia

- Perioperative risk evaluation in patients scheduled for elective surgery in close relation to their SARS-CoV-2 vaccination - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Regional lymphadenopathy following COVID-19 vaccination: considerations for primary care management - [link](#)

Cellular & Molecular Immunology

- Cross-reactive antibody immunity against SARS-CoV-2 in children and adults - [link](#)

Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology

- Early Humoral Responses of Hemodialysis Patients after COVID-19 Vaccination with BNT162b2 - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Clinical Question: What are the effects of convalescent plasma for people with moderate to severe COVID-19? - [link](#)

Diabetic Medicine

- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions on psychosocial and behavioural outcomes among Australian adults with type 2 diabetes: findings from the PREDICT cohort [study](#)

EClinical Medicine

- Characteristics and predictors of acute and chronic post-COVID syndrome: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal

- Multiplex Real-Time Reverse Transcription PCR for Influenza A Virus, Influenza B Virus, and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 - [link](#)

Infectious Diseases

- Remdesivir for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): a systematic review with meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

International Journal of Obesity

- Are adipokines the missing link between obesity, immune response, and outcomes in severe COVID-19? - [link](#)

International Journal of Rheumatic Diseases

- Recommendations for COVID-19 vaccination in people with rheumatic disease: Developed by the Singapore Chapter of Rheumatologists - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- COVID-19 vaccination in haematology patients: an Australian and New Zealand consensus position statement - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of 2 Inactivated SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines on Symptomatic COVID-19 Infection in Adults: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

- Evaluation of Seropositivity Following BNT162b2 Messenger RNA Vaccination for SARS-CoV-2 in Patients Undergoing Treatment for Cancer - [link](#); commentary [link](#)

- Association of Tracheostomy with Outcomes in Patients with COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 Transmission among Health Care Professionals. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Letter: Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 Reinfection 1 Year after Primary Infection in a Population in Lombardy, Italy - [link](#); commentary [link](#)

- Prevalence of Clinical and Subclinical Myocarditis in Competitive Athletes with Recent SARS-CoV-2 Infection. Results from the Big Ten COVID-19 Cardiac Registry - [link](#); commentary [here](#)

Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism

- Three Cases of Subacute Thyroiditis Following SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine: Post-vaccination ASIA Syndrome - [link](#)

Journal of Thrombosis and Thrombolysis

- Incidence of thrombotic complications in COVID-19 - [link](#)

Lancet

- Laboratory trends, hyperinflammation, and clinical outcomes for patients with a systemic rheumatic disease admitted to hospital for COVID-19: a retrospective, comparative cohort study - [link](#)

- Colchicine for community-treated patients with COVID-19 (COLCORONA): a phase 3, randomised, double-blinded, adaptive, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial - [link](#)

- Evaluation of SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibody reactivity in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: analysis of a multi-racial and multi-ethnic cohort - [link](#); commentary - [link](#)

- COVID-19-associated Aspergillus tracheobronchitis: the interplay between viral tropism, host defence, and fungal invasion - [link](#)

Medicine

- Corticosteroid therapy for COVID-19 - A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

Nature Communications

- Immune response to SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern in vaccinated individuals - [link](#)

Nature Metabolism

- Acute and long-term disruption of glycometabolic control after SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)

NEJM

- Safety, Immunogenicity, and Efficacy of the BNT162b2 Covid-19 Vaccine in Adolescents - [link](#)
- Perspective: Incentives for Immunity - Strategies for Increasing Covid-19 Vaccine Uptake - [link](#)

PLOS ONE

- DPP-4 inhibitors may improve the mortality of coronavirus disease 2019: A meta-analysis - [link](#)

Prescrire International Issue 227, [June 2021](#) includes:

- Waste in covid-19 clinical trials - [link](#)
- Covid-19 drugs and vaccines: big money and winning alliances - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Evolution of disease transmission during the COVID-19 pandemic: patterns and determinants - [link](#)
- The efficacy and safety of favipiravir in treatment of COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis of clinical trials - [link](#)
- Prophylactic heparin and risk of orotracheal intubation or death in patients with mild or moderate COVID-19 pneumonia - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

AHHA

- Deeble Issues Brief No. 41: Transforming the health system for sustainability: Environmental leadership through a value-based health care strategy - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Should I take antibiotics? Antibiotic use patient decision aids - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Stolen Generations aged 50 and over: updated analyses for 2018–19 - [link](#)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific primary health care: results from the nKPI and OSR collections - [link](#)
- Youth justice in Australia 2019-20 report - [link](#), snapshot - [link](#)
- Specialist Homelessness Services: monthly data - [link](#)

PBS

- Post-market Review of Opiate Dependence Treatment Program (ODTP) Medicines - [link](#)
- Medicine Status Website (new) - enables consumers to search for and monitor the status of medicines as they progress through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listing process - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Care Quality Commission

- New strategy for the changing world of health and social care: Our strategy from 2021 - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- [Alexi](#) (fosfomicin trometamol) for acute, uncomplicated cystitis in women and female adolescents and as perioperative antibiotic prophylaxis for transrectal prostate biopsy in adult men

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Grants accelerated approval to [infigratinib](#) (Truseltiq) for metastatic cholangiocarcinoma - [link](#)
- Grants accelerated approval to [sotorasib](#) (Lumakras) for KRAS G12C mutated NSCLC - [link](#) - [link](#)
- New Drug approvals
- piflufolastat F 18 ([Pylarify](#)) injection for prostate-specific membrane antigen-positive lesions in men with prostate cancer

- relugolix/estradiol/norethindrone ([Myfembree](#)) - new fixed-drug combination approved for menstrual bleeding associated with uterine fibroids
- [rimegepant](#) (Nurtec) expanded indication to include migraine prevention - [link](#)
- [ozanimod](#) (Zeposia) for ulcerative colitis

Health Canada

- Health Product InfoWatch, [May 2021](#) includes:
- Review article: Systemic corticosteroids (including dexamethasone) and pheochromocytoma crisis when administered to patients with identified, suspected or unsuspected pheochromocytoma

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Heavy menstrual bleeding: assessment and management, updated [[NG88](#)]

NHS England

- National Stroke Service Model: Integrated Stroke Delivery Networks - [link](#)

Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK

- 'Risk reduction and management of delirium' Decision Support Tool - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Service

- Using kelp in patients on levothyroxine or with thyroid disorders - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Free Online Course: Climate Change Negotiations and Health - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Lynparza ([olaparib](#)) now includes myelodysplastic syndrome and acute myeloid leukaemia as uncommon adverse effects and dyspepsia as rare ADR.
- Tecentriq ([atezolizumab](#)) extension for use as first line monotherapy for metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) whose tumours have a PD-L1 expression $\geq 50\%$ tumour cells or $\geq 10\%$ tumour-infiltrating immune cells and who do not have EGFR+ve or ALK+ve NSCLC.
- Eliquis ([apixaban](#)) - patients with active cancer can be at high risk of both VTE and bleeding events, and when apixaban is considered for DVT or PE treatment, carefully assess benefits against the risk of harm should be made.
- Epistatus ([midazolam](#)) - angioedema added as adverse effect (unknown frequency).
- [Kaftrio](#) (ivacaftor, tezacaftor, elexacaftor) now licensed for the treatment of CF in all patients aged ≥ 12 years, who have ≥ 1 F508del mutation in CFTR gene.
- Neurontin ([gabapentin](#)) warns of risk of fatal respiratory depression with concomitant administration with opioid-containing drugs and other CNS depressants.
- Buteac ([buprenorphine](#)) transdermal patch-all strengths - potential skin reactions and hot water bottles added to list of heat sources recommended to avoid.
- Constella ([linaclotide](#)) - intestinal perforation reported after linaclotide use in patients with conditions that may be linked to localised/diffuse intestinal wall weakness
- Educational Risk Minimisation Materials:
- [Waylivra](#) (volanesorsen sodium) very commonly linked to reductions in platelet count in patients with familial chylomicronemia syndrome, which may result in thrombocytopenia.

Clinical Excellence Commission

- Information for Clinicians - Alternatives to enoxaparin (Clexane) 20 mg and 40 mg syringes during disruption to supply - [link](#)
- Medication Safety Communication: Ketorolac 10 mg/1 mL injection (disruption to supply, precaution re alternative 30 mg/1 mL strength of ketorolac) - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Due to risk of serious liver injury, FDA restricts use of Ocaliva in primary biliary cholangitis (PBC) patients with advanced cirrhosis - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Summary Safety Review - Pomalyst (pomalidomide) and Thalomid (thalidomide) - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Safe use of emollient skin creams to treat dry skin conditions, updated - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates - [June 2021](#)

- New Products:

-- Beclometasone dipropionate/formoterol (eformoterol) fumarate dihydrate/glycopyrronium bromide (Trimbow) for maintenance treatment in adults with moderate to severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease who are not adequately treated by the combination of an inhaled corticosteroid and a long-acting β 2-agonist (LABA), or the combination of LABA and LAMA

-- Recombinant varicella zoster virus glycoprotein E antigen (AS01B adjuvanted vaccine) (Shingrix)

-- Satralizumab (Enspryng) as monotherapy, or in combination with immunosuppressive therapy, for adults with NMOSD who have an anti-aquaporin 4 antibody IgG positive status

-- Trabectedin (Yondelis) for patients with unresectable or metastatic liposarcoma or leiomyosarcoma who received a prior anthracycline-containing regimen

- New Contraindications:

-- COVID-19 (ChAdOx1-S) vaccine (COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca) now contraindicated in patients who have experienced major venous and/or arterial thrombosis in combination with thrombocytopenia following vaccination with any COVID-19 vaccine.

-- Cyclopentolate hydrochloride (Minims Cyclopentolate Eye Drops) now contraindicated in patients with narrow-angle glaucoma or in those with a shallow anterior chamber; in the elderly (> 65 years) and other patients who may be predisposed to increased intraocular pressure; in at risk patients, especially premature babies, infants, and patients with Down syndrome, as well as in children with brain damage; in children with organic brain syndromes, including congenital or neurodevelopmental abnormalities, particularly those predisposing to epileptic seizures; and in patients with cardiovascular disorders

-- Trastuzumab (rch) (Ogivri) now contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to murine proteins.

-- Zoster virus vaccine, live (Zostavax) now contraindicated in patients with current or recent severe immunocompromising conditions from either a primary or acquired medical condition or medical treatment.

- Safety related change:

-- Buprenorphine (Buvidal Weekly, Monthly) no longer contraindicated during pregnancy and lactation

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Impact of rapid infliximab infusions on access at a large academic tertiary medical center - [link](#)

- Accuracy of Google Translate in translating the directions and counseling points for top-selling drugs from English to Arabic, Chinese, and Spanish - [link](#)

- Development and validation of the Tool for Pharmacists to Predict 30-day hospital readmission in patients with Heart Failure (ToPP-HF) - [link](#)

- Development of an antimicrobial stewardship module in an electronic health record: Options to enhance daily antimicrobial stewardship activities - [link](#)

- Assessment of a pharmacy technician medication history program - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Dose-responses association of acute phase quetiapine treatment with risk of new onset hypothyroidism in schizophrenia patients - [link](#)

- Meta-analysis: Opioid medicines management in primary care settings: a scoping review of quantitative studies of pharmacists' activities - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Which is the best model to assess risk for venous thromboembolism in hospitalised patients? - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Neuropsychiatric safety of varenicline in the general and COPD population with and without psychiatric disorders: a retrospective cohort study in a real-world setting - [link](#)
- Prescription medications for sleep disturbances among midlife women during 2 years of follow-up: a SWAN retrospective cohort study - [link](#)

Canadian Journal of Health Technologies

- Abiraterone Acetate for Metastatic Castration-Sensitive Prostate Cancer - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Pharmacologic interventions for mydriasis in cataract surgery - [link](#)
- Capecitabine for hormone receptor-positive versus hormone receptor-negative breast cancer - [link](#)

Critical Care Medicine

- Andexanet Alfa or Prothrombin Complex Concentrate for Factor Xa Inhibitor Reversal in Acute Major Bleeding: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Glycemic Control, Diabetic Complications, and Risk of Dementia in Patients with Diabetes: Results From a Large U.K. Cohort Study - [link](#)
- The Impact of Frailty on the Effectiveness and Safety of Intensive Glucose Control and Blood Pressure-Lowering Therapy for People With Type 2 Diabetes: Results From the ADVANCE Trial - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Severe hyperthermia due to oral baclofen withdrawal, republished - [link](#)
- Prescribing for pregnancy: managing diabetes - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Improving shared decision-making in pharmacist-led haematology clinics: a 'Plan Do Study Act' approach - [link](#)

Front Pharmacol

- Medication-related hospital readmissions within 30 days of discharge: prevalence, preventability, type of medication errors and risk factors - [link](#)

Heart

- Diagnosis, management and therapeutic strategies for congenital long QT syndrome - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Superinfection associated with prolonged antibiotic use in non-ventilator associated hospital-acquired pneumonia - [link](#)

Int J Environ Res Public Health

- Interprofessional and intraprofessional communication about older people's medications across transitions of care - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Cost-effectiveness of Dapagliflozin for Treatment of Patients with Heart Failure With Reduced Ejection Fraction - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Viewpoint: Use of Probiotics to Prevent Necrotizing Enterocolitis: Evidence to Clinical Practice - [link](#)

J Clin Pharm Ther

- Clinical and economic impacts of explicit tools detecting prescribing errors: a systematic review - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- Longitudinal Association of a Medication Risk Score with Mortality among Ambulatory Patients Acquired through Electronic Health Record Data - [link](#)
- Assessment of Oral Anticoagulant Adverse Drug Events Before and After Implementation of a Real-Time Clinical Surveillance Tool - [link](#)

Lancet

- Chronic pain: an update on burden, best practices, and new advances (first in series of 3) - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Ceftriaxone compared with benzylpenicillin in the treatment of neurosyphilis in France: a retrospective multicentre study - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Influenza disease and vaccination in children in Australia - [link](#)
- Developing clinical indicators for oncology: the inaugural cancer care indicator set for the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards - [link](#)
- An electronic decision support-based complex intervention to improve management of cardiovascular risk in primary health care: a cluster randomised trial (INTEGRATE) - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Antibiotic Therapy for 6 or 12 Weeks for Prosthetic Joint Infection - [link](#)
- Healthy Weight Loss Maintenance with Exercise, Liraglutide, or Both Combined - [link](#)

NIHR

- Tranexamic acid to reduce head injury death in people with traumatic brain injury: the CRASH-3 international [RCT](#)

Obesity

- Efficacy and Safety of Phentermine/Topiramate in Adults with Overweight or Obesity: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- A Retrospective Analysis Comparing Post-operative Bleeding with Various Doses of Aspirin after Lower Extremity Joint Arthroplasty or Revision - [link](#)
- A retrospective analysis of bleeding risk with rivaroxaban, enoxaparin, and aspirin following total joint arthroplasty or revision - [link](#)

Prescribe International Issue 227, June 2021 includes:

- Oral semaglutide (Rybelsus^o): more uncertainty than with subcutaneous liraglutide - [link](#)
- Non-metastatic, castration-resistant prostate cancer, survival extended with the addition of apalutamide or enzalutamide. - [link](#)
- Memantine (Ebixa^o and other brands): perception disorders - [link](#)
- Iodine during pregnancy: supplementation should not be systematic - [link](#)
- Oral cancer drugs: care provided in community pharmacies - [link](#)
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV (PrEP): reduction in risk of infection confirmed - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 27 May 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Joint statement from ATAGI and THANZ on Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) and the use of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca - [link](#)
- ATAGI update following weekly COVID-19 meeting – 19 May 2021 - [link](#)
- ATAGI Annual Statement on Immunisation 2021 - [link](#)
- Letter from the Chief Medical Officer to healthcare professionals about the COVID-19 Vaccination Program - [link](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

- Impacts of COVID-19 on Medicare Benefits Scheme and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme: quarterly [data](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and updated recommendations as at [24/05/2021](#)
- New/updated recommendations: baricitinib, hydroxychloroquine plus azithromycin, lenzilumab
- Updated (no change to recommendations): remdesivir for adults, tocilizumab for adults, lopinavir-ritonavir, bromhexine hydrochloride, Ivermectin, nitazoxanide; disease-modifying treatments 'do not use'; disease-modifying treatments 'do not use'.

NSW Health

- Safety Information 005/21: Reporting Adverse Events Following Immunisation - [link](#)
- Safety Notice 011/21: Changes to COVID-19 vaccine indications - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine: Enhanced surveillance and adverse event reporting guidelines – [link](#), [pdf](#)
- COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance in NSW - Epidemiological week 19, ending 15 May 2021 - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard – Healthcare settings. Updated 19 May 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Monitor: COVID-19 vaccines, cases and variants. Updated 24 May 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 25 May 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 25 May 2021 - [link](#)
- Evidence Check: COVID-19 vaccine and elective surgery- [link](#)

Thrombosis & Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand (THANZ)

- Suspected Vaccine induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT) THANZ Advisory Statement for Haematologists (updated 15 May 2021) - [link](#)
- THANZ Multidisciplinary VITT Guideline for Doctors - [link](#)

TGA

- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report - 20-05-2021 - [link](#)
- TGA approves more flexible storage conditions for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- TGA evaluating first monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19, Sotrovimab - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

OECD

- The long-term environmental implications of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- The effect of COVID-19 on alcohol consumption, and policy responses to prevent harmful alcohol consumption - [link](#)

WHO

- Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 18 May 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 health system response monitor: Singapore - [link](#)
- Preventing and mitigating COVID-19 at work - [link](#)
- Science in 5: Current global trends - [link](#); Update on virus variants - [link](#) - [podcast](#)
- Draft landscape and tracker of COVID-19 candidate vaccines - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- EMA issues advice on use of sotrovimab (VIR-7831) for treating COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Vaxzevria: further advice on blood clots and low blood platelets - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine safety update: COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZenca (21/5/21) - [link](#)

UK

eMC

- Revised SPC: Covid-19 Vaccine ([Pfizer](#)) noting that once removed from the freezer, the undiluted vaccine now has a maximum shelf life of up to one month (31 days) when stored at 2-8 degrees centigrade (previously 5 days)

MHRA

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine adverse reactions (updated 20/5/21) - [link](#)

- Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine shelf-life extended from 5 to 31 days, says MHRA - [link](#)
- NICE
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Allocating 31 day expiry to thawed Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine labelled with 5 day expiry - [link](#)
- Quality Improvement Alert – Cold Chain Management of COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)
- Preparing doses of vaccines using aseptic non-touch technique (ANTT) - [link](#)

USA

- American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT)
- [Webinar](#): Vaccine Update: Pregnant Women, Children & Variants, Wed June 9, 2021
- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: Pfizer vaccine Storage Temps
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine in Adolescents Aged 12–15 Years - [link](#)
- FDA
- FDA Authorizes Longer Time for Refrigerator Storage of Thawed Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Prior to Dilution, Making Vaccine More Widely Available - [link](#)
- FDA Advises Against Use of SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test Results to Evaluate Immunity or Protection from COVID-19, including After Vaccination - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Kidney Diseases

- Clinically Significant COVID-19 Following SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination in Kidney Transplant Recipients - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Letter: Safety and Immunogenicity of Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Messenger RNA Vaccines in Recipients of Solid Organ Transplants - [link](#)
- Letter: Symptoms After COVID-19 Vaccination in Patients with Persistent Symptoms after Acute Infection: A Case Series - [link](#)
- Editorial: Rapid and Living Guidance for COVID-19 – [link](#) - [article](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- American College of Rheumatology Guidance for COVID-19 vaccination in patients with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases: Version 1 - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Comparison of infection risks and clinical outcomes in patients with and without SARS-CoV-2 lung infection under renin–angiotensin–aldosterone system blockade: [systematic review & meta-analysis](#)

BMJ

- Covid-19 vaccines: In the rush for regulatory approval, do we need more data? - [link](#)
- Practice Pointer: Covid-19 vaccination hesitancy - [link](#)
- Innovations: Telemedicine supported strengthening of primary care in WHO South East Asia region: lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic experiences (review) - [link](#)
- Risk of clinical sequelae after the acute phase of SARS-CoV-2 infection: retrospective cohort study - [link](#), editorial - [link](#)
- Excess deaths associated with covid-19 pandemic in 2020: age and sex disaggregated time series analysis in 29 high income countries - [link](#), editorial - [link](#)

Clinical Microbiology

- Efficacy and safety of tocilizumab in COVID-19 patients: a living systematic review and meta-analysis—first update - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Convalescent plasma or hyperimmune immunoglobulin for people with COVID-19: a living systematic review - [link](#)

- Vitamin D supplementation for the treatment of COVID-19: a living systematic review - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2-neutralising monoclonal antibodies to prevent COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Coronavirus (COVID-19): evidence relevant to critical care - [link](#). Updated to include following Clinical Questions:
- For adults in intensive care requiring respiratory support, how does a high-flow nasal cannula compare with standard oxygen therapy and non-invasive (positive-pressure) ventilation (NI[PP]V)? - [link](#)
- How do high and low positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) levels compare for mechanically ventilated adults with acute lung injury and acute respiratory distress syndrome? - [link](#)

Emerging Infectious Diseases

- Research Letter: Persistence of SARS-CoV-2–Specific IgG in Children 6 Months after Infection, Australia - [link](#)
- Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome after SARS-CoV-2 Infection and COVID-19 Vaccination - [link](#)

Eur J Hosp Pharm

- Letter: Petechial skin rash associated with CoronaVac (Sinovac Biotech, China) vaccination: first cutaneous side effect report before phase 3 results - [link](#)
- Treatment of high-risk bleeding with susoctocog alfa in a patient with acquired haemophilia A and a nosocomial severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 infection - [link](#)

Frontiers in Medicine

- Post-COVID-19 Syndrome: The Persistent Symptoms at the Post-viral Stage of the Disease. A Systematic Review of the Current Data - [link](#)

JAMA

- Allergic Reactions to mRNA Vaccines - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Effectiveness of Tocilizumab in Patients Hospitalized With COVID-19, A Follow-up of the CORIMUNO-TOCI-1 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Medication Use Patterns in Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19 in California During the Pandemic - [link](#)

JAMA Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery

- Research letter: Preliminary Analysis of Association Between COVID-19 Vaccination and Sudden Hearing Loss Using US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System Data - [link](#)

Journal of International Medical Research

- Ivermectin in combination with doxycycline for treating COVID-19 symptoms: a randomized trial - [link](#)

Journal of Neurology

- Letter: Immediate high-dose intravenous immunoglobulins followed by direct thrombin-inhibitor treatment is crucial for survival in Sars-Covid-19-adenoviral vector vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia VITT with cerebral sinus venous and portal vein thrombosis - [link](#)

Lancet

- Post-COVID syndrome in non-hospitalised patients with COVID-19: a longitudinal prospective cohort study - [link](#)
- 6-month multidisciplinary follow-up and outcomes of patients with paediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome (PIMS-TS) at a UK tertiary paediatric hospital: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)

Leukemia

- Letter: Siltuximab downregulates interleukin-8 and pentraxin 3 to improve ventilatory status and survival in severe COVID-19 - [link](#)

MJA

- Preprint: Effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines: findings from real world studies - [link](#)
- Clinical course and care requirements during the 2020 COVID-19 epidemic in South Australia - [link](#)

- Transparent triage policies during the COVID-19 pandemic: a critical part of medico-legal risk management for clinicians - [link](#)

Medicine

- Corticosteroid therapy for COVID-19: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

medRxiv (pre-pint)

- Antibody Response to COVID-19 vaccination in Patients Receiving Dialysis - [link](#)

npj Digital Medicine

- Comparing machine learning algorithms for predicting ICU admission and mortality in COVID-19 - [link](#)

Pediatric Nephrology

- Critical analysis of acute kidney injury in pediatric COVID-19 patients in the intensive care unit - [link](#)

PLoS Medicine

- Thrombotic thrombocytopenia associated with COVID-19 infection or vaccination: Possible paths to platelet factor 4 autoimmunity – [link](#)

Radiology reports

- Case report: Myocarditis following COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)

Regulation and governance

- Perspectives in the study of the political economy of COVID-19 vaccine regulation - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Corticosteroids for hospitalized patients with mild to critically-ill COVID-19: a multicenter, retrospective, propensity score-matched study - [link](#)

- Impact of daily high dose oral vitamin D therapy on the inflammatory markers in patients with COVID 19 disease - [link](#)

- Effect of COVID-19 on liver abnormalities: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

The Journal of Clinical Investigation

- Efficient maternal to neonatal transfer of antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 and BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Innovation Exchange Projects - Spotlight on virtual care:

-- vCare. Western NSW Local Health District (LHD) - [link](#)

-- Geriatric Medicine Outreach Service. SLHD, Western NSW LHD, and Far West LHD - [link](#)

-- Virtual Allied Health Service, Western NSW LHD - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- National Partnership on Essential Vaccines: performance report 2019–20 - [link](#)

- Palliative care services in Australia - [link](#)

PBS

- New listings for opioid medications on the Palliative Care Schedule for the management of severe disabling pain - [link](#)

- Biosimilar bevacizumab on the PBS - [information](#) for health professionals and patients. From 1/621 Avastin® will no longer be available on the PBS, Mvasi® will be the sole brand available on the PBS.

TGA

- Faecal microbiota transplant (FMT) products regulation - [link](#)

- Prescription medicines: [applications under evaluation](#) (updated 21/5/21)

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages
- [INHIXA™ enoxaparin](#) 20mg/0.2mL & 40mg/0.4mL solution for injection pre-filled syringe with needle guard (UK), Import and supply approved until: 7 July 2021
- AusPARs:
 - [Filgotinib maleate](#) (Jyseleca) - AUSPAR withdrawn for extended indication of moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA)
 - [Baricitinib](#) (Olumiant) – Extension of Indication: for moderate to severe atopic dermatitis in adult patients who are candidates for systemic therapy.
 - [Durvalumab](#) (Imfinzi) - Extension of indications: In combination with etoposide and either carboplatin or cisplatin for the first-line treatment of patients with extensive-stage small cell lung cancer.
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - [Influenza haemagglutinin recombinant](#) (Flublok Quadrivalent) - for active immunisation for the prevention of influenza disease caused by influenza virus types A and B
 - [Adalimumab](#) (Hulio) – new biosimilar medicine

Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine

- Residential Aged Care Communiqué Volume 16 Issue 2 May 2021 - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

British National Formulary (BNF) newsletter – [May 2021](#) includes:

- New monographs (BNF): trastuzumab deruxtecan
- New monographs (BNF for children): lurasidone hydrochloride
- MHRA advice on: increased risk of non-melanoma skin cancer and progressive multifocal encephalopathy (PML) with bendamustine hydrochloride

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Conventional Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs for the Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis, updated - [link](#)
- Visual Examination Frequency for People Taking Ethambutol for Tuberculosis, updated - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- [Belantamab mafodotin](#) (Blenrep) as monotherapy for multiple myeloma in patients who have received ≥ 4 prior therapies, disease is refractory to ≥ 1 proteasome inhibitor, 1 immunomodulatory agent, and an anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody and have demonstrated disease progression on the last therapy

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- CHMP meeting highlights [May 2021](#) - Eight new medicines recommended for approval including:
 - Skysona* (elivaldogene autotemcel) for early cerebral adrenoleukodystrophy (CALD)
 - Bylvay* ([odevixibat](#)) for progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis (PFIC)
 - Imcivree* ([setmelanotide](#)) for obesity and the control of hunger associated with genetic deficiencies of the melanocortin 4 receptor (MC4R) pathway
 - Klisyri (tirbanibulin mesylate) for non-hyperkeratotic, non-hypertrophic actinic keratosis
 - Ozawade (pitolisant) for excessive daytime sleepiness in obstructive sleep apnoea
 - Ryeqo (relugolix / estradiol / norethisterone acetate) for symptoms of uterine fibroids
 - Verquvo (vericiguat) for symptomatic chronic heart failure in adult patients with reduced ejection fraction
- Extensions of indication for Blincyto, Eucreas, Evotaz, Galvus, Icandra, Jalra, Jardiance, Keytruda, Opdivo, Spherox, Xiliarx, Yervoy, Zomarist, Libtayo and Darzalex

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Approves a New Dose of INGREZZA (Valbenazine) for Treatment of Tardive Dyskinesia based on Model-Informed Drug Development (MIDD) - [link](#)
- FDA Approves First Targeted Therapy for Subset of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer, amivantamab-vmjw (Rybrevant) - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- The NICE strategy 2021 to 2026 - [link](#)
- Trastuzumab deruxtecan for treating HER2-positive unresectable or metastatic breast cancer after 2 or more anti-HER2 therapies [[TA704](#)]
- Apalutamide for treating prostate cancer [[ID1534](#)]
- Ravulizumab for treating atypical haemolytic uraemic syndrome (aHUS) [[ID1530](#)]

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Using help in patients on levothyroxine or with thyroid disorders - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Preventing the next human influenza pandemic: Celebrating 10 years of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- [Campto](#) (irinotecan hydrochloride trihydrate) added to list of strong inducers of CYP3A4 for which concomitant use with irinotecan should be avoided.
- Neurontin ([gabapentin](#)) warns of risk of fatal respiratory depression with concomitant administration with opioid-containing drugs and other CNS depressants.
- Repatha SureClick ([evolocumab](#)) notes addition of myalgia as common adverse event.
- [Cabozantinib](#) (Cabometyx) use extended in combination with nivolumab for the first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma and warning added of hepatotoxicity with use of this combination resulting in higher frequencies of Grades 3 & 4 ALT and AST elevations.

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Summary Safety Review - Opdivo ([nivolumab](#))

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Emollients and risk of severe and fatal burns: new resources available - [link](#)
- Drug Safety Update [May 2021](#)
- Letter to health professionals: [Eylea](#) 40 mg/mL (aflibercept solution for intravitreal injection): Higher risk of intraocular pressure increase with the pre-filled syringe.

TGA

- Hydralite Strawberry Kiwi Effervescent Electrolyte Tablets. Recall due to unacceptable risk in pregnancy - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

Advances in Therapy

- Effectiveness of Eribulin in Metastatic Breast Cancer: 10 Years of Real-World Clinical Experience in the United States - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Optimizing preoperative antibiotics in patients with β -lactam allergies: A role for pharmacy - [link](#)
- Asymptomatic bacteriuria: Impact of an antimicrobial stewardship bundle to reduce unnecessary antibiotics in patients without urinary catheters - [link](#)
- Trust your gut: Effect of a pharmacist-driven pilot project to decrease alvimopan use post gastrointestinal recovery in postsurgical patients - [link](#)
- Impact of clinical decision support therapeutic interchanges on hospital discharge medication omissions and duplications - [link](#)
- Serum potassium changes due to concomitant ACEI/ARB and spironolactone therapy: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Proposed guidance on cost-avoidance studies in pharmacy practice - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Potentially inappropriate prescribing and its associations with health-related and system-related outcomes in hospitalised older adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Association between oral contraceptives and serious infections: A population-based cohort study - [link](#)
- The nature, severity and causes of medication incidents from an Australian community pharmacy incident reporting system: the QUMwatch study - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Treatment of opioid use disorder in primary care - [link](#)
- Atrial fibrillation: diagnosis and management—summary of NICE guidance - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Medications for daytime sleepiness in individuals with idiopathic hypersomnia - [link](#)
- Topical azole treatments for otomycosis - [link](#)
- New generation antidepressants for depression in children and adolescents: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Pharmacological treatment of hypertension in people without prior cerebrovascular disease for the prevention of cognitive impairment and dementia - [link](#)
- Beta-blockers and inhibitors of the renin-angiotensin aldosterone system for chronic heart failure with preserved ejection fraction - [link](#)
- Brexanolone and related neurosteroid GABA(A) positive allosteric modulators for postnatal depression - [link](#)
- Immunotherapy for non-small cell lung cancer in the elderly population: a generic protocol - [link](#)
- Preoperative chemoradiotherapy versus chemotherapy for adenocarcinoma of the esophagus and esophagogastric junction (AEG): systematic review with individual participant data (IPD) network meta-analysis (NMA) - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- ACE inhibitor induced visceral angioedema: an elusive diagnosis, republished case report - [link](#)
- Metformin-associated lactic acidosis: reinforcing learning points, republished case report - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Assessment of adherence to statin therapy in patients with coronary artery disease: comparison of three self-reporting measures - [link](#)
- Long-term stability of 10 mg/mL dobutamine injectable solutions in 5% dextrose and normal saline solution stored in polypropylene syringes and cyclic-oleofin-copolymer vials - [link](#)
- Improving shared decision-making in pharmacist-led haematology clinics: a 'Plan Do Study Act' approach- [link](#)

Heart

- Cardiovascular consequences of discontinuing low-dose rivaroxaban in people with chronic coronary or peripheral artery disease - [link](#)

Infectious Diseases Now

- Anti-infectious treatment duration: The SPILF and GPIIP French guidelines and recommendations - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Investigating the effect of an education program on diabetes and lipid lowering medication usage following coronary artery bypass graft surgery - [link](#)
- Epstein-Barr virus -related lymphoma in rheumatoid arthritis: Implications for long-term usage of immunosuppressive drugs and review of the literature - [link](#)

International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents

- Implementation of a novel antimicrobial stewardship strategy for rural facilities utilising telehealth - [link](#)

JAMA

- Triple vs Dual Inhaler Therapy and Asthma Outcomes in Moderate to Severe Asthma: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Evaluation of the Risk of Stroke without Anticoagulation Therapy in Men and Women with Atrial Fibrillation Aged 66 to 74 Years Without Other CHA2DS2-VASc Factors - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Incorporating Adult Evidence into Pediatric Research and Practice: Bayesian Designs to Expedite Obtaining Child-Specific Evidence - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Safety of Early Discontinuation of Antiseizure Medication after Acute Symptomatic Neonatal Seizures - [link](#) - [editorial](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Three-Year Follow-up of Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy With or Without Anthracyclines in the Presence of Dual ERBB2 Blockade in Patients With ERBB2-Positive Breast Cancer: A Secondary Analysis of the TRAIN-2 Randomized, Phase 3 Trial - [link](#) - [editorial](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Inadequate Dosage of Mycophenolate Mofetil Is Likely to Yield Substandard Trial Results and Substandard Patient Care – [link](#) – [link](#) - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Continuation of Antidepressants vs Sequential Psychological Interventions to Prevent Relapse in Depression. An Individual Participant Data Meta-analysis - [link](#)

Journal on Quality and Patient Safety (The Joint Commission)

- A Sleep Hygiene Intervention to Improve Sleep Quality for Hospitalized Patients - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Complexities in the treatment of coinfection with HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and tuberculosis - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Standard versus reduced dose of antipsychotics for relapse prevention in multi-episode schizophrenia: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Duration of amoxicillin-clavulanate for protracted bacterial bronchitis in children (DACs): a multi-centre, double blind, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- The Queensland Inpatient Diabetes Survey (QuIDS) 2019: the bedside audit of practice - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Final Report of a Trial of Intensive versus Standard Blood-Pressure Control - [link](#)

- Rituximab versus Mycophenolate Mofetil in Patients with Pemphigus Vulgaris - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- Use of Probiotics in Preterm Infants - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Adherence at 2 years with distribution of essential medicines at no charge: The CLEAN Meds randomized clinical trial - [link](#)

Thrombosis and Haemostasis

- Hemorrhage in Essential Thrombocythemia or Polycythemia Vera: Epidemiology, Location, Risk Factors, and Lessons Learned from the Literature - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 20 May 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Infographic: Total number of people vaccinated for COVID-19 in Australia as at 17 May 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Australia: Epidemiology reporting (technical supplement). Last updated 11/5/2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccination – Shared decision making guides for:
 - Frail older people, including those in residential aged care facilities (updated 13/5/21) – [link](#)
 - Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning pregnancy (updated 13/5/21) - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Assistant in Medicine Evaluation Report - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard – Healthcare settings. Updated 17 May 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 13 May 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 18 May 2021 - [link](#)
 - COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 13 May 2021 – [link](#)
- Evidence Check: Vaccine hesitancy - [link](#)

TGA

- Provisional determination granted to Pfizer in relation to COVID 19 vaccine, COMIRNATY - for use in individuals 12 years of age and older - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 13-05-2021 – [link](#)
- Batch release assessment of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update (as of 9 May 2021) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC) pillar achievements. Feb 2020 - Jan 2021 - [link](#)
- Liberia: How reinforced community health structures and capitalizing on lessons learned from the Ebola virus epidemic of 2014–16 helped the country respond to the challenge of its second major disease outbreak in five years - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Introduction and deployment costing tool (CVIC tool) - [link](#)
- Landscape of observational study designs on the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- More flexible storage conditions for BioNTech/Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- Signal assessment report on Embolic and Thrombotic events (SMQ) with COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen (Ad26.COV2-S [recombinant]) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine safety updates: [Vaxzevria](#), [Comirnaty](#), [COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen](#), [COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna](#)

UK

University of Birmingham

- Delaying second Pfizer vaccines to 12 weeks significantly increases antibody responses in older people - [link](#)

USA

-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with High Risk for Severe COVID-19: Information for Healthcare Providers (updated) - [link](#)
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR):
 - The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine in Adolescents Aged 12–15 Years, May 2021 - [link](#)
 - Rapid Emergence and Epidemiologic Characteristics of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.526 Variant, April 2021 - [link](#)
- FDA
 - Statement on Leronlimab - [link](#)

- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccine: Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers has been updated and is available in multiple languages - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine, mRNA-Pfizer: Emergency use authorization expanded to include adolescents aged 12-15 years - [link](#) - [link](#)
- FDA note current data do not support use of leronlimab for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Medscape Education
- The Use of Neutralizing Monoclonal Antibodies for COVID-19 - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- An examination of sedation requirements and practices for mechanically ventilated critically ill patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Serial SARS-CoV-2 Receptor-Binding Domain Antibody Responses in Patients Receiving Dialysis - [link](#)

Br J Clin Pharm

- Interferon- α -2b Aerosol Inhalation is Associated with Improved Clinical Outcomes in Patients with Coronavirus Disease-2019 - [link](#)
- Real life Study on the Pharmacokinetic of Remdesivir in ICU patients admitted for Severe COVID-19 Pneumonia - [link](#)
- Interferon- α -2b Aerosol Inhalation is Associated with Improved Clinical Outcomes in Patients with Coronavirus Disease-2019 - [link](#)

Br Med J

- Best Practice: Coronavirus disease 2019 (updated 13/5/21) - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech & Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccines on covid-19 related symptoms, hospital admissions, and mortality in older adults in England: test negative case-control study - [link](#)
- Public health impact of delaying second dose of BNT162b2 or mRNA-1273 covid-19 vaccine: simulation agent based modeling study - [link](#)
- Vaccinating children against SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Covid-19 vaccines: In the rush for regulatory approval, do we need more data? - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Risk factors for severity of COVID-19: a rapid review to inform vaccine prioritisation in Canada - [link](#)

Canadian Journal of Health Technologies

- Using Health Care Resources Wisely After the COVID-19 Pandemic: Recommendations to Reduce Low-Value Care - [report](#) - [viewpoint](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

- BNT162b2 mRNA vaccination did not prevent an outbreak of SARS COV-2 variant 501Y.V2 in an elderly nursing home but reduced transmission and disease severity - [link](#)
- The effectiveness of the TWO-DOSE BNT162b2 vaccine: analysis of real-world data - [link](#)

Eur J Hosp Pharm

- Crushing lopinavir/ritonavir tablets does not result in lower exposure to lopinavir/ritonavir in adult patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

JAMA

- Immunogenicity of COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines in Pregnant and Lactating Women - [link](#) - [comment](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Delayed Localized Hypersensitivity Reactions to the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine: A Case [Series](#)
- Global Incidence of Neurological Manifestations among Patients Hospitalized with COVID-19—A Report for the GCS-NeuroCOVID Consortium and the ENERGY Consortium - [link](#)
- Estimation of Transmission of COVID-19 in Simulated Nursing Homes with Frequent Testing and Immunity-Based Staffing - [link](#)

Journal of Investigative Medicine

- COVID-19 reinfection: a rapid systematic review of case reports and case series - [link](#)

Journal of Medical Ethics

- Ethics of digital contact tracing wearables - [link](#)

Lancet

- Convalescent plasma in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 (RECOVERY): a randomised controlled, open-label, platform trial - [link](#)
- A tricompartamental model of lung oxygenation disruption to explain pulmonary and systemic pathology in severe COVID-19 - [link](#), commentary [link](#)
- Cytokine adsorption in patients with severe COVID-19 pneumonia requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (CYCOV): a single centre, open-label, randomised, controlled trial - [link](#)
- Effects of different types of written vaccination information on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in the UK (OCEANS-III): a single-blind, parallel-group, randomised controlled trial – [link](#)
- Post-acute effects of SARS-CoV-2 infection in individuals not requiring hospital admission: a Danish population-based cohort study - [link](#)
- Changes in in-hospital mortality in the first wave of COVID-19: a multicentre prospective observational cohort study using the WHO Clinical Characterisation Protocol UK - [link](#)
- Correspondence: Inhaled budesonide for early treatment of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Correspondence: Heterologous prime-boost COVID-19 vaccination: initial reactogenicity data - [link](#)
- Comment: Immunotherapy in COVID-19: why, who, and when? - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: Ongoing and future COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials: challenges and opportunities - [link](#)

Leukemia

- JAK-inhibitors for coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19): a meta-analysis - [link](#)

MedRxiv

- Methotrexate Hampers Immunogenicity to BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine in Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Disease - [link](#)

Monaldi Archives for Chest Disease

- Awake prone positioning in non-intubated patients for the management of hypoxemia in COVID-19: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Nature

- Neutralizing antibody levels are highly predictive of immune protection from symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection – [link](#)

Nature Biotechnology

- A network analysis of COVID-19 mRNA vaccine patents - [link](#)

Nature Paediatric Research

- Systemic inflammatory syndrome in COVID-19–SISCOv [study](#): systematic review & meta-analysis

Nature Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases

- Is COVID-19 a risk factor for progression of benign prostatic hyperplasia and exacerbation of its related symptoms?: a systematic review - [link](#)

NEJM

- Efficacy of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Covid-19 Vaccine against the B.1.351 Variant - [link](#)
- Letter: Effectiveness of BNT162b2 Covid-19 Vaccine against the B.1.1.7 & B.1.351 Variants - [link](#)
- Letter: Incident SARS-CoV-2 Infection among mRNA-Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Nursing Home Residents - [link](#)
- Letter: Contact Tracing for Covid-19 — A Digital Inoculation against Future Pandemics - [link](#)

npj Vaccines

- Comparative systematic review and meta-analysis of reactogenicity, immunogenicity and efficacy of vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Public attitudes toward COVID-19 vaccination: The role of vaccine attributes, incentives, and misinformation - [link](#)

Pharmacy

- COVID the Catalyst for Evolving Professional Role Identity? A Scoping Review of Global Pharmacists' Roles and Services as a Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)

PLOS ONE

- The incidence, characteristics and outcomes of pregnant women hospitalized with symptomatic and asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection in the UK from March to September 2020: A national cohort study using the UK Obstetric Surveillance System (UKOSS) - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Differences in coagulopathy indices in patients with severe versus non-severe COVID-19: a meta-analysis of 35 studies and 6427 patients - [link](#)
- Global prevalence of mental health issues among the general population during the coronavirus disease-2019 pandemic: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- A retrospective cohort study of 12,306 pediatric COVID-19 patients in the United States - [link](#)
- The lower respiratory tract microbiome of critically ill patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Deciphering the laws of social network-transcendent COVID-19 misinformation dynamics and implications for combating misinformation phenomena - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Mental health services in Australia - [link](#)
- Child protection Australia 2019–20 report [link](#); snapshot [link](#);
- Appendixes B to E. Technical notes, Policy and practice, recent state and territory policy changes, Inquiries into child protection services - [link](#)
- Chronic condition multimorbidity - [link](#); factsheet [link](#)

NSW Health

- NSW Emergency Surgery Guidelines and Principles for Improvement ([GL2021_007](#))

TGA

- New standard for unregistered nicotine vaping products - [link](#)
- Faecal microbiota transplant (FMT) products regulation - [link](#)
- Guidance on the regulation of listed disinfectants in Australia - [link](#)
- Guidance on the regulation of exempt disinfectants in Australia - [link](#)
- Medical devices reforms: Reclassification of certain medical devices – project in progress - [link](#)
- Guidance on the management of GMP compliance signals for domestic and overseas manufacturers of medicines and biologicals – [link](#)
- AusPARs:
 - [Nivolumab and ipilimumab](#) (Opdivo and Yervoy/Winglore) – AUSPAR withdrawn for extended indication of metastatic non-small cell lung cancer.
 - [Cabotegravir sodium and cabotegravir/rilpivirine](#) (Vocabria, Cabenuva) - New chemical entity and New fixed dose combination approved.
 - [Follitropin alfa](#) (Ovaleap®) new biosimilar

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)

- Midazolam for Patients in Palliative Care, updated - [link](#)
- Management of Patients Co-Prescribed Benzodiazepines and Opioids, updated - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New treatment for adults with serious rare blood disease - Empaveli ([pegcetacoplan](#)) – [PI/label](#)
- FDA approves long-acting non-opioid for postsurgical analgesia - bupivacaine/meloxicam ([Zynrelef](#))

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Nivolumab for previously treated unresectable advanced or recurrent oesophageal cancer – final appraisal document - [link](#)
- Pembrolizumab for untreated metastatic colorectal cancer with high microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficiency - final appraisal document - [link](#)
- Epilepsies: diagnosis and management- updated [[CG137](#)]
- Headaches in over 12s: diagnosis and management, updated re topiramate [[CG150](#)]
- Ravulizumab for treating paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria [[TA698](#)]
- Ofatumumab for treating relapsing multiple sclerosis [[TA699](#)]
- Melphalan chemosaturation with percutaneous hepatic artery perfusion and hepatic vein isolation for primary or metastatic cancer in the liver [[IPG691](#)]
- microINR for anticoagulation therapy [[MIB257](#)]

Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK

- Epilepsies in children and young people: Investigative procedures and management - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Using antidepressants for depression in people with epilepsy - [link](#)
- Choosing between oral vancomycin options - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Building Climate-Resilient Health Systems: Four key actions to follow in National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Eylea ([afibercept](#)) – now includes ARIES study data, which compared a treat-and-extend dosing regimen initiated immediately after administration of 3 initial monthly injections and one additional injection after 2 months vs. a treat-and-extend regimen initiated after one year of treatment.
- Fentanyl ([Effentora](#)) notes opioids can cause sleep-related breathing disorders including central sleep apnoea (CSA) and sleep-related hypoxemia. Opioid use increases the risk of CSA in a dose-dependent fashion. In patients who present with CSA, consider decreasing the total opioid dosage
- Lyumjev ([insulin lispro](#)) - added PRONTO-T1D and PRONTO-T2D (multiple-dose injection administration) studies data noting injection site reactions occurred in 2.7 % of patients treated with Lyumjev, and from PRONTO-Pump-2 study, noting infusion site reactions reported in 38%.
- Phenergan ([promethazine](#)) - Restless legs syndrome added as adverse effect
- Tagrisso ([osimertinib](#)) - Urticaria added as an adverse event (frequency common).
- Vokanamet ([canagliflozin /metformin](#)) - post-marketing cases of complicated UTIs including pyelonephritis and urosepsis reported in patients treated with canagliflozin, frequently leading to treatment interruption. Temporary interruption should be considered if this occurs.
- Xtandi ([enzalutamide](#)) licence extension for metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer; and warnings regarding risk of second primary malignancies and severe cutaneous adverse drug reactions (ADR). Dysgeusia added as an ADR (frequency common).
- Risk Minimisation Materials
- Physician's reference checklist for Exjade ([deferasirox](#)) dosing and biological monitoring
- [Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate](#) HIV paediatric educational brochure

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP)

- Medication Safety Self Assessment® for Perioperative Settings - [link](#)
- Acute Care Medication Safety Alert! [May 20, 2021](#)
- [Just Culture, Medication Error Prevention, & Second Victim Support Needed in Nursing Curriculum](#)
- Maximizing automated dispensing cabinet (ADC) medication removal and restocking accuracy
- Misconnection between cecostomy and gastrostomy
- Barcode scan indicates wrong drug
- Proper way to open MicroVault cover

NSW Health

- Drug warning: Cocaine found to contain strong opioids - [link](#)

- Safety Notice SN009/21: Illicit cocaine containing strong opioids - [link](#)
- Safety Notice SN010/21: Requirements for post-transplant blood-borne virus surveillance of recipients of organs from increased-risk donors - [link](#)

TGA

- Shortage of DILAUDID hydromorphone hydrochloride 1mg/mL oral liquid. Alternative overseas product approved for supply to address DILAUDID shortage - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Cardiology

- Total Ischemic Event Reduction with Rivaroxaban after Peripheral Arterial Revascularization in the VOYAGER PAD Trial - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Methods used to attribute costs avoided from pharmacist interventions in acute care: A scoping review - [link](#)
- Cefazolin and rifampin: A coagulopathy-inducing combination - [link](#)
- Enhancing pharmacy residency training program quality and efficiency through alignment of pharmacy residency programs within a multihospital health system - [link](#)
- First release: [Dasiglucagon Hydrochloride](#); [Tivozanib Hydrochloride](#)
- Summaries of safety labeling changes approved by FDA—Boxed warnings highlights, January–March, 2021 - [link](#)
- Impact on patients' compliance with medication using prepacked blisters for multidrug medical therapy: I-COMPLY Study - [link](#)
- Gap analysis of emergency department pharmacy services within a multistate, multihospital integrated health system - [link](#)
- Access to direct-acting antivirals for hepatitis C—negative transplant recipients receiving organs from hepatitis C—viremic donors - [link](#)
- Development, implementation, and evaluation of a clinical decision support tool to improve naloxone coprescription within military health system pharmacies - [link](#)

Arthritis and Rheumatology

- Cardiovascular safety of hydroxychloroquine in veterans with rheumatoid arthritis - [link](#)

BMC Geriatrics

- Patient factors associated with new prescribing of potentially inappropriate medications in multimorbid US older adults using multiple medications - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Oral drug dosing following bariatric surgery - general concepts and specific dosing advice - [link](#)
- Does the intact nephron hypothesis provide a reasonable model for metformin dosing in chronic kidney disease? - [link](#)
- Disease-modifying agents for multiple sclerosis and the risk for reporting cancer: a disproportionality analysis using US Food and Drug Administration Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS) database - [link](#)
- Ethical issues in therapeutic use and research in pregnant and breastfeeding women - [link](#)
- Safety, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of TAK-418, a novel inhibitor of the epigenetic modulator lysine-specific demethylase 1A - [link](#)
- Implementation of Oral Anticoagulation Treatment Guidelines in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Use of methenamine hippurate to prevent urinary tract infections in community adult women: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- GPs' mindlines on deprescribing antihypertensives in older patients with multimorbidity: a qualitative study in English general practice - [link](#)
- Prevalence and predictors of potentially inappropriate prescribing in middle-aged adults: a repeated cross-sectional study - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Rates of treatment-resistant schizophrenia from first-episode cohorts: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Canadian Journal of Health Technologies

- Conventional Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs for the Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis - [link](#)

Circulation

- Evaluation and Management of Aortic Stenosis in Chronic Kidney Disease: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association - [link](#)
- Prevention of Cardiac Dysfunction During Adjuvant Breast Cancer Therapy (PRADA) Extended Follow-Up of a 2×2 Factorial, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind Clinical Trial of Candesartan and Metoprolol - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Anticoagulation versus placebo for heart failure in sinus rhythm - [link](#)
- Interventions for preventing nausea and vomiting in women undergoing regional anaesthesia for caesarean section - [link](#)
- Sedatives for opioid withdrawal in newborn infants - [link](#)
- Antibiotic regimens for early-onset neonatal sepsis - [link](#)
- Effect of mass deworming with anthelmintics for soil-transmitted helminths during pregnancy - [link](#)
- Fludrocortisone for orthostatic hypotension - [link](#)
- Lacosamide add-on therapy for focal epilepsy - [link](#)
- Oral dextrose gel to prevent hypoglycaemia in at-risk neonates - [link](#)
- Pharmacological and surgical interventions for the treatment of gastro-oesophageal reflux in adults and children with asthma - [link](#)
- Single-dose intravenous ketorolac for acute postoperative pain in adults - [link](#)
- Vasodilators for primary Raynaud's phenomenon - [link](#)

European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Safety and efficacy of new oral anticoagulants compared to those of warfarin in AF patients with cancer: a meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials and observational studies - [link](#)
- Coadministration of tizanidine and ciprofloxacin: a retrospective analysis of the WHO pharmacovigilance database - [link](#)
- Renal ischemic adverse drug events related to tranexamic acid in women of child-bearing age: an analysis of pharmacovigilance data - [link](#)
- Impact of changes in controlled drugs legislation on benzodiazepine receptor agonist prescribing in Ireland: a repeated cross-sectional study - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Development of a list with renally relevant drugs as a tool to increase medicines optimisation in patients with chronic kidney disease - [link](#)
- Systematic review of the stability of antimicrobial agents in elastomeric devices for outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy services based on NHS Yellow Cover Document standards - [link](#)

Heart

- Effectiveness and safety of oral anticoagulants in elderly patients with atrial fibrillation - [link](#)
- Single direct oral anticoagulant therapy in stable patients with atrial fibrillation beyond 1 year after coronary stent implantation - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Treating Hyperphosphatemia with Lanthanum Carbonate vs Calcium Carbonate on Cardiovascular Events in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease Undergoing Hemodialysis. The LANDMARK Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Sex Differences among Patients with High Risk Receiving Ticagrelor with or without Aspirin after Percutaneous Coronary Intervention. A Subgroup Analysis of the TWILIGHT Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

Long-term Efficacy of Baricitinib in Adults with Moderate to Severe Atopic Dermatitis Who Were Treatment Responders or Partial Responders. An Extension Study of 2 Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Viewpoint: Integrating New Effectiveness Data into US Food and Drug Administration–Approved Drug Labeling - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Association of Opioid Consumption Profiles after Hospitalization with Risk of Adverse Health Care Events - [link](#)

- Association Between Bipolar Disorder or Schizophrenia and Oral Anticoagulation Use in Danish Adults with Incident or Prevalent Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Five-Year Extension Results of the Phase 1 START Trial of Onasemnogene Apeparvovec in Spinal Muscular Atrophy - [link](#)

- Association between Treatment Progression, Disease Refractoriness, and Burden of Illness among Hospitalized Patients with Status Epilepticus - [link](#)

- Association of Intensive vs Standard Blood Pressure Control with Magnetic Resonance Imaging Biomarkers of Alzheimer Disease. Secondary Analysis of the SPRINT MIND Randomized Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Efficacy of Reduced-Intensity Chemotherapy with Oxaliplatin and Capecitabine on Quality of Life and Cancer Control Among Older and Frail Patients With Advanced Gastroesophageal Cancer The GO2 Phase 3 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

- Efficacy of Margetuximab vs Trastuzumab in Patients with Pretreated ERBB2-Positive Advanced Breast Cancer: A Phase 3 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Ethnicity-specific BMI cutoffs for obesity based on type 2 diabetes risk in England: a population-based cohort study - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Ipilimumab alone or ipilimumab plus anti-PD-1 therapy in patients with metastatic melanoma resistant to anti-PD-(L)1 monotherapy: a multicentre, retrospective, cohort study - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Australian recommendations for the management of hepatocellular carcinoma: a consensus statement - [link](#)

- The challenges of managing both chronic pain and opioid use in general practice - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Tezepelumab in Adults and Adolescents with Severe, Uncontrolled Asthma - [link](#)

- Comparative Effectiveness of Aspirin Dosing in Cardiovascular Disease - [link](#)

- Vemurafenib plus Rituximab in Refractory or Relapsed Hairy-Cell Leukemia - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Perceived Harm May Be Helpful: Fear of Fluoroquinolone-Associated Adverse Events in Children - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Reduced Alternative Insulin Dosing in Hyperkalemia: a Meta-Analysis of Effects on Hypoglycemia and Potassium Reduction - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 13 May 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- ATAGI clinical guidance on COVID-19 vaccine in Australia in 2021 (updated 10/5/21) - [link](#)

- COVID-19 vaccination –Update for health professionals - Dr Lucas de Toca – [link](#)

General Practice Snapshot – Macquarie University

- Changes in medication prescribing in general practice during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Murray PHN

- Webinar: Long COVID Symptoms: Management of long term effects – what is known so far? Dr Samantha Chakraborty Thurs 27 May 7pm to 8.30pm - [registration](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and updated recommendations as at [10/05/2021](#)

-- Updated: includes the identification of several new studies on disease-modifying treatments: baricitinib, bromhexine hydrochloride, lenzilumab (new).

NSW Health

- Policy Directive: Standard operating procedure for administration of COVID-19 vaccines in NSW vaccination clinics ([PD2021_013](#))

- COVID-19 weekly surveillance report in NSW (ending 1 May 2021) - [link](#)

- Advice for staff working in and moving between NSW Health Residential Aged Care (SGRACFs and MPSs) and other NSW Health facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic (current as of 10/5/21) - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- COVID-19 Monitor: COVID-19 vaccines, cases and variants (7/5/21) - [link](#)

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard – Healthcare settings. Updated 10 May 2021 - [link](#)

- Living Evidence:

-- COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 7 May 2021 - [link](#)

-- SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 6 May 2021 - [link](#)

-- COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 29 April 2021 – [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- Biological medicines and COVID-19 FAQs - [link](#)

Thrombosis & Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand (THANZ)

- Suspected Vaccine Induced Prothrombotic Immune Thrombocytopenia (VIPIT)/Vaccine induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT): THANZ Advisory Statement for Haematologists (updated 06/05/21) - [link](#)

TGA

- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 06-05-2021 – [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- COVID-19 weekly epidemiological update, 4 May 2021 - [link](#)

- Operational guidance: COVID-19 immunization service delivery modalities - [link](#)

- Guidance: Estimating COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) hospitalizations associated with laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2: an evaluation using the test-negative design - [link](#)

- WHO Information Note: COVID-19 considerations for tuberculosis (TB) care - [link](#)

- Science in 5: Treatment and care at home - [link](#)

- Scientific Brief: COVID-19 Natural Immunity 10 May 2021 - [link](#)

- WHO lists additional COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use and issues interim policy recommendations – Sinopharm, first Chinese vaccine, inactivated two-dose schedule with ‘easy’ storage requirements that make it suitable for low-resource settings. Vaccine efficacy for symptomatic and hospitalised disease estimated to be 79%, for all age groups- [link](#). [Further information here, here, and here](#)

- The Independent Panel Report: COVID-19: Make it the Last Pandemic - [link](#)

Health Action International, Medicines Law & Policy and Knowledge Ecology International

-Webinar: The Pandemic Preparedness Treaty: Unlocking intellectual property, knowledge and know-how for the public good, May 21, 2021 10:00 PM AEST - [register](#)

Europe

EMA

- EMA starts rolling review of [sotrovimab \(VIR-7831\)](#) for COVID-19 and [COVID-19 Vaccine \(Vero Cell\) Inactivated](#)
- Meeting highlights from the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) [3-6 May 2021](#)
- Review of signal of facial swelling with COVID-19 vaccine Comirnaty; and of unusual blood clots with low blood platelets with Janssen's COVID-19 vaccine
- Continues to closely review Comirnaty and COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna for unusual blood clots with low blood platelets
- Assessing reports of Guillain-Barre syndrome with AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine and myocarditis with Comirnaty and COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna

UK

-MHRA

- MHRA response to JCVI advice on COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca for people aged under 40 - [link](#)
- Summary of Yellow Card reporting (up to 28 April): 10.5 thromboembolic events with concurrent thrombocytopenia reported in recipients of Covid-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca per million doses - [link](#)
- Public Health England- COVID-19 vaccination: Updated blood clotting information for healthcare professionals - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Summary of COVID-19 medicines guidance (updated): [Cardiovascular system disorders](#); [Stroke](#)

USA

-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC Recommends Use of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Resume - [link](#)
- Science Brief: Community Use of Cloth Masks to Control the Spread of SARS-CoV-2 (updated)- [link](#)
- Scientific Brief: SARS-CoV-2 Transmission - [link](#)
- CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
- Anxiety-Related Adverse Event Clusters After Janssen COVID-19 Vaccination - [link](#)
- Safety Monitoring of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines against COVID-19 among Hospitalized Adults Aged ≥65 Years - [link](#)

-FDA

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for Emergency Use in Adolescents in Another Important Action in Fight against Pandemic - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- SARS-CoV-2 vaccination responses in untreated, conventionally treated and anticytokine-treated patients with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases - [link](#)
- Letter: Rituximab, but not other antirheumatic therapies, is associated with impaired serological response to SARS- CoV-2 vaccination in patients with rheumatic diseases - [link](#)

Archives of Disease in Childhood

- Review: Bibliography of published COVID-19 in children literature - [link](#)

BMJ

- Editorial: Management of severe covid-19: progress and promise - [link](#)
- Briefing: Where are we with drug treatments for covid-19? - [link](#)
- Arterial events, venous thromboembolism, thrombocytopenia, and bleeding after vaccination with Oxford-AstraZeneca ChAdOx1-S in Denmark and Norway: population based cohort study - [link](#)
- News: Covid-19: How will a waiver on vaccine patents affect global supply? - [link](#)
- Opinion: The covid-19 vaccine patent waiver: a crucial step towards a "people's vaccine" - [link](#)
- Quality improvement at times of crisis - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Cost-effectiveness of emergency preparedness measures in response to infectious respiratory disease outbreaks: a systematic review and econometric analysis - [link](#)

- Use of repurposed and adjuvant drugs in hospital patients with covid-19: multinational network cohort study - [link](#)

British Journal of Cancer

- COVID-19 and the multidisciplinary care of patients with lung cancer: an evidence-based review and commentary - [link](#)

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

- Editorial: Consensus on disease control objectives in the context of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Special collection: Coronavirus (COVID-19): evidence relevant to critical care - [link](#)

- Special collection: Coronavirus (COVID-19): infection control and prevention measures - [link](#)

European Journal of Heart Failure

- Short Report: Immunogenicity of the BNT162b2 mRNA Vaccine in Heart Transplanted Patients-A Prospective Cohort Study - [link](#)

Frontiers in Public Health

- The Impact of Universal Mask Use on SARS-COV-2 in Victoria, Australia on the Epidemic Trajectory of COVID-19 - [link](#)

Health Expectations

- Understanding COVID-19 misinformation and vaccine hesitancy in context: Findings from a qualitative study involving citizens in Bradford, UK - [link](#)

JAMA

- Association between Vaccination with BNT162b2 and Incidence of Symptomatic and Asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infections among Health Care Workers - [link](#)

- Research Letter: Antibody Response to 2-Dose SARS-CoV-2 mRNA Vaccine Series in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients - [link](#)

- Viewpoint: Precision Medicine for COVID-19. Phenotype Anarchy or Promise Realized? - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Medicine

- Statin Use Is Associated with a Decreased Risk of Mortality among Patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

Lancet

- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug use and outcomes of COVID-19 in the ISARIC Clinical Characterisation Protocol UK cohort: a matched, prospective cohort study - [link](#), commentary [link](#)

- The COVID-19 puzzle: deciphering pathophysiology and phenotypes of a new disease entity - [link](#)

- 3-month, 6-month, 9-month, and 12-month respiratory outcomes in patients following COVID-19-related hospitalisation: a prospective study - [link](#); commentary [link](#)

- Impact and effectiveness of mRNA BNT162b2 vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 infections and COVID-19 cases, hospitalisations, and deaths following a nationwide vaccination campaign in Israel: an observational study using national surveillance data - [link](#)

- Mental health responses to the COVID-19 pandemic: a latent class trajectory analysis using longitudinal UK data - [link](#)

- Early humoral response among lung transplant recipients vaccinated with BNT162b2 vaccine - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)

- The first known ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine-induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia in Australia - [link](#)

MJA

- The landscape of COVID-19 trials in Australia - [link](#)

- Pre-print: The first known ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine-induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia in Australia - [link](#)

medRxiv

- Meta-Analysis of Risk of Vaccine-Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia Following ChAdOx1-S Recombinant Vaccine - [link](#)

Nature

- High-dimensional characterization of post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- A molecular single-cell lung atlas of lethal COVID-19 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 tissue atlases reveal SARS-CoV-2 pathology and cellular targets - [link](#)

Nature Human Behaviour

- A global database of COVID-19 vaccinations - [link](#)

Nature Medicine

- Delayed production of neutralizing antibodies correlates with fatal COVID-19 - [link](#)

Nature Scientific reports

- Randomized controlled trial of convalescent plasma therapy against standard therapy in patients with severe COVID-19 disease - [link](#)

NEJM

- The Covid-19 Infodemic — Applying the Epidemiologic Model to Counter Misinformation - [link](#)
- Letter: (Pfizer Comirnaty®) BNT162b2-Elicited Neutralization against New SARS-CoV-2 Spike Variants - [link](#)

PLOS Computational Biology

- Computational epitope map of SARS-CoV-2 spike protein - [link](#)

Public Health

- Mitigation policies, community mobility, and COVID-19 case counts in Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Feasibility of large-scale population testing for SARS-CoV-2 detection by self-testing at home - [link](#)

Vaccine

- Modelling of COVID-19 vaccination strategies and herd immunity, in scenarios of limited and full vaccine supply in NSW, Australia - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Virtual Care Central sharepoint release, a central hub for information, resources and news - [link](#)

AHHA

- The Health Advocate – [May 2021](#)
- This issue focuses on your healthcare variation and features the following: Spotlight on healthcare variation; Breaking the Opioid Habit; Patients falling through the cracks; Action on low back pain.
- Deeble Institute Perspective Brief No 17: Telehealth coaching in oral healthcare - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Management of Peripheral Intravenous Catheters Clinical Care Standard - [link](#)
- CARAlert Annual Report 2020, analyses of data on confirmed critical antimicrobial resistances – [link](#)
- CARAlert data update 21: 1 January 2021–28 February 2021 - [link](#)

Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) NSW

- Monthly Medication Safety Update [April 2021](#) - Lignocaine (lidocaine) oral gel [added](#)

NSW Health

- NSW Suicide Monitoring System - Report 6 - Data to February 2021 - [link](#)
- NSW Arbovirus Surveillance and Mosquito Monitoring 2020-2021. Weekly update - [link](#)

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages
- AusPARs:
 - [Olaparib](#) (Lynparza) – Extension of indications: 1) combination with bevacizumab for the maintenance treatment of adult patients with advanced high-grade epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer who are in response (complete response or partial response) to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy with bevacizumab. 2) As monotherapy for the maintenance treatment of adult patients with germline BRCA-mutated metastatic adenocarcinoma of the pancreas whose disease has not progressed on first-line platinum-based chemotherapy.
 - [Omalizumab](#) (Xolair) – Extension of indication as add-on treatment for chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps.
 - [Perampanel hemisessquihydrate](#) (Fycompa) – Extension of indication to include the paediatric population as adjunctive treatment of partial-onset seizures with or without secondarily generalised seizures in patients from 4 years of age with epilepsy; and a new oral suspension formulation as a bioequivalent and interchangeable alternative to the currently approved tablet formulation.
- Australian prescription medicine decision summary
 - [Cutaquig](#) (human normal immunoglobulin) for replacement therapy in adults and children in: primary immunodeficiency diseases (PID), symptomatic hypogammaglobulinaemia secondary to underlying disease or treatment
- Registration of [new or extended uses](#) of registered medicine:
 - osimertinib mesilate (Tagrisso) as adjuvant therapy after tumour resection in patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) whose tumours have activating epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) mutations.
 - sofosbuvir; velpatasvir (Epclusa) for treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus infection (genotype 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6) in adults and paediatric patients 12 years of age and older and weighing 30 kg or more
- Registration of [new generic medicines and biosimilar](#) medicines:
 - everolimus (Everocan, Pharmacor Everolimus) for the prophylaxis of organ rejection in adult patients at mild to moderate immunological risk receiving an allogeneic renal or cardiac transplant and in adult patients receiving an allogeneic hepatic transplant

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Strategies for the Reduction or Discontinuation of Opioids: A 2021 Update - [link](#)
- Post Discharge Outcomes Following Intravenous Acetaminophen Treatment in Acute Care Settings, update - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
 - Pemazyre ([pemigatinib](#)), kinase inhibitor of FGFR1, 2 and 3 licensed as monotherapy for adults with locally advanced or metastatic cholangiocarcinoma with a fibroblast growth factor receptor 2 (FGFR2) fusion or rearrangement that have progressed after ≥1 prior line of systemic therapy
 - Almerg ([fexofenadine](#)) reclassified from prescription-only medicine to pharmacy-only over-the-counter product for the relief of symptoms associated with chronic idiopathic urticaria in adults and children aged 12 years and over

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- International regulators and WHO call for wider public access to clinical data - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA OKs Upfront Pembrolizumab (Keytruda) for Advanced HER2+ Gastric Cancer - [link](#)

Health Education England

- Dysphagia and Medicines - e-Learning for Healthcare - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Project Orbis: license for osimertinib (Tagrisso) extended to include adjuvant treatment of early-stage disease - [link](#)

NHS England

- National Dose Banding Table - Trastuzumab deruxtecan 20mg/mL - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch: Management of chronic asthma in children aged 16 years and under - [link](#)
- Avelumab for maintenance treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer after platinum-based chemotherapy [[ID3735](#)]
- Dupilumab for treating severe asthma [[ID1213](#)]
- Tafamidis for treating transthyretin amyloidosis with cardiomyopathy [[TA696](#)]
- Andexanet alfa for reversing anticoagulation from apixaban or rivaroxaban [[TA697](#)]
- Antimicrobial prescribing: nebulised liposomal amikacin [[ES36](#)]

Nuffield Trust

- 10 practical lessons for implementing digital innovations - learning from the Care City test bed - [link](#)

Public Health England

- Tuberculosis (TB): a resource to support TB in low incidence areas - [link](#)

Scottish Medicines Consortium

- Chlormethine hydrochloride ([Ledaga](#)®) recommended for topical treatment of mycosis fungoides-type cutaneous T-cell lymphoma in adult patients
- [Encorafenib](#) (Braftovi®) recommended for use in combination with cetuximab, for treatment of adult patients with metastatic colorectal cancer with a BRAF V600E mutation, who have received prior systemic therapy
- [Niraparib](#) (Zejula®) recommended as monotherapy for maintenance treatment of adult patients with advanced epithelial (FIGO Stages III or IV) high-grade ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer who have responded to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy
- [Ravulizumab](#) (Ultomiris®) recommended under advice of national renal complement therapeutics service for treatment of patients with body weight ≥10kg with atypical haemolytic uremic syndrome who are complement inhibitor treatment-naïve or have received eculizumab for ≥3 months and responded to it
- [Upadacitinib](#) (Rinvoq®) recommended as monotherapy or in combination with methotrexate for treatment of active psoriatic arthritis in adult patients who have responded inadequately to, or who are intolerant to ≥2 conventional DMARDs, given either alone or in combination

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Marcain ([bupivacaine](#)) now warns that hepatic dysfunction, with reversible increases of ALT, AlkP and bilirubin, has been observed following repeated injections or long-term infusions. Link with drug-induced liver injury also reported in some literature reports especially with prolonged use.
- Lopid ([gemfibrozil](#)) updated to note concomitant use with rosuvastatin at 40mg dose is contraindicated (concomitant use with any dose of simvastatin already contraindicated); concomitant use with lower doses of rosuvastatin should only be used when the benefit outweighs the risks.
- Minims [Phenylephrine](#) Hydrochloride 10%w/v Eye drops, now contraindicated for children below 12 years old due to serious systemic adverse reactions and not recommended for children aged 12-18 years old due to lack of data in this age group.
- Eylea ([afibercept](#)) advises for wet age-related macular degeneration, treatment intervals greater than four months or shorter than 4 weeks between injections have not been studied.
- [Picolax](#) (sodium picosulfate; magnesium oxide; citric acid) warns that the additional clear liquid to be taken with this product should not be only water. Drinking only water may lead to electrolyte imbalance, which in severe cases, may lead to complications such as seizures and coma.
- PecFent ([fentanyl](#)) includes section on opioid use disorder and warns opioids can cause sleep-related breathing disorders including central sleep apnoea. Cheynes Stokes respiration added as possible overdose symptom.
- Lyumjev ([insulin lispro](#)) Paediatric data, showing pharmacokinetic differences between Lyumjev and Humalog similar to that seen in adults added. Also now states no differences in safety/effectiveness with use in elderly & younger patients.

- Risk minimisation materials
- Prenoxad ([naloxone](#)) 1mg/ml Solution for Injection in a pre-filled syringe - issuer's guide and training checklist discussing what to consider before issuing the medicine, and the risks of treatment. A client's guide (for people supplied with treatment) is also available
- Obizur ([antihemophilic Factor VIII \[recombinant\]](#), porcine sequence) dose calculation to determine required number of vials needed for recommended initial dose of Obizur, information on monitoring required, target Factor VIII trough activity, frequency and duration of subsequent dosing

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- First release: [Ponesimod](#); [Fosdenopterin](#)
- Transportation of a commercial premixed intravenous insulin product through a pneumatic tube system - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Tofacitinib for the treatment of ankylosing spondylitis: a phase III, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study - [link](#)

Arthritis and Rheumatology

- Sustained Remission in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis Receiving Triple Therapy Compared to Biologic Therapy: A Swedish Nationwide Register Study - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Public availability of results of ClinicalTrials.gov-registered expanded access studies - [link](#)
- Sex-influence on the time in therapeutic range (TTR) during oral anticoagulation with coumarin derivatives: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Recent developments of HDAC inhibitors: Emerging indications and novel molecules - [link](#)
- Population pharmacokinetics of raxibacumab in healthy adult subjects - [link](#)
- Extrapolation and dosing recommendations for raxibacumab in children from birth to < 18 years of age - [link](#)
- Oral paclitaxel with encequidar compared to intravenous paclitaxel in patients with advanced cancer: a randomised crossover pharmacokinetic study - [link](#)
- Population pharmacokinetics of free flucloxacillin in patients treated with oral flucloxacillin plus probenecid - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- News: European regulators urged to crack down on missing clinical trial results - [link](#)
- Treatment timing and the effects of rhythm control strategy in patients with atrial fibrillation: nationwide cohort study - [link](#)
- SGLT-2 inhibitors or GLP-1 receptor agonists for adults with type 2 diabetes: a clinical practice guideline - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Treatment of epilepsy for people with Alzheimer's disease – [link](#)
- Surfactant therapy via thin catheter in preterm infants with or at risk of respiratory distress syndrome – [link](#)
- Topical emollient for preventing infection in preterm infants – [link](#)
- Special Collections: Brain tumour diagnosis and management – [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Bisphosphonates and atypical fractures – [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Lowering cholesterol, blood pressure, or both to prevent cardiovascular events: results of 8.7 years of follow-up of Heart Outcomes Evaluation Prevention (HOPE)-3 study participants – [link](#)
- The association of amputations and peripheral artery disease in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus receiving sodium-glucose cotransporter type-2 inhibitors: real-world study – [link](#)
- Review: Colchicine and the heart – [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Automatic dispensing cabinets and governance of controlled drugs: an exploratory study in an intensive care unit – [link](#)
- How can we optimise the pharmaceutical analysis of radiopharmaceutical pediatric prescriptions? - [link](#)
- Physicochemical stability of carmustine-containing medicinal products after reconstitution and after dilution to ready-to-administer infusion solutions stored refrigerated or at room temperature - [link](#)

Heart

- Review: Benefits of sodium glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors across the spectrum of cardiovascular diseases - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Pharmacists in advanced clinical practice roles in emergency departments (PARED) - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Antimicrobial Therapy on Respiratory Hospitalization or Death in Adults with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis. The CleanUP-IPF Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Evaluation of Topical Corticosteroid Use in Pregnancy and Risk of Newborns Being Small for Gestational Age and Having Low Birth Weight - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Anticoagulant Use for Atrial Fibrillation among Persons with Advanced Dementia at the End of Life - [link](#) - [editorial](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Comparison of Long-Acting Injectable Antipsychotics with Oral Antipsychotics and Suicide and All-Cause Mortality in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Schizophrenia - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Pharmacists' perceptions of a machine learning model for the identification of atypical medication orders - [link](#)

J Adv Nurs

- Root causes of adverse drug events in hospitals and artificial intelligence capabilities for prevention - [link](#)

Lancet

- Review: Venous thromboembolism - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- The inflammatory profile of exacerbations in patients with severe refractory eosinophilic asthma receiving mepolizumab (the MEX study): a prospective observational study - [link](#)

EClinicalMedicine

- Cardiovascular toxicities associated with abiraterone compared to enzalutamide—A pharmacovigilance study - [link](#)
- Oral tranexamic acid and thrombosis risk in women - [link](#)

Journal of Palliative Medicine

- Multicentered Evaluation of Palliative Care Pharmacists' Interventions and Outcomes in California - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Opioid-Induced In-Hospital Deaths: A 10-Year Review of Australian Coroners' Cases Exploring Similarities and Lessons Learnt - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals

- Provision of the progestogen-only pill by community pharmacies as bridging contraception for women receiving emergency contraception: the Bridge-it RCT - [link](#)

NEJM

- Review article: Management of the Difficult Airway - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Fatal mistakes: why do ten-fold medication errors in children keep happening? - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Evaluation of Dosing Strategies and Trough Concentrations of Vancomycin in Patients Undergoing Continuous Venovenous Hemofiltration - [link](#)
- Pre-transplant Amiodarone Use Does Not Affect Long-Term Heart Transplant Survival - [link](#)

Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy

- A pharmacist's unique opportunity within a multidisciplinary team to reduce drug-related problems for older adults in an intermediate care setting - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Impact of metformin treatment during pregnancy on maternal outcomes: a systematic review/meta-analysis - [link](#)

Value Health

- Incidence and variables associated with inconsistencies in opioid prescribing at hospital discharge and its associated adverse drug outcomes - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 6 May 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

NSW Health

- COVID-19 weekly surveillance report in NSW (ending 24 April 2021) - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard – Healthcare settings. Updated 28 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 30 April 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 29 April 2021 - [link](#)
 - COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 29 April 2021 – [link](#)
- Evidence Checks:
 - Immunocompromised patients and COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
 - Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis after AstraZeneca vaccination - [link](#)
 - COVID-19 vaccines clotting disorders - [link](#)

Thrombosis & Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand (THANZ)

- Suspected Vaccine Induced Prothrombotic Immune Thrombocytopenia (VIPIT)/Vaccine induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT): THANZ Advisory Statement for Haematologists (updated 24/4/21) - [link](#)

TGA

- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 28-04-2021 – [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- COVID-19 weekly epidemiological update, 27 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Guidance for conducting a country COVID-19 intra-action review (IAR): Addendum & updated tools (28/4/21) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 health system response monitor: New Zealand, April 2021 - [link](#)
- The role of community health workers in COVID-19 vaccination: implementation support guide, 26 April 2021 - [link](#)
- WHO lists Moderna vaccine for emergency use - [link](#)

Canada

National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools

- Rapid Review: What is known about reasons for vaccine confidence and uptake in populations experiencing inequities? - [link](#)

Health Canada

- Summary Safety Review - Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- EMA starts evaluating use of Olumiant (baricitinib) in hospitalised COVID-19 patients requiring supplemental oxygen - [link](#)
- EMA-PRAC recommendations on signal of embolic and thrombotic events with Vaxzevria (previously COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine) and Janssen vaccines - [link](#)

UK

-NHS England

- Updated summary of COVID-19 medicines guidance: [Cardiovascular system disorders](#) (27/4/21), [Allergy and immunology](#) (27/4/21), and [Skin disorders](#) (26/4/21)

-MHRA

- Coronavirus Vaccine – summary of Yellow Card reporting (Data included: 9/12/2020 to 21/04/2021) - [link](#) and [PDF](#)

-Public Health England

- A new study by Public Health England (PHE) has shown that one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine reduces household transmission by up to half - [link](#)

USA

-American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)

- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include:

Anticoagulation Forum; use tocilizumab in the treatment of COVID-19 beyond the ICU patient population due to the recently published Recovery Trial

- Webinar: Vaccine-Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia: How it happens and How to Spot It – link to [webinar](#) and [slides](#)

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with High Risk for Severe COVID-19: Information for Healthcare Providers (updated 30/4/21) - [link](#)

-- Standing orders for administration of COVID-19 Vaccines: [Moderna](#) and [Pfizer-BioNTech](#)

- Webinar: Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine and Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS): Update for Clinicians - [link](#)

-- Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People - [link](#)

-- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR):

- Anxiety-Related Adverse Event Clusters after Janssen COVID-19 Vaccination- 5 US Mass Vaccination Sites, April 2021 - [link](#)

--- Safety Monitoring of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccine, March-April 2021 - [link](#)

--- Updated Recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for Use of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccine after Reports of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome among Vaccine Recipients - [link](#)

--- Health Care Utilization and Clinical Characteristics of non-hospitalized Adults in an Integrated Health Care System 28–180 Days after COVID-19 Diagnosis - [link](#)

--- Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines against COVID-19 among Hospitalized Adults Aged ≥65 Years - [link](#)

-The National Academies Press

- The Critical Public Health Value of Vaccines; Tackling Issues of Access and Hesitancy - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

BMJ

- Editorial: Delaying the second dose of covid-19 vaccines - [link](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

- Age-dependent immune response to the Biontech/Pfizer BNT162b2 COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)

Diabetologica

- Risk phenotypes of diabetes and association with COVID-19 severity and death: a living systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

European Journal of Heart Failure

- Review: Immunogenicity of the BNT162b2 mRNA Vaccine in Heart Transplanted Patients - A Prospective Cohort Study - [link](#)

Gut

- Anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody responses attenuated in patients with IBD treated with infliximab - [link](#)

JAAD Case Reports

- Pre-proof: Varicella-zoster virus reactivation after SARS-Cov2 BNT162b2 mRNA vaccination: Report of five cases - [link](#)

JAMA

- US Case Reports of Cerebral Venous Sinus Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia after Ad26.COVS.2.S Vaccination, March 2 to April 21, 2021 - [link](#)

- Maternal and Neonatal Morbidity and Mortality among Pregnant Women with and Without COVID-19 Infection. The INTERCOVID Multinational Cohort Study - [link](#)

- Association of Maternal SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Pregnancy with Neonatal Outcomes - [link](#)

- Finding the Optimal Thromboprophylaxis Dose in Patients With COVID-19 - [link](#)

Journal of Hospital Infection

- British Infection Association (BIA), Healthcare Infection Society (HIS), Infection Prevention Society (IPS) and Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH) joint guidance: SARS-CoV-2 routes of transmission and recommendations for preventing acquisition - [link](#)

Lancet

- Tocilizumab in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 (RECOVERY): a randomised, controlled, open-label, platform trial - [link](#); commentary [link](#)

- Ethnic differences in SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19-related hospitalisation, intensive care unit admission, and death in 17 million adults in England: an observational cohort study using the OpenSAFELY platform - [link](#)

- Associations between body-mass index and COVID-19 severity in 6.9 million people in England: a prospective, community-based, cohort study - [link](#); commentary [link](#)

- SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence, and IgG concentration and pseudovirus neutralising antibody titres after infection, compared by HIV status: a matched case-control observational study - [link](#)

- SARS-CoV-2 outbreak in immune-mediated inflammatory diseases: the Euro-COVIMID multicentre cross-sectional study - [link](#), commentary [link](#)

- Safety and immunogenicity of one versus two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine BNT162b2 for patients with cancer: interim analysis of a prospective observational study - [link](#); commentary [link](#)

- Vaccine side-effects and SARS-CoV-2 infection after vaccination in users of the COVID Symptom Study app in the UK: a prospective observational study - [link](#); comment [link](#)

- SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence, and IgG concentration and pseudovirus neutralising antibody titres after infection, compared by HIV status: a matched case-control observational study - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Research letter: Increased dispensing of prescription medications in Australia early in the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

- Preprint: The landscape of COVID-19 trials in Australia - [link](#)

MDPI

- COVID the Catalyst for Evolving Professional Role Identity? A Scoping Review of Global Pharmacists' Roles and Services as a Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)

Nature Biotechnology

- Editorial: The viral arms race (SARS-CoV-2 variants) - [link](#)

Nature Human Behaviour

- Anti-intellectualism and the mass public's response to the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

NEJM

- Efficacy of NVX-CoV2373 Covid-19 Vaccine against the B.1.351 Variant - [link](#)

- Editorial: Interplay between Emerging SARS-CoV-2 Variants and Pandemic Control - [link](#)

- Correspondence: Effectiveness of the BNT162b2 Covid-19 Vaccine against the B.1.1.7 and B.1.351 Variants - [link](#)

- Perspective: Missing the Point - How Primary Care Can Overcome Covid-19 Vaccine "Hesitancy" - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- OxCOVID19 Database, a multimodal data repository for better understanding the global impact of COVID-19 - [link](#)

- How detection ranges and usage stops impact digital contact tracing effectiveness for COVID-19 - [link](#)

- 8806 Russian patients demonstrate T cell count as better marker of COVID-19 clinical course severity than SARS-CoV-2 viral load - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- High rates of early caesarean sections are putting Australian babies at unnecessary risk - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Cultural safety in health care for Indigenous Australians: monitoring framework - [link](#)

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework website - Updated data tables and files with current survey results - [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- Prescribing Competencies Framework - describes the competencies that health professionals require to prescribe medicines judiciously, appropriately, safely and effectively in the Australian healthcare system - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Safety Notice [008/21](#): Medtronic Covidien DAR™ airway products – Deviation in sterilisation processing

- Physical Health Care for People Living with Mental Health Issues Guidelines ([GL2021_006](#))

- NSW Health Privacy Internal Review Guidelines ([GL2019_015](#))

- NSW Suicide Monitoring System - Report 6 - Data to February 2021 - [link](#)

PBS

- Cancer expert to head review into efficient and equitable access to chemotherapy medicines - [link](#)

- PBS Website Survey - to better understand people's perceptions and experiences of using the PBS website - [link](#)

TGA

- Nicotine e-cigarettes laws are changing: From 1 October 2021 you will no longer be able to legally buy these products from overseas websites without first getting a prescription - [link](#)

- TGA warns consumers about potential harm from unlawfully supplied medicinal cannabis - [link](#)

- Reminder: supply and advertising controls on medicinal cannabis - [link](#)

- Changes to the Permissible Ingredients Determination - [link](#), Update to listed medicine ingredients in March 2021 - [link](#)
- AusPARs:
 - Clostridium botulinum type A toxin-haemagglutinin complex ([Dysport](#)) – Extension of indications: for symptomatic treatment of focal spasticity of upper limbs in children aged 2 years and older.
 - [Trientine dihydrochloride](#) (Trientine Waymade) – New: for the treatment of patients with Wilson’s disease who are intolerant of penicillamine.
 - [Rituximab](#) (Ruxience®), New biosimilar medicine approved.
 - [Adalimumab](#), (Abrilada®) New biosimilar medicine approved.
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - [Trabectedin](#) (Yondelis) - treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic liposarcoma or leiomyosarcoma who received a prior anthracycline-containing regimen.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- Inrebic ([fedratinib](#)) for treatment of disease-related splenomegaly or symptoms in adult patients with primary myelofibrosis, post polycythaemia vera myelofibrosis or post essential thrombocythaemia myelofibrosis, who are JAK inhibitor naïve or have been treated with ruxolitinib

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Approves Treatment for Chronic Kidney Disease - Farxiga (dapagliflozin) oral - [link](#)
- FDA Approves Higher Dosage of Naloxone Nasal Spray to Treat Opioid Overdose - [link](#)
- FDA Commits to Evidence-Based Actions Aimed at Saving Lives and Preventing Future Generations of Smokers - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Public Assessment Report of the Reclassification of Almerg (fexofenadine) - [link](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- Pharmacist Independent Prescribers - [link](#)

The Joint Commission

- Infection control risks related to glucose monitoring, insulin administration - [link](#)

The National Academies Press

- Improving the Evidence Base for Treatment Decision Making for Older Adults with Cancer - [link](#)
- The Challenges and Opportunities of Advance Care Planning - [link](#)
- Peer Review of a Report on Strategies to Improve Patient Safety - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Oral rabies vaccine: a new strategy in the fight against rabies deaths - [link](#)
- Deworming women during pregnancy has a positive effect on child survival and health - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) & Faculty of Pain Medicine

- Probable allergic reaction to Spongostan - [link](#)

CEC

- Medication safety updates [29 April 2021](#) for enoxaparin, salbutamol metered dose inhaler, adrenaline 1:1000, ergometrine, glyceryl trinitrate injection

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs

- Adenocor ([adenosine](#)) injection should be administered by rapid IV bolus into a vein or IV line. If given via IV line it should be injected as proximally as possible, and followed by a rapid saline flush. If administered through a peripheral vein, a large bore cannula should be used.
- Coversyl arginine Plus ([indapamide and perindopril](#)) - rhabdomyolysis and muscle disorders added as adverse effects of treatment (frequency unknown).
- Iressa ([gefitinib](#)) - palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome (hand-foot syndrome) added as adverse effect of treatment (uncommon).
- Sporanox ([itraconazole](#)) notes that in cystic fibrosis patients, variability in plasma levels of itraconazole leading to subtherapeutic concentrations has been observed. If no response to oral solution, consideration should be given to switching to itraconazole IV or to alternative therapy.
- Frisium ([clobazam](#)) warns some epidemiological studies suggest an increased incidence of suicidal ideation, suicide attempt and suicide in patients with or without depression and treated with benzodiazepines and other hypnotics, including clobazam; a causal relationship not established.
- Zolgensma ([onasemnogene abeparvovec](#)) warns that cases of thrombotic microangiopathy, an acute and life-threatening condition, characterised by thrombocytopenia and microangiopathic haemolytic anaemia, have been reported to occur ~1 week after infusion.
- AVAXIM ([hepatitis A vaccine](#)) contains 10mcg phenylalanine per 0.5ml dose, equivalent to 0.17mcg/kg for a 60kg person.
- Minims [Phenylephrine](#) Hydrochloride 10%w/v Eye drops, contraindicated for children below 12 years old due to serious systemic adverse reactions reported with eye products containing phenylephrine; not recommended for children aged 12-18 years old due to lack of data.

EMA

- Recommended update of product information re azathioprine and erythema nodosum - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Health Product Infowatch [April 2021](#) includes:
 - Screening assessment talc
 - New health product safety information: Keppra (levetiracetam) concerning QT interval prolongation; Ketalar (ketamine hydrochloride) concerning hepatobiliary toxicity; Lynparza (olaparib) with more detailed information about Myelodysplastic Syndrome/Acute Myeloid Leukemia (MDS/AML).

ISMP

- Acuter Care Medication Safety Alert! [May 6, 2021](#)
- More Can Be Done to Alleviate Errors Associated with Pharmaceutical [Product Labeling and Packaging](#)
- Compounding errors with bamlanivimab and etesevimab
- ZANTAC reborn
- Available May 18, 2021: [ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment for Perioperative Settings](#)

Manufacturer

- Lojuxta (lomitapide): Reminder to monitor the liver function of patients treated with lomitapide and to avoid use in pregnancy

MIMS monthly updates - [May 2021](#)

- New Products:
 - Elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor and ivacaftor (Trikafta) - cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) correctors.
 - Esketamine (HCl) (Spravato), the S-enantiomer of racemic ketamine, an antidepressant with a novel mechanism of action.
 - Ofatumumab (Kesimpta) is a recombinant human anti-CD20 monoclonal immunoglobulin G1 (IgG1) antibody for the treatment of adults with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis to delay the progression of physical disability and reduce the frequency of relapse.
- New Contraindications:
 - Levonorgestrel/ethinylestradiol and ethinylestradiol (Seasonique) now contraindicated with concomitant use of glecaprevir/pibrentasvir and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir/voxilaprevir.
 - Siponimod (Mayzent) should not be administered to patients who in the last 6 months had myocardial infarction, unstable angina pectoris, stroke/transient ischemic attack, decompensated heart failure (requiring in-patient treatment), or New York Heart Association Class III/IV heart failure;

or with second-degree Mobitz type II atrioventricular (A-V) block, third-degree A-V block, sino-atrial heart block or sick-sinus syndrome, if they do not have a pacemaker.

SPS

- Using chloramphenicol eye drops in children under 2 years - [link](#)

TGA

- Tandem t:slim X2 insulin pump: Update - suspension lifted after review - [link](#)

- Clonidine - importance of dosing compliance and safe storage - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Cardiology

- Inappropriate dosing of direct oral anticoagulants in patients with atrial fibrillation - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Estrogen-induced gallstone pancreatitis in a transgender female - [link](#)

- Adapting pharmacy experiential education during COVID-19: Innovating remote preceptor resources, tools, and patient care delivery beyond virtual meetings - [link](#)

- An experience encouraging education and training for pharmacy learners in the care of older, critically ill, and end-of-life patients - [link](#)

- Commentary: The need for increased education and training of pharmacy learners in the care of older, critically ill, and end-of-life patients - [link](#)

- Failure modes and effects analysis to improve transitions of care in patients discharged on outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy - [link](#)

Arthritis and Rheumatology

- Association of higher hydroxychloroquine blood levels with reduced thrombosis risk in systemic lupus erythematosus - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- A new method to calculate intra-patient variability in tacrolimus concentrations - [link](#)

- Spotlight commentary: A role for real-world evidence to inform the clinical care of patients with diabetes mellitus - [link](#)

- Incidence, characteristics and risk factors for drug-induced liver injury in hospitalized patients: A matched case-control study - [link](#)

- Nemonoxacin Dosage Adjustment in Patients with Severe Renal Impairment Based on Population Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Analysis - [link](#)

- Development of a new pharmacokinetic model for target-concentration controlled infusion of cefoxitin as a prophylactic antibiotic in colorectal surgical patients - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Delayed antibiotic prescribing for respiratory tract infections: individual patient data meta-analysis - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Effects of a refined evidence-based toolkit and mentored implementation on medication reconciliation at 18 hospitals: results of the MARQUIS2 study - [link](#)

Circulation

- Efficacy and Safety of Using Dual Versus Monotherapy Antiplatelet Agents in Secondary Stroke Prevention: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Clinical Trials - [link](#)

- Effect of Denosumab or Alendronic Acid on the Progression of Aortic Stenosis: A Double-Blind Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Combination fixed-dose beta agonist and steroid inhaler as required for adults or children with mild asthma - [link](#)

- Immediate antiepileptic drug treatment, versus placebo, deferred, or no treatment for first unprovoked seizure - [link](#)
- Single or combined immune checkpoint inhibitors compared to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy with or without bevacizumab for people with advanced non-small cell lung cancer - [link](#)
- Electronic cigarettes for smoking cessation - [link](#)
- Antibiotics for treatment of irritable bowel syndrome in adults - [link](#)
- Pharmacological and psychological interventions for depression in people with tuberculosis - [link](#)
- Platinum-based chemotherapy for early triple-negative breast cancer - [link](#)
- Systemic opioid regimens for postoperative pain in neonates - [link](#)
- Systemic opioids versus other analgesics and sedatives for postoperative pain in neonates - [link](#)
- Tamoxifen and aromatase inhibitors for relapse of tubo-ovarian high-grade serous cancer - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Value of skin tests for managing allergic hypersensitivity reactions to platinum compounds - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring vs Standard Therapy during Infliximab Induction on Disease Remission in Patients With Chronic Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Diseases. A Randomized Clinical Trial – [link](#)
- α 2-Adrenergic Agonists or Stimulants for Preschool-Age Children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder - [link](#) - [editorial](#)
- Effect of Half-Dose vs Stable-Dose Conventional Synthetic Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs on Disease Flares in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis in Remission. The ARCTIC REWIND Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Assessment of Catheter Ablation or Antiarrhythmic Drugs for First-line Therapy of Atrial Fibrillation. A Meta-analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Identifying risk of opioid use disorder for patients taking opioid medications with deep learning - [link](#)

Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice

- Use of therapeutic outcomes monitoring method for performing of pharmaceutical care in oncology patients - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- From dispensary to bedside and beyond: the evolving role of the intensive care unit pharmacist - [link](#)
- Standard of practice in intensive care for pharmacy services - [link](#)
- Reducing medication-related harm through the adoption of technology - [link](#)

Lancet

- Pharmacological blood pressure lowering for primary and secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease across different levels of blood pressure: an individual participant-level data meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Fractional dose compared with standard dose inactivated poliovirus vaccine in children: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Antipsychotic discontinuation: mind the patient and the real-world evidence - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Research letter: Opioid cessation is associated with reduced pain and improved function in people attending specialist chronic pain services - [link](#)
- Editorial: Lack of efficacy of cannabidiol for relieving back pain: time to re-set expectations? - [link](#)
- Australia in 2030: what is our path to health for all? - [supplement](#) - [editorial](#)
- Vaccinations in patients with multiple sclerosis: review and recommendations - [link](#)

NEJM

- Review article: Gastric Emptying Abnormalities in Diabetes Mellitus - [link](#)
- Dexamethasone and Surgical-Site Infection - [link](#)

- Four-Month Rifapentine Regimens with or without Moxifloxacin for Tuberculosis - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- The 2020 Focused Updates to the NIH Asthma Management Guidelines: Key Points for Pediatricians - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy: The Journal of Human Pharmacology & Drug Therapy

- Elbasvir/grazoprevir administered for 12 weeks via Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy Tube Achieves Sustained Virologic Response: A Case Report and a Review of the Literature - [link](#)
- Comparative Effectiveness and Safety of Prasugrel versus Ticagrelor following Percutaneous Coronary Intervention: An Observational Study - [link](#)

Prescrire – French Medical Journal

- Prescrire International, Issue Number 226 [May 2021](#)
-- Ciclosporin eye drops (Verkazia°) in severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis - [link](#)
-- Medical cannabis: an experimental programme in France in 2021 - [link](#)
-- Baclofen: at moderate doses, an option for some alcohol-dependent patients - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Tranexamic acid and bleeding in patients treated with non-vitamin K oral anticoagulants undergoing dental extraction: The EXTRACT-NOAC randomized clinical trial - [link](#)

Thrombosis and Haemostasis

- Comparison of Bleeding Risk Scores in Elderly Patients Receiving Extended Anticoagulation with Vitamin K Antagonists for Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 29 Apr 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Infographic: Total number of people vaccinated for COVID-19 in Australia as at 26 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Vaccine Operations Centre - Weekly Operational Update - [link](#)
- Information for Immunisation Providers on Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) following COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)
- ATAGI reinforce recommendations on use of COVID-19 vaccines following review of vaccine safety data and benefits - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Podcast Episode 6: Dementia mortality during COVID-19 in Australia - [link](#)

CEC

- COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Manual - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and updated recommendations as at [22/04/2021](#)
-- New: Timing of surgery following COVID-19 infection, Tocilizumab for pregnant and breastfeeding women, Interferon β -1a plus lopinavir-ritonavir, Budesonide, CT-P59 monoclonal antibody
-- Updated: VTE prophylaxis for adults, Azithromycin, Corticosteroids

NSW Health

- COVID-19 weekly surveillance report in NSW (ending 17 April 2021) - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- COVID-19 Monitor: COVID-19 vaccines and cases (22/4/21) - [link](#)
- Risk Monitoring Dashboard – Healthcare settings. Updated 21 April 2021 - [link](#)

- Living Evidence:
- COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 26 April 2021 - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 26 April 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 26 April 2021 – [link](#)

SHPA

- Open access COVID-19 vaccine information hub - [link](#)

TGA

- AstraZeneca ChAdOx1-S COVID-19 vaccine - Three additional Australian cases of TTS likely linked to vaccine - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 21-04-2021 - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 27 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Fighting misinformation in the time of COVID-19, one click at a time - [link](#)
- Expanding our understanding of post COVID-19 condition: report of a WHO webinar - [link](#)
- Interim recommendations for use of the ChAdOx1-S [recombinant] vaccine against COVID-19 (AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine AZD1222, SII Covishield, SK Bioscience) Updated 21/4/21 - [link](#), associated annexes - [link](#)
- Science in 5: Vaccines, variants & mass gatherings - [link](#); which vaccine should I take and what about side effects? - [Link](#)

Canada

- Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine and the Risk of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia - [link](#)
- Bamlanivimab – Potential Risk of Treatment Failure Due to Circulation of Resistant SARS-CoV-2 Variants - [link](#)

Europe

- EMA
- Direct healthcare professional communication: COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen: link between the vaccine and the occurrence of thrombosis in combination with thrombocytopenia - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine safety update: COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen (22/4/21) - [link](#)
- AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine: benefits and risks in context - [link](#); graphic representations of findings - [link](#)
- Eurosurveillance
- Rapid Communication: Characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern B.1.1.7, B.1.351 or P.1: data from seven EU/EEA countries, weeks 38/2020 to 10/2021 - [link](#)

UK

- e(MC) UK
- Revised SPC: [ChAdOx1 S](#) (Astra Zeneca) COVID-19 Vaccine - contraindicates use in pts with a history of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia and thrombosis and adds that pts who have experienced major venous and/or arterial thrombosis with thrombocytopenia following any COVID-19 vaccine should not receive a 2nd dose of this vaccine
- MHRA
- COVID-19 vaccines: updates for April 2021 (up to 21/04/21) – [link](#)
- GOV.UK
- Guidance: Clinical investigation and management of COVID-19 vaccine induced thrombosis and thrombocytopenia - [link](#)
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain
- Podcast: [PharmSci Today #27](#) - latest developments in vaccines for COVID-19

USA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: repurposing drugs to treat COVID-19 at home
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to COVID-19 Vaccination (27/4/21) - [link](#)
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR):
- Updated Recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for Use of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccine after Reports of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome among Vaccine Recipients - [link](#)
- Health Care Utilization and Clinical Characteristics of Non hospitalized Adults in an Integrated Health Care System 28–180 Days after COVID-19 Diagnosis - [link](#)
- FDA
- FDA and CDC Lift Recommended Pause on Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine Use Following Thorough Safety Review - [link](#)
- ISMP
- ISMP Analyzes First Few Months of COVID-19 Vaccine – [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

- Pharmacist outreach Program for COVID-19 monoclonal antibody distribution - [link](#)
- Strategies used to meet the challenges of mass COVID-19 vaccination by the pharmacy department in a large academic medical center - [link](#)

American Journal of Neuroradiology

- Cerebral Venous Thrombosis in COVID-19: A New York Metropolitan Cohort Study - [link](#)

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

- COVID-19–Related Infodemic and Its Impact on Public Health: A Global Social Media Analysis - [link](#)

Anaesthesia Critical Care & Pain medicine

- SARS-CoV-2 vaccination efficacy on hospitalisation and variants - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Letter: Update Alert 8: Risks and Impact of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors or Angiotensin-Receptor Blockers on SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Adults - [link](#)

BMJ

- Prophylaxis against covid-19: living systematic review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- BMJ Case Reports: Guillain-Barre syndrome following the first dose of the chimpanzee adenovirus-vectored COVID-19 vaccine, ChAdOx1 - [link](#)
- BMJ Opinion: Pandemic preprints—a duty of responsible stewardship - [link](#)

Cell Reports Medicine

- Pre-print: BNT162b2 Vaccination Effectively Prevents the Rapid Rise of SARS-CoV-2 Variant B.1.1.7 in high risk populations in Israel - [link](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

- Re-infection with SARS-CoV-2 in Patients Undergoing Serial Laboratory Testing - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 infection in a cohort of healthcare personnel - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Prior use of therapeutic anticoagulation does not protect against COVID-19 related clinical outcomes in hospitalized patients: a propensity score-matched cohort study - [link](#)
- Antihypertensive Medications and COVID-19 Diagnosis and Mortality: Population-based Case-Control Analysis in the United Kingdom - [link](#)

Critical Care

- The impact of frailty on survival in elderly intensive care patients with COVID-19: the COVIP study - [link](#)

Drugs & Aging

- Drug–Drug Interactions and Prescription Appropriateness at Hospital Discharge: Experience with COVID-19 Patients – [link](#)

Emerging Infectious Diseases (CDC)

- Case Report: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 P.2 Lineage Associated with Reinfection Case, Brazil, June–October 2020 - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Administration of benralizumab in a patient with severe asthma admitted to the intensive care unit with COVID-19 pneumonia: case report - [link](#)

Gut Journal (BMJ)

- Infliximab is associated with attenuated immunogenicity to BNT162b2 and ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in patients with IBD - [link](#)

International Immunopharmacology

- The effect of tocilizumab on COVID-19 patient mortality: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

JAMA

- Simulated Identification of Silent COVID-19 Infections among Children and Estimated Future Infection Rates with Vaccination - [link](#); commentary - [link](#)

- Cardiac Corrected QT Interval Changes among Patients Treated for COVID-19 Infection during the Early Phase of the Pandemic - [link](#); commentary - [link](#)

- Acute Ischemic Stroke during the Convalescent Phase of Asymptomatic COVID-2019 Infection in Men - [link](#)

- Maternal and Neonatal Morbidity and Mortality Among Pregnant Women With and Without COVID-19 Infection. The INTERCOVID Multinational Cohort Study - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Association of Facial Paralysis with mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines. A Disproportionality Analysis Using the World Health Organization Pharmacovigilance Database - [link](#)

Journal of Aerosol Medicine and Pulmonary Drug Delivery

- Risk of Transmitting Coronavirus Disease 2019 During Nebulizer Treatment: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

Lancet

- COVID-19 vaccine coverage in health-care workers in England and effectiveness of BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine against infection (SIREN): a prospective, multicentre, cohort study - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Vaccine side-effects and SARS-CoV-2 infection after vaccination in users of the COVID Symptom Study app in the UK: a prospective observational study - [link](#)

Lancet Haematology

- COVID-19-associated coagulopathy and antithrombotic agents—lessons after 1 year - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory medicine

- Interleukin-6 receptor blockade in patients with COVID-19: placing clinical trials into context - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Safety and immunogenicity of one versus two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine BNT162b2 for patients with cancer: interim analysis of a prospective observational study - [link](#)

medRxiv

- Pre-peer review: 6-Month Follow Up of 8679 Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients in Germany: A Nationwide Cohort Study - [link](#)

- Pre-peer review: The Barrier to Vaccination Is Not Vaccine Hesitancy: Patterns of COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptance over the Course of the Pandemic in 23 Countries - [link](#)

- Pre-peer review: Perceived public health threat a key factor for willingness to get the COVID-19 vaccine in Australia - [link](#)

- Pre-peer review: Platelet Activation by Vaccine-Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT) Patient Serum is Blocked by COX, P2Y12 and Kinase Inhibitors - [link](#)

Nature Communications

- Mortality outcomes with hydroxychloroquine & chloroquine in COVID-19 international collaborative meta-analysis of randomized trials - [link](#)

Nature Reviews Rheumatology

- Review: Systemic and organ-specific immune-related manifestations of COVID-19 - [link](#)

NEJM

- Safety and Efficacy of Single-Dose Ad26.COV2.S Vaccine against Covid-19 - [link](#)
- Preliminary Findings of mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine Safety in Pregnant Persons - [link](#)
- Brief Report: Vaccine Breakthrough Infections with SARS-CoV-2 Variants - [link](#)
- Perspective: Beyond the First Dose — Covid-19 Vaccine Follow-through and Continued Protective Measures - [link](#)

OSFHome

- Cerebral venous thrombosis and portal vein thrombosis: a retrospective cohort study of 537,913 COVID-19 cases - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Compassionate Use of Remdesivir in Children with Severe COVID-19 - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Ambient temperature and subsequent COVID-19 mortality in the OECD countries and individual United States - [link](#)

Stroke

- SARS-CoV-2 and Stroke Characteristics - [link](#)

The Journal of Injury, Function and Rehabilitation

- Case Report: Painless Idiopathic Neuralgic Amyotrophy after COVID-19 Vaccination - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- Third and Fourth Degree Perineal Tears Clinical Care Standard- Highlights infographic- [link](#)
- Fourth Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation [includes sections on polypharmacy, medication management reviews and use of proton pump inhibitors](#) - [link](#)

AHHA

- Deeble Institute Perspective Brief No 16: Translating aged care reform recommendations to action - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- GEN Aged Care Data: Younger people in residential aged care - [link](#), Providers, services and places in aged care - [link](#), Spending on aged care - [link](#), People using aged care - [link](#)
- Acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease in Australia, 2015–2019 - [link](#)

PBS

- Recommendations made by the PBAC – [March 2021](#)
- PBAC Public Summary Documents – December 2020:
 - Nurse Practitioners as secondary reviewers for ongoing treatment with opioid medications - [link](#)
 - Etanercept. Seek PBAC's advice on the sponsor's request to change the listing of etanercept biosimilar Brenzys® to support the uptake of the biosimilar brand - [link](#)

TGA

- Nicotine e-cigarettes laws are changing - [link](#)
- AusPARs:

- Enerzair Breezhaler ([Indacaterol acetate/ glycopyrronium bromide/ mometasone furoate](#)) - for maintenance treatment of asthma in adult patients not adequately controlled with a maintenance combination of a long-acting beta2-agonist and an inhaled corticosteroid who experienced one or more asthma exacerbations in the previous year.
- [Onasemnogene abeparvovec](#) (Zolgensma) - for paediatric patients less than 9 months of age with symptomatic or pre-symptomatic spinal muscular atrophy with bi-allelic mutations in the survival motor neuron 1 (SMN1) gene and 1 to 3 copies of the SMN2 gene.
- [insulin degludec/liraglutide](#) - for adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus to improve glycaemic control in combination with one or more oral glucose-lowering medicinal products
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
- [Adakveo](#) (crizanlizumab) for the prevention of recurrent vaso-occlusive crises in patients aged 16 years and older with sickle cell disease

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Lidocaine Infusions for Palliative Care Patients with Cancer Pain (updated) - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products: Kesimpta ([Ofatumumab](#))

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- CHMP meeting highlights [April 2021](#) - Eight new medicines recommended for approval including:
 - Enspryng (satralizumab) for neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders (NMOSD) from age 12
 - Evkeeza (evinacumab) for adult/adolescent with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH)
 - Adtralza (tralokinumab) for adults with moderate to severe atopic dermatitis
 - Koselugo (selumetinib) for paediatric patients with neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1) plexiform neurofibromas (PN)
 - Onureg (azacitidine) for acute myeloid leukemia maintenance
 - Extensions of indication: Aubagio, BiResp Spiromax, DuoResp Spiromax, Maviret, Nulojix, Opdivo, Tagrisso, Venclyxto and Yervoy

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Approves Loncastuximab for Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphomas - [link](#)
- Memorandum of Understanding Addressing Certain Distributions of Compounded Drugs: Questions and Answers - [link](#)
- New Drug approvals
 - Zynlonta ([loncastuximab tesirine-lpyl](#)) to treat certain types of relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma
 - Jemperli ([dostarlimab-gxly](#)) to treat endometrial cancer - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- NICE recommends new treatment for rare blood disorder ([ravulizumab](#))
- Chemotherapy-free treatment option to be offered to patients with England's most common leukaemia ([acalabrutinib](#))
- Atrial fibrillation: diagnosis and management [[NG196](#)]
- Postnatal care, updated [[QS37](#)]
- Pembrolizumab for treating locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma after platinum-containing chemotherapy [[TA692](#)]
- Olaparib plus bevacizumab for maintenance treatment of advanced ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer [[TA693](#)]
- Bempedoic acid with ezetimibe for treating primary hypercholesterolaemia or mixed dyslipidaemia [[TA694](#)]
- Carfilzomib with dexamethasone and lenalidomide for previously treated multiple myeloma [[TA695](#)]

MEDICATION SAFETY

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) & Faculty of Pain Medicine

- Ventolin metered dose inhalers (AU) - safety addition of a counter showing the number of remaining doses - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- [Indivina](#) (estradiol valerate and medroxyprogesterone acetate) - Exacerbation of angioedema added as potential adverse effect of treatment (frequency unknown), and caution recommended in patients with a history of angioedema. Many HIV/HCV antivirals can increase or decrease plasma concentrations of oestrogen.
- [Innozide](#) (enalapril maleate and hydrochlorothiazide) - Choroidal effusion added as potential adverse effect (frequency unknown).
- Ikorel ([nicorandil](#)) - Third and sixth nerve paralysis (often associated with headache) added as adverse effect (unknown frequency).
- [Vipdomet](#) (alogliptin/metformin) updated regarding post-marketing reports of bullous pemphigoid in patients taking DPP-4 inhibitors including alogliptin.
- Lopid ([gemfibrozil](#)) - concomitant use with rosuvastatin at 40mg is contraindicated; concomitant use with lower doses of atorvastatin should only be used when potential benefits outweigh the risks.
- Taltz ([ixekizumab](#)) updated to include long-term safety and efficacy data from studies.
- Targaxan ([rifaximin](#)) updated to include meta-analysis results which showed combination therapy with rifaximin and lactulose associated with a statistically significant reduction in mortality in hepatic encephalopathy patients when compared to lactulose alone.
- Natrilix ([indapamide](#)) - cases of rhabdomyolysis have been reported, mainly in context of severe hypokalaemia, and that sulfonamide drugs can cause an idiosyncratic reaction resulting in choroidal effusion with visual field defect, transient myopia, and acute angle-closure glaucoma.
- Jinarc ([tolvaptan](#)) - dysgeusia, syncope, dry skin, urticaria, arthralgia, myalgia and weight gain added as common adverse events.
- Celebrex ([celecoxib](#)) updated to warn that Celebrex may have minor influence on driving and use of machines.
- Elvanse ([lisdexamphetamine](#)) updated with data from two cohort studies of pregnancies with exposure to amphetamine. One study does not suggest an increased risk of congenital malformations and one study suggests an increased risk of preeclampsia and preterm birth.
- Tygacil ([tigecycline](#)) updated to include the conclusions from preclinical studies conducted with tigecycline in rats, which do not indicate harmful effects with respect to fertility or reproductive performance.

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Polyethylene glycol (PEG) laxatives and starch-based thickeners: potential interactive effect when mixed, leading to an increased risk of aspiration - [link](#)
- Drug Safety Update [April 2021](#)
- Letters to Healthcare Professionals [March 2021](#)
- Zolgensma ([onasemnogene abeparvovec](#)): Risk for thrombotic microangiopathy.
- Xeljanz ([tofacitinib](#)): Initial clinical trial results of increased risk of major adverse cardiovascular events and malignancies (excluding NMSC) with use of tofacitinib relative to TNF-alpha inhibitors.
- Tecentriq ([atezolizumab](#)): risk of severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs).

Royal College of Ophthalmologists

- Safety [Alert](#): Boron additives in chloramphenicol drops; should ophthalmologists be concerned?

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Inappropriate use of antipsychotics in dementia: what's happening now – webinar [slides](#) - [recording](#)
- RMOB Buprenorphine Long-acting Injection Guidance - [link](#)

TGA

- Antidepressant utilisation and risk of suicide in young people, Safety investigation - [link](#)
- Clonidine - importance of dosing compliance and safe storage – [link](#)

WHO

- Step Safely: Strategies for preventing and managing falls across the life-course - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Emergency Medicine

- Identifying errors and safety considerations in patients undergoing thrombolysis for acute ischemic stroke - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Subtherapeutic posaconazole prophylaxis in a gastric bypass patient following hematopoietic stem cell transplantation - [link](#)
- Urinary tract infection pocket card effect on preferred antimicrobial prescribing for cystitis among patients discharged from the emergency department - [link](#)
- Use of failure modes and effects analysis to mitigate potential risks prior to implementation of an intravenous compounding technology - [link](#)
- A pharmacist-driven Food and Drug Administration incident surveillance and response program for compounded drugs - [link](#)
- Clinical impact of pharmacist-led antibiotic stewardship programs in outpatient settings in the United States: A scoping review - [link](#)
- Creation of a regional hazardous drug handling task force - [link](#)
- Descriptive analysis of the unwarranted continuation of antipsychotics for the management of ICU delirium during transitions of care: A multicenter evaluation across New Jersey - [link](#)
- Thromboelastography utilization for dabigatran reversal in a patient with acute kidney injury - [link](#)
- Tepotinib Hydrochloride - [link](#)
- Long-term physicochemical stability of acyclovir 5 mg/mL solution stored in polypropylene bags as a simulated hospital stock preparation - [link](#)
- Stability of 10 mg/mL and 50 mg/mL ketamine oral solutions - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Sulfonylurea antidiabetics are associated with lower risk of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest: Real-world data from a population-based study - [link](#)
- Changes in vascular function during breast cancer treatment – [link](#)
- Pharmacist-led interventions to reduce adverse drug events in older people living in residential aged care facilities: A systematic review - [link](#)
- Lung and liver sarcoidosis-like reaction induced by tocilizumab - [link](#)
- Betalactam hypersensitivity: the importance of delabeling in primary care - [link](#)
- Tacrolimus Variability Score Outperforms Coefficient of Variation in Predicting Clinical Outcomes of Living Kidney Transplantation - [link](#)
- Medication Burden and Clustering in People Living with HIV Undergoing Therapeutic Drug Monitoring - [link](#)

Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)

- Association between antihypertensive medications and risk of skin cancer in people older than 65 years: a population-based study - [link](#)

Circulation

- Does SGLT1 Inhibition Add Benefit to SGLT2 Inhibition in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus? - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Drug therapies for reducing gastric acidity in people with cystic fibrosis - [link](#)
- Approaches for discontinuation versus continuation of long-term antidepressant use for depressive and anxiety disorders in adults - [link](#)
- PARP (Poly ADP-Ribose Polymerase) inhibitors for locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer - [link](#)
- Antipsychotic dose reduction compared to dose continuation for people with schizophrenia - [link](#)
- Antipsychotic polypharmacy reduction versus polypharmacy continuation for people with schizophrenia - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Dasiglucagon: A Next-Generation Glucagon Analog for Rapid and Effective Treatment of Severe Hypoglycemia Results of Phase 3 Randomized Double-Blind Clinical Trial - [link](#)

- Feasibility of Simplification from a Basal-Bolus Insulin Regimen to a Fixed-Ratio Formulation of Basal Insulin Plus a GLP-1RA or to Basal Insulin Plus an SGLT2 Inhibitor: BEYOND, a Randomized, Pragmatic Trial - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Is there a circannual variation in the anticoagulation control of warfarin? - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Enhancing medication therapy in Parkinson's disease by establishing an interprofessional network including pharmacists - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Medication Adherence as Mandatory Indicator in Healthcare Safety - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Vulnerable Older Adults with Ovarian Cancer—Time to Stop Undertreating - [link](#)

Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf

- Increasing naloxone prescribing in the emergency department through education and electronic medical record work-aids - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- The randomized AMBORA trial: impact of pharmacological/pharmaceutical care on medication safety and patient-reported outcomes during treatment with new oral anticancer agents - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- A time in motion study of impact of robotics on medication supply in an Australian hospital pharmacy - [link](#)

Lancet

- The SANAD II study of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of levetiracetam, zonisamide, or lamotrigine for newly diagnosed focal epilepsy: an open-label, non-inferiority, multicentre, phase 4, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

- The SANAD II study of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of valproate versus levetiracetam for newly diagnosed generalised and unclassifiable epilepsy: an open-label, non-inferiority, multicentre, phase 4, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology

- Ursodeoxycholic acid in intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy: a systematic review and individual participant data meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Haematology

- Outcomes in patients treated with chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy who were admitted to intensive care (CARTTAS): an international, multicentre, observational cohort study - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Evidence-based approaches for the management of side-effects of adjuvant endocrine therapy in patients with breast cancer - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Perspective: Should we be routinely co-prescribing naloxone for patients on long term opioids? – [link](#)

- Insight: Co-prescribing naloxone: taking the stigma out - [link](#)

NEJM

- Review: Postpartum Hemorrhage - [link](#)

- Bimekizumab versus Secukinumab in Plaque Psoriasis - [link](#)

- Bimekizumab versus Adalimumab in Plaque Psoriasis - [link](#)

- Tranexamic Acid for the Prevention of Blood Loss after Cesarean Delivery - [link](#)

Thorax

- Risk of drug-induced interstitial lung disease in hospitalised patients: a nested case–control study – [link](#)

TAG Mail – 22 Apr 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Infographic: Total number of people vaccinated for COVID-19 in Australia as at 18 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Epidemiology [Report 39](#): Reporting period ending 11 April 2021

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Alcohol and other drug use during COVID-19 Infographic - [link](#)
- Dementia deaths during the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Management of COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca (ChAdOx1-S) from refrigerator to administration. Updated 15/4/21 - [link](#)
- Authority to Supply Poisons and Restricted Substances – Defence Medical Technician - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard. Updated 21 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 19 April 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 19 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Evidence Checks: COVID-19 rapid testing - [link](#); Deep Cleans - [link](#); Quarantine measures - [link](#)

TGA

- Third Australian case of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia likely linked to AstraZeneca ChAdOx1-S COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 14-04-2021 - [link](#)

UNSW

- Inaugural David Cooper Lecture with Dr Anthony S. Fauci (14/4/21) - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Why are there extra doses of vaccine in the vaccine vial? - [link](#)
- COVID-19 essential supplies forecasting tool (COVID-ESFT) - [link](#)
- Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 13 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Communicating with patients about COVID-19 vaccination: evidence-based guidance for effective conversations to promote COVID-19 vaccine uptake - [link](#); facilitators guide - [link](#)
- Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS) review of latest evidence of rare adverse blood coagulation events with AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine (Vaxzevria and Covishield) - [link](#)
- Asthma and COVID-19: scientific brief, 19 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Disability considerations for COVID-19 vaccination: WHO and UNICEF [policy brief](#), 19 April 2021
- COVID-19 and mandatory vaccination: ethical considerations and caveats: [policy brief](#), 13 April 2021

Infectious Diseases Data Observatory (IDDO)

- Third Medical Product Quality Report - COVID-19 Vaccine Issues. The report lists incidents and problems, accessible in the public domain, with substandard and falsified (SF), diverted and stolen COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

Canada

- Summary Safety Review - AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine and COVISHIELD - Health Canada - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- COVID-19 vaccine safety updates: [Vaxzevria](#), [Comirnaty](#), [COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen](#)
- EMA starts review of VIR-7831 for treating patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

UK

- NHS England
- Announcement regarding AstraZeneca vaccine and next steps - [link](#)
- Public Health England
- Guidance: Information for healthcare professionals on blood clotting following COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)
- Guidance: National protocol for COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Thawing small numbers of Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 Vaccine vials - [link](#)

USA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: Information on Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccination pause; Remdesivir Is breaking the bank; 1.5 inch Needles for Obese Patients;
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkit for Health Departments and other Public Health Partners – Updated 15 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR):
- COVID-19 Stats: COVID-19* and Influenza† Discharge Diagnoses as a Percentage of Emergency Department (ED) Visits, by Year - United States, June 2018 - March 2021 - [link](#)
- Laboratory Modeling of SARS-CoV-2 Exposure Reduction through Physically Distanced Seating in Aircraft Cabins Using Bacteriophage Aerosol — November 2020 - [link](#)
- FDA
- FDA Revokes Emergency Use Authorization for Monoclonal Antibody Bamlanivimab - [link](#)
- ISMP
- Joint CDC and FDA Statement on Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#), FAQ - [link](#)
- Medication Safety Alert! [April 21, 2021](#): Any New Process Poses a Risk for Errors: Learning from 4 Months of COVID-19 Vaccinations; Problems with Guangdong Haiou syringes for COVID-19 vaccinations
- The Joint Commission
- Infographic: Offsite (formally Virtual) Survey and Review Framework: A New Approach for Conducting Surveys and Reviews during the Pandemic - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

ANZ Journal of Surgery

- Did operating theatre staff understand the COVID-19 guidelines for surgery during Victoria's second wave? - [Link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Blueprint for pandemic response: focus on translational medicine, clinical pharmacology, and pharmacometrics - [link](#)
- Economic evaluation of remdesivir for the treatment of severe COVID-19 patients in China under different scenarios - [link](#)
- Letter: SARS-CoV-2 mutations: A strain on efficacy of neutralizing monoclonal antibodies? - [link](#)

BMJ

- What do we know about India's Covaxin vaccine? - [link](#)
- Covid-19 News: Pregnant women should be offered Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, says UK advisory committee - [link](#)

BMJ Innovations

- End-to-end convolutional neural network enables COVID-19 detection from breath and cough audio: a pilot study - [link](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

- Sera neutralizing activities against SARS-CoV-2 and multiple variants six month after hospitalization for COVID-19 - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Special collection COVID-19: [evidence relevant to critical care](#) (16 April 2021), [Infection control and prevention measures](#) (16 April 2021)

- Thoracic imaging tests for the diagnosis of COVID-19 - [link](#)

- Ivermectin for preventing and treating COVID-19 - [link](#)

Epidemiology & Infection

- Review of infective dose, routes of transmission, and outcome of COVID-19 caused by the SARS-CoV-2: comparison with other respiratory viruses - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Does timing matter on tocilizumab administration? Clinical, analytical and radiological outcomes in COVID-19 - [link](#)

Expert Review of Vaccines

- Review: Effects of SARS-CoV-2 variants on vaccine efficacy and response strategies - [link](#)

F1000 Research

- SARS-CoV-2 and the role of airborne transmission: a systematic review - [link](#)

Front Public Health

- Characteristics of Viral Shedding Time in SARS-CoV-2 Infections: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

Healthcare Quarterly

- An Evidence-Based Strategy to Scale Vaccination in Canada - [link](#)

- Implementing Advance Care Planning Tools in Practice: A Modified World Café to Elicit Barriers and Recommendations from Potential Adopters - [link](#)

- Promoting Safety: Behavioural Emergency Response during the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)

- Advancing Family Presence Policies and Practices in the Canadian Health and Care Context: COVID-19 and Beyond - [link](#)

Health Promotion Journal of Australia

- Positive outcomes associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia - [link](#)

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

- Pre-print: First case of postmortem study in a patient vaccinated against SARS CoV2 - [link](#)

- Side effects of BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine: A randomized, cross-sectional study with detailed self-reported symptoms from healthcare workers - [link](#)

International Immunopharmacology

- The effect of tocilizumab on COVID-19 patient mortality: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

JAMA

- Experts Discuss COVID-19—Variants & Vaccine Efficacy, Immunosuppressed Patients, & [More](#)

- Letter: Spike Antibody Levels of Nursing Home Residents With or Without Prior COVID-19 3 Weeks After a Single BNT162b2 Vaccine Dose - [link](#)

JAMIA

- Utilizing health information technology in the treatment and management of patients during the COVID-19 pandemic: Lessons from international case study sites - [link](#)

JMIR Med

- Mass Testing with Contact Tracing Compared to Test and Trace for the Effective Suppression of COVID-19 in the United Kingdom: Systematic Review - [link](#)

Journal of Blood Medicine

- Case Report: Severe, Refractory Immune Thrombocytopenia Occurring After SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine - [link](#)

Journal of Infection

- Asymptomatic COVID-19 cases among older patients despite BNT162b2 vaccination: a case series in a geriatric rehabilitation ward during an outbreak - [link](#)

Lancet

- Interleukin-6: obstacles to targeting a complex cytokine in critical illness - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 seropositivity and subsequent infection risk in healthy young adults: a prospective cohort study - [link](#) comment [here](#)
- Comment: Ten scientific reasons in support of airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Preprint: Single Vaccination with BNT162b2 or ChAdOx1 in Older People Induces Equivalent Antibody Generation but Enhanced Cellular Responses after ChAdOx1 - [link](#)
- Clinical picture: Bilateral superior ophthalmic vein thrombosis, ischaemic stroke, and immune thrombocytopenia after ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccination - [link](#)
- Pulmonary embolism and thrombocytopenia following ChAdOx1 vaccination - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 infection rates of antibody-positive compared with antibody-negative health-care workers in England: a large, multicentre, prospective cohort study (SIREN) - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 seropositivity and subsequent infection risk in healthy young adults: a prospective cohort study - [link](#)

Lancet Microbe

- Comment: COVID-19 vaccine efficacy and effectiveness—the elephant (not) in the room - [link](#)
- Comment: COVID-19 herd immunity by immunisation: are children in the herd? - [link](#)

Med J Aust

- Letter: The evolution of clinical trials in response to COVID-19 - [link](#)

Military Medicine

- Anaphylaxis After the Covid-19 Vaccine in a Patient with Cholinergic Urticaria - [link](#)

Multiple Sclerosis Journal

- COVID-19 vaccination in patients with multiple sclerosis: What we have learnt by Feb 2021 - [link](#)

Nature Reviews immunology

- Neutralizing monoclonal antibodies for treatment of COVID-19 - [link](#)

Nature Reviews endocrinology

- Long COVID — metabolic risk factors and novel therapeutic management - [link](#)

NEJM

- Pathologic Antibodies to Platelet Factor 4 after ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Vaccination - [link](#)
- Vaccine Breakthrough Infections with SARS-CoV-2 Variants - [link](#)
- Safety and Efficacy of Single-Dose Ad26.COV2.S Vaccine against Covid-19 - [link](#)
- Preliminary Findings of mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine Safety in Pregnant Persons - [link](#)
- Editorial: SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine–Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia - [link](#)

OSF Home

- Cerebral venous thrombosis: a retrospective cohort study of 513,284 confirmed COVID-19 cases and a comparison with 489,871 people receiving a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Use of Remdesivir in Myasthenia Gravis and COVID-19 - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Evaluating clinical pharmacist involvement in a COVID-19 intensive care recovery clinic - [link](#)
- How to address vaccine hesitancy - [link](#)

The New England Journal of Medicine

- Pathologic Antibodies to Platelet Factor 4 after ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Vaccination - [link](#)
- Editorial: SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine–Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia - [link](#)
- Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia after Ad26.COV2.S Vaccination - [Response](#) from the Manufacturer University of Michigan Press
- Coronavirus Politics: The Comparative Politics and Policy of COVID-19 - [link](#)

Wellcome Open Research

- A living mapping review for COVID-19 funded research projects: six-month update - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Telehealth enabled diabetes information and education - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- Third and Fourth Degree Perineal Tears Clinical Care Standard now available - [link](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- Opioid Prescribing Practices Project - Key Outcomes - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Patterns of intensive alcohol and other drug treatment service use in Australia, 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2019 - [link](#)
- Alcohol, tobacco & other drugs in Australia Report - [link](#)
- Related infographics for [alcohol](#), [Cannabis](#), [Illicit opioids](#) including heroin, [Meth/amphetamines](#) and other stimulants, New and emerging [psychoactive substances](#), [Non-medical use of pharmaceuticals](#), [Older people](#), [People experiencing homelessness](#), People from culturally and linguistically diverse ([CALD](#)) [backgrounds](#), People identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex or queer ([LGBTIQ](#)), People in contact with the [criminal justice system](#), People who inject drugs ([PWID](#)), People with [mental health](#) conditions, [tobacco](#), [Younger people](#).

Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) NSW

- Medication Safety Communications (last updated 14 Apr 2021) - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Access to Dosing Services in Public Hospitals for Patients on Opioid Treatments [PD2021_011](#)
- Medicare Billing for Privately Referred Non-Inpatient Services in NSW Public Hospitals [GL2021_005](#)

TGA

- Updates to the Prescribing Medicines in Pregnancy database - [link](#)
- Prescription medicines: [applications under evaluation](#)
- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages updated 22 April 2021
- AusPARs:
 - [Ciclosporin](#) (Ikervis) eye drops – for severe keratitis in adult patients with dry eye disease which has not improved despite treatment with tear substitutes.
 - [Durvalumab](#) (Imfinzi) – extended indication: First-line treatment of extensive-stage small cell lung cancer (ES-SCLC). Used in combination with etoposide and either carboplatin or cisplatin.
 - [Insulin degludec, liraglutide](#) (Xultophy) – new combination of active ingredients. For adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus to improve glycaemic control in combination with metformin, with or without other oral glucose-lowering medicinal products.
 - [Dapagliflozin](#) indication extended to adults for symptomatic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction, as an adjunct to standard of care therapy.
 - [Guselkumab](#) indication extended to treatment of adult patients with active psoriatic arthritis, who have had an inadequate response to, or are intolerant to prior DMARD therapy
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - [Crizanlizumab](#) (Adakveo) for the prevention of recurrent vaso-occlusive crises in patients aged 16 years and older with sickle cell disease.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- White paper: Improving the Utility of Evidence Synthesis for Decision Makers in the Face of Insufficient Evidence - [link](#)
- Maternal, Fetal, and Child Outcomes of Mental Health Treatments in Women: A Systematic Review of Perinatal Pharmacologic Interventions - [link](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Rituximab for the Treatment of Myasthenia Gravis: A 2021 Update - [link](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- Scientific recommendations on classification of advanced therapy medicinal products - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Approves First Immunotherapy for Initial Treatment of Gastric Cancer, Opdivo ([nivolumab](#))
- FDA approves first oral contraceptive containing natural estrogen, Nextstellis ([estetrol/drospirenone](#))

NHS Scotland

- Following accepted for restricted use:
 - [acalabrutinib](#) (Calquence®) for relapsed/refractory/untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
 - [dupilumab](#) (Dupixent®) adults and adolescents with severe asthma who have blood eosinophils ≥ 150 cells/microlitre and FeNO ≥ 25 parts per billion, and ≥ 4 exacerbations in the preceding year, and have previously received biologic treatment with anti-IgE or anti-IL-5 therapies
 - [galcanezumab](#) (Emgality®) for prophylaxis of migraine in adults who have at least 4 migraine days per month
 - [isatuximab](#) (Sarclisa®) for adult patients with relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma patients who are receiving fourth-line therapy
- Following accepted for use:
 - [dapagliflozin](#) (Forxiga®) for use in adults for the treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Neonatal infection: antibiotics for prevention and treatment [[NG195](#)]
- Postnatal care [[NG194](#)]
- Avelumab for untreated metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma [[TA691](#)]
- Acalabrutinib for treating chronic lymphocytic leukaemia [[TA689](#)]
- Final appraisal document: Trastuzumab deruxtecan for treating HER2-positive unresectable or metastatic breast cancer after 2 or more anti-HER2 therapies [[ID2697](#)]

Public Health England

- Guidance: Hepatitis B vaccine for renal patients: patient group direction template - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Training resources on MI skills - [link](#)

The National Academies Press

- The Security of America's Medical Product Supply Chain - [link](#)
- Peer Review of a Report on Strategies to Improve Patient Safety - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Update of the WHO guidance on the treatment of drug susceptible tuberculosis - [link](#)
- Global shortage of innovative antibiotics fuels emergence and spread of drug-resistance - [link](#)
- Tuberculosis outbreaks in schools: experiences from the Western Pacific Region - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Keytruda ([pembrolizumab](#)): license extension for relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma to include paediatric patients aged 3 years and older who have failed autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT) or at least two prior therapies when ASCT is not a treatment option.
- Quofenix ([delafloxacin](#)): updated with new indication of community-acquired pneumonia, when it is considered inappropriate to use other antibacterial agents that are commonly recommended for the initial treatment of these infections.
- Sivextro ([tedizolid](#) phosphate) – warns that patients with renal impairment and those who receive treatment for more than 6 days at higher risk of developing thrombocytopenia (frequency unknown).
- Ozempic ([semaglutide](#)) updated to include angioedema as an adverse effect (frequency unknown).
- Nurofen ([ibuprofen](#))- acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis reported in relation to ibuprofen-containing products - discontinue at the first appearance.
- Tecentriq ([atezolizumab](#)) - severe cutaneous adverse reactions occurred in 0.7% (24/3,568) of patients on monotherapy
- Venclyxto ([venetoclax](#)) updated to include 5-year follow-up data from the MURANO randomised Phase III study, which evaluated venetoclax in combination with rituximab for the treatment of patients with CLL who had received at least one prior therapy.
- Humira ([adalimumab](#)) - weight increase added as an adverse event.
- [ChAdOx1 S](#) (Astra Zeneca) COVID-19 Vaccine - contraindicated in pts with a history of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia and thrombosis and adds that pts who have experienced major venous and/or arterial thrombosis with thrombocytopenia following any COVID-19 vaccine should not receive a second dose of this vaccine.
- Eliquis ([apixaban](#)) includes erythema multiforme as adverse drug reaction. Frequency is very rare for prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in adults with non-valvular atrial fibrillation, and unknown for treatment/prevention of deep vein thromboembolism and pulmonary embolism.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Memorandum of Understanding Addressing Certain Distributions of Compounded Drugs - [link](#)

HSIB Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch

- Unintentional overdose of paracetamol in adults with low bodyweight - [link](#)

ISMP

- Medication Safety Alert! [April 21, 2021](#)
- URE-NA, not hydroxyurea
- Xylitol – toxic to dogs
- Confusing syringe scale
- Customized ISMP consulting services

UK MIMS

- Paediatric contraindication for chloramphenicol eye drops - should no longer be used in children under 2 years due to boron content, as borax and boric acid, which may impair children's future fertility - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Methadone bioavailability and dose conversion implications with intravenous and enteral administration: A scoping review - [link](#)
- Opportunities for improving opioid disposal practices in the Veterans Health Administration - [link](#)
- Successful use of early, repeat fecal microbiota transplantation for initial treatment of severe, refractory *Clostridioides difficile* colitis - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Use of non-insulin antidiabetic drugs in children and young adults – a Scandinavian drug utilization study from 2010-2019 - [link](#)
- Pharmacovigilance-based drug repurposing: The search for inverse signals via OpenVigil identifies putative drugs against viral respiratory infections - [link](#)

- Drug Metabolism in Severe Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: A Phenotyping 'Cocktail' Study - [link](#)
- Pattern and Burden of Opioid-Related Hospitalizations in United States from 2016-2018 - [link](#)
- Aortic intramural hematoma associated with the use of nintedanib - [link](#)
- The effect of high-dose, short-term caffeine intake on the renal clearance of calcium, sodium and creatinine in healthy adults - [link](#)
- A Prospective, Real-World, Clinical Pharmacokinetic Study to Inform Lacosamide Dosing in Critically Ill Patients Undergoing Continuous Venovenous Hemofiltration (PADRE-02) - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Continued versus discontinued oxytocin stimulation in the active phase of labour (CONDISOX): double blind randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- The effectiveness of interruptive prescribing alerts in ambulatory CPOE to change prescriber behaviour & improve safety - [link](#)
- Virtual learning collaboratives to improve urine culturing and antibiotic prescribing in long-term care: controlled before-and-after study - [link](#)

Circulation

- A Call to Action for New Global Approaches to Cardiovascular Disease Drug Solutions - [link](#)
- Biomarker-Based Risk Prediction with the ABC-AF Scores in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation Not Receiving Oral Anticoagulation - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Progestogens for preventing miscarriage: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Systemic pharmacological treatments for chronic plaque psoriasis: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Antidepressants for people with epilepsy and depression - [link](#)
- Thrombolytic therapy for pulmonary embolism - [link](#)
- Botulinum toxin type A versus anticholinergics for cervical dystonia - [link](#)
- Dopamine agonists for preventing ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome - [link](#)
- Regular treatment with formoterol and an inhaled corticosteroid versus regular treatment with salmeterol and an inhaled corticosteroid for chronic asthma: serious adverse events - [link](#)
- Immunotherapy for intracranial metastatic melanoma - [link](#)
- Vitamin A for preventing acute lower respiratory tract infections in children up to seven years of age - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Stepping down asthma treatment - [link](#)
- Antiepileptic drugs in pregnancy - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Letter: Antibiotic lock therapy in paediatric patients: primum non nocere - [link](#)

Healthcare Quarterly

- Implementation of the Good Life with OsteoArthritis in Denmark (GLA:D) Program across Canada for the Management of Hip and Knee Osteoarthritis - [link](#)
- "This Is ME": Promoting Person-Centred Care within the Digital Health Environment - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Assessing the impact of virtual medication history technicians on medication reconciliation discrepancies - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Effect of barcode technology on medication preparation safety: a quasi-experimental study - [link](#)
- Medication Adherence as Mandatory Indicator in Healthcare Safety - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Continued Weekly Subcutaneous Semaglutide vs Placebo on Weight Loss Maintenance in Adults with Overweight or Obesity: The STEP 4 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

- Medications in Single-Dose Vials and Implications of Discarded Injectable Drugs: A National Academies [Report](#)
- Oral Antiplatelet Therapy after Acute Coronary Syndrome: A [Review](#)
- Management of Acute Coronary Syndromes in Patients without Persistent ST-Segment Elevation - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Effect of Dapagliflozin on Cardiovascular Outcomes According to Baseline Kidney Function and Albuminuria Status in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes. A Prespecified Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Research letter: Association Between Systemic Corticosteroid Treatment for Cutaneous Immune-Related Adverse Events and Survival Outcomes in Patients with Advanced Cancer - [link](#)
- Treatment of Chronic Pruritus with Medical Marijuana - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Association of US Food and Drug Administration Removal of Indications for Use of Oral Quinolones with Prescribing Trends - [link](#)
- Adverse Events Associated with the Addition of Aspirin to Direct Oral Anticoagulant Therapy Without a Clear Indication - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Evaluation of the Safety of Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide Antagonists for Migraine Treatment among Adults with Raynaud Phenomenon - [link](#)
- Efficacy and Safety of Weekly Paclitaxel with or without Oral Alisertib in Patients With Metastatic Breast Cancer. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Viewpoint: Discontinuation of Disease-Modifying Therapy in Multiple Sclerosis. Should We Stay or Should We Go? - [link](#)

JAMA Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery

- Efficacy and Safety of Propranolol vs Atenolol in Infants with Problematic Infantile Hemangiomas. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Editorial: Epidural Analgesia and Autism Spectrum Disorder Risk—The Challenges Inherent in Complex Observational Research - [link](#) – [main article](#) – additional [editors note](#)
- Association of Oral Corticosteroid Bursts with Severe Adverse Events in Children - [link](#)
- Association of Preconception Paternal Alcohol Consumption with Increased Fetal Birth Defect Risk - [link](#)
- Cannabis Use and Suicidal Behavior and Long-term Harms – [comment](#) - [reply](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Viewpoint: Moving Beyond Medications That Act at the μ Receptor in the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Health information technology and clinician burnout: Current understanding, emerging solutions, and future directions - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- The incidence and preventability of adverse events in older acutely admitted patients: a longitudinal study with 4292 patient records - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management

- Beyond root cause analysis: How variation analysis can provide a deeper understanding of causation in complex adaptive systems - [link](#)

- To err is system; a comparison of methodologies for the investigation of adverse outcomes in healthcare - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- The impact of pharmacist-led antifungal stewardship interventions in the hospital setting: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Antimicrobial dosing in prolonged intermittent renal replacement therapy: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Letter: Consideration of frailty versus limited life expectancy when deprescribing - [link](#)

Lancet

- The SANAD II study of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of levetiracetam, zonisamide, or lamotrigine for newly diagnosed focal epilepsy: an open-label, non-inferiority, multicentre, phase 4, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- The SANAD II study of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of valproate versus levetiracetam for newly diagnosed generalised and unclassifiable epilepsy: an open-label, non-inferiority, multicentre, phase 4, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Guided versus standard antiplatelet therapy in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology

- Discontinuation of infliximab in patients with ulcerative colitis in remission (HAYABUSA): a multicentre, open-label, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

Lancet Public Health

- Medications and risk of motor vehicle collision responsibility in British Columbia, Canada: a population-based case-control study - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Long-acting injectable versus oral antipsychotics for the maintenance treatment of schizophrenia: a systematic review and comparative meta-analysis of randomised, cohort, and pre-post studies - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Medicines as Common Commodities or Powerful Potions? What Makes Medicines Reusable in People's Eyes - [link](#)
- Stakeholder Views on the Idea of Medicines Reuse in the UK - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- The CANBACK trial: a randomised, controlled clinical trial of oral cannabidiol for people presenting to the emergency department with acute low back pain - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals

- Adrenaline to improve survival in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest: the PARAMEDIC2 RCT - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Trial of Psilocybin versus Escitalopram for Depression - [link](#)
- Clinical Practice: Adrenal Incidentaloma - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Coroner's report recommends tightening regulation around forms of codeine and morphine - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Impact of SGLT2 Inhibitors on Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients with Heart Failure with Reduced Ejection Fraction - [link](#)
- Achievement of goal anti-Xa activity with weight-based enoxaparin dosing for venous thromboembolism prophylaxis in trauma patients - [link](#)

Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management

- Risk Factors for Tigecycline-Associated Hypofibrinogenemia - [link](#)

Thorax

- Inconsistent relationship between depth of sedation and intensive care outcome: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 15 Apr 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Joint statement AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine in response to new vaccine safety concerns - [link](#)
- Updated ATAGI statement for healthcare providers on a specific clotting condition being reported after COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)
- PHLN statement on reporting of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and interest - [link](#)
- Infographic: Total number of people vaccinated for COVID-19 in Australia – 12 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Epidemiology Report 38: Reporting [period ending 28 March 2021](#)

Australian Prescriber

- New Drug: BNT162b2 vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 - [link](#); ChAdOx1-S vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and updated recommendations as at [1/04/2021](#)
- New: Convalescent plasma; Bamlanivimab plus etesevimab, Enisamium, Vitamin C
- Updated: Ivermectin; PIMS-TS; Intravenous immunoglobulin plus corticosteroids (PIMS-TS); Corticosteroids (PIMS-TS)

NSW Health

- COVID-19 vaccine: Enhanced surveillance and adverse event reporting guidelines (last updated 10/4/21) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccination: information for NSW healthcare workers (last updated 12/4/21) - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- COVID-19 Monitor: International scan of COVID-19 vaccines administered and associated case numbers (8/4/21) - [link](#)
- Evidence Check: Post-acute sequelae SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Risk Monitoring Dashboard. Updated 7 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 14 April 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 14 April 2021 - [link](#)
 - COVID-19 transmission. Last updated 8 April 2021 - [link](#)

Thrombosis & Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand (THANZ)

- Suspected Vaccine Induced Prothrombotic Immune Thrombocytopenia (VIPIT): THANZ Advisory Statement for Haematologists (updated 10/4/21) - [link](#)

Pharmacy Board AHPRA

- Vaccine rollout support from retired practitioners - [link](#)

TGA

- AstraZeneca ChAdOx1-S COVID-19 vaccine:
 - Specific clotting condition reported after COVID-19 vaccination (2/04/21) - [link](#)
 - Updated safety advisory – rare and unusual blood clotting syndrome (thrombosis with thrombocytopenia) - [link](#)
 - Second case of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia - [link](#)
 - Wider storage and transportation conditions for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine now approved - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report – 31/03/2021 - [link](#)
- Batch release assessment of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Provisional determination granted to Glaxo SmithKline Australia Pty Ltd for COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatment - [Sotrovimab](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- COVID-19 weekly epidemiological update, 6 April 2021 - [link](#)
- Therapeutics and COVID-19: living guideline (last updated 31/03/21) - [link](#)
- First meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on the mental health impacts of COVID-19 in the WHO European Region - [link](#)
- Safe Ramadan practices in the context of COVID-19. Interim Guidance - [link](#)
- WHO COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC) pillar achievements Feb 20 – Jan 21 - [link](#)
- Data for action: achieving high uptake of COVID-19 vaccines. Interim Guidance – [link](#)
- Operational considerations to expedite genomic sequencing component of GISRS surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Science in 5: Equity in vaccines, treatment and tests - [link](#); Medical oxygen - [link](#)
- 'Vaccines explained' series: The effects of virus variants on COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#); Side Effects of COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#); Getting the COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#); Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)
- WHO COVID-19: Health Services Learning Hub - [link](#)
- Strengthening population health surveillance: a tool for selecting indicators to signal and monitor the wider effects of the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Canada

Health Canada

- Summary Safety Review - Veklury (remdesivir), Assessing the Potential Risks of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) and Acute Renal Failure (ARF) – [link](#)
- Update on the AstraZeneca and COVISHIELD COVID-19 vaccines and labelling information - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: review of very rare cases of unusual blood clots continues - [link](#)
- AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine: EMA finds possible link to very rare cases of unusual blood clots with low blood platelets - [link](#);
- Safety Update: Vaxzevria (previously COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca) 29/3/21 - [link](#)
- PRAC recommendation on signal: Signal assessment report on embolic and thrombotic events (SMQ) with COVID-19 Vaccine (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) – Vaxzevria (previously COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca) (Other viral vaccines) - [link](#)
- Direct healthcare professional communication ([DHPC](#))
- PRAC meeting [highlights](#):
- conclusion on very rare cases of unusual blood clots with low blood platelets with Vaxzevria
- review of signal of capillary leak syndrome with Vaxzevria
- investigating thromboembolic events after vaccination with COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen

UK

MHRA

- Regulatory approval of COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna- - updated documents - [link](#)
- Regulatory approval of Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine for COVID-19- updated documents - [link](#)
- MHRA latest Yellow Card reporting data on blood clots in recipients of Covid-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- MHRA issues new advice, concluding a possible link between COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca and extremely rare, unlikely to occur blood clots - [link](#)
- UK regulator confirms that people should continue to receive the COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca (updated 7/4/21) - [link](#)
- Position statement: Inhaled Budesonide for Adults (50 Years and Over) with COVID-19 - [link](#)

USA

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

- Antibody Response Following SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Implications for Immunity: A Living Rapid Review - [link](#)

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)

- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: covid vaccine and b-cell depletion therapy;

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Science Brief: SARS-CoV-2 & Surface Transmission for Indoor Community Environments - [link](#)

FDA

- COVID-19 Update: FDA Makes Two Revisions to Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Emergency Use Authorization to Help Increase the Number of Vaccine Doses Available - [link](#)

IHI

- How to Create Space for Joy in Work Amid Crisis and Change - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

- Letter: Pandemic and beyond: policy and advocacy matters – [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- A Deferred-Vaccination Design to Assess Durability of COVID-19 Vaccine Effect after the Placebo Group Is Vaccinated - [link](#)

- Letter: Administration of a Second Dose of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine after an Immediate Hypersensitivity Reaction with the First Dose: Two Case Reports - [link](#)

Australian Prescriber

- New drugs: [BNT 162b2 vaccine](#) for prevention of COVID-19; [ChAdOx1-S vaccine](#) for prevention of COVID-19

BMC Family Practice

- The experience of Australian general practice patients at high risk of poor health outcomes with telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic: a qualitative study - [link](#)

BMC Infectious Diseases

- Methylprednisolone or dexamethasone, which one is superior corticosteroid in the treatment of hospitalized COVID-19 patients: a triple-blinded randomized controlled trial - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Antimicrobial stewardship in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic: a population-based cohort study and interrupted time-series analysis - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Post-covid syndrome in individuals admitted to hospital with covid-19: retrospective cohort study - [link](#)

- Review: Contact-tracing applications: a review of technologies - [link](#)

- Update to living systematic review on drug treatments for covid-19 - [link](#)

- News: Colleges publish guidance after patients attend emergency departments with vaccine concerns - [link](#)

BMJ Evidence-based mental health

- COVID-19 vaccines, hesitancy and mental health - [link](#)

BMJ Global Health

- Overriding drug and medical technology patents for pandemic recovery: a legitimate move for high-income countries, too - [link](#)

BMJ Postgraduate Medical Journal

- Anticoagulation in COVID-19: current concepts and controversies - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Special collection COVID-19: [evidence relevant to critical care](#) (29 March 2021); [infection control and prevention measures](#) (25 March 2021)

European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Letter: Prediction of lopinavir/ritonavir effectiveness in COVID-19 patients: a recall of basic pharmacology concepts – [link](#) and [reply](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Electronic monitoring of potential adverse drug events related to lopinavir/ritonavir and hydroxychloroquine during the first wave of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Managing the risk of shortages and medication errors with curares during the COVID-19 pandemic: a hospital pharmacy experience - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: Digital Health Passes in the Age of COVID-19. Are “Vaccine Passports” Lawful and Ethical? - [link](#)
- Letter: SARS-CoV-2–Specific Antibodies in Breast Milk after COVID-19 Vaccination of Breastfeeding Women - [link](#)
- Letter: Symptoms and Functional Impairment Assessed 8 Months After Mild COVID-19 Among Health Care Workers - [link](#)
- Reactogenicity Following Receipt of mRNA-Based COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)
- Emergence of a Novel SARS-CoV-2 Variant in Southern California - [link](#) with [editorial](#)
- Comment: Tocilizumab in Treatment for Patients With COVID-19 - [link](#) - [link](#) – [link](#) - [reply](#) – [reply](#) - [editorial](#)
- Viewpoint: Helping the Public Understand Adverse Events Associated With COVID-19 Vaccinations Lessons Learned From Functional Neurological Disorder - [link](#)

Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy

- Comparing country risk and response to COVID-19 in the first 6 months across 25 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries using qualitative comparative analysis - [link](#)

Journal of Neurology

- Disease-modifying therapies and SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in multiple sclerosis: an expert [consensus](#)

Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology

- Cutaneous Reactions Reported after Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccination: A Registry-Based Study of 414 Cases - [link](#)

Lancet

- Inhaled budesonide in the treatment of early COVID-19 (STOIC): a phase 2, open-label, randomised controlled trial - [link](#) - associated commentary [here](#)
- 6-month neurological and psychiatric outcomes in 236 379 survivors of COVID-19: a retrospective cohort study using electronic health records - [link](#)
- Changes in symptomatology, reinfection, and transmissibility associated with the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7: an ecological study - [link](#)
- Genomic characteristics and clinical effect of the emergent SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 lineage in London, UK: a whole-genome sequencing and hospital-based cohort study - [link](#)
- Editorial: Vaccine certificates: does the end justify the means? - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccines for patients with haematological conditions - [link](#)
- Prioritising COVID-19 vaccination in changing social and epidemiological landscapes: a mathematical modelling study - [link](#)
- Short-term safety of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine in patients with cancer treated with immune checkpoint inhibitors - [link](#)
- Association between pre-existing respiratory disease and its treatment, and severe COVID-19: a population cohort study - [link](#)
- Thromboembolism and the Oxford–AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: side-effect or coincidence? - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)

- COVID-19 and changes in the National Immunisation Program: a unique opportunity to optimise the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) - [link](#)
- Research letter: Persistent symptoms up to four months after community and hospital-managed SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)
- Medico-legal implications of audiovisual recordings of telehealth encounters - [link](#)

medRxiv pre-prints:

- Inhaled budesonide for COVID-19 in people at higher risk of adverse outcomes in the community: interim analyses from the PRINCIPLE trial - [link](#)
- The Balancing Role of Distribution Speed against Varying Efficacy Levels of COVID-19 Vaccines under Variants - [link](#)

Nature Reviews Immunology

- Commentary: Is IL-6 a key cytokine target for therapy in COVID-19? - [link](#)

Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation

- Antibody response to mRNA SARS-CoV-2 vaccine among dialysis patients - a prospective cohort study - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia after ChAdOx1 nCov-19 Vaccination - [link](#) and [brief report](#)
- Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia after Ad26.COV2.S (Johnson & Johnson/Janssen) Vaccination - [link](#)
- Letter: Neutralizing Response against Variants after SARS-CoV-2 Infection and One Dose of BNT162b2 - [link](#)
- Preparing for the Future — Nanobodies for Covid-19? - [link](#)
- Antibody Persistence through 6 Months after the Second Dose of mRNA-1273 Vaccine - [link](#)
- Letter: Delayed Large Local Reactions to mRNA-1273 Vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Podcast: Emerging Infectious Diseases — Learning from the Past and Looking to the Future - [link](#)

NPJ Vaccines

- Perspective: Force of infection: a determinant of vaccine efficacy? - [link](#)

Oral Diseases

- [Letter](#): An episode of oral mucositis after the first administration of the ChAdOx1 COVID-19 vaccine

Psychological Medicine

- Coronavirus conspiracy suspicions, general vaccine attitudes, trust, and coronavirus information source as predictors of vaccine hesitancy among UK residents during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Role of interferon therapy in severe COVID-19: the COVIFERON randomized controlled trial - [link](#)

Systematic Reviews

- The incubation period during the pandemic of COVID-19: a systematic review & meta-analysis - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Australian Group on Antimicrobial Resistance Sepsis Outcomes Programs: 2019 Report - [link](#)
- Antimicrobial prescribing practice in Australian Hospitals Results of the 2019 Hospital National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey - [link](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

- Impacts of COVID-19 on Medicare Benefits Scheme and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme: quarterly data - [link](#)
- Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia: key findings - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Safety Notice [007/21](#): Assessment and care of early labour; opioid and non-opioid analgesia
- End of Life Care and Decision-Making - [link](#)
- Computer Generated Prescription Formats for NSW Public Health Facilities - [link](#)
- Drug and Alcohol Data Set - [link](#)

PBS

- Biosimilar adalimumab on the PBS - information for health professionals and patients - [link](#)
- General Statement for Drugs for the Treatment of Hepatitis C - [link](#)

TGA

- Webinar: Special Access Scheme Portal - [link](#)
- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages
- AusPARs:
 - [Labetalol](#) hydrochloride - for severe hypertension, including severe hypertension of pregnancy
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - [Trikafta](#) for cystic fibrosis (CF) in patients aged 12 years and older who have at least one F508del mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene
 - [Trientine](#)-Reddy's, Trientine-RZ, Trientine Dr.Reddy's and Trientine-DRLA for patients with Wilson's disease who are intolerant of penicillamine
- Registration of [new or extended uses](#) of registered medicines March 2021:
 - Olaparib (Lynparza); influenza virus haemagglutinin (Vaxigrip Tetra); lacosamide (Vimpat); omalizumab (Xolair); fulvestrant (Faslodex); ofatumumab (Kesimpta)
- Registration of [new generic medicines and biosimilar](#) medicines, [March 2021](#):
 - includes several for deferasirox, dasatinib

Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine

- Clinical Communiqué Volume 8 [Issue 1 March 2021](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Improving Pain Management in the Context of America's Opioid and Substance Use Disorders Crisis - [link](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Bupropion for Treatment Resistant Depression - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- [Vaxelis](#) pre-filled syringe - primary and booster vaccination in infants and toddlers from the age of 6 weeks, against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, poliomyelitis and invasive diseases caused by Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA approves alirocumab (Praluent) as an adjunct for treatment of adults with homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia - [link](#)
- FDA approves new dosing regimen for cetuximab - [link](#)
- New Drug approvals
 - [viloxazine](#) (Qelbree) for the treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder

NHS England

- Structured medication reviews and medicines optimisation 2021/22 - [link](#)
- New treatment for HER2-positive breast cancer (PHESGO) rolled out across the country - [link](#)
- NHS rolls out gammaCore for the treatment of cluster headaches - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Evidence review: Gonadotrophin releasing hormone analogues for children and adolescents with gender dysphoria - [link](#)
- Final appraisal document: Andexanet alfa for reversing anticoagulation - [link](#)
- [NG193](#) Chronic pain (primary and secondary) in over 16s: assessment of all chronic pain and management of chronic primary pain

Public Health England

- How to use the ASSIST-Lite screening tool to identify alcohol & drug use and tobacco smoking - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- [Pancuronium](#) bromide updated - several studies have attributed the occurrence of acute myopathy in ICU patients to the combination of corticosteroids and neuromuscular blocking agents.
- Ocrevus ([ocrelizumab](#)) - infusion-related reactions reported in post-marketing including anaphylaxis.
- Cellcept ([mycophenolate](#) mofetil) - mycophenolic acid has a cytostatic effect on B- and T-lymphocytes, therefore an increased severity of COVID-19 may occur. Consider dose reduction or discontinuation in cases of clinically significant COVID-19.
- Risk minimisation materials:
- Fabrazyme ([agalsidase](#) beta) – logbook for home infusion

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Studies show increased risk of heart rhythm problems with seizure and lamotrigine (Lamictal) in patients with heart disease – [link](#) - and [podcast](#)
- FDA warns that abuse and misuse of the nasal decongestant propylhexedrine causes serious harm - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Health Canada has initiated a safety review on Xeljanz and Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib), used to treat arthritis and ulcerative colitis - [link](#)

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA

- How IV Pump Optimization is Helping Prevent Medication Errors - [link](#)
- Medication Safety Alert! [April 8, 2021](#)
- Additional Strategies to Improve Complete Delivery of Small-Volume Intermittent Infusions - [link](#)
- Do not use Dr. Reddy's prefilled glass naloxone syringes with a Clave/MicroClave connector
- FIRVANQ (vancomycin) diluent label revised; One more reason to require scanning of flushes; Two patients receive EPINEPHrine instead of COVID-19 vaccine; Look-alike ophthalmic containers a long-standing problem
- [Acute Care Action Agenda](#) (January – March 2021)

Joint Commission

- New Sentinel Event Alert on optimizing smart infusion pump safety with DERS - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Service SPS

- How to minimise the risks of medication errors with rivastigmine patches - [link](#)
- Using bolus injections in neonates, children and young people - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

Age and Ageing

- Predicting readmission and death after hospital discharge: a comparison of conventional frailty measurement with an electronic health record-based score - [link](#)

American Journal of Gastroenterology

- Efficacy and Safety of Over-the-Counter Therapies for Chronic Constipation. An Updated Systematic Review - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Expanding nonclinical roles in specialty pharmacy: How to grow a high-performance specialty pharmacy team - [link](#)
- Cabotegravir and Rilpivirine – [link](#)
- Implementing a pharmacist-led transition of care model for posttransplant hyperglycemia – [link](#)
- Development and validation of a predictive model to predict and manage drug shortages - [link](#)
- A single-center cost analysis assessing a change in vasopressin formulation - [link](#)
- Diffuse alveolar hemorrhage associated with ustekinumab treatment – [link](#)
- Intravenous levothyroxine stewardship program at a tertiary academic medical center - [link](#)

- Impact of a pharmacist-led, mHealth-based intervention on tacrolimus trough variability in kidney transplant recipients: A report from the TRANSafe Rx randomized controlled trial – [link](#)
- Implementation and evaluation of an IV room technology-assisted workflow system integrated within the electronic medical record at oncology infusion center pharmacies – [link](#)
- Revefenacin, a once-daily, long-acting muscarinic antagonist, for nebulized maintenance therapy in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - [link](#)
- First release: [Cabotegravir Sodium](#) ; [Margetuximab-cmkb](#) ; [Remimazolam Besylate](#)
- Letter: On crushing of deutetrabenazine tablets - [link](#)
- Note: Stability of 10-mg/mL and 50-mg/mL ketamine oral solutions - [link](#)
- Evaluation of the timing of MRSA PCR nasal screening: How long can a negative assay be used to rule out MRSA-positive respiratory cultures? - [link](#)

American Journal of Emergency Medicine

- Colchicine administration for percutaneous coronary intervention: A meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Clinical Guidelines: Appropriate Use of Short-Course Antibiotics in Common Infections: Best Practice Advice from the American College of Physicians - [link](#) with [Summary for Patients](#)

Australian Health Review, Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association

- Leading health reform: a critical review of 'leadership' within allied health competency standards - [link](#)
- Medicine shortages: there are solutions! Actions to take to reduce medicine shortages - [link](#)
- Funding models for clinical education in allied health - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- The All Wales Medicines Strategy Group: 18 years' experience of a national medicines optimisation committee - [link](#)
- Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol and lifespan: A Mendelian randomization study - [link](#)
- Promoting diseases to promote drugs: The role of the pharmaceutical industry in fostering good and bad medicalization - [link](#)
- Antithyroid drug use during pregnancy and the risk of birth defects in offspring: systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies with methodological considerations - [link](#)
- Fatal adverse drug reactions: a worldwide perspective in the WHO pharmacovigilance database - [link](#)
- Systematic Review of Machine Learning Models for Personalised Dosing of Heparin - [link](#)
- Impact of glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists on adiponectin concentrations: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)
- Monitoring for Valproate and Phenytoin Toxicity in Hypoalbuminaemia: A Retrospective Cohort Study - [link](#)
- Population pharmacokinetics and probability of target attainment in patients with sepsis under renal replacement therapy receiving continuous infusion of meropenem: sustained low-efficiency dialysis (SLED) and continuous veno-venous haemodialysis (CVVHD) - [link](#)
- Accuracy of documented administration times for intravenous antimicrobial drugs and impact on dosing decisions - [link](#)
- Population pharmacokinetics and genetics of oral meltdose tacrolimus (Envarsus®) in stable adult liver transplant recipients - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Comparative Efficacy and Safety of Ultra-Long-Acting, Long-Acting, Intermediate-Acting, and Biosimilar Insulins for Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus: a Systematic Review and Network Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

British Journal of Pharmacology

- Cardiovascular and temperature adverse actions of Stimulants - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Doctors raise concerns about NICE guidelines on chronic primary pain - [link](#)

BMJOpen

- Association between CVDs and initiation and adherence to statin treatment in patients with newly diagnosed hypercholesterolaemia: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Pentoxifylline for the prevention of contrast-induced nephropathy (CIN): systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - [link](#)

Circulation

- The Cardiac Late Sodium Channel Current is a Molecular Target for the Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor Empagliflozin - [link](#)
- Dapagliflozin and Recurrent Heart Failure Hospitalizations in Heart Failure with Reduced Ejection Fraction: An Analysis of DAPA-HF - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Anti-seizure medications for Lennox-Gastaut syndrome - [link](#)
- Primary prevention of variceal bleeding in people with oesophageal varices due to liver cirrhosis: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Antidepressants for pain management in adults with chronic pain: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Mobile phone-based interventions for improving adherence to medication prescribed for the primary prevention of cardiovascular disease in adults - [link](#)
- Special Collection: Diagnosing tuberculosis - [link](#)
- Special Collection: Brain tumour diagnosis and management - [link](#)

Diabetic Medicine

- SGLT2 inhibitors and GLP1 agonists administered without metformin compared to other glucose-lowering drugs in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus to prevent cardiovascular events: A systematic review - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Effect of dapagliflozin in patients with heart failure - [link](#)
- Antiepileptic drugs in pregnancy - [link](#)

European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Influence of formulation and route of administration on ketamine's safety and tolerability: systematic review - [link](#)
- The scientific basis of rational prescribing. A guide to precision clinical pharmacology based on the WHO 6-step method - [link](#)
- The impacts of race and regimens on the efficacy and safety of paclitaxel and platinum combination treatment for patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer - [link](#)
- Association between lipid-lowering agents and severe hyponatremia: a population-based case-control study - [link](#)
- Implementation and management outcomes of pharmacogenetic CYP2C19 testing for clopidogrel therapy in clinical practice - [link](#)
- Potentially inappropriate medication in acute hospitalized elderly patients with polypharmacy: an observational study comparing PRISCUS, STOPP, and Beers criteria - [link](#)
- Potentially inappropriate prescribing in older hospitalized Dutch patients according to the STOPP/START criteria v2: a longitudinal study - [link](#)
- Antimicrobial stewardship: can we add pharmacovigilance networks to the toolbox? - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- [Using risk analysis to ensure patients' medication safety during hospital relocations and evacuations](#) - [link](#)
- Fatal hepatotoxicity due to sevoflurane use in a paediatric patient after aortic repair: reality or fiction? A case of pharmacovigilance - [link](#)
- Off-label use in adult palliative care – more common than expected. A retrospective chart review - [link](#)
- What influences the implementation and sustainability of antibiotic stewardship programmes in hospitals? A qualitative study of antibiotic pharmacists' perspectives across South West England - [link](#)

Heart

- Intensive low-density lipoprotein cholesterol lowering in cardiovascular disease prevention: opportunities and challenges - [link](#)
- Optimising cardiovascular care of patients with multiple myeloma - [link](#)

International Psychogeriatrics

- Is there evidence for using anticonvulsants in the prevention and/or treatment of delirium among older adults? - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Celecoxib vs Placebo Added to Standard Adjuvant Therapy on Disease-Free Survival Among Patients With Stage III Colon Cancer. The CALGB/SWOG 80702 (Alliance) Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#) with [editorial](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Editorial: Biosimilars in Dermatology - [link](#)
- Efficacy and Safety of Topical Timolol for the Treatment of Infantile Hemangioma in the Early Proliferative Stage: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Association between Topical Calcineurin Inhibitor Use and Risk of Cancer, Including Lymphoma, Keratinocyte Carcinoma, and Melanoma. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Association of Intravenous Radiocontrast with Kidney Function. A Regression Discontinuity Analysis - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Infant Mortality Associated With Prenatal Opioid Exposure - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- CancelRx: a health IT tool to reduce medication discrepancies in the outpatient setting - [link](#)

J Natl Cancer Inst

- Effect of Aspirin on Cancer Incidence and Mortality in Older Adults - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Outcomes of adverse drug events reported with potentially inappropriate medications in older adults, 2004–2017 - [link](#)
- Letter: LESS CHRON: a tool for deprescribing in patients with multimorbidity - [link](#)
- Engaging general practice and patients with AustAPER, a pharmacist facilitated web-based deprescribing tool - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- 8th European Conference on Infections in Leukaemia: 2020 guidelines for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of invasive fungal diseases in paediatric patients with cancer or post-haematopoietic cell transplantation - [link](#); 2020 guidelines for the use of antibiotics in paediatric patients with cancer or post-haematopoietic cell transplantation - [link](#)
- Antihypertensive treatment and risk of cancer: an individual participant data meta-analysis - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Development and Content Validation of an Instrument to Measure Medication Self-Management in Older Adults - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- The efficacy and safety of paracetamol for pain relief: an overview of systematic reviews - [link](#)
- Letter: Confusion about doxylamine safety in pregnancy - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Sutimlimab in Cold Agglutinin Disease - [link](#)
- Lumasiran, an RNAi Therapeutic for Primary Hyperoxaluria Type 1 - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Pharmacokinetics and Safety of Lefamulin after Single Intravenous Dose Administration in Subjects with Impaired Hepatic Function - [link](#)
- Pharmacokinetics and Safety of Lefamulin after Single Intravenous Dose Administration in Subjects with Impaired Renal Function and those Requiring Hemodialysis - [link](#)

Prescribe

- Prescribe International, Issue Number 225 April 2021 - [link](#)
- New Products
- Larotrectinib (Vitrakvi®) and cancers with an NTRK gene fusion. Grossly inadequate evaluation as of early 2021 - [link](#)
- Insulin lispro with treprostinil and sodium citrate as excipients (Lyumjev®)
- Trastuzumab emtansine (Kadcyla®) for certain breast cancers, after surgery
- Quadrivalent influenza vaccine containing 60 micro-grams per strain (Efluelda®) in the elderly
- Atezolizumab (Tecentriq®) and certain small cell lung cancers and inoperable or metastatic triple-negative breast cancer
- Adverse effects
- Valproic acid - probable endocrine disruptor - [link](#) and Endocrine-disrupting drugs
- Paclitaxel: peripheral neuropathy sometimes persisting more than 12 months
- Lenograstim: venous and arterial thromboembolism
- Ivermectin: coma in a child
- Memantine: bradyarrhythmia
- Vaginal progesterone: intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy
- Reviews
- Hydrochlorothiazide in hypertension: an acceptable first choice - [link](#)
- Pomalidomide (Imnovid®) and multiple myeloma, after failure of lenalidomide
- Relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma
- Covid-19 and vitamin D: too uncertain
- Outlook: Drug shortages: a (big) thorn in the side of pharmacists

Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy

- The impact of introducing automated dispensing cabinets, barcode medication administration, and closed-loop electronic medication management systems on work processes and safety of controlled medications in hospitals: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Impact of computerised physician order entry (CPOE) on the incidence of chemotherapy-related medication errors: a systematic review - [link](#)

Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management

- BUDESONIDE MMX in the Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis: Current Perspectives on Efficacy and Safety - [link](#)

Thorax

- Empiric antibiotics for community-acquired pneumonia in adult patients: a systematic review and a network meta-analysis - [link](#)

CONSULTATIONS (new additions in bold)

AHPRA

- Help strengthen public protection: Consultation on revised regulatory principles for the National Scheme now open, closes 18/05/21 - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Draft Credentialing and Defining Scope of Clinical Practice guide, closes 30/4/2021 - [link](#)
- Draft Low Back Pain Clinical Care Standard, closes 20/04/2021 - [link](#)
- National Safety and Quality Mental Health Standards for Community Managed Organisations, closes 30 June 2021 - [link](#)

TGA

- Building a more robust medicine supply - proposals to help prevent, mitigate and manage medicine shortages, closes 17 May 2021 - [link](#)

- Proposed changes to Required Advisory Statements for Medicine Labels (RASML) [Methyl salicylate](#); [Lidocaine \(lignocaine\)](#); [Sedating antihistamines](#); [Menthol](#), close 18 May 2021

TAG Mail – 1 Apr 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- ATAGI statement for health care providers on suitability of COVID-19 vaccination in people with history of clotting conditions - [link](#)
- ATAGI – Provider guide to COVID-19 vaccination of people with immunocompromise - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Australia: Epidemiology Report 37 - [link](#)

AHPRA

- Position statement: Registered health practitioners and students and COVID-19 vaccination – [link](#)

AIHW

- Mental health services in Australia – COVID update - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Updated: Information on COVID-19 Pfizer (COMIRNATY™) vaccine in NSW (current as of [26/3/21](#))

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard. Updated 24 March 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 26/03/21 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 25/03/21 - [link](#)

Pharmacy Board

- Regulators thank health practitioners as pandemic response sub-register starts to close - [link](#)
- Survey of pharmacist immunisers - [link](#)

TGA

- Post-approval changes to COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report – 24/03/2021 - [link](#)

UNSW Centre for Ideas

- Webinar: From the HIV/AIDS epidemic to the COVID-19 pandemic, what have we learnt and what do we still need to learn? - Wed, 14 Apr 2021, 6:30 PM AEST - register [here](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- COVID-19 new variants: Knowledge gaps and research - [link](#)
- COVID-19 weekly epidemiological update as of 23/3/21 – [link](#)
- Operational considerations to expedite genomic sequencing component of GISRS surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)
- Science in 5: Vaccines-when and why? - [link](#) ; Vaccines, variants & doses - If you have had COVID-19 do you still need both doses of the vaccine? - [link](#)
- Social media & COVID-19: A global study of digital crisis interaction among Gen Z and Millennials - [link](#); Key Insights can be downloaded [here](#) and access to an Interactive dashboard [link](#)

Canada

HealthCanada-MedEffect

- AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine and COVISHIELD: Risk of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- COVID-19 vaccine safety update [Moderna](#), [Vaxzevria](#) (previously COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca), [Comirnaty](#)
- Increase in vaccine manufacturing capacity and supply for COVID-19 vaccines from AstraZeneca, BioNTech/Pfizer and Moderna - [link](#)
- EMA issues advice on use of regdanvimab for treating COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Reply to open letter concerning vaccines for COVID-19 - [link](#)

UK

-GOV.UK

- New study finds strong immune response following COVID-19 vaccination - [link](#)
- NHS England
- Eltrombopag as bridging therapy to haematopoietic stem cell transplant in severe or very severe aplastic anaemia during the COVID19 pandemic (in adults) - [link](#)
- NIHR
- Modelling of hypothetical SARS-CoV-2 point-of-care tests on admission to hospital from A&E: rapid cost-effectiveness analysis - [link](#)
- Public Health England
- Impact of COVID-19 vaccines on mortality in England December 2020 to February 2021 - [link](#)
- Public Health England vaccine effectiveness report March 2021 - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Summary of COVID-19 medicines guidance (updated): [Haematological disorders](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca Handling and Preparation Video. Produced by North East and North Cumbria NHS - [link](#)

USA

-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with High Risk for Severe COVID-19: Information for Healthcare Providers - [link](#)
- Evidence used to update the list of underlying medical conditions that increase a person's risk of severe illness from COVID-19 - [link](#)
- CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Webinar Series
- Preventing Vaccine Administration Errors: A Primer for Healthcare Workers - [link](#)
- Getting Shots in Arms, A Primer for Healthcare Workers on Storing & Transporting Vaccines - [link](#)
- CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
- Interim Estimates of Vaccine Effectiveness of BNT162b2 and mRNA-1273 COVID-19 Vaccines in Preventing SARS-CoV-2 Infection among Health Care Personnel, First Responders, and Other Essential and Frontline Workers - [link](#)
- FDA
- Learn More about COVID-19 Vaccines from the FDA - [link](#)
- ISMP
- ISMP Medication Safety Alert Acute Care: Should FDA reconsider allowing the pooling of COVID-19 vaccine doses to obtain additional doses? - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Annals of Internal Medicine

- COVID-19 Vaccine: Practical Clinical Considerations - [link](#)
- Toward Understanding COVID-19 Recovery: National Institutes of Health Workshop on Postacute COVID-19 - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Immunogenicity and safety of anti-SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines in patients with chronic inflammatory conditions and immunosuppressive therapy in a monocentric cohort - [link](#)

Br J Clin Pharmacol

- Letter: Will AstraZeneca be able to provide clinical trial data on its COVID-19 vaccine efficacy in older adults? - [link](#)
- Liver and kidney function in patients with Covid-19 treated with remdesivir - [link](#)

BMJ

- Guidance for the design and reporting of studies evaluating the clinical performance of tests for present or past SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Association between telehealth use and general practitioner characteristics during COVID-19: findings from a nationally representative survey of Australian doctors - [link](#)
- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on remote mental healthcare and prescribing in psychiatry: an electronic health record study - [link](#)
- Covid-19: Middle aged women face greater risk of debilitating long term symptoms - [link](#)

BMJ Opinion

- Letter: Vaccinated, yet still clinically extremely vulnerable – [link](#)

Canadian Medical Association Journal

- The impact of COVID-19 on pregnancy outcomes: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

- Single dose of a mRNA SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is associated with lower nasopharyngeal viral load among nursing home residents with asymptomatic COVID-19 - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Rapid, point-of-care antigen and molecular-based tests for diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)
- COVID-19: evidence relevant to critical care - [link](#); infection control and prevention measures - [link](#)
- Contested effects & chaotic policies: the 2020 story of (hydroxy) chloroquine for treating COVID-19 - [link](#)
- International travel-related control measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic: a rapid review - [link](#)

Drug Safety

- Safety Consequences of Off-Label Drugs Used for COVID-19 - [link](#)

European Journal of Haematology

- Clinical Predictors of SARS-CoV-2 Neutralizing Antibody Titers In COVID-19 Convalescents: Implications For Convalescent Plasma Donor Recruitment - [link](#)

European Respiratory Journal

- Management of hospitalised adults with coronavirus disease-19 (COVID-19): A European Respiratory Society living guideline - [link](#)

European Journal of Public Health

- Assessing the Indirect Effects of COVID-19 on Healthcare Delivery, Utilization, and Health Outcomes: A Scoping Review - [link](#)

Eurosurveillance

- Case fatality risk of the SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern B.1.1.7 in England, 16 November to 5 February - [link](#)

JAMA

- Clinical Review & Education: How COVID-19 affects the Brain - [link](#)
- Comparison of Time to Clinical Improvement With vs Without Remdesivir Treatment in Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Assessment of Simulated SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Mortality Risk Associated with Radiation Therapy among Patients in 8 Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

Lancet

- Efficacy of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (AZD1222) vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern 202012/01 (B.1.1.7): an exploratory analysis of a randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

- Dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 neutralising antibody responses and duration of immunity: a longitudinal study - [link](#)
- Thromboembolism & the Oxford–AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: side-effect or coincidence? - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Prescription of glucose-lowering therapies and risk of COVID-19 mortality in people with type 2 diabetes: a nationwide observational study in England - [link](#)
- Vitamin D supplementation to prevent acute respiratory infections: a systematic review and meta-analysis of aggregate data from randomised controlled trials - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Safety and immunogenicity of a recombinant tandem-repeat dimeric RBD-based protein subunit vaccine (ZF2001) against COVID-19 in adults: two randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 1 and 2 trials - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Editorial: COVID-19 and cancer: 1 year on - [link](#)

Lancet Rheumatology

- COVID-19 outcomes in patients with inflammatory rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases treated with rituximab: a cohort study - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)

- Perspective: A national system for monitoring intensive care unit demand and capacity: the Critical Health Resources Information System (CHRIS) - [link](#)

MedRxiv (not peer reviewed)

- Hemodialysis Patients Show a Highly Diminished Antibody Response after COVID-19 mRNA Vaccination Compared to Healthy Controls - [link](#)
- COVID-19 reinfection: A Rapid Systematic Review of Case Reports and Case Series - [link](#)

Nature

- Podcast: Coronapod: the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID vaccine - what you need to know - [link](#)

NEJM

- BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine Effectiveness among Health Care Workers - [link](#)
- Early Evidence of the Effect of SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine at One Medical Center - [link](#)
- Letter: Antibody Responses after a Single Dose of SARS-CoV-2 mRNA Vaccine - [link](#)
- Letter: Monoclonal Antibody for Patients with Covid-19 - [link](#)

PLOS ONE

- COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and resistance: Correlates in a nationally representative longitudinal survey of the Australian population - [link](#)
- Experiences of receiving and providing maternity care during the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia: A five-cohort cross-sectional comparison - [link](#)
- Magnitude of asymptomatic COVID-19 cases throughout the course of infection: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Prescrire

- Covid-19 vaccine Ad26.CoV2S (by Janssen): as with the other covid-19 vaccines, effective in the short term but unknowns remain - [link](#)
- The AstraZeneca covid-19 vaccine: British epidemiological data on the vaccination of older adults, and reassuring pharmacovigilance data - [link](#)

Scientific Data

- AI-assisted tracking of worldwide non-pharmaceutical interventions for COVID-19 - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- A systematic review and meta-analysis of obesity and COVID-19 outcomes – [link](#)
- Low HDL and high triglycerides predict COVID-19 severity - [link](#)

Thorax

- Arterial and venous thromboembolism in COVID-19: a study-level meta-analysis - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

AHHA

- Opinion: Health sector can save lives by reducing its carbon footprint - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- 2019 Annual Report of the National Antimicrobial Utilisation Surveillance Program (NAUSP) - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- National Opioid Pharmacotherapy Statistics Annual Data collection - [link](#)

- Residential Aged Care Quality Indicators–October to December 2020 - [link](#)

- Better Cardiac Care measures for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: fifth national report 2020 - [link](#)

Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) NSW

- Monthly Medication Safety Update February 2021 - [link](#)

NSW Health

- NSW HIV Strategy 2021 - 2025 - [link](#)

- Mental Health and Cognitive Impairment Forensic Provisions Act 2020 - [link](#)

- NSW Suicide Monitoring System - Report 5 - Data to January 2021 - [link](#)

PBS

- Adalimumab Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme changes - 1 April 2021 - [link](#)

TGA

- Database of TGA listed medicine compliance review results - [link](#)

- New standard for serialisation and data matrix codes on medicines (TGO 106) - [link](#) - with [guidance](#)

- Webinar: Medicinal cannabis advertising compliance - [link](#)

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages

- AusPARs:

-- [Tucatinib](#) (Tukysa) with trastuzumab & capecitabine for treatment of patients with advanced unresectable or metastatic HER2-positive breast cancer, including patients with brain metastases, who have received one or more prior anti-HER2- based regimens in the metastatic setting

-- Meningococcal Polysaccharide Tetanus Toxoid Conjugate Vaccine ([MenQuadFi](#))

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- Five new medicines recommended for approval (active ingredients: duvelisib, ponesimod, estetrol and droperinone, hydrocortisone); six recommendations on extensions of therapeutic indication (Brands: Benlysta, Kaftrio, Kalydeco, Saxenda, Tecentriq and Xtandi) - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA approves first cell-based gene therapy idecabtagene vicleucel (Abecma) for adult patients with multiple myeloma - [link](#)

- FDA approves new indication for mirabegron (Myrbetriq) to treat neurogenic detrusor overactivity in pediatric patients - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Asthma: diagnosis, monitoring and chronic asthma management [[NG80](#)] updated

- Caesarean birth [[NG192](#)]

- Anakinra for treating Still's disease [[TA685](#)]

- Ribociclib with fulvestrant for treating hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative advanced breast cancer after endocrine therapy [[TA687](#)]
- Selective internal radiation therapies for treating hepatocellular carcinoma [[TA688](#)]

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- Dealing with microaggressions - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Dosing and monitoring for treatment of Vitamin D deficiency in pregnancy - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Desizon ([zonisamide](#)) - hyperammonaemia reported with or without encephalopathy
- Siklos ([hydroxycarbamide](#)) - neutrophils threshold for toxicity amended to 15,000/mm³ from 2000/mm³, frequency of blood count to once a month (from every 2 weeks) at beginning of treatment; information about continued growth monitoring for children and adolescents and about effect of parvovirus B19 deleted.
- [Adenosine](#) infusion updated to include anaphylactic reaction (including angioedema and skin reactions such as urticaria and rash) as an ADR (unknown frequency).
- Budenofalk ([budesonide](#)) gastro-resistant granules - licensed indication updated from collagenous colitis to microscopic colitis, with addition of relevant information.
- Dermovate ([clobetasol](#)) updated with boxed warning and with warnings on osteonecrosis, serious infections and immunosuppression.
- [Fluconazole](#) infusion - additional pregnancy data showing no increase in overall risk of malformations associated with use of cumulative dose of ≤150mg in first trimester; one cohort study however suggests exposure associated with small increased risk of musculoskeletal malformations.
- Diflucan ([fluconazole](#)) - exposure to tolvaptan (CYP3A4 substrate) significantly increased when co-administered with fluconazole (moderate CYP3A4 inhibitor), with significant increased risk of adverse reactions; reduce tolvaptan dose when they are used concomitantly.
- Lustral ([sertraline](#)) - Observational data indicate increased risk (less than 2-fold) of postpartum haemorrhage following SSRI/SNRI exposure within the month prior to birth.
- Zimovane ([zopiclone](#)) –advises lower dose of 3.75 mg in hepatic dysfunction and contraindicates use in severe hepatic insufficiency due to risk of encephalopathy. Advises caution in patients with depression with treatment for no longer than 4 weeks
- Locoid ([hydrocortisone butyrate](#)) licensed in infants above 3 months of age and contraindicated in yeast or parasitic infections. Enhanced warnings regarding glaucoma; instructions to wash hands; information regarding long term use, use under occlusion and use in large areas.
- Feldene ([piroxicam](#)) – updated to include ‘Fixed Drug Eruption’ as ADR (unknown frequency).
- VFEND ([voriconazole](#)) – New contraindications added on concomitant use of voriconazole with ivabradine and venetoclax. New drug-drug interaction information

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA warns that abuse and misuse of the nasal decongestant propylhexedrine causes serious harm- [link](#) - [podcast](#)
- Drug Safety-related Labeling Changes:
 - Sarclisa (isatuximab-IRFC) - [link](#) - [label](#) (PI highlights)
 - Arcalyst (rilonacept) – [link](#) - [label](#)
- FDA Opioid Systems Modeling Effort - [link](#) – to combat the Opioid Crisis - [link](#)
- CDER perspective on recently published results of EPPPIC meta-analysis - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Health Product Infowatch [February 2021](#) [March 2021](#)
- Certain sulfonamide diuretics and the risk of choroidal effusion with acute myopia and/or acute angle-closure glaucoma - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Bendamustine (Levact): increased risk of non-melanoma skin cancer and progressive multifocal encephalopathy (PML) - [link](#)
- Letters sent to Healthcare Professionals in February 2021
- Alkindi (hydrocortisone granules in capsules for opening): risk of acute adrenal insufficiency when switching from crushed or compounded oral hydrocortisone formulations to Alkindi - [link](#)

MIMS Monthly Update - [April 2021](#)

- New Products
 - Indacaterol/glycopyrronium/mometasone furoate (Enerzair Breezhaler) for the maintenance treatment of asthma in adults not adequately controlled with maintenance LABA and ICS combination.
 - Romosozumab (Evenity): humanised monoclonal antibody (IgG2) indicated for osteoporosis in postmenopausal women at high risk of fracture, and to increase bone mass in men with osteoporosis at high risk of fracture.
- New Indications
 - Avelumab (rh) (Bavencio): now indicated for first-line maintenance treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma whose disease has not progressed with first-line platinum-based induction chemotherapy.
 - Baricitinib (Olumiant): now indicated for moderate to severe atopic dermatitis in adults who are candidates for systemic therapy.
 - Brigatinib (Alunbrig): now indicated for adults with anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK)-positive locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer.
 - Nivolumab (Opdivo): now indicated as monotherapy for patients with unresectable advanced, recurrent or metastatic oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma after prior fluoropyrimidine and platinum-based chemotherapy.
 - Olaparib (Lynparza),
 - In combination with bevacizumab: now indicated for the maintenance treatment of adults with advanced epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer who are in complete or partial response to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy and whose cancer is associated with homologous recombination deficiency (HRD)-positive status defined by either: a deleterious or suspected deleterious BRCA mutation (germline or somatic), and/or genomic instability.
 - Also now indicated as monotherapy for the maintenance treatment of adults with deleterious or suspected deleterious germline BRCA mutation (gBRCAm) metastatic pancreatic adenocarcinoma whose disease has not progressed on at least 16 weeks of a first-line platinum-based chemotherapy regimen.
- HRD & gBRCAm status should be determined by a laboratory using a validated test method.
- New Contraindications
 - Mepivacaine HCl (Scandonest 3%) and mepivacaine HCl with adrenaline (Scandonest 2% Special) now contraindicated in children under 3 years of age.
 - Raltitrexed (Tomudex) now contraindicated in patients with severe renal impairment (CrCl < 25 mL/min) and with concomitant administration of calcium folinate (folinic acid), folic acid or vitamin preparations containing these agents.
 - Sodium tetradecyl sulfate (Fibro vein) now contraindicated in patients with recent deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism.

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Redefining the term "tailoring" during pharmacy student experiential rotations - [link](#)
- Implementation of a pharmacist-provided pharmacogenomics service in an executive health program – [link](#)
- Report on 2020 Safe to Touch Consensus Conference on Hazardous Drug Surface Contamination – [link](#)
- Career advancement in health-system pharmacy: Clinical pharmacists as future leaders - [link](#)
- Guideline approval to practical implementation of area under the concentration–time curve - monitoring of vancomycin – [letter](#) – [letter](#) - [letter](#)
- Phentolamine continuous infusion in a pediatric patient with uncontrolled hypertension - [link](#)
- Methods used in medication Y-site mixing study – [letter](#) - [letter](#)
- Editorial: Aligning health systems for continued success in specialty pharmacy - [link](#)

- Impact of pharmacist-led selective audit and feedback on outpatient antibiotic prescribing for UTIs and SSTIs - [link](#)
- Letter: Crushing of deutetrabenazine tablets limited to individual case - [link](#)
- Best practice statements regarding sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors and serum potassium levels – [letter](#) - [letter](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Effectiveness and Safety of Direct Oral Anticoagulants versus Warfarin in Patients With Valvular Atrial Fibrillation. A Population-Based Cohort Study - [link](#)

Australian Health Review

- South Australian Medicines Evaluation Panel in review: providing evidence-based guidance on the use of high-cost medicines in the South Australian public health system - [link](#)
- Quality adjusted life years in the time of Covid-19 - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Antithyroid drug use during pregnancy and the risk of birth defects in offspring: systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies with methodological considerations - [link](#)
- Haplotype structure defines effects of common DPYD variants c.85T > C (rs1801265) and c.496A > G (rs2297595) on dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase activity: Implication for 5-fluorouracil toxicity - [link](#)
- Letter: Zolpidem: A masked hero. A reply to ZORRO study - [link](#)
- Prenatal exposure to antipsychotic agents and the risk of congenital malformations in children: a systematic review and meta-analysis – [link](#)
- Drug-drug Interactions with Warfarin: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Are vancomycin dosing guidelines followed? A mixed methods study of vancomycin prescribing practices - [link](#)
- Pharmacokinetic parameters and weight change in HIV patients newly switched to dolutegravir-based regimens in SIMPL’HIV clinical trial - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Comparative efficacy of interventions for reducing symptoms of depression in people with dementia: systematic review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Safety of live attenuated herpes zoster vaccine in Australian adults 70–79 years of age: an observational study using active surveillance - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Effectiveness of a medication adherence management intervention in a community pharmacy setting: a cluster randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Development and validation of an A3 problem-solving assessment tool and self-instructional package for teachers of quality improvement in healthcare - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Venous thromboembolism prophylaxis for women at risk during pregnancy and the early postnatal period, updated - [link](#)

Drug Ther Bull

- Omeprazole-induced hypomagnesaemia, causing renal tubular acidosis with hypokalaemia, hypocalcaemia, hyperlactacidaemia and hyperammonaemia - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Antithrombotic therapy in diabetes: which, when, and for how long? - [link](#)
- Efficacy and safety of low-dose colchicine in patients with coronary disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized trials - [link](#)

Heart

- P2Y12 inhibitor monotherapy after coronary stenting according to type of P2Y12 inhibitor - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Risk of major adverse cardiovascular events for concomitant use of clopidogrel and proton pump inhibitors in patients inheriting CYP2C19 loss-of-function alleles: meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Superior outcomes with argatroban for heparin-induced thrombocytopenia: a Bayesian network meta-analysis - [link](#)

JAMA

- Evaluation of Aducanumab for Alzheimer Disease. Scientific Evidence and Regulatory Review Involving Efficacy, Safety, and Futility - [link](#)
- Precision Dosing. A Clinical and Public Health Imperative - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Ponesimod Compared With Teriflunomide in Patients With Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis in the Active-Comparator Phase 3 OPTIMUM Study. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Chronic Immune-Related Adverse Events Following Adjuvant Anti-PD-1 Therapy for High-risk Resected Melanoma - [link](#)

JAMA Ophthalmology

- Practicality of Prophylactic Aflibercept to Reduce Diabetic Retinopathy Progression - [link](#)

J Clin Oncol

- Phase III, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial of CC-486 (Oral Azacitidine) in Patients with Lower-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes - [link](#)

J Oncol Pharm Prac

- Description of the role of pharmacist independent double checks during cognitive order verification of outpatient parenteral anti-cancer therapy - [link](#)

J Patient Safety

- Separate Medication Preparation Rooms Reduce Interruptions and Medication Errors in the Hospital Setting: A Prospective Observational Study - [link](#)

Lancet

- Discontinuing β -lactam treatment after 3 days for patients with community-acquired pneumonia in non-critical care wards (PTC): double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, non-inferiority trial - [link](#)
- Migraine: integrated approaches to clinical management and emerging treatments - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Vitamin D supplementation to prevent acute respiratory infections: a systematic review and meta-analysis of aggregate data from randomised controlled trials - [link](#)

Lancet Microbe

- Role of high-risk antibiotic use in incidence of health-care-associated Clostridioides difficile infection in Quebec, Canada: a population-level ecological study - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Antihypertensive treatment and risk of cancer: an individual participant data meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Public Health

- Periods of altered risk for non-fatal drug overdose: a self-controlled case series - [link](#)

Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf

- Outpatient insulin-related adverse events due to mix-up errors: Findings from two national surveillance systems, United States, 2012–2017 - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Safety and tolerability of natural and synthetic cannabinoids in adults aged over 50 years: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Schizophrenia Bulletin

- A Method for Tapering Antipsychotic Treatment That May Minimize the Risk of Relapse – [link](#)

TAG Mail – 25 Mar 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- ATAGI statement and clinical guidance on AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine following European Medicines Agency (EMA) safety review - [link](#)
- Infographic: Total number of people vaccinated for COVID-19 in Australia – 22 March 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 National Incident Room Surveillance Team: Epidemiology [Report 37](#): Reporting period ending 14 March 2021

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and updated recommendations as at [18/03/2021](#)
- New: Tocilizumab for children/adolescents; Anakinra, Nitazoxanide, Ivermectin + doxycycline, Zinc
- Updated: Ivermectin; Sarilumab; Mode of birth, Rooming-in; Breastfeeding; Skin-to-skin contact; Delayed umbilical cord clamping.

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard. Updated 17 March 2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines. Last updated 19 Mar 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants. Last updated 19 Mar 2021 - [link](#)
- Evidence Checks: AstraZeneca blood clots – [link](#); Endemicity of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- Asthma diagnosis and treatment during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- Buying medicines from Australian pharmacies during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

PBS

- Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Continued Dispensing Arrangements, extended to 31 December 2021 – [link](#)

TGA

- TGA approves CSL-Seqirus to manufacture AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine in Australia - [link](#)
- Melbourne-made COVID-19 vaccine now available - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report 17-03-2021 - [link](#)
- AstraZeneca ChAdOx1-S COVID-19 vaccine **updates**:
 - European and UK reviews find no proven link with blood clots - [link](#)
 - Expert review finds no evidence of increased risk of anaphylaxis - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- [Interim](#) recommendations for the use of the Janssen Ad26.COV2.S (COVID-19) vaccine; Background [here](#)
- Science in 5: Developing WHO's public health advice - [link](#); Vaccines-when and why? - [link](#)
- Poster: How to monitor and report COVID-19 vaccine side effects - [link](#)
- Research highlights risks of separating newborns from mothers during COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- Cohort study to measure COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness among health workers in the WHO European Region: guidance document - [link](#)
- COVID-19 weekly epidemiological update as of 16/3/21 – [link](#)
- Evaluation of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness: interim guidance, [17 March 2021](#)

OECD

- Access to COVID-19 vaccines: Global approaches in a global crisis - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- EMA advises against use of ivermectin for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 outside randomised clinical trials – [link](#)
- Press briefing on the conclusion of the investigation of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca and thromboembolic events by the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca: benefits still outweigh the risks despite possible link to rare blood clots with low blood platelets - [link](#)

UK

-NHS England

- Using COVID-19 vaccines appropriately in temporary vaccination sites - [link](#)
- Using COVID-19 Vaccine Pfizer-BioNTech appropriately in temporary vaccination sites - [link](#)
- Summary of COVID-19 medicines guidance: Cardiovascular system disorders updated 17/03/2021 - [link](#)
- Convalescent Plasma in the Management of Hospitalised Patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

-MHRA

- UK regulator confirms that people should continue to receive the COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca-[link](#)

-NHS England

- COVID treatment (dexamethasone) developed in the NHS saves a million lives - [link](#)

-NICE

- COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19 [[NG191](#)]

-SPS

- Information and guidance specific to Moderna C-19 Vaccine – [link](#)

USA

-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Science Brief: Background Rationale and Evidence for Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People - [link](#)
- CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
- COVID-19 Vaccine Second-Dose Completion and Interval Between First and Second Doses Among Vaccinated Persons - United States, Dec 14, 2020–Feb 14, 2021 - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Among Residents of Two Skilled Nursing Facilities Experiencing COVID-19 Outbreaks — Connecticut, Dec 2020–Feb 2021 - [link](#)

-FDA

- FDA Authorizes First Machine Learning-Based Screening Device to Identify Certain Biomarkers That May Indicate COVID-19 Infection - [link](#)
- -FDA authorizes revisions to fact sheets to address SARS-CoV-2 variants for monoclonal antibody products under emergency use authorization - [link](#)
- Revised fact sheets: [Bamlanivimab](#); [Bamlanivimab and Etesevimab](#); [Casirivimab and Imdevimab](#)

-ISMP

- AMA Webinar: FDA experts discuss COVID-19 therapeutic clinical trials - [link](#)
- Medication Safety Alert! [March 25, 2021](#)
- Should FDA Reconsider Allowing Pooling of COVID-19 Vaccine Doses to obtain Additional Doses?
- Vaccine card incorrect for single-dose COVID-19 vaccine
- Beware of COVID-19 vaccines sold online
- Reconstitution with alcohol instead of water

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Allergy, Asthma & Clinical Immunology

- COVID-19 vaccine testing & administration guidance for allergists/immunologists from the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CSACI) - [link](#)

Am J Health-Syst Pharm

- Rapid implementation of a new ambulatory infusion location for patients with COVID-19 to receive monoclonal antibody therapy – [link](#)
- Compounding sterile products during a personal protective equipment shortage - [link](#)

- FAQ for Optimizing COVID-19 Vaccine Preparation and Safety - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Letter: Safety of the first dose of mRNA SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in patients with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases - [link](#)

Archives of Disease in Childhood

- Sharing a household with children and risk of COVID-19: a study of over 300,000 adults living in healthcare worker households in Scotland - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- American College of Rheumatology Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccination in Patients with Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases – Version 1 - [link](#)

BMC Geriatrics

- Frailty as a predictor of mortality among patients with COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Br J Clin Pharmacol

- Zinc supplementation as an adjunct therapy for COVID-19: challenges and opportunities – [link](#)

BMJ

- Association between living with children and outcomes from covid-19: OpenSAFELY cohort study of 12 million adults in England - [link](#)

- What do we know about Sputnik V and other Russian vaccines? - [link](#)

- Editorial: Covid-19: variants and vaccination - [link](#)

BMJ Annals of Rheumatic Disease

- Antibody response to a single dose of SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine in patients with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases - [link](#)

BMJ Gut

- Anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody responses are attenuated in patients with IBD treated with infliximab - [link](#)

BMJ Journal of Investigative Medicine

- Higher heparin dosages reduce thromboembolic complications in patients with COVID-19 pneumonia - [link](#)

BMJ Nutrition, Prevention & Health

- Temporal variations in the severity of COVID-19 illness by race and ethnicity - [link](#)

British Journal of Ophthalmology

- Review: New digital models of care in ophthalmology, during & beyond the pandemic - [link](#)

Cell

- Multiple SARS-CoV-2 variants escape neutralization by vaccine-induced humoral immunity - [link](#)

Clinical Kidney Journal

- Rapid Decline of Anti-SARS-COV-2 Antibodies in Patients on Hemodialysis. The COVID-FRIAT Study - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Interleukin-6 blocking agents for treating COVID-19: a living systematic review - [link](#)

EClinical Medicine

- COPD and the risk of poor outcomes in COVID-19: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Epidemiology & Infection

- Presence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA on playground surfaces and water fountains - [link](#)

Eurosurveillance

- Case series: Acute onset supraclavicular lymphadenopathy coinciding with intramuscular mRNA vaccination against COVID-19 may be related to vaccine injection technique, Spain, January and February 2021 - [link](#)

Expert Review of Vaccines

- Inhaled vaccine delivery in the combat against respiratory viruses: a 2021 overview of recent developments and implications for COVID-19 - [link](#)

Intern Med J

- COVID-19 End-of-life Care: Symptoms and Supportive Therapy Use in an Australian Hospital - [link](#)

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

- Duration of SARS-CoV-2 positive in quarantine room environments: A perspective analysis - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- COVID-19 in aged care homes: a comparison of effects initial government policies had in the UK (primarily focussing on England) and Australia during the first wave - [link](#)

JAMA

- Association of Vitamin D Levels, Race/Ethnicity, and Clinical Characteristics with COVID-19 Test Results - [link](#)

- Research letter: Neutralizing Antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 Variants after Infection and Vaccination - [link](#)

- Effect of Intermediate-Dose vs Standard-Dose Prophylactic Anticoagulation on Thrombotic Events, Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation Treatment, or Mortality among Patients with COVID-19 Admitted to the Intensive Care Unit: The INSPIRATION Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#) – with [editorial](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Association of Age with SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Response - [link](#)

- Trends in Health Care Worker Intentions to Receive a COVID-19 Vaccine and Reasons for Hesitancy - [link](#)

Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology

- Risk of severe allergic reactions to COVID-19 vaccines among patients with allergic skin diseases – practical recommendations. A position statement of ETFAD with external experts - [link](#)

Lancet

- Assessment of protection against reinfection with SARS-CoV-2 among 4 million PCR-tested individuals in Denmark in 2020: a population-level observational study - [link](#); commentary [here](#)

- Letter: Rapid identification and tracking of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Vaccination and non-pharmaceutical interventions for COVID-19: a mathematical modelling study - [link](#)

- The potential health and economic value of SARS-CoV-2 vaccination alongside physical distancing in the UK: a transmission model-based future scenario analysis and economic evaluation - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Challenges and opportunities to end tuberculosis in the COVID-19 era - [link](#)

Lancet Rheumatology

- Mavrilimumab in patients with severe COVID-19 pneumonia and systemic hyperinflammation (MASH-COVID): an investigator initiated, multicentre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)

MedRxiv - Preprints

- A Prospective Study of Long-Term Outcomes among Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients with and without Neurological Complications - [link](#)

- Effect of vaccination on transmission of COVID-19: an observational study in healthcare workers and their households - [link](#)

- Risk of reinfection after seroconversion to SARS-CoV-2: A population-based propensity-score matched cohort study - [link](#)

- Long Covid in adults discharged from UK hospitals after Covid-19: A prospective, multicentre cohort study using the ISARIC WHO Clinical Characterisation Protocol - [link](#)
- Reduced BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine response in SARS-CoV-2-naïve nursing home residents - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)

- Emergency Department presentations from quarantine hotels in Sydney, Australia, during the COVID-19 outbreak – an analysis of clinical patterns and outcomes - [link](#)
- Key steps in our journey to a COVID-19 vaccine program - [link](#)
- Lessons from the United Kingdom’s COVID-19 vaccination strategy - [link](#)

Modern Pathology

- Factors associated with myocardial SARS-CoV-2 infection, myocarditis, and cardiac inflammation in patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

Nature

- Antibody Resistance of SARS-CoV-2 Variants B.1.351 and B.1.1.7 - [link](#)

Nature Medicine

- Review: Post-acute COVID-19 syndrome - [link](#)

NEJM

- Perspective: COVID-19 and the Investigator Pipeline - [link](#)

New Scientist

- Vaccines may help clear up long-term covid-19 symptoms - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Epidemiology and outcomes of COVID-19 in HIV-infected individuals: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Health system expenditure on cancer and other neoplasms in Australia, 2015–16 - [link](#)
- Oral health and dental care in Australia - [link](#)
- Cancer screening and COVID-19 in Australia - [link](#)
- Bloodstream infections associated with hospital care 2019–20 - [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- Risperidone: Revised PBS restrictions for behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia - [link](#)
- Rheumatology conditions: Up-to-date information and tools for specialists, pharmacists, nurses and hospitals to optimise the safety and health outcomes of biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (bDMARDs) and other specialised medicines for inflammatory arthritis - [link](#)
- Rheumatology conditions for consumers – updated resources available - [link](#)

NSW Health

- First 2000 days of life - [link](#); Implementation Strategy 2020-2025 - [link](#)
- HYDROmorphone (Dilaudid®) Oral Liquid 1 mg/mL – Discontinued - [link](#)
- Charging Arrangements for Pension Based Scale of Fees - [link](#)

PBS

- Post-Market Review of medicines available on the PBS Opiate Dependence Treatment Program - [link](#)

TGA

- Tips on creating prescription medicine labels compliant with TGO 91 Help card - [link](#)
- Medicine labels: Guidance on TGO 91 and TGO 92 - [link](#)
- AusPARs:

- [Meningococcal Polysaccharide Tetanus Toxoid Conjugate Vaccine](#) for active immunisation for the prevention of invasive meningococcal disease caused by Neisseria meningitidis serogroups A, C, W and Y
- [Trifarotene](#) for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris of the face and/or the trunk in patients from 12 years of age and older, when many comedones, papules and/or pustules are present
- [Afamelanotide](#) for prevention of phototoxicity in adult patients with erythropoietic protoporphyria
- [Brexiprazole](#) extension of indications to use as a short-term adjunctive therapy to antidepressants for the treatment of major depressive disorder (MDD) in adult patients with an inadequate response to prior antidepressant treatment
- [Insulin aspart](#) for treatment of diabetes mellitus
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
- [Ovaleap](#) to treat anovulatory infertility in woman who are unresponsive to clomiphene citrate

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- [dasiglucagon](#) (Zegalogue) to treat severe hypoglycemia
- [ponesimod](#) (Ponvory) to treat patients with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis
- New indications
- riloncept (Arcalyst) to treat and reduce risk of recurrent pericarditis in patients aged 12 yrs and older

Joint Commission

- Sentinel event statistics released for 2020 - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Supporting adult carers [\[QS200\]](#)
- Triple therapy recommended by NICE for patients with multiple myeloma - [link](#)
- Ovarian cancer patients to have NICE-approved drug combination option on Cancer Drugs Fund - [link](#)
- Cannabis-based medicinal products, updated with clarification of guidance [\[NG144\]](#)

Public Health England

- Guidance: Injectable opioid treatment: commissioning and providing services - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Suitability of calcium and vitamin D preparations for vegetarians or vegans - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

AHRQ

- Patient Safety Primer: Medication Administration Errors, updated - [link](#)

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) & Faculty of Pain Medicine

- FPM and medicinal cannabis - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Molipaxin ([trazodone](#)) - concomitant administration of trazodone and buprenorphine and/or opioids increases the risk of serotonin syndrome
- Targinact ([oxycodone/naloxone](#)) - caution required when using Targinact for restless legs syndrome in patients with additional sleep apnoea syndrome due to the additive risk of respiratory depression
- Vizimpro ([dacomitinib](#)) - starting dose should be adjusted to 30 mg once daily in patients with severe (Child-Pugh class C) hepatic impairment. The dose may be increased to 45 mg once daily based on individual safety and tolerability after at least 4 weeks of treatment

- Cellcept ([mycophenolate mofetil](#)) - as mycophenolic acid has a cytostatic effect on B- and T-lymphocytes, an increased severity of COVID-19 may occur, thus consider dose reduction or discontinuation in cases of clinically significant COVID-19
- Paludrine/Avloclor ([Chloroquine & Proguanil](#)) - cases of suicidal behaviour/psychiatric disorders (PDs) reported
- Zonegran ([zonisamide](#)) expanded to warn that metabolic acidosis has the potential to lead to hyperammonaemia (reported with or without encephalopathy).
- Reminyl ([galantamine](#)) - QTc prolongation reported in patients using therapeutic doses and torsade de pointes associated with overdoses. Use with caution in patients with prolonged QTc interval (QTcl), taking drugs affecting QTcl, or with pre-existing cardiac disease or electrolyte disturbances.
- Risk minimisation materials
- Enhertu ([trastuzumab deruxtecan](#)) advises on risk of confusion between Enhertu and other trastuzumab-containing products and the risk, diagnosis and management of interstitial lung disease or pneumonitis
- Solu-Medrone ([methylprednisolone sodium succinate](#)) advises of a lactose-free formulation change, plans to initiate transition to the lactose-free formulation and risk of serious allergic reactions if formulations are confused
- Zolgensma ([onasemnogene abeparvovec](#)) advises of the risk and management of thrombotic microangiopathy, which has been reported in spinal muscular atrophy patients treated with onasemnogene abeparvovec, particularly in the first weeks of treatment

EMA

- Direct healthcare professional communication (DHPC): Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec): risk for thrombotic microangiopathy - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Warns Companies Illegally Selling Over-the-Counter CBD Products for Pain Relief - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Summary Safety Review - Diuretics, including acetazolamide-containing products - [link](#)
- Summary Safety Review - Remicade (infliximab), Humira (adalimumab), Enbrel (etanercept) and Erelzi (biosimilar etanercept) - [link](#)

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Concern reported with the use of NovoRapid®Penfill® (insulin aspart; 3 mL cartridge) by type 1 diabetes patients - [link](#)

TGA

- Various medicines containing Artemisia annua and Artemisia absinthium – updated – [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Basic surface electrocardiogram interpretation for the pharmacist - [link](#)
- ASHP national survey of pharmacy practice in hospital settings: Dispensing and administration—2020 - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- Efficacy and Safety of Guselkumab, an Interleukin-23p 19–Specific Monoclonal Antibody, Through One Year in Biologic-Naive Patients with Psoriatic Arthritis – [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Antihistamine-related deaths in England: Are the high safety profiles of antihistamines leading to their unsafe use? - [link](#)
- Food Constituent– and Herb–Drug Interactions in Oncology: Influence of Quantitative Modeling on Drug Labeling - [link](#)
- Clinical treatment for HCV infection reverses CYP2C19 inhibition - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Age dependent associations of risk factors with heart failure: pooled population based cohort study - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Efficacy and safety of anti-epidermal growth factor receptor agents for the treatment of oesophageal cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors for premature ejaculation in adult men - [link](#)
- Dornase alfa for cystic fibrosis - [link](#)
- First-line treatment of advanced epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) mutation positive non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer - [link](#)
- Opioids for newborn infants receiving mechanical ventilation - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Efficacy and Safety of Imeglimin Monotherapy Versus Placebo in Japanese Patients With Type 2 Diabetes (TIMES 1): A Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group, Multicenter Phase 3 Trial - [link](#)

Drugs Ther Bull

- DOAC drug interactions and risk of major bleeding - [link](#)
- More evidence that fluoxetine does not improve functional recovery from stroke - [link](#)
- Tranexamic acid should be avoided for acute gastrointestinal bleeds - [link](#)
- BTS guideline for the use of long-term macrolides - [link](#)

Eur Heart J

- The management of secondary mitral regurgitation in patients with heart failure: a joint position statement from the Heart Failure Association (HFA), European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI), European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), and European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI) of the ESC - [link](#)
- Association between prophylactic angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and overall survival in Duchenne muscular dystrophy—analysis of registry data - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Tobramycin and vestibulotoxicity: retrospective analysis of four cases - [link](#)

Heart

- Anti-interleukin 1 agents for the treatment of recurrent pericarditis: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Learning From Safety Incidents in High Reliability Organizations: A Systematic Review of Learning Tools That Could be Adapted and Used in Healthcare - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Continued Weekly Subcutaneous Semaglutide vs Placebo on Weight Loss Maintenance in Adults With Overweight or Obesity: The STEP 4 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- High-Dose vs Standard-Dose Amoxicillin Plus Clavulanate for Adults With Acute Sinusitis: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Association Between Antiangiogenic Drugs Used for Cancer Treatment and Artery Dissections or Aneurysms - [link](#)

JAMA Surgery

- Assessment of the Frequency of Dual Allergy to Penicillins and Cefazolin. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

J Am Pharm Assoc

- There's no place like home--integrating a pharmacist into the hospital-in-home model - [link](#)

J Clin Oncol

- Comparison of Radiation With or Without Concurrent Trastuzumab for HER2-Positive Ductal Carcinoma In Situ Resected by Lumpectomy: A Phase III Clinical Trial – [link](#)
- Low-Dose Tamoxifen for Mammographic Density Reduction: A Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)

J Emerg Med

- Oral 5-Day Lefamulin for Outpatient Management of Community-Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia: Post-hoc Analysis of the Lefamulin Evaluation Against Pneumonia (LEAP) 2 Trial - [link](#)

Lancet

- Safety and feasibility of 1 month of daily rifapentine plus isoniazid to prevent tuberculosis in children and adolescents: a prospective cohort study - [link](#)

Lancet Microbe

- Long-term effects of early antiretroviral initiation on HIV reservoir markers: a longitudinal analysis of the MERLIN clinical study - [link](#)

Lancet Neurology

- Onasemnogene abeparvovec gene therapy for symptomatic infantile-onset spinal muscular atrophy in patients with two copies of SMN2 (STR1VE): an open-label, single-arm, multicentre, phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Screening for hydroxychloroquine retinopathy in Australia - [link](#)

NEJM

- Review: Atopic Dermatitis - [link](#)
- Video: Intranasal Naloxone Administration - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- Thrombosis Risk in Transgender Adolescents Receiving Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Clinical outcomes of concomitant rifamycin and opioid therapy: a systematic review - [link](#)

Sleep Medicine

- Efficacy of pitolisant in patients with high burden of narcolepsy symptoms: pooled analysis of short-term, placebo-controlled studies - [link](#)

Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management

- Review: Polycythemia Vera (PV): Update on Emerging Treatment Options - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 18 Mar 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

AHPRA Pharmacy Board

- Joint statement: Registered health practitioners and students: What you need to know about the COVID-19 vaccine rollout - [link](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- ATAGI Advice on the relative timing of administering influenza & COVID-19 vaccines in 2021 [V2](#)
- COVID-19 Australia: Epidemiology Report 36: Reporting period ending 28 February 2021 - [link](#)
- Webinar: COVID-19 vaccine update for vaccination providers – 17/3/2021 - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- Guidelines Update [11 March 2021](#)

NSW Health

- Information on COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (ChAdOx1-S) in NSW (updated 12/3/21) - [link](#)
- Management of COVID-19 vaccine: [AstraZeneca \(ChAdOx1-S\)](#) from refrigerator to administration (updated 12/3/21); [Pfizer \(COMIRNATY™\)](#) from refrigerator to administration (updated 12/3/21)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- 10 March 2021 - Risk Monitoring Dashboard - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines – last updated 16 Mar 2021 - [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants – last updated 12 Mar 2021 - [link](#)
 - COVID-19 transmission – last updated 16 Mar 2021 - [link](#)
- Evidence Check: Evidence on AstraZeneca vaccine rollout - [link](#)

TGA

- Approval of updated storage conditions for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- AstraZeneca ChAdOx1-S COVID-19 vaccine – 16/03/21 response to overseas precautionary measures - [link](#); [17/03/21](#) Reports of anaphylaxis (severe allergic reaction) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccines - safety and effectiveness in older adults - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

- ISTH statement on AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine and thrombosis - [link](#)

WHO

- Methods for the detection and identification of SARS-CoV-2 variants, March 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 strategic preparedness and response plan: 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022 - [link](#); Operational Planning guideline - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- Investigation of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca and thromboembolic events continues - [link](#)
- EMA starts rolling review of bamlanivimab and etesevimev for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Highlights from the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) 8-11 Mar 2021 include safety signal of anaphylaxis with COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca, signal of low levels of blood platelets with COVID-19 vaccines, and signal of localised swelling related to dermal fillers with Comirnaty - [link](#)

UK

-King's College London

- Delaying second vaccine dose leaves cancer patients vulnerable to virus; Preliminary data from SOAP trial suggests low response to first dose of Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine in patients with cancer - [link](#)

-MHRA

- MHRA response to the precautionary suspensions of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca - [link](#)
- MHRA response to Danish, Norwegian and Icelandic authorities' action to temporarily suspend the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine adverse reactions – last updated 11 March 2021 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Therapeutic Alert from the Chief Medical Officer [17th March 2021](#): now recommended that convalescent plasma is NOT used in the management of hospitalised patients with confirmed or suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection

-Public Health England

- Investigation and management of suspected SARS-CoV-2 reinfections: a guide for clinicians and infection specialists - [link](#)

-Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network

- Managing the long-term effects of COVID-19 [[SIGN161](#)] with [patient booklet](#)

USA

-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Building Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)

-FDA

- Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for Propofol-Lipuro 1% to maintain sedation via continuous infusion in patients >16 years old who require mechanical ventilation in an ICU setting during the COVID-19 public health emergency – [link](#)
- The FDA has posted translations of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine fact sheet for recipients and caregivers in languages including: Burmese, Chinese, French, Hindi and Russian – [link](#)
- The Joint Commission
- COVID-19 Q&A Webinar for Behavioral Health Care [link](#), [slides link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Ann Intern Med

- What Is the Antibody Response and Role in Conferring Natural Immunity After SARS-CoV-2 Infection? Rapid, Living Practice Points from the American College of Physicians (Version 1) - [link](#) with [summary for patients](#)
- Antibody Response after SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Implications for Immunity. A Rapid Living Review - [link](#)

Anaesthesia

- Timing of surgery following SARS-CoV-2 infection: an international prospective cohort study - [link](#)

BMJ

- Update to living systematic review on covid-19 in pregnancy - [link](#)
- Webinar: Is Zero Covid possible? - [link](#)
- Clinical Review: Severe covid-19 pneumonia: pathogenesis and clinical management - [link](#)
- Practice: What is my covid risk? (Supporting patients' assessment of risk to COVID-19) - [link](#)

BMJ Archives of Disease in Childhood

- Short Report: Bronchiolitis and SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

- Infection fatality rate of COVID-19 inferred from seroprevalence data - [link](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

- Impact of the COVID-19 Vaccine on Asymptomatic Infection among Patients Undergoing Pre-Procedural COVID-19 Molecular Screening - [link](#)

Cochrane

- COVID-19 and its cardiovascular effects: a systematic review of prevalence studies - [link](#)

Frontiers in Public Health

- How Australian Health Care Services Adapted to Telehealth during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Survey of Telehealth Professionals - [link](#)

Lancet

- Patients with gout: an under-recognised group at high risk of COVID-19 - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

- Gastrointestinal sequelae 90 days after discharge for COVID-19 - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: Incentivizing Vaccination Uptake. The “Green Pass” Proposal in Israel - [link](#)
- Assessment of Acute Kidney Injury and Longitudinal Kidney Function after Hospital Discharge among Patients With and Without COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Immunogenicity of the Ad26.COV2.S Vaccine for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: CDC Interim Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People. An Important First Step - [link](#)
- Letter: Immunogenicity of a Single Dose of SARS-CoV-2 Messenger RNA Vaccine in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients - [link](#)

JAMIA

- Utilizing health information technology in the treatment and management of patients during the COVID-19 pandemic: lessons from international case study sites – [link](#)

Journal of Crohn's and Colitis

- SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in IBD: past lessons, current evidence and future challenges - [link](#)

Journal of General Internal Medicine

- Severity Scores in COVID-19 Pneumonia: a Multicenter, Retrospective, Cohort Study - [link](#)

Journal of Geriatric Oncology

- Letter: The SIOG COVID-19 working group recommendations on the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines among older adults with cancer - [link](#)

Journal of Investigative Medicine

- Effect of bromhexine in hospitalized patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

Journal of Medical Internet Research

- Virtual Health Care for Community Management of Patients with COVID-19 in Australia: Observational Cohort Study - [link](#)

Lancet

- Commentary: Correcting COVID-19 vaccine misinformation - [link](#)

Nature

- Sensitivity of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 to mRNA vaccine-elicited antibodies - [link](#)

- Comparison of clinical characteristics and disease outcome of COVID-19 and seasonal influenza - [link](#)

- Increased mortality in community-tested cases of SARS-CoV-2 lineage B.1.1.7 - [link](#)

- Genetic mechanisms of critical illness in COVID-19 - [link](#)

Nature Reviews Immunology

- Perspective: The first 12 months of COVID-19: a timeline of immunological insights - [link](#)

Nature Reviews Gastroenterology & Hepatology

- COVID-19 and liver disease: mechanistic and clinical perspectives - [link](#)

NEJM

- Efficacy of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Covid-19 Vaccine against the B.1.351 Variant - [link](#)

- A Neutralizing Monoclonal Antibody for Hospitalized Patients with Covid-19 - [link](#)

PLOS One

- Interventions for treatment of COVID-19: Second edition of a living systematic review with meta-analyses and trial sequential analyses (The LIVING Project) - [link](#)

Public Health Research and Practice

- Communicating COVID-19 health information to culturally and linguistically diverse communities: insights from a participatory research collaboration - [link](#)

- Perspectives: The vital role of meaningful community engagement in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Science

- Perspective: Immunity to SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern - [link](#)

Scientific Reports

- Comparison of clinical severity and epidemiological spectrum between coronavirus disease 2019 and influenza in children - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection data analysis information sheet - [link](#)

- Multi-Purpose Services Aged Care Module - [link](#)
- NSQHS Standards Checklist for assessors - [link](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- National Standard Operating Procedures for Clinical Trials - [link](#)
- National Principles for Teletrials in Australia - [link](#)
- Advanced Nursing Practice - Guidelines for the Australian Context (updated 12/3/21) - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- GEN: Annual Report 2019-2020: Residential Aged Care Quality Indicators - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Admitted Patient Election Processes for NSW Public Hospitals - [link](#)

PSA

- Medicine safety: rural and remote care - [link](#)

Safer Care Victoria

- Syringe driver compatibility: Guidance document - [link](#)
- Opioid conversion ratios: Guidance document - [link](#)

TGA

- Advice for health procurement teams about therapeutic goods and medical devices - [link](#)
- AusPARs:
 - [Nintedanib \(as esilate\)](#) (Ofev/Vargatef®) indication extended to treatment of other chronic fibrosing interstitial lung diseases (ILDs) with a progressive phenotype.
 - Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - [Esketamine hydrochloride](#) (Spravato) for the treatment of treatment resistant depression
 - [Cabotegravir](#) (as sodium) (Vocabria) in combination with rilpivirine tablets for the short-term treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in adults who are virologically suppressed (HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL) and have no known or suspected resistance to either cabotegravir or rilpivirine
 - [ChAdOx1-S](#) (Provisional Australian Biological Name) (COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca)
 - Registration of [new or extended uses](#) of registered medicine [February 2021](#):
 - avelumab (Bavencio), cabotegravir; rilpivirine (Cabenuva), nivolumab (Opdivo), perampanel hemisquihydrate (Fycompa), baricitinib (Olumiant), brigatinib (Alunbrig)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Interventions to influence the use of antibiotics for acute upper respiratory tract infections - [link](#)
- Basal Insulin Formulations for the Management of Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)
- Onabotulinum Toxin A for Spasticity Associated with Multiple Sclerosis - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
 - Belkyra ([deoxycholic acid](#)) for moderate to severe convexity or fullness associated with submental fat (double chin) in adults when the presence has an important psychological impact for the patient.
 - Retsevmo ([selpercatinib](#)) for advanced RET fusion+ve non-small cell lung cancer and advanced RET fusion+ve thyroid cancer in adults following prior treatments, and advanced RET-mutant medullary thyroid cancer in patients from 12 years of age following prior treatments.
 - [Palforzia](#) (Peanut (Arachis hypogaea) Allergen Powder-dnfp) indicated for patients aged 4 to 17 years with a confirmed diagnosis of peanut allergy, in conjunction with a peanut-avoidant diet. It may be continued in patients 18 years of age and older.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
 - [tivozanib](#) (Fotivda) for renal cell carcinoma
 - [axicabtagene ciloleucel](#) (Yescarta) CAR T-cell therapy for follicular lymphoma

- [lorlatinib](#) (Lorbrena) expanded approval as first-line treatment of ALK-positive non-small cell lung cancer
- [Pepaxto](#) (melphalan flufenamide) new alkylating agent for relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma

NHS England

- Clinical commissioning policy statement: Use of adalimumab for refractory chronic non-bacterial osteomyelitis/osteitis (CNO) (all ages) - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Nivolumab for adjuvant treatment of completely resected melanoma with lymph node involvement or metastatic disease [[TA684](#)]
- Erenumab for preventing migraine [[TA682](#)]
- Pembrolizumab with pemetrexed and platinum chemotherapy for untreated, metastatic, non-squamous non-small-cell lung cancer [[TA683](#)]

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Nytol ([diphenhydramine](#))- hypoesthesia and restless leg syndrome added as potential adverse effects.
- Clarelux ([clobetasol propionate](#)) cutaneous foam - prolonged use may result in serious undesirable effects; if treatment with local corticosteroid (CS) is clinically justified beyond 2weeks, a less potent CS should be considered. Repeated but short courses may be used to control exacerbations.
- Elvanse ([lisdexamfetamine dimesylate](#)) - syncope added as an uncommon adverse effect.
- Omnitrope ([somatropin](#)) SurePal - although rare, pancreatitis should be considered in somatropin-treated patients who develop abdominal pain, especially in children. Also gynaecomastia (uncommon frequency) reported in post-marketing studies
- NutropinAq ([somatropin](#)) 10mg/2mL - in patients with endocrine disorders, including growth hormone deficiency, slipped epiphyses of the hip may occur more frequently than in the general population. A patient who develops a limp or complains of hip or knee pain should be evaluated.
- Sabril ([vigabatrin](#)) – intramyelinic oedema (IME), reversible following drug discontinuation, has been reported, particularly in infants treated for infantile spasms (frequency unknown).
- Klaricid XL Klaricid IV ([clarithromycin](#)) - potential interaction with methadone added.
- Molipaxin ([trazodone hydrochloride](#)) risk of serotonin syndrome when co-administered with buprenorphine/opioids.
- Venladex ([venlafaxine](#)) - in relation to discontinuing treatment, severe effects may include suicide/suicidal thoughts and aggression; SSRIs/SNRIs may increase the risk of postpartum haemorrhage
- Risk minimisation materials
- Injector's guide for the safe use of Belkyra ([deoxycholic acid](#))

EMA

- Highlights from the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee ([PRAC](#)) 8-11 Mar 2021:
- Review of thalassaemia medicine Zynteglo commenced
- Benefits of ifosfamide solutions continue to outweigh risks
- New safety information for healthcare professionals:
- tofacitinib (Xeljanz): initial clinical trial results on increased risk of major cardiovascular events & cancer.
- aflibercept (Eylea): recommendations to mitigate risk of intraocular pressure increase.

FDA

- approved revisions to the TRIUMEQ (abacavir/dolutegravir/lamivudine) and DOVATO (dolutegravir/lamivudine) labels - [link](#)

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Update to original Communication - reports of lack of efficacy with rocuronium bromide solution for injection 10mg/mL, Hameln - [link](#)

TGA

- Various medicines containing *Artemisia annua* and *Artemisia absinthium* - recalls due to unacceptable risk in pregnancy - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Expanding nonclinical roles in specialty pharmacy: How to grow a high-performance specialty pharmacy team - [link](#)
- Turning differentiation into value: How health-system specialty pharmacies can align to an outcomes-focused mission - [link](#)
- Precision medicine: Opportunities for health-system pharmacists - [link](#)
- A framework for graduate and postgraduate specialty pharmacy training - [link](#)

Annals of Emergency Medicine

- Adverse events among emergency department patients with cardiovascular conditions: a multicenter study - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Weight and Metabolic Changes after Switching from Tenofovir Disoproxil Fumarate to Tenofovir Alafenamide in People Living With HIV - [link](#) with [summary for patients](#)
- Risk for Non-AIDS-Defining and AIDS-Defining Cancer of Early Versus Delayed Initiation of Antiretroviral Therapy - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- A safety signal of somnambulism with the use of antipsychotics and lithium: a pharmacovigilance disproportionality analysis - [link](#)
- Approvals of type 2 diabetes drugs tested in cardiovascular outcome trials: a tripartite comparison - [link](#)
- Editorial: Nonmedical use of prescription drugs - [link](#)
- External evaluation of the predictive performance of seven population pharmacokinetic models for phenobarbital in neonates - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Risk factors for new chronic opioid use after hip fracture surgery: a Danish nationwide cohort study from 2005 to 2016 using the Danish multidisciplinary hip fracture registry - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Effectiveness of a multifaceted intervention to improve emergency department care of low back pain: a stepped-wedge, cluster-randomised trial - [link](#)
- Smart agent system for insulin infusion protocol management: a simulation-based human factors evaluation study - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Different antibiotic treatments for group A streptococcal pharyngitis - [link](#)
- Hospital at home: home-based end-of-life care - [link](#)
- Zinc supplementation for improving pregnancy and infant outcome – [link](#)
- Interventions for preventing thrombosis in solid organ transplant recipients - [link](#)
- Topical microbicides for preventing sexually transmitted infections - [link](#)
- Biologics for chronic rhinosinusitis – [link](#)
- Enteral zinc supplementation for prevention of morbidity and mortality in preterm neonates - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Meta-analyses of Results from Randomized Outcome Trials Comparing Cardiovascular Effects of SGLT2is and GLP-1RAs in Asian Versus White Patients With and Without Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)

Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice

- All-cause mortality and cardiovascular safety of basal insulin treatment in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: A systematic review with meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis - [link](#)

Heart

- Prasugrel versus ticagrelor in patients with myocardial infarction undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention - [link](#)
- Cardiotoxicities of novel cancer immunotherapies - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- A multifaceted clinical decision support intervention to improve adherence to thromboprophylaxis guidelines - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Marine Omega-3 Fatty Acid and Vitamin D Supplementation on Incident Atrial Fibrillation. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Subcutaneous Fat Necrosis during Nivolumab Therapy for Metastatic Melanoma - [link](#)

JAMA Facial Plastic Surgery

- Tranexamic Acid in Craniomaxillofacial Surgery: A Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy in a Patient with Progressive Multiple Sclerosis Treated with Ocrelizumab Monotherapy - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: Administering Thrombolysis for Acute Ischemic Stroke in Patients Taking Direct Oral Anticoagulants. To Treat or How to Treat - [link](#)
- Encephalitis Induced by Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Assessment of Postnatal Corticosteroids for the Prevention of Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia in Preterm Neonates: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis – [link](#) – [editorial](#)

JAMA Surgery

- DDIWAS: High-throughput electronic health record-based screening of drug-drug interactions - [link](#)

Journal of the American College of Cardiology

- 10-Year Follow-Up of Patients with Everolimus-Eluting Versus Bare-Metal Stents After ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction - [link](#)

J Clin Gastroenterol

- Oral Fecal Microbiota Transplant Capsules Are Safe and Effective for Recurrent Clostridioides difficile Infection: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

J Gen Intern Med

- Care coordination strategies and barriers during medication safety incidents: a qualitative, cognitive task analysis - [link](#)

Journal of Palliative Medicine

- Evidence-Based Management of Depression in Palliative Care: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- The burden of opioid-related adverse drug events on hospitalized previously opioid-free surgical patients - [link](#)

Lancet

- New dimensions for hospital services and early detection of disease: a Review from the Lancet Commission into liver disease in the UK - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Combining behavioral harm-reduction treatment and extended-release naltrexone for people experiencing homelessness and alcohol use disorder in the USA: a randomised clinical trial - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Research letter: Residential medication management reviews in Australian residential aged care facilities - [link](#)
- Australian recommendations for the management of hepatocellular carcinoma: a consensus statement - [link](#)
- Editorial: The general practitioner and the pharmacist: a policy enigma? - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

- The effect of statins on muscle symptoms in primary care: the StatinWISE series of 200 N-of-1 RCTs - [link](#)

NEJM

- Review article: Extrahepatic Manifestations of Chronic HCV Infection - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Medicines prescribed for asthma, discontinuation and perinatal outcomes, including breastfeeding: A population cohort analysis - [link](#)

Res Social and Adm Pharm

- Medication errors related to computerized provider order entry systems in hospitals and how they change over time: A narrative review - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 11 Mar 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare - [link](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- COVID-19 vaccines hub - [link](#)

Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA)

- Deeble Institute Perspective Brief No 15: Victoria's response to COVID-19 laboratory testing: A public pathology perspective - [link](#)

AusVax Safety

- COVID-19 vaccine safety surveillance - [link](#)

NSW Health

- COVID-19 vaccination: information for **health providers** in NSW webpage - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccination: information for **NSW healthcare workers** webpage- [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Evidence Check - COVID-19 pre-peer review articles - [link](#)
- Risk Monitoring Dashboard 5/3/2021 - [link](#)
- Living Evidence:
 - COVID-19 vaccines - updated 8/3/2021- [link](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 variants - updated 5/3/2021- [link](#)
 - COVID-19 transmission - updated 4/3/2021 - [link](#)

TGA

- TGA COVID-19 vaccines hub - [link](#)

- TGA adopts Access Consortium guidance for fast-tracking authorisations of modified COVID-19 vaccines for variants - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccines - safety and effectiveness in older adults - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Science in 5: Evolution of the SARS-CoV-2 virus - [link](#)
- The effects of virus variants on COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Monitoring COVID-19 vaccination: considerations for the collection and use of vaccination data: interim guidance, 3 March 2021 - [link](#)

Infectious Diseases Data Observatory (IDDO)

Medical Product Quality Reports about substandard and falsified (SF) COVID-19 medical products, which include data from scientific literature, public alerts and warnings, and lay press from across the world. Medical Product Quality Report - COVID-19 Issues. [Issue 8: January 2021](#)

UK

- RECOVERY trial
- Trial closes recruitment to colchicine treatment for patients hospitalised with COVID-19 – [link](#)
- NICE
- COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy – debunking the myths using a community engagement approach underpinned by NICE guidance - [link](#)

USA

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Science Brief: Background Rationale and Evidence for Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People (updated 8/3/2021) - [link](#)
- MMWR and Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: Body Mass Index and Risk for COVID-19 Related Hospitalization, Intensive Care Unit Admission, Invasive Mechanical Ventilation, and Death - US, March–December 2020 - [link](#)
- IHI
- Conversation Guide to Improve COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake - [link](#)
- The Joint Commission
- Quick Safety 58: Keeping patients on track with preventative care during pandemic - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

- Pharmacy students play crucial role in COVID-19 mass vaccinations - [link](#)
- Transforming pharmacy enterprises for future success in tumultuous times - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Clinical and Economic Effects of Widespread Rapid Testing to Decrease SARS-CoV-2 Transmission - [link](#)
- Update Alert 5: Masks for Prevention of Respiratory Virus Infections, Including SARS-CoV-2, in Health Care and Community Settings - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Immunomodulatory therapies for SARS-CoV-2 infection: a systematic literature review to inform EULAR points to consider - [link](#)

Australian Prescriber

- ChAdOx1-S vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 - [link](#)

British Medical Journal

- Editorial: Vitamin D and covid-19 - [link](#)
- Risk of mortality in patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern 202012/1: matched cohort study - [link](#)

European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging

- Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccination induced lymphadenopathy on [18F]Choline PET/CT— not only an FDG finding - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 inhibitors in COVID-19: meeting at the crossroads between heart, diabetes and infectious diseases - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Ivermectin on Time to Resolution of Symptoms among Adults with Mild COVID-19. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Approaches for Optimal Use of Different COVID-19 Vaccines. Issues of Viral Variants and Vaccine Efficacy - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: COVID-19 in 2021—Continuing Uncertainty - [link](#)
- Letter: Acute Allergic Reactions to mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)

Lancet

- Azithromycin for community treatment of suspected COVID-19 in people at increased risk of an adverse clinical course in the UK (PRINCIPLE): a randomised, controlled, open-label, adaptive platform trial - [link](#)
- Letter: Long-haul COVID: heed the lessons from other infection-triggered illnesses - [link](#)
- Urgent lessons from COVID 19: why the world needs a standing, coordinated system and sustainable financing for global research and development - [link](#)
- Fluorodeoxyglucose PET/CT findings in a systemic inflammatory response syndrome after COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Sarilumab in patients admitted to hospital with severe or critical COVID-19: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial - [link](#)
- COVID-19 and inhaled corticosteroids—another piece in an expanding puzzle - [link](#)
- IL-6 blockade for COVID-19: a global scientific call to arms - [link](#)

EClinicalMedicine

- Enoxaparin is associated with lower rates of mortality than unfractionated Heparin in hospitalized COVID-19 patients - [link](#)

Lancet Rheumatology

- Interleukin-1 and interleukin-6 inhibition in patients with COVID-19 and hyperinflammation, [letter](#); [reply](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2-specific antibodies in Sydney after the first epidemic wave of 2020 - [link](#)

medRxiv

- Pre-print: Vaccine effectiveness after 1st and 2nd dose of the BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine in long-term care facility residents and healthcare workers – a Danish cohort [study](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Baricitinib plus Remdesivir for Hospitalized Adults with Covid-19 - [link](#)
- Letter: Delayed Large Local Reactions to mRNA-1273 (Moderna) Vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

PLOS ONE

- Development and validation of a prediction model for tocilizumab failure in hospitalized patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)

QJM

- The potential risks of delaying the second vaccine dose during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic - [link](#)

Science

- Epidemiological and evolutionary considerations of SARS-CoV-2 vaccine dosing regimes - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Antimicrobial prescribing practice in Australian Hospitals: Results of the 2019 Hospital National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey - [link](#)
- The Australian Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (AGAR) Sepsis Outcome Programs 2019 Report - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Hospitalised injury in children and young people, 2017–18 - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Safety Notice 003/21: Breast implant associated-anaplastic large cell lymphoma (BIA-ALCL) - [link](#)

PBS

- PBAC Public Summary Documents – November 2020 meeting - [link](#)

Safer Care Victoria

- Guidance: Acute behavioural disturbance - [link](#)

TGA

- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - [Adalimumab](#) (Abralada) – new biosimilar medicine
 - [Onasemnogene abeparvovec](#) (Zolgensma) - approved to treat patients less than 9 months old with symptomatic/pre-symptomatic spinal muscular atrophy (SMA).
 - [Rituximab](#) (Ruxience) approved to treat non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, rheumatoid arthritis, GPA and MPA.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Automated-Entry Patient-Generated Health Data for Chronic Conditions: The Evidence on Health Outcomes - [link](#)
- Disparities and Barriers to Pediatric Cancer Survivorship Care - [link](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Rapid Responses:
 - Pharmacological Interventions for Weight Loss in Children with Overweight or Obesity - [link](#)
 - Codeine for Pain Related to Caesarean Section: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness - [link](#)
 - Codeine for Acute Dental Pain and Acute Pain Related to Dental Procedures - [link](#)
 - Stellate Ganglion Block for the Treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Depression, and Anxiety - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Tocilizumab Scores FDA Approval for Systemic Sclerosis–Associated Interstitial Lung Disease - [link](#)
- Adalimumab Earns FDA Approval for Ulcerative Colitis in Children - [link](#)
- New Drug approvals
 - Azstarys ([serdexmethylphenidate and dexmethylphenidate](#)) – for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity

Health Canada

- Summary Safety Review - Cefuroxime-containing products. Reviewed potential risk of Kounis syndrome after becoming aware of cases reported in the published literature - [link](#)

National Infusion and Vascular Access Society

- Intravenous Administration of Medicines to Adults: Guidance on “line flushing” -Version 3 2021 - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Alpha-Stim AID for anxiety disorders ([MTG56](#))
- Atopic eczema in under 12s: diagnosis and management ([CG57](#))

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- Online exhibition: Celebrating Women in Pharmacy - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Feldene ([piroxicam](#)) Gel - eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS syndrome) included with use of systemic (and possibly topical) piroxicam
- Betamethasone dipropionate and calcipotriol ([Enstilar](#)) foam - deletion of warning regarding UV exposure and statement regarding photocarcinogenicity studies

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP)

- Medication Safety Alert! [March 11, 2021](#)
- Analysis of Transdermal Medication Patch Errors Uncovers a “Patchwork” of Safety Challenges
- Cisatracurium barcode is not scannable
- SIRVA (shoulder injury related to vaccine administration) persists
- Praxbind label information needs repositioning
- ASPEN-ISMP error-reporting project
- Your Reports at Work: Updated label for NovoLOG Mix 70/30 generic equivalent

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Early Access Medicines Scheme (EAMS) scientific opinion: Avalglucosidase alfa in the treatment of Pompe disease - [link](#)

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Prescriber Update – [March 2021](#); some articles include:
- New reporting form for adverse events following immunisation with COVID-19 vaccines
- Spotlight on gabapentin and pregabalin for neuropathic pain
- Vildagliptin and ACE inhibitors – increased risk of angioedema
- Green breast milk – related to propofol?
- Administering goserelin implants

TGA

- New legislation to support medicine substitutions when the patient's usual medicine is in 'serious scarcity' - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Development, implementation, and evaluation of a health outcomes and research program at an integrated health-system specialty pharmacy - [link](#)
- Analyzing the costs of developing and operating an integrated health-system specialty pharmacy: The case of a centralized insurance navigation process for specialty clinic patients - [link](#)
- Evaluation of a specialty hepatitis C virus telephone pharmacy service - [link](#)

Archives of Disease in Childhood

- First do no harm: practitioners' ability to 'diagnose' system weaknesses and improve safety is a critical initial step in improving care quality - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Pregnancy outcomes following gestational exposure to papaverine: an observational comparative study - [link](#)

- Initial cardiovascular treatment patterns during the first 90 days following an incident cardiovascular event - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Aspirin to prevent pre-eclampsia - [link](#) – [SPS comment](#)
- Vitamin D supplementation and testing in the UK: costly but ineffective? - [link](#)

BMJ Open Quality

- Reaching the summit of discharge summaries: a quality improvement project - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Use of patient complaints to identify diagnosis-related safety concerns: a mixed-method evaluation - [link](#)

Circulation

- Opioid-Associated Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest: Distinctive Clinical Features and Implications for Health Care and Public Responses: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association - [link](#)
- Letter: Risk of Coronary Artery Disease Conferred by Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol Depends on Polygenic Background - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Interventions for cutaneous disease in systemic lupus erythematosus - [link](#)
- Timing of dornase alfa inhalation for cystic fibrosis - [link](#)
- (Ultra-)long-acting insulin analogues for people with type 1 diabetes mellitus - [link](#)
- Different classes of antibiotics given to women routinely for preventing infection at caesarean section - [link](#)
- Second-generation antidepressants for treatment of seasonal affective disorder - [link](#)
- Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) targeting therapy for persistent, recurrent, or metastatic cervical cancer - [link](#)

Digital Health

- The use of social media as a tool for stakeholder engagement in health service design and quality improvement: A scoping review - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Cost-saving effect of early less invasive surfactant administration versus continuous positive airway pressure therapy alone for preterm infants with respiratory distress syndrome - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Short and long term impact of combining restrictive and enabling interventions to reduce aztreonam consumption in a community hospital - [link](#)
- Factors associated with the frequency of antihypertensive drug adjustments in chronic kidney disease patients: a multicentre, 2-year retrospective study - [link](#)

JAMA

- Prevalence of Central Nervous System–Active Polypharmacy among Older Adults with Dementia in the US - [link](#)
- Effect of Blinatumomab vs Chemotherapy on Event-Free Survival among Children with High-risk First-Relapse B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

-Invited Commentary: Adverse Drug Events After Hospitalization—Are We Missing the Mark? - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Short-Course Antimicrobial Therapy for Pediatric Community-Acquired Pneumonia. The SAFER Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Nivolumab and Ipilimumab as Maintenance Therapy in Extensive-Disease Small-Cell Lung Cancer: CheckMate 451 - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- Effects of an Intensive Discharge Intervention on Medication Adherence, Glycemic Control, and Readmission Rates in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)
- [Review](#): Toward the Development of the Perfect Medical Team: Critical Components for Adaptation
- Identification of Design Criteria to Improve Patient Care in Electronic Health Record Downtime - [link](#)
- Give Intravenous Bolus Overdose a Brake: User Experience and Perception of Safety Device - [link](#)
- The Burden of Opioid-Related Adverse Drug Events on Hospitalized Previously Opioid-Free Surgical Patients - [link](#)
- Building an Ambulatory Safety Program at an Academic Health System - [link](#)
- National and Institutional Trends in Adverse Events Over Time: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Longitudinal Retrospective Patient Record Review Studies - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

- Avoiding a Med-Wreck: a structured medication reconciliation framework and standardized auditing tool utilized to optimize patient safety and reallocate hospital resources - [link](#)

JMIR Human Factors

- Perceptual Gaps between Clinicians and Technologists on Health Information Technology-Related Errors in Hospitals: Observational Study - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- A Longitudinal Assessment of the Quality of Insulin Prescribing with Different Prescribing Systems - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Pharmacovigilance for chlorhexidine anaphylaxis: a preventable adverse reaction - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

- NIHR Signals
- New sub-groups of diabetes could lead to more targeted treatment for people in India - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Terlipressin plus Albumin for the Treatment of Type 1 Hepatorenal Syndrome - [link](#)
- Nivolumab plus Cabozantinib versus Sunitinib for Advanced Renal-Cell Carcinoma - [link](#)
- Clinical Practice: Epistaxis - [link](#)

OTO open

- Intraoperative Sentinel Events in the Era of Surgical Safety Checklists: Results of a National [Survey](#)

Pediatrics

- Quality Improvement Efforts to Reduce Opioid Prescribing from a Pediatric Emergency Department - [link](#)
- Reducing Opioid Doses Prescribed From a Pediatric Emergency Department - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Lack of Drug Interaction between Levetiracetam and High-Dose Methotrexate in Patients with Lymphoma - [link](#)

Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy

- Evaluating the impact of a pharmacist-led prescribing feedback intervention on prescribing errors in a hospital setting - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 4 Mar 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

AUSTRALIAN

AHPRA

- Webinar: How a pandemic affects eye health - [link](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- Webinar: COVID-19 response update for General Practitioners (and allied health) – 4 March 2021 11:30-12:30 AEDT - [link](#)

- PHLN statement on use of saliva as an alternative specimen for the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

- COVID-19 Allied Health Package Information for allied health professionals - [link](#)

Australian Prescriber

- Podcast [Episode 100](#): COVID-19 vaccination in Australia, infectious diseases physician Kristine Macartney

- BNT162b2 vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 - [link](#)

TGA

- TGA collecting COVID-19 vaccine side effect reports – [link](#)

- COVID-19 vaccine weekly safety report #1 - 03-03-2021 - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Background document on the AZD1222 vaccine against COVID-19 developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca - [link](#)

- Roadmap to improve and ensure good indoor ventilation in the context of COVID-19 - [link](#)

- COVID-19 weekly epidemiological update as of 21/2/21 – [link](#)

-- Special edition: Proposed working definitions of SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Interest and Variants of Concern - [link](#)

- Preparedness, prevention and control of COVID-19 in prisons and other places of detention: interim guidance, 08/02/21 - [link](#)

- In the wake of the pandemic - Preparing for Long COVID - [link](#)

- Science in 5: Vaccines, variants and herd immunity - [link](#)

- Living guideline: drugs to prevent COVID-19: interim guidance, [2 March 2021](#)

Europe

EMA

- EMA starts rolling review of Celltrion antibody regdanvimab for COVID-19 - [link](#)

- International cooperation to align approaches for regulation of COVID-19 vaccines & medicines - [link](#)

- EMA issues advice on use of REGN-COV2 antibody combination (casirivimab / imdevimab) - [link](#)

- Regulatory requirements for vaccines intended to provide protection against variant strain(s) of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

UK

-Care Quality Commission

-- Briefing: COVID-19 INSIGHT – [February 2021](#)

-GOV.UK Department of Health and Social care

-- Latest findings from antibody surveillance study published - [link](#)

-King Guide Publications

-- COVID vaccine (Pfizer) updated storage, thawing, dilution information - [link](#)

-NHS England

-- National Diabetes Inpatient COVID-19 Response Team clinical guidance - [link](#)

-NICE

-- COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: Tocilizumab for COVID-19 ([update](#))

-SIGN

-- Assessment of COVID-19 in primary care - [link](#)

-Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS)

-- [Safety alert](#): Handling multiple COVID-19 Vaccines. COVID-19 vaccines have different handling and dosing requirements. Sites need to plan to reduce the risk of errors where multiple vaccines are available. Amongst other points, it is advised to use only one vaccine per session.

-The Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine

-- Rapid Review: Risks of and from SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) infection in people with asthma - [link](#)

-The King's Fund

- Covid-19 recovery and resilience: what can health and care learn from other disasters? - [link](#)

USA

- American Journal of Medical Toxicology

-- Webinar: Monoclonal Antibodies; Frontline Update: Anaphylaxis from COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

-- Report: Detection of B.1.351 SARS-CoV-2 Variant Strain – Zambia - [link](#)

- FDA

-- Emergency Use Authorization for Third COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)

-- FDA Allows More Flexible Storage, Transportation Conditions for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

- Emergency preparation and mitigation for COVID-19 response in an integrated pharmacy practice model - [link](#)

- Advancing ambulatory pharmacy practice through a crisis: Objectives and strategies used in an ambulatory care action team's response to the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

- Multicenter point prevalence evaluation of the utilization and safety of drug therapies for COVID-19 at the onset of the pandemic timeline in the United States - [link](#)

ANZ Journal of Surgery

- Utilization of telehealth by surgeons during the COVID 19 pandemic in Australia: lessons learnt - [link](#)

- Prevalence of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection in elective surgical patients in Australia: a prospective surveillance study - [link](#)

Authorea

Single-dose BNT162b2 vaccine protects against asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Model-informed drug repurposing: A pharmacometric approach to novel pathogen preparedness, response and retrospection - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Practice

- The role of antibody tests for COVID-19 in primary care - [link](#)

BMJ

- Acute covid-19 and multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children - [link](#)

- Editorial: Covid-19 vaccine hesitancy among ethnic minority groups - [link](#)

- A living WHO guideline on drugs to prevent covid-19 - [link](#)

- [Viewpoint](#): Stepping back from vaccination priorities and focusing on minimising the risk of exposure

BMJ Open

- Examining Australian's beliefs, misconceptions and sources of information for COVID-19: a national online survey - [link](#)

BJ Psych Open

- Adapting practice in mental healthcare settings during the COVID-19 pandemic and other contagions: systematic review - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Interventions for the treatment of persistent post COVID-19 olfactory dysfunction - [link](#)

Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology

- [Commentary](#): Hurrying up but not rushing, acting and not reacting, good sense and not common sense: open thoughts and reasonable doubts on COVID-19 vaccination strategies in cancer patients

EClinicalMedicine

- Epidemiology and clinical features of COVID-19 outbreaks in aged care facilities: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Hydroxychloroquine with or without azithromycin for treatment of early SARS-CoV-2 infection among high-risk outpatient adults: A randomized clinical trial - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Does timing matter on tocilizumab administration? Clinical, analytical and radiological outcomes in COVID-19 - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Respiratory failure, clinical course and community management of COVID-19 patients in a large Australian cohort - [link](#)

- Outcomes for the first wave of hospitalised patients with COVID-19 in the South Australian context: a retrospective audit - [link](#)

- Immunosuppression as a risk factor for COVID-19: a meta-analysis - [link](#)

International Journal of Medical Informatics

- Profiling adopters (and non-adopters) of a contact tracing mobile application: Insights from Australia - [link](#)

International Journal of Obesity

- Obesity in COVID-19 era, implications for mechanisms, comorbidities, and prognosis: a review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Human factors: the pharmaceutical supply chain as a complex sociotechnical system - [link](#)

JAMA

- Association of Convalescent Plasma Treatment with Clinical Outcomes in Patients with COVID-19: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Association of SARS-CoV-2 Seropositive Antibody Test with Risk of Future Infection - [link](#)

- Characteristics and Outcomes of US Children and Adolescents with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) Compared with Severe Acute COVID-19 - [link](#)

- Letter: Recruitment and Results Reporting of COVID-19 Randomized Clinical Trials Registered in the First 100 Days of the Pandemic - [link](#)

- SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines - [link](#)

JMIR

- Health Apps for Combating COVID-19: A Descriptive Review and Taxonomy - [link](#)

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

- Incidence of psychological illness after coronavirus outbreak: a meta-analysis study - [link](#)

Lancet

- Identification and validation of clinical phenotypes with prognostic implications in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19: a multicentre cohort study - [link](#)

- Letter: Antibody response to first BNT162b2 dose in previously SARS-CoV-2-infected individuals - [link](#)

- Letter: Effect of previous SARS-CoV-2 infection on humoral and T-cell responses to single-dose BNT162b2 vaccine - [link](#)

- Single-dose administration and the influence of the timing of the booster dose on immunogenicity and efficacy of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (AZD1222) vaccine: a pooled analysis of four randomised trials - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)

- Seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2-specific antibodies in Sydney after the first epidemic wave of 2020 - [link](#)

- Perspective: The indirect impacts of COVID-19 on Aboriginal communities across New South Wales - [link](#)

MedRxiv – Preprints:

- Reanalysis of the Pfizer mRNA BNT162b2 SARS-CoV-2 vaccine data fails to find any increased efficacy following the boost: Implications for vaccination policy and our understanding of the mode of action - [link](#)
- FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines are effective per real-world evidence synthesized across a multi-state health system - [link](#)
- Modelled Optimization of SARS-Cov-2 Vaccine Distribution: an Evaluation of Second Dose Deferral Spacing of 6, 12, and 24 weeks - [link](#)

Nature Physics

- The effectiveness of backward contact tracing in networks - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)

- Dexamethasone in Hospitalized Patients with Covid-19 (final report) - [link](#)
- Interleukin-6 Receptor Antagonists in Critically Ill Patients with Covid-19 (REMAP-CAP) - [link](#), [editorial](#)
- Tocilizumab in Hospitalized Patients with Severe Covid-19 Pneumonia - [link](#)
- Audio Interview: The Real-World Effectiveness of Covid-19 Vaccination - [link](#)
- Perspective: Last-Mile Logistics of Covid Vaccination - the Role of Health Care Organizations - [link](#)

NPJ Digital Health

- Applications of digital health for public health responses to COVID-19: a systematic scoping review of artificial intelligence, telehealth and related technologies - [link](#)
- Review: SARS-CoV-2 vaccines strategies: a comprehensive review of phase 3 candidates - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Rapid Implementation of Telehealth Services in a Pediatric Pulmonary Clinic during COVID-19 - [link](#)

PNAS

- Influence of a COVID-19 vaccine's effectiveness and safety profile on vaccination acceptance - [link](#)

Thorax

- Development and validation of a prediction model for 30-day mortality in hospitalised patients with COVID-19: the COVID-19 SEIMC score - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Government Department of Health

- Electronic Prescriptions: [Data Usage](#) Policy; [Privacy](#) Policy; [Security and Access](#) Policy

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Hospital safety and quality - [link](#)
- Childhood overweight and obesity—the impact of the home environment - [link](#)
- Youth detention population in Australia 2020 - [link](#)
- Venomous bites and stings 2017–18 - [link](#)

NSW Health

- NSW Suicide Monitoring System - Report 4 - January 2021 - [link](#)
- Area of Need Program ([PD2021_007](#))
- Reporting of Maternal Deaths to the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission ([PD2021_006](#))
- Forensic Drug and Alcohol Sampling in Emergency Departments ([PD2021_005](#))

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)

- New and amended [listings](#) relating to the following health conditions from 1 March 2021.
 - Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH)
 - Atopic Dermatitis
 - Complex Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GORD)
 - Relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS)
 - Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM)
 - Asthma

-- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

- Final Report: Care, Dignity and Respect - [link](#)

Safer Care Victoria

- Supporting patient safety: learning from sentinel events. Annual report 2019–20: focus on the three most frequently reported sentinel events issues: pregnancy, labour and the post-natal period; patient falls; medication errors- [link](#)

TGA

- Update to listed medicine ingredients in March 2021 - [link](#)

- AusPARs:

-- [Etanercept](#) (Rymti/Etera) - new biosimilar medicine

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

All Wales Medicines Strategy Group

- Shared Care Prescribing and Monitoring Guidance - [link](#)

British National Formulary (BNF)

- [Newsletter](#) – February 2021

-- New monographs (BNF and/or BNF for Children): caplacizumab, COVID-19 vaccine, treprostini

-- MHRA advice on: andexanet alfa, dimethyl fumarate, erythromycin, fingolimod, methylprednisolone and quinolones.

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- First oral treatment for spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) recommended for approval - [link](#)

- European CHMP recommends approval of

-- berotralstat (Orladeyo) for prevention of recurrent attacks of hereditary angioedema (HAE) - [link](#)

-- dostarlimab (Jemperli) for recurrent or advanced endometrial cancer - [link](#)

-- isatuximab (Sarclisa) license extension- in combination with carfilzomib and dexamethasone, for the treatment of adult patients with multiple myeloma who have received at least one prior therapy - [link](#)

-- two bevacizumab biosimilars (Abevmy and Lextemy) - for indications as per Avastin - [link](#)

-- cabozantinib (Cabometyx) license extension-as first-line treatment for advanced renal cell carcinoma - [link](#)

-- cannabidiol (Epidyolex) license extension-as adjunctive therapy of seizures associated with tuberous sclerosis complex for patients 2 years of age and older – [link](#)

-- delafloxacin (Quofenix) license extension-for community- acquired pneumonia in adults when it is considered inappropriate to use other antibacterial agents that are commonly recommended for the initial treatment of these infections – [link](#)

-- nivolumab (Opdivo) license extension-as first-line treatment for advanced renal cell carcinoma - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Approves Targeted Treatment for Rare Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Mutation - [link](#)

- FDA Approves First Treatment for Molybdenum Cofactor Deficiency Type A - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Safeguarding adults in care homes [[NG189](#)]

- Secondary bacterial infection of eczema and other common skin conditions: antimicrobial prescribing [[NG190](#)]

- Chemotherapy dose standardisation [[KTT22](#)]

- Suicide prevention: optimising medicines and reducing access to medicines as a means of suicide [[KTT24](#)]

- Shared decision making [[KTT23](#)]

- Baricitinib for treating moderate to severe atopic dermatitis – guidance [[TA681](#)]

- Lenalidomide maintenance treatment after an autologous stem cell transplant for newly diagnosed multiple myeloma – guidance [[TA680](#)]

- Remsima (infliximab biosimilar) for subcutaneous injection for managing Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis – evidence summary [\[ED35\]](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Guidance on issuing the Steroid Emergency Card - [link](#)

The National Academies Press

- Medications in Single Dose Vials; Implications of Discarded Drugs - [link](#)

- Meeting the Challenge of Caring for Persons Living with Dementia and Their Care Partners and Caregivers: A Way Forward - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs:

-- Somavert ([pegvisomant](#)) - patients be carefully monitored for tumour expansion causing serious complications eg visual field defects

-- Velcade ([bortezomib](#)) - Guillain-Barré syndrome and demyelinating polyneuropathy added as adverse events (frequency rare)

-- Nimenrix ([meningococcal groups A, C, W-135 and Y conjugate vaccine](#)) - Lymphadenopathy added as an adverse effect of unknown frequency

-- Klaricid ([clarithromycin](#)) preparations - SPC now notes potential interaction with methadone, a CYP3A4 substrate, whose concentration may be elevated, when given concomitantly with clarithromycin. Close monitoring is advised.

-- Testogel ([testosterone](#)) gel - updated in line with PRAC recommendation to highlight caution in use in those with risk factors for VTE owing to reports of thrombotic events with treatment.

-- Vermox ([mebendazole](#)) tablets - updated to recommend that owing to limited data, treatment should not be given to those <1 year, and that in those aged 1-2 years mebendazole should only be given if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk.

CEC

- Communication re supply disruption to: Prednefrin Forte eye drops 10mL (3 March 2021) - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Safety Brief: Tecentriq (atezolizumab) - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates – [March](#)

New Products

-- ChAdOx1-S COVID-19 Vaccine (AstraZeneca) is a monovalent vaccine composed of a single recombinant, replication-deficient chimpanzee adenovirus (ChAdOx1) vector encoding the S-glycoprotein of SARS-CoV-2

-- Comirnaty BNT162b2 [mRNA] COVID-19 Vaccine (Pfizer) contains nucleoside-modified messenger RNA (mRNA) formulated in lipid nanoparticles, which enable the delivery of the non-replicating RNA into host cells to direct transient expression of the SARS-CoV-2 spike (S) antigen

-- Indacaterol (acetate)/mometasone furoate (Atecura Breezhaler) combines indacaterol, a long-acting β 2-agonist (LABA), which acts locally on airways to produce bronchodilation, and mometasone furoate, an inhaled corticosteroid (ICS), which reduces pulmonary inflammation

-- Ozanimod (Zeposia) a sphingosine 1-phosphate (S-1-P) receptor modulator, binds with a high affinity to S-1-P receptor subtypes 1 & 5. Ozanimod causes lymphocyte retention in lymphoid tissues

-- Trientine dihydrochloride (Trientine Waymade) has a structure similar to polyamines and chelates copper by forming a stable complex with the four constituent nitrogens in a planar ring

- New Contraindications

-- Cyproterone acetate/ethinylestradiol (Diane-35) now contraindicated in patients with meningioma or a history of meningioma.

-- Fluticasone propionate (Axotide, Flixotide Accuhaler) now contraindicated in patients with severe milk-protein allergy.

-- Mercaptopurine monohydrate (Allmercap) now contraindicated with concomitant yellow fever vaccine.

-- Selegiline hydrochloride (Eldepryl) should not be used in combination with serotonin noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (e.g. venlafaxine), tricyclic antidepressants, sympathomimetics, monoamine oxidase inhibitors; nor in patients with active duodenal or gastric ulcer

NSW Health

- Identification of Post-Injection Syndrome Olanzapine Pamoate Long Acting Injection 004/21 - [link](#)

TGA

- [New legislation to support medicine substitutions](#): allow pharmacists to substitute a different medicine when a patient's usual medicine has been declared to be in 'serious scarcity'.

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Guidance on the treatment of antipsychotic-induced hyperprolactinemia when switching the antipsychotic is not an option - [link](#)
- Tools and tactics for post-discharge medication management interventions - [link](#)

American Journal of Cardiology

- Meta-Analysis Comparing the Safety and Efficacy of Single vs Dual Antiplatelet Therapy in Post Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation Patients - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Short report: The potential of individualized dosing of ravulizumab to improve patient-friendliness of paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria treatment at reduced costs - [link](#)
- Tacrolimus dose, blood concentrations and acute nephrotoxicity, but not CYP3A5/ABCB1 genetics, are associated with allograft tacrolimus concentrations in renal transplant recipients - [link](#)
- Short report: Characteristics of arsenic species in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL) patients treated with arsenic trioxide plus mannitol - [link](#)
- Epidemiology of drug-related deaths in European hospitals: a systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies - [link](#)
- Variations in Long-Term Opioid Therapy Definitions: A Systematic Review of Observational Studies Using Routinely Collected Data (2000–2019) - [link](#)
- Review: Machine Learning in Pharmacometrics: Opportunities and Challenges - [link](#)
- External evaluation of the predictive performance of seven population pharmacokinetic models for phenobarbital in neonates - [link](#)
- Pharmacist-led intervention on chronic pain management: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Beta-blocker-associated hypoglycaemia: New insights from a real-world pharmacovigilance study - [link](#)
- Measuring and reporting treatment adherence: What can we learn by comparing two respiratory conditions? - [link](#)
- Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic evidence of adrenaline administered via auto-injector for anaphylactic reactions: A review of literature - [link](#)
- Treating the whole glaucoma spectrum: A new treatment approach is required - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Associations with antibiotic prescribing for acute exacerbation of COPD in primary care - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Statin treatment and muscle symptoms: series of randomised, placebo controlled n-of-1 trials - [link](#)
- Effect of reductions in amyloid levels on cognitive change in randomized trials: instrumental variable meta-analysis - [link](#)

BMJ Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- DTB select: Risk of DKA with SGLT2 inhibitors - [link](#)

BMJ Open Infectious Diseases

- Systematic review of prediction models for pulmonary tuberculosis treatment outcomes in adults - [link](#)

BMJ Open Qual

- Preventable adverse drug events causing hospitalisation: identifying root causes and developing a surveillance and learning system at an urban community hospital, a cross-sectional observational study - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Timeout procedure in paediatric surgery: effective tool or lip service? A randomised prospective observational study - [link](#)

Circulation

- How Should We Sequence the Treatments for Heart Failure and a Reduced Ejection Fraction? - [link](#)

- Inhibition of Cholesteryl Ester Transfer Protein Preserves High-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol and Improves Survival in Sepsis - [link](#)

- Effects of n-3 Fatty Acid Supplements in Elderly Patients after Myocardial Infarction: A Randomized, Controlled Trial - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Adult patient access to electronic health records - [link](#)

- Interventions for bacterial folliculitis and boils (furuncles and carbuncles) - [link](#)

- Interventions for preventing type 2 diabetes in adults with mental disorders in low- and middle-income countries - [link](#)

- Belimumab for systemic lupus erythematosus - [link](#)

- Paravertebral anaesthesia with or without sedation versus general anaesthesia for women undergoing breast cancer surgery - [link](#)

- Antibiotics to prevent complications following tooth extractions - [link](#)

- Silicone gel sheeting for treating keloid scars - [link](#)

- Coenzyme Q10 for heart failure - [link](#)

- Pharmacological interventions for self-harm in adults - [link](#)

- Long-term effects of weight-reducing drugs in people with hypertension - [link](#)

- Withdrawal or continuation of cholinesterase inhibitors or memantine or both, in people with dementia - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Cardiovascular, Renal, and Metabolic Outcomes of Dapagliflozin Versus Placebo in a Primary Cardiovascular Prevention Cohort: Analyses from DECLARE-TIMI 58 - [link](#)

- Case report: Interferent Effect of Hydroxyurea on Continuous Glucose Monitoring - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Drug-related bradycardia precipitating hospital admission in older adults: an ongoing problem - [link](#)

- Impact and acceptance of pharmacist-led interventions during HIV care in a third-level hospital in Spain using the Capacity-Motivation-Opportunity pharmaceutical care model: the IRAFE study - [link](#)

Health Expectations

- Evaluation of patient engagement in medicine development: A multi-stakeholder framework with metrics - [link](#)

Heart

- Sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 inhibitor therapy: mechanisms of action in heart failure - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Psychological flexibility is associated with less diabetes distress and lower glycosylated haemoglobin in adults with type 1 diabetes - [link](#)

- Invasive versus Conservative Management in Patients ≥ 85 years presenting with Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction - [link](#)

- Current issues in the prevalence, diagnosis and management of hepatocellular carcinoma in Australia - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Evaluation of pharmacists' interventions on drug-related problems and drug costs in patients with cancer pain - [link](#)

International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry

- Intraoperative dexmedetomidine for prevention of postoperative delirium in elderly patients with mild cognitive impairment - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- The Effect of Computerized Clinical Decision Support on Adherence to VTE Prophylaxis Clinical Practice Guidelines among Hospitalized Patients - [link](#)
- Fall Prevention Education for People with Multiple Sclerosis: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Reengineer healthcare: a human factors and ergonomics framework to improve the socio-technical system - [link](#)
- Is the 'never event' concept a useful safety management strategy in complex primary healthcare systems? - [link](#)
- Innovating health care: key characteristics of human-centered design - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of Subcutaneous Semaglutide vs Placebo as an Adjunct to Intensive Behavioral Therapy on Body Weight in Adults With Overweight or Obesity: The STEP 3 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: Medications in Single-Dose Vials and Implications of Discarded Injectable Drugs: A National Academies Report - [link](#)
- Diagnosis and Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome - a [Review](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Severe Hypoglycemia Risk With Long-Acting Insulin Analogs vs Neutral Protamine Hagedorn Insulin - [link](#)
- Research Letter: Glycemic Control and Use of High-risk Antihyperglycemic Agents among Nursing Home Residents with Diabetes in Ontario, Canada - [link](#)
- Effect of a Multifaceted Clinical Pharmacist Intervention on Medication Safety after Hospitalization in Persons Prescribed High-risk Medications: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Association of Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy with Mortality among Veterans With Inflammatory Bowel Disease - [link](#)
- Association of a Safety Program for Improving Antibiotic Use with Antibiotic Use and Hospital-Onset Clostridioides difficile Infection Rates among US Hospitals - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Reperfusion Treatment and Stroke Outcomes in Hospitals with Telestroke Capacity - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Review: Current Treatment Strategies and Future Directions for Extrapulmonary Neuroendocrine Carcinomas - [link](#)

JAMA Ophthalmology

- Early Experience With Brolucizumab Treatment of Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: What Is Just the Right Amount of Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Treatment for Diabetic Macular Edema? Protocol V and the Goldilocks Principle - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Association of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in Childhood and Adolescence with the Risk of Subsequent Psychotic Disorder: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Exploring the relationship between electronic health records and provider burnout: A systematic review - [link](#)
- Digital phenotyping and sensitive health data: Implications for data governance - [link](#)

- Extracting postmarketing adverse events from safety reports in the vaccine adverse event reporting system (VAERS) using deep learning - [link](#)

Journal of the American Geriatrics Society

- Medication review interventions to reduce hospital readmissions in older people - [link](#)
- Automated Frailty Screening At-Scale for Pre-Operative Risk Stratification Using the Electronic Frailty Index - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Impact of Risk-Adapted Therapy for Pediatric Hodgkin Lymphoma on Risk of Long-Term Morbidity: A Report from the Childhood Cancer Survivor Study - [link](#)

Journal of Palliative Medicine

- Multicentered Evaluation of Palliative Care Pharmacists' Interventions and Outcomes in California - [link](#)
- Use of a Novel Trigger Tool to Identify Palliative Care Needs in Surgical Patients at a National Referral Hospital in Kenya: A Pilot Study - [link](#)

Lancet

- Anti-interleukin-21 antibody and liraglutide for the preservation of β -cell function in adults with recent-onset type 1 diabetes: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 2 trial - [link](#)
- Decentralisation, integration, and task-shifting in hepatitis C virus infection testing and treatment: a global systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Risk predictors of progression to severe disease during the febrile phase of dengue: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Safety and efficacy of intensive blood pressure lowering after successful endovascular therapy in acute ischaemic stroke (BP-TARGET): a multicentre, open-label, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Modelling the intervention effect of opioid agonist treatment on multiple mortality outcomes in people who inject drugs: a three-setting analysis - [link](#)
- Semaglutide 2.4 mg once a week in adults with overweight or obesity, and type 2 diabetes (STEP 2): a randomised, double-blind, double-dummy, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial - [link](#)
- Alzheimer's disease - Seminar paper highlights the main developments in the field of Alzheimer's disease - [link](#)

Lancet Haematology

- Rituximab plus high-dose chemotherapy (MegaCHOEP) or conventional chemotherapy (CHOEP-14) in young, high-risk patients with aggressive B-cell lymphoma: 10-year follow-up of a randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Standard dose raltegravir or efavirenz-based antiretroviral treatment for patients co-infected with HIV and tuberculosis (ANRS 12 300 Replate TB 2): an open-label, non-inferiority, randomised, phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Treatment of relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma: recommendations from the International Myeloma Working Group - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Evaluating the Effect of Handout on Community Pharmacists' Opioid Safety Counseling - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Guideline Summary: Otitis media guidelines for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children: summary of recommendations - [link](#)
- Perspective: Technologies in the management of type 1 diabetes - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

- Reduced exposure to vasopressors through permissive hypotension to reduce mortality in critically ill people aged 65 and over: the 65 RCT - [link](#)
- NIHR Signals

- People with anaemia may not benefit from iron therapy ahead of major abdominal surgery, research finds - [link](#)
- Short term palliative care reduced costs without compromising quality for people with neurological conditions - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Glycemic Index, Glycemic Load, and Cardiovascular Disease and Mortality - [link](#)
- Muscarinic Cholinergic Receptor Agonist and Peripheral Antagonist for Schizophrenia - [link](#) visual abstract - [link](#)
- Review: β -Thalasseмииs - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- Current Prescription Opioid Misuse and Suicide Risk Behaviors among High School Students - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Paracetamol use in infants and young children - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Comparative treatment effectiveness of oral fingolimod and conventional injectable disease modifying agents in multiple sclerosis - [link](#)
- Enoxaparin versus Unfractionated Heparin for Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis in Renally Impaired ICU Patients - [link](#)

Prescrire – French Medical Journal

- Prescrire International, Issue Number 224 March 2021 - [link](#)
- Polatuzumab vedotin (Polivy®) and large B-cell lymphoma - [link](#)
- Review: Covid-19: a recap of treatment options - from Prescrire's comprehensive year-end review - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Vitamin D levels and risk of type 1 diabetes: A Mendelian randomization study - [link](#)
- Global burden of influenza-associated lower respiratory tract infections and hospitalizations among adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 25 Feb 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- COVID-19 vaccination decision guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning pregnancy - [link](#)
- Epidemiology Report 35: Reporting period [ending 14 February 2021](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

- Antenatal care during COVID–19, 2020 - [link](#)

CEC

- COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control - Response and Escalation Framework V2.3 - [link](#)

Health Literacy Hub

- Health Literacy Seminar 1: Applying lessons in covid communication to emerging vaccination issue, 2/3/21 2-3pm - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- Updates to the Australian guidelines for the clinical care of people with COVID-19 V34.1 - [link](#)

NSW Health

- Statewide Protocol for the Supply or Administration of COVID-19 Vaccine ([PD2021_004](#))
- Standard operating procedure for administration of COVID-19 vaccines in NSW vaccination clinics ([PD2021_003](#))
- COVID-19 Vaccine Administration by Authorised Registered Nurse and Midwife Immunisers ([IB2021_007](#))

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- 24 Feb 2021 - Risk Monitoring Dashboard - [link](#)
- Living Evidence - COVID-19 vaccines – last updated 24/2/21 - [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- [Episode 23](#): Update on COVID-19 vaccines- 22 February 2021

Sax Institute

- The impact of COVID-19: new insights from the 45 and Up Study - [link](#)

TGA

- Advertising COVID-19 vaccines to the Australian public - [link](#)
- Reporting suspected side effects associated with a COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- No-fault compensation programme for COVID-19 vaccines is a world first - [link](#)
- World Waking Up To Vaccine Equity - [link](#)
- Science in 5: Vaccine dosage - [link](#)
- Two additional vaccines listed for emergency use - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine introduction and deployment costing tool (CVIC tool), 20 Feb 2021, version 2 pre-release - [link](#)

UK

- Association of Reproductive & Clinical Scientists and British Fertility Society
- Covid-19 vaccines and fertility – FAQs - [link](#)
- GOV.UK
- Regulatory approval of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca - [link](#)
- MHRA
- Interleukin-6 inhibitors (tocilizumab or sarilumab) for hospitalised patients with COVID-19 pneumonia (adults) – updated interim policy - [link](#)
- NICE
- COVID-19 rapid guideline updates:
- Haematopoietic stem cell transplantation ([NG164](#))
- Critical care in adults ([NG159](#))
- Public Health England
- PHE monitoring of the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination - data on the real-world efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- The green book, chapter 14a – [updated](#) to include information on the Moderna vaccine
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Planning access to end of life care medicines out-of-hospital during a pandemic - [link](#)

USA

- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: allocation process for monoclonal antibodies, vaccine handling, bamlanivimab/etesevimab compounding, tocilizumab, timing of vaccine with renal dialysis
- FDA
- Development of Monoclonal Antibody Products Targeting SARS-CoV-2, Including Addressing the Impact of Emerging Variants, During the COVID 19 Public Health Emergency - [link](#)

-- BioSpace article - Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (BNT162b2) submission for a proposed label update to the U.S. EUA Prescribing Information which would enable the vaccine to be stored at -25°C to -15°C (-13°F to 5°F), standard freezer temperature, for a total of two weeks - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Mitigating the risk of COVID-19 exposure by transitioning from clinic-based to home-based immune globulin infusion - [link](#)
- Lessons learned from pharmacy learner and educator experiences during early stages of COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- Developing statewide remdesivir use criteria - [link](#)
- Assessment of narcotic, sedative, and neuromuscular blocker needs of patients with COVID-19 requiring invasive mechanical ventilation - [link](#)
- Impact of hydroxychloroquine on disease progression and ICU admissions in patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)
- Health-system implementation of a collaborative core curriculum for advanced pharmacy experiential education during the COVID-19 pandemic – [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Annals On Call: Pregnancy, Lactation, and the COVID-19 Vaccines – [link](#)
- Update Alert 7: Risks and Impact of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors or Angiotensin-Receptor Blockers on SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Adults - [link](#)

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health

- A multiple site community outbreak of COVID-19 in Sydney, Australia - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Model-informed drug repurposing: A pharmacometric approach to novel pathogen preparedness, response and retrospection – [link](#)
- No association between use of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin II receptor blockers prior to hospital admission and clinical course of COVID-19 in the COvid MEDicaTion (COMET) study - [link](#)
- Dexamethasone use and Mortality in Hospitalized Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019: a Multicenter Retrospective Observational Study - [link](#)
- Repurposing of thalidomide and its derivatives for the treatment of SARS-coV-2 infections: Hints on molecular action - [link](#)

BMJ

- Editorial: Prophylactic anticoagulation for patients in hospital with covid-19 - [link](#)
- Clinical review: Vaccines for older adults - [link](#)
- Feature: Behind the scenes of the Pfizer BioNTech covid-19 vaccine trial - [link](#)
- BMJ Thorax: Arterial and venous thromboembolism in COVID-19: a study-level meta-analysis - [link](#).

Cochrane

- Signs and symptoms to determine if a patient presenting in primary care or hospital outpatient settings has COVID-19 - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- The European COVID-19 drugs calculation tool: an aid for the estimation of the drugs needed during the SARS-CoV 2 pandemic - [link](#)

Global Child Health

- Clinical characteristics, treatment and outcomes of paediatric COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Impact of a Prolonged COVID-19 Lockdown on Patterns of Admission, Mortality and Performance Indicators in a Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit - [link](#)

JAMA

- The Price of Success—How to Evaluate COVID-19 Vaccines When They're Available Outside of Clinical Trials - [link](#) – with [Editorial](#)

Lancet

- Single-dose administration and the influence of the timing of the booster dose on immunogenicity and efficacy of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (AZD1222) vaccine: a pooled analysis of 4 randomised trials - [link](#)
- Correspondence: Delayed second dose of the BNT162b2 vaccine: innovation or misguided conjecture? - [link](#)

Lancet Digital Health

- Indirect acute effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on physical and mental health in the UK: a population-based study – [link](#)

medRxiv

- Pre-print: Circulating SARS-CoV-2 variants escape neutralization by vaccine-induced humoral immunity - [link](#)

Nature

- COVID vaccines and safety: what the research says - [link](#)

NEJM

- Dexamethasone in Hospitalized Patients with Covid-19 – The RECOVERY Collaborative Group
- Early High-Titer Plasma Therapy to Prevent Severe Covid-19 in Older Adults - [link](#)
- A Randomized Trial of Convalescent Plasma in Covid-19 Severe Pneumonia - [link](#)
- Editorial: (A Little) Clarity on Convalescent Plasma for Covid-19 - [link](#)
- BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine in a Nationwide Mass Vaccination Setting - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Enrolling Minors in COVID-19 Vaccine Trials – [link](#)

Signal Transduction and Targeted Therapy

- Efficacy and safety of systematic corticosteroids among severe COVID-19 patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- [How to](#) analyse Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection (SABSI) data for quality improvement

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Queensland's Deadly Ears Program—Indigenous children receiving services for ear disease and hearing loss - [link](#)
- Exploring the definition of chronic conditions for collective monitoring in Australia 2021 - [link](#)
- Childhood overweight and obesity—the impact of the home environment - [link](#)

Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI) NSW

- Aged health services in NSW - [link](#)

Purpose of the document: to develop an ideal model for NSW Health to deliver aged health services, with the aim of improving the care of older people.

NPS MedicineWise

- MedicineInsight report on chronic kidney disease management - [link](#)

Palliative Care Tasmania

- Advance Care Yarning Guide: Decision Making for End of Life For Aboriginal People in lutruwita/Tasmania - [link](#)

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

- Research Paper 20 – The quality of care experience and community expectations - [link](#)

Stroke Foundation Australia

- Clinical Guidelines for Stroke Management - Living guidelines recent [updates](#)

TGA

- The TGA's risk management approach to the regulation of therapeutic goods - [link](#)
- AusPAR:
 - [Opicapone](#) (Ongentys) - adjunctive therapy to preparations of levodopa/ DOPA decarboxylase inhibitors (DDCI) in adult patients with Parkinson's disease and end-of-dose motor fluctuations who cannot be stabilised on those combinations.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Rapid Responses
 - Switching from Reference to Biosimilar Adalimumab for Patients with Various Inflammatory Conditions- [link](#)
 - Incentives and Support Programs to Improve Adherence to Tuberculosis Treatment - [link](#)
 - Switching From Reference to Biosimilar Etanercept for Patients with Plaque Psoriasis - [link](#)
 - Rapid Testing for the Diagnosis of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Rifampicin Resistance: A Review of Cost-Effectiveness - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPC:
 - Imfinzi ([durvalumab](#))- added alternative dosing regimen of 1500 mg every 4 weeks for locally advanced NSCLC.
- Licence extensions
 - Plavix ([clopidogrel](#)) 300 mg- for use in combination with aspirin in adult patients with moderate to high-risk transient ischaemic attack (ABCD2-[1] score ≥ 4) or minor ischaemic stroke (NIHSS-[2] ≤ 3) within 24 hours of an event.
 - Spravato ([esketamine](#)) 28 mg nasal spray– extended for treatment of adults with moderate to severe episode of major depressive disorder, as acute short-term treatment in conjunction with oral antidepressants, for the rapid reduction of depressive symptoms, which constitute a psychiatric emergency.
- New products
 - Arikayce ([amikacin](#)) Liposomal 590 mg Nebuliser Dispersion - for the treatment of non-tuberculous mycobacterial lung infections caused by Mycobacterium avium Complex in adults with limited treatment options who do not have cystic fibrosis.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Entresto® (sacubitril and valsartan) tablets – updated indication: to reduce the risk of cardiovascular death and hospitalization for heart failure in adult patients with chronic heart failure - [link](#)
- New Drug approvals
 - Osela ([trilaciclib](#)) approved to reduce the frequency of chemotherapy-induced bone marrow suppression in adults receiving certain types of chemotherapy for extensive-stage (when the cancer has spread beyond the lungs) small cell lung cancer.

Health Canada

- Summary Safety Reviews
 - Ceftriaxone-containing products - Assessing the Potential Risk of Encephalopathy - [link](#)
 - Tecentriq (atezolizumab) - Assessing the Potential Risk of Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia - [link](#)

International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)

- Medicines reconciliation: A toolkit for pharmacists - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Medicines in pregnancy and breastfeeding: new initiative for consistent guidance; report on optimising data for medicines used during pregnancy - [link](#)

- Paclitaxel drug-coated balloons (DCBs) or drug-eluting stents (DESs): Reconfirmed position on use in patients with intermittent claudication and critical limb ischaemia - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Filgotinib for treating moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis guidance ([TA676](#))
- Autologous anti-CD19-transduced CD3+ cells for treating relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma guidance ([TA677](#))
- Dapagliflozin for treating chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction guidance ([TA679](#))
- Niraparib for maintenance treatment of advanced ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer after response to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy guidance ([TA673](#))
- Remsima (infliximab biosimilar) subcutaneous injection for managing Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis evidence summary ([ES35](#))
- Metreleptin for treating lipodystrophy ([HST14](#))

Partnership for Health IT Patient Safety (a national collaborative)

- Report: Optimizing Health IT for Safe Integration of Behavioral Health and Primary Care - [link](#)

Public Health England

- Report: Vaping in England - evidence [update](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Updated national Patient Group Direction: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for the prevention of HIV infection - [link](#)
- PGD template: Aciclovir for treatment of genital herpes simplex infection - [link](#)
- PGD template: Imiquimod for treatment of anogenital warts - [link](#)
- PGD template: Podophyllotoxin for treatment of anogenital warts - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Asmanex ([mometasone furoate](#)) Twisthaler Inhalation Powder - now advises that after each dose, patients should rinse their mouth with water and spit out the contents without swallowing.
- Esmya ([ulipristal acetate](#)) - updated with more restricted licence of intermittent treatment of moderate/severe symptoms of uterine fibroids in pre-menopausal adults of reproductive age not eligible for surgery when uterine fibroid embolisation and/or surgical treatments are not suitable/have failed.
- Xromi ([hydroxycarbamide](#))- frequency of monitoring full blood cell count and target absolute neutrophil count changed. Additional information on overdose added.
- Solu-Medrone ([methylprednisolone](#))– Updated to include information on hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, which may develop after administration of methylprednisolone to prematurely born infants. Perform appropriate diagnostic evaluation and monitoring of cardiac function and structure.
- Bydureon ([exenatide](#)) products - addition of delayed gastric emptying as an uncommon side effect. Also added to Byetta (exenatide) SPCs.
- Episenta ([sodium valproate](#))- Update includes undesirable effects in the paediatric population, mainly severe liver damage under the age of 3 years. Pharmacokinetic data shows systemic clearance varies with age below 10 years. Ages up to 2 months have decreased clearance compared to adults.
- Vibramycin-D ([doxycycline](#)) - updated with added warning regarding risk of exacerbating systemic lupus erythematosus and undesirable effects of visual disturbances and link to cranial hypertension.

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA

- Medication Safety Alert! [February 25, 2021](#)
- A Recurring Call to [Action](#): Every Healthcare Organization Needs a Medication Safety Officer!
- Error-prone concentrations of ibuprofen suspensions
- Dispense unit dose syringes using the most appropriate concentration
- Silicone-free syringes required

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Medicines in pregnancy and breastfeeding: new initiative for consistent guidance; report on optimising data for medicines used during pregnancy - [link](#)
- Drug Safety Updates:
 - Ulipristal acetate 5mg (Esmya): further restrictions due to risk of serious liver injury - [link](#)
 - Pregabalin (Lyrica): reports of severe respiratory depression - [link](#)
 - Alkindi (hydrocortisone granules): risk of acute adrenal insufficiency in children when switching from hydrocortisone tablet formulations to granules - [link](#)
- Letters to Healthcare Professionals
 - Esmya (ulipristal acetate) 5mg: indications for uterine fibroids restricted due to concerns of severe liver injury - [link](#)
 - Accord Thalidomide 50mg hard capsules: Pregnancy Prevention Programme to minimise the risk of teratogenicity - [link](#)
 - E-cigarettes and vaping: policy, regulation and guidance (updated) - [link](#) – with [evidence update](#)
 - Vaping better than nicotine replacement therapy for stopping smoking, evidence suggests - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates - [February](#)

-New Products

-- Ripretinib (Qinlock) is a switch-control tyrosine kinase inhibitor that binds to both the switch pocket and the activation loop to lock the kinase in the inactive state, preventing downstream signalling and cell proliferation

- New Contraindications

--Measles, mumps and rubella live virus vaccine (M-M-R II) should not be given to pregnant females. If vaccination of post-pubertal females is undertaken for protection against rubella, pregnancy should be avoided for one month following vaccination.

--Metronidazole: now contraindicated in patients who have taken disulfiram within the previous two weeks; and with concomitant consumption of alcohol or products containing propylene glycol (or within three days after therapy with metronidazole).

--Monobasic sodium phosphate/dibasic sodium phosphate (Phospho-Soda): now contraindicated in children under 18 years of age, and should not be used in combination with other laxative products containing sodium phosphate.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) UK

- BD syringes - Field Safety Notice (FSN) and intraocular injections- [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Acute and severe ribavirin-associated hyperuricemia and acute kidney injury: An underrecognized adverse effect - [link](#)
- Network meta-analysis of infliximab biosimilars for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis - [link](#)
- Tackling the challenges of nanomedicines: are we ready? – [link](#)
- Update on methylphenidate and dexamethylphenidate formulations for children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder - [link](#)
- Basic surface electrocardiogram interpretation for the pharmacist - [link](#)
- Description of a pharmacist-managed/administered penicillin allergy skin testing service at a community hospital – [link](#)
- Stability of 10-mg/mL and 50-mg/mL ketamine oral solutions - [link](#)

Anaesthesia

- Incidence of accidental awareness during general anaesthesia in obstetrics: a multicentre, prospective cohort study - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Comparative Effectiveness and Harms of Antibiotics for Outpatient Diverticulitis. Two Nationwide Cohort [Studies](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- A randomized, phase 2 study evaluating the efficacy and safety of anakinra in the treatment of gout flares - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Change in the regulatory framework for zolpidem: What is the impact on the landscape of the prescription of sedative medications? The French national ZORRO study - [link](#)
- Cardiovascular safety of the tyrosine kinase inhibitor nintedanib - [link](#)
- Bisphosphonate nephropathy: a case series and review of the literature - [link](#)
- Adalimumab-induced platelet antibodies resulting in severe thrombocytopenia - [link](#)
- Deprivation, dementia prevalence and regional demography on prescribing of anti-dementia drugs in England: a time trend analysis - [link](#)
- The Association between Cigarette Smoking and Efavirenz Plasma Concentration using the Population Pharmacokinetic Approach - [link](#)
- The Oxford Catalogue of Opioids: a systematic synthesis of opioid drug names and their pharmacology – [link](#)
- Measuring Prescription Opioid Misuse and Its Consequences - [link](#)
- The Effect of Aging on Infliximab Exposure and Response in Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Diseases - [link](#)
- Inter-rater reliability of assessments regarding the quality of drug treatment, and drug-related hospital admissions - [link](#)
- Ethionamide population pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics and therapeutic implications in South African adult patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis – [link](#)
- Monitoring of gene expression in tacrolimus-treated de novo renal allograft recipients facilitates individualized immunosuppression – results of the IMAGEN study - [link](#)
- Drug-induced peripheral oedema: An aetiology-based review - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Prevalence and Predictors of Potentially Inappropriate Prescribing in Middle-Aged Adults: Repeated Cross-Sectional Study - [link](#)
- Guidance impact on primary care prescribing rates of simple analgesia: an interrupted time series analysis in England - [link](#)
- Trends in diabetes medication use in Australia, Canada, England, and Scotland: a repeated cross-sectional analysis in primary care - [link](#)

BMC Medicine

- Preventable medication harm across health care settings: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

BMJ Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Bisphosphonate holidays - [link](#)
- Review: What is the significance of nitrosamine contamination in medicines? – [link](#)
- Republished: Symptomatic digoxin toxicity in a patient on haemodialysis – [link](#)

BMJ Heart

- Review: Postmenopausal hormone therapy for cardiovascular health: the evolving data - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Changes in prescribing rates of sodium-containing medications in the UK from 2009 to 2018: a cross-sectional study with interrupted time series analysis - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Medication-related harm in older adults following hospital discharge: development and validation of a prediction tool - [link](#)

Circulation

- Commentary: Mending Broken Hearts: A New Treatment Paradigm for Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor–Induced Myocarditis - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Antibiotics for secondary prevention of coronary heart disease - [link](#)
- Cholinesterase inhibitors for vascular dementia and other vascular cognitive impairments: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Caffeine dosing regimens in preterm infants with or at risk for apnea of prematurity - [link](#)

- Rituximab for people with multiple sclerosis - [link](#)
- Primary prophylaxis for venous thromboembolism in ambulatory cancer patients receiving chemotherapy – [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Commentary: Antiplatelet and direct oral anticoagulation management after coronary artery bypass graft surgery: the Cinderella of current cardiovascular trials, please show me (some) evidence - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Formulation and stability of an extemporaneously compounded propafenone hydrochloride oral suspension for children with arrhythmia - [link](#)

JAMA

- Effect of High-Dose Baclofen on Agitation-Related Events Among Patients With Unhealthy Alcohol Use Receiving Mechanical Ventilation. A Randomized Clinical Trial – [link](#) – with [Editorial](#)
- Effect of Vitamin C, Thiamine, and Hydrocortisone on Ventilator- and Vasopressor-Free Days in Patients with Sepsis. The VICTAS Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#) – with [Editorial](#)
- Review: Diagnosis and Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Comment: Caution With Routine Use of Daratumumab for Newly Diagnosed High-Risk Multiple Myeloma – [link](#) - [reply](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Rituximab vs Low-Dose Mycophenolate Mofetil in Recurrence of Steroid-Dependent Nephrotic Syndrome in Children and Young Adults. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Toolkits for implementing and evaluating digital health: A systematic review of rigor and reporting - [link](#)
- Improving the delivery of palliative care through predictive modeling and healthcare informatics - [link](#)

Journal of General Internal Medicine

- Association between In-Clinic Opioid Administration and Discharge Opioid Prescription in Urgent Care: a Retrospective Cohort Study - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- Implementing patient and family involvement interventions for promoting patient safety: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Neutrophil extracellular traps, disease severity, and antibiotic response in bronchiectasis: an international, observational, multicohort study - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Challenges Faced by Health Professionals in Obtaining Correct Medication Information in the Absence of a Shared Digital Medication List - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Reducing Medical Admissions and Presentations into Hospital through Optimising Medicines (REMAIN HOME): a stepped wedge, cluster randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Avacopan for the Treatment of ANCA-Associated Vasculitis - [link](#)
- Review: β -Thalassemias - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- Efficacy and Safety of Metformin for Obesity: A Systematic Review - [link](#) - with [comment](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Analysis of Fentanyl Pharmacokinetics, and its Sedative Effects and Tolerance in Critically-III Children - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Dose-dependent oral glucocorticoid cardiovascular risks in people with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases: A population-based cohort study - [link](#)

Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management

- Potentially Inappropriate Prescriptions to Older Patients in Emergency Departments in South Korea: A Retrospective Study - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 18 Feb 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- ATAGI clinical guidance on COVID-19 Vaccine in Australia in 2021- [link](#)
- ATAGI immunisation provider guide to obtaining informed consent for COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- Stakeholder pack for multicultural audiences with information on COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and Updated recommendations as at [11/02/2021](#)
- New: Oestrogen-containing therapies (combination of two existing recommendations)
- Updated: Bamlanivimab, Colchicine, Ivermectin, Tocilizumab

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Mental health models to support children and young people 10/02/2021 - [link](#)

TGA

- TGA provisionally approves AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- Testing of face masks and respirators - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

- Strengthening the frontline: How primary health care helps health systems adapt during the COVID 19 pandemic - [link](#)

International Medication Safety Network (ISMN)

- 2021 – The ISMN Covid-19 Vaccine Safety initiative - [link](#)

WHO

- COVID-19 vaccination: supply and logistics guidance: interim guidance, 12 February 2021 - [link](#)
- The Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: what you need to know - [link](#)
- WHO's Science in 5 on COVID-19: [Vaccines explained](#) 11 February 2021.
- Interim recommendations for use of the AZD1222 (ChAdOx1-S (recombinant)) vaccine against COVID-19 developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca - [link](#), supporting background paper- [link](#)
- COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update as of 7/2/2021 - [link](#)
- Sustaining lives and livelihoods: a decision framework for calibrating social and movement measures during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- Highlights from the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) 8-11 Feb 2021 - [link](#)
- Use of remdesivir is not associated with kidney problems
- New safety signal procedure with Remdesivir

- EMA starts rolling review of CureVac's COVID-19 vaccine (CVnCoV) - [link](#)
- Application received for conditional marketing authorisation of COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen - [link](#)

UK

- MHRA
- Coronavirus vaccine - weekly summary of Yellow Card reporting. Updated 11 February 2021- [link](#)
- NICE
- Updated COVID-19 rapid guidelines:
 - Critical care in adults ([NG159](#))
 - Delivery of systemic anticancer treatments ([NG161](#))
 - Delivery of radiotherapy ([NG162](#))
 - Haematopoietic stem cell transplantation ([NG164](#))
- Public Health England
- The [Green Book](#): COVID-19 vaccination information for public health professionals chapter update
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Preparing and administering COVID-19 Vaccines guidance - [link](#)
- Planning access to end of life care medicines out-of-hospital during a pandemic - [link](#)

USA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: Timing of vaccine with renal dialysis; Vaccine Drive-Through Clinic; and others
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- COVID-19 Vaccination Intent, Perceptions, and Reasons for Not Vaccinating among Groups Prioritized for Early Vaccination - United States, September and December 2020 - [link](#)
- Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic (updated) - [link](#)
- Interim Guidance on Duration of Isolation and Precautions for Adults with COVID-19 (updated) - [link](#)
- Essential Workers COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit (updated) - [link](#)
- Vaccination Considerations for People who are Pregnant or Breastfeeding (updated) - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Leveraging pharmacists to maintain and extend buprenorphine supply for opioid use disorder amid COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- The usefulness of an ambulatory care pharmacy performance dashboard during the COVID-19 pandemic in a complex tertiary care system - [link](#)
- Adapting ambulatory care learning environments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- American College of Rheumatology Clinical Guidance for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children Associated With SARS-CoV-2 and Hyperinflammation in Pediatric COVID-19: [Version 2](#)

Australasian Psychiatry

- Burnout and psychological distress amongst Australian healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Australian Health Review

- Use of telehealth mental health services during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- Virtual models of chronic disease management: lessons from the experiences of virtual care during the COVID-19 response - [link](#)

BMJ

- Early initiation of prophylactic anticoagulation for prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 mortality in patients admitted to hospital in the United States: cohort study - [link](#)

BMJ ADC Fetal & Neonatal edition

- SARS-CoV-2 genome and antibodies in breastmilk: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

BMJ Archive of Disease in Childhood

- Clinical characteristics, treatment and outcomes of paediatric COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

BMJ Medical Ethics

- Vaccine ethics: an ethical framework for global distribution of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Viewpoint: Rethinking standardised infection rates and risk adjustment in the COVID-19 era - [link](#)

- Mortality and pulmonary complications in patients undergoing upper extremity surgery at the peak of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in the UK: a national cohort study - [link](#)

Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research

- How Satisfied Are Patients and Surgeons with Telemedicine in Orthopaedic Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic? A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine for prevention and treatment of COVID-19 - [link](#)

Eurosurveillance

- Impact of age, ethnicity, sex and prior infection status on immunogenicity following a single dose of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine: real-world evidence from healthcare workers, Israel, December 2020 to January 2021 - [link](#)

International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

- Hospital-Acquired SARS-Cov-2 Infections in Patients: Inevitable Conditions or Medical Malpractice? - [link](#)

International Journal of Nursing Studies

- Estimating the burden of COVID-19 on the Australian healthcare workers and health system during the first six months of the pandemic - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: Involving Pregnant Individuals in Clinical Research on COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)

- Effect of High-Dose Zinc and Ascorbic Acid Supplementation vs Usual Care on Symptom Length and Reduction among Ambulatory Patients with SARS-CoV-2 Infection. The COVID A to Z Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

- Insights: Reports of Anaphylaxis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines in the US- 14/12/20- to 18/1/21 - [link](#)

- Perspectives: Researchers Investigate What COVID-19 Does to the Heart - [link](#)

- Effect of a Single High Dose of Vitamin D3 on Hospital Length of Stay in Patients With Moderate to Severe COVID-19 - A Randomized Clinical [Trial](#); [Editorial](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Biomedical and health informatics approaches remain essential for addressing the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Journal of Hepatology

- EASL position paper on the use of COVID-19 vaccines in patients with chronic liver diseases, hepatobiliary cancer and liver transplant recipients - [link](#)

Kidney International Reports

- Systematic [review](#) of safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines in patients with kidney disease

Lancet

- Challenges in ensuring global access to COVID-19 vaccines: production, affordability, allocation, and deployment - [link](#)

- Association between Clinical Frailty Scale score and hospital mortality in adult patients with COVID-19 (COMET): an international, multicentre, retrospective, observational cohort study - [link](#)

medRxiv

- Pre-print: Estimating real-world COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness in Israel - [link](#)
- Pre-print: Tocilizumab in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 (RECOVERY): preliminary results of a randomised, controlled, open-label, platform [trial](#)

Molecular Therapy

- Allergic Reactions and Anaphylaxis to LNP-Based COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)

Nature

- mRNA vaccine-elicited antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 and circulating variants - [link](#)
- Letter: COVID vaccines and safety: what the research says - [link](#)

Nature Communications

- Methodological quality of COVID-19 clinical research - [link](#)
- Potential health & economic impacts of dexamethasone treatment for patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Antibody Status and Incidence of SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Health Care Workers - [link](#)
- Repurposed Antiviral Drugs for Covid-19 - Interim WHO Solidarity Trial Results - [link](#)
- Case vignette: Delayed Second Dose versus Standard Regimen for Covid-19 Vaccination - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Case Report: Remestemcel-L Therapy for COVID-19-Associated Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children - [link](#)
- Factors Associated With Severe SARS-CoV-2 Infection - [link](#)

PROSPERO - International prospective register of systematic reviews

- Acute metabolic emergencies in diabetes and COVID-19: systematic review & meta-analysis of case reports – [link](#)
- The use of janus kinase inhibitors in hospitalized patients with COVID-19: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Corticosteroid therapy in the management of COVID-19 associated myocarditis: A systematic review of current evidence - [link](#)

Thorax

- Systematic review and meta-analysis of anakinra, sarilumab, siltuximab and tocilizumab for COVID-19 - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

AHHA

- The Health Advocate – [February 2021](#)
- This issue focuses on closing the gap and features the following: Rapid Service design and Cultural Safety, Ask the Specialists: a Cultural Education Podcast, Co-design in Oral Health, Learning through healing

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Commission eNews (Summer Edition) – [link](#)
- This issue includes: Safer naming, labelling, selection and storage of medicines, Making every colonoscopy count, New Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard, Antimicrobial stewardship for children, Reducing the rates – venous thromboembolism, Cognitive impairment consumer rights in 10 languages, National Clinical Trials Governance Framework

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Eye health- [link](#)

PBS

- Public consultation on the post-market review of medicines for smoking cessation - [link](#)

TGA

- AusPARs:
 - Inqovi 35/100 ([Decitabine and cedazuridine](#)) - for adult patients with myelodysplastic syndromes intermediate-1, intermediate-2, and high-risk International Prognostic Scoring System groups, and patients with chronic myelomonocytic leukaemia.
- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:
 - Poteligeo ([Mogamulizumab](#)) - adult patients (≥ 18 years of age) with mycosis fungoides or Sézary syndrome who have received at least one prior systemic therapy.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Evidence on Use of Clinical Reasoning Checklists for Diagnostic Error Reduction - [link](#)
- Teliagnosis for Acute Care: Implications for the Quality and Safety of Diagnosis - [link](#)
- Health Information Technology for Engaging Patients in Diagnostic Decision Making in Emergency Departments - [link](#)
- Integrating Palliative Care in Ambulatory Care of Noncancer Serious Chronic Illness: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

ECRI

“2021 Top 10 Health Technology Hazards,” focusing on potential risk areas and problems that can be avoided - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Botox ([Onabotulinum toxin A](#)) – additional indication: for neurogenic detrusor overactivity in pediatric patients ≥ 5 years of age with inadequate response to or intolerant of anticholinergic medication
- Entresto ([sacubitril/valsartan](#)) granted expanded indication in chronic heart failure
- New Drug approvals:
 - Cosela ([trilaciclib](#)) - to reduce bone marrow suppression caused by chemotherapy.
 - Regeneron ([Evkeeza](#)) - for homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia.
 - Cemiplimab ([Libtayo](#)) - for locally advanced and metastatic Basal Cell Carcinoma.

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Guidance on applying human factors to medical devices - [link](#)
- Valproate use by women and girls (updated) - [link](#)
- New partnership pledges clear and consistent evidence-based guidance on medicines for pregnant and breastfeeding women - [link](#).
- Medicines in Pregnancy Registry: Valproate use in females aged 0 to 54 in England (April 2018 to September 2020) [link](#)

Public Health England

- Ultrasound gel: good infection prevention practice guidance - [link](#)
- Patient group direction templates for: MenB risk groups- [link](#), MenB vaccine (Bexsero®) - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Updated national Patient Group Direction: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for the prevention of HIV infection - [link](#)

The National Academies Press

- Diagnosing and Treating Adult Cancers and Associated Impairments - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Guidelines on the management of chronic pain in children - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Aubagio ([teriflunomide](#))- updated with further information on cases of drug-induced liver injury (frequency unknown), drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (frequency uncommon) and updated liver monitoring with concomitant potentially hepatotoxic drugs.
- Keytruda ([pembrolizumab](#))- now licensed as monotherapy for the first line treatment of metastatic microsatellite instability high or mismatch repair deficient colorectal cancer in adults.
- Tivicay ([dolutegravir](#)) dispersible tablets - new formulation available for HIV in patients aged ≥4 weeks and weighing ≥3 kg, or for those in whom film-coated (FC) tablets are not appropriate. The bioavailability of dispersible tablets and FC tablets is not comparable.
- Depefex ([venlafaxine hydrochloride](#))– all strengths - updated to include risk of serotonin syndrome especially if taken with other serotonergic agents; and that suicide/suicidal thoughts & aggression have been observed during changes in venlafaxine dosing regimen, including during discontinuation.
- Eldepryl ([selegiline hydrochloride](#)) - all strengths - updated to include risk of serotonin syndrome with concomitant administration of selegiline hydrochloride and buprenorphine/opioids, which may result in a potentially life-threatening condition.
- Risk minimisation materials:
 - [Imnovid \(pomalidomide\) capsules](#) - various materials to support the safe prescribing and dispensing of pomalidomide, including information about the Pregnancy Prevention Programme
 - [Pro-Epanutin \(fosphenytoin\)](#) - two dosing aids with equations and a dosing table available to determine the appropriate loading dose in adults and children.
 - [Bendamustine](#) - updated with information on cases of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy following use mainly in combination with rituximab or obinutuzumab. Increased risk for non-melanoma skin cancers also added - periodic skin examination recommended for all patients

EMA

- Highlights from the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) 8-11 Feb 2021 -[link](#)
- Includes new Safety Information for Healthcare Professionals:
 - Strimvelis (autologous CD34+ enriched cell fraction): Long-term follow-up due to risk of cancer
 - Venclyxto (venetoclax): New measures for minimising the risk of tumour lysis syndrome
 - Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec): recommendations to manage risk of thrombotic microangiopathy.

NSW Health

- Safety Notice 002/21 - Variability in oxygen delivery with bag valve masks Absence of a valve to prevent air entrainment during spontaneous ventilation - [link](#)

TGA

- [Ergometrine](#) maleate injection (500 microgram/mL) ampoule - Alternative product approved for expected shortage. Advice for health professionals of important differences between the alternative product and the Australian registered product e.g. the alternative product uses a different name to identify the active ingredient and is a different concentration to the Australian registered product.
- Recall: Various medicines containing [Artemisia annua and Artemisia absinthium](#). Recalls due to unacceptable risk in pregnancy.
- [Sertraline](#) shortage: shortages of multiple brands of sertraline 50 mg and 100 mg tablets; expected to last until late February and possibly April 2021. Serious Shortage Medicine Substitution [Notice](#).

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- A strategic approach to improving pharmacy enterprise automation: Development and initial application of the Autonomous Pharmacy Framework - [link](#)
- Imipenem/cilastatin/relebactam: A new carbapenem β-lactamase inhibitor combination - [link](#)
- Tools and tactics for post discharge medication management interventions - [link](#)
- A clinical focus on the use of extended-duration thromboprophylaxis in medically ill patients - [link](#)
- Accuracy and safety of medication histories obtained at the time of intensive care unit admission of delirious or mechanically ventilated patients - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Safety and Efficacy of Checkpoint Inhibition in Patients with Melanoma and Preexisting Autoimmune Disease. A Cohort Study - [link](#)

- Annals for Hospitalists Inpatient Notes - Identifying High-Risk Patients with Syncope - What Hospitalists Need to Know - [link](#)

Australian Health Review

- Australia's persistently high rate of early-term prelabour Caesarean delivery - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Review: Improving anticoagulation in sub-Saharan Africa – what are the challenges, and how can we overcome them? - [link](#)

- Population Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Tranexamic Acid in Women Undergoing Caesarean Delivery - [link](#)

- Pilot drug and therapeutic committee programme in Sierra Leone: A descriptive mixed method study - [link](#)

- Inhibition of interleukin 6 signalling and renal function: A Mendelian randomization study - [link](#)

- Nitrous oxide induced neurotoxicity: a case report and literature review - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Nortriptyline for pain in knee osteoarthritis in general practice: a double blind randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Association between antihypertensive treatment and adverse events: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Association between use of macrolides in pregnancy and risk of major birth defects: nationwide, register based cohort study - [link](#)

- Association of first trimester prescription opioid use with congenital malformations in the offspring: population based cohort study - [link](#)

BMJ Heart

- Preventing cardiovascular disease among sexual and gender minority persons - [link](#)

- Review Aortitis: recent advances, current concepts and future possibilities - [link](#)

- Comparative effectiveness of oral anticoagulants in everyday practice - [link](#)

- Cardiac channelopathies: diagnosis and contemporary management - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Insufficient iodine nutrition status and the risk of pre-eclampsia: a systemic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Different doses of prucalopride in treating chronic idiopathic constipation: a meta-analysis and Bayesian analysis - [link](#)

- Sepsis in patients with haematological versus solid cancer: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)

- Direct oral anticoagulants in treatment of cerebral venous thrombosis: a systematic review - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Systematic review and meta-analysis of interventions for operating room to intensive care unit handoffs - [link](#)

Circulation

- Effect of empagliflozin on left ventricular volumes in patients with type 2 diabetes, or prediabetes, and heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (SUGAR-DM-HF) - [link](#)

- Blood Pressure Effects of Sodium Reduction: Dose-Response Meta-Analysis of Experimental Studies - [link](#)

- Comparison of the Efficacy and Safety Outcomes of Edoxaban in 8040 Women Versus 13 065 Men with Atrial Fibrillation in the ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48 Trial - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Antidepressants for functional abdominal pain disorders in children and adolescents - [link](#)

- Topical versus systemic antibiotics for chronic suppurative otitis media - [link](#)

- Anticholinergics combined with alpha-blockers for treating lower urinary tract symptoms related to benign prostatic obstruction - [link](#)

- Antidepressant treatment for postnatal depression - [link](#)

- The effectiveness and adverse effects of D-cycloserine compared with placebo on social and communication skills in individuals with autism spectrum disorder - [link](#)
- Aldosterone antagonists for people with chronic kidney disease requiring dialysis - [link](#)

EClinical Medicine

- Intramuscular midazolam, olanzapine, or haloperidol for the management of acute agitation: A multi-centre, double-blind, randomised clinical trial - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Outcomes of Clostridioides difficile infection in adult cancer and non-cancer patients hospitalised in a tertiary hospital: a prospective cohort study - [link](#)

Expert Opinion on Pharmacotherapy

- Review: Wrong administration route of medications in the domestic setting: a review of an underestimated public health topic - [link](#)

Health Research Policy and Systems

- Exploring the theory, barriers and enablers for patient and public involvement across health, social care and patient safety: a systematic review of reviews - [link](#)

Heart

- Review: Chronic kidney disease detection, staging and treatment in cardiovascular disease prevention - [link](#)
- Review: Vaping and cardiac disease - [link](#)
- Recreational substance use among patients with premature atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Reducing corticosteroid phobia in pharmacy staff and parents of children with atopic dermatitis - [link](#)
- Uptake of biosimilars for TNF- α inhibitors adalimumab and etanercept following the best-value biological medicine initiative in Ireland - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: Continued increases in overdose deaths related to synthetic opioids; Implications for clinical practice - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Time to clinical benefit of dapagliflozin and significance of prior heart failure hospitalization in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Clinical characteristics and outcomes associated with oral anticoagulant use among patients hospitalized with intracerebral hemorrhage - [link](#)
- Projected estimates of opioid mortality after community-level interventions - [link](#)
- Effect of a coordinated community and chronic care model team intervention vs usual care on systolic blood pressure in patients with stroke or transient ischemic attack - The SUCCEED Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Effects of tai chi or exercise on sleep in older adults with insomnia - A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Trends over time in use of non-recommended tests and treatments since publication of the American Academy of Pediatrics Bronchiolitis Guideline - [link](#)
- Assessment of interprofessional collaborative practices and outcomes in adults with diabetes and hypertension in primary care. a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Systematic evaluation of state policy interventions targeting the US opioid epidemic, 2007-2018- [link](#)
- Assessment of Food and Drug Administration– and European Medicines Agency–Approved systemic oncology therapies and clinically meaningful improvements in quality of life. A systematic review - [link](#)
- Effect of levothyroxine therapy on the development of depressive symptoms in older adults with subclinical hypothyroidism - an ancillary study of a randomized clinical trial - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Association of Glycolysis-Enhancing α -1 Blockers with Risk of Developing Parkinson Disease - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: Possible Consequences of the Approval of a Disease-Modifying Therapy for Alzheimer Disease - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Individual Differences in Response to Antidepressants. A Meta-analysis of Placebo-Controlled Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Machine learning–based outcome prediction and novel hypotheses generation for substance use disorder treatment - [link](#)
- Association between evidence-based training and clinician proficiency in electronic health record use - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- Knowledge, attitudes, and expectations of Medical Staff toward Medical Error Management Policies in Humanitarian Medicine. A Qualitative Study - [link](#)

Journal of Palliative Medicine

- Low-dose trazodone for delirium in patients with cancer who received specialist palliative care: A multicenter prospective study - [link](#)

Lancet

- QT effects of bedaquiline, delamanid, or both in patients with rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis: a phase 2, open-label, randomised, controlled trial - [link](#)
- Long-term safety and efficacy of tezacaftor–ivacaftor in individuals with cystic fibrosis aged 12 years or older who are homozygous or heterozygous for Phe508del CFTR (EXTEND): an open-label extension study - [link](#)
- Prevalence and risk factors for cisplatin-induced hearing loss in children, adolescents, and young adults: a multi-institutional North American cohort study - [link](#)
- Global guideline for the diagnosis and management of rare mould infections: an initiative of the European Confederation of Medical Mycology in cooperation with the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology and the American Society for Microbiology - [link](#)
- Review: Menstrual migraine: a distinct disorder needing greater recognition - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- The contribution of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to person-centred care within a medicine's optimisation in care homes service: a qualitative evaluation - [link](#)
- Implementation of a teaching electronic medical record within didactic instruction using a drug information question assignment - [link](#)
- Using technology-supported transfer of care systems: informing good practice recommendations - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals

- Physiotherapist-led exercise eases shoulder pain but ultrasound guidance for injections makes no difference, study finds - [link](#)
- An innovative swallowable sponge detects Barrett's oesophagus in people with heartburn, study shows - [link](#)
- Men who have sex with men are less likely to use drugs to prevent HIV if they are young, unemployed or have a low disposable income, research finds - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Once-weekly semaglutide in adults with overweight or obesity - [link](#)
- Randomized trial of a vaccine regimen to prevent chronic hcv infection - [link](#)
- Lenvatinib plus pembrolizumab or everolimus for advanced renal cell Carcinoma – [link](#)
- Enfortumab vedotin in previously treated advanced urothelial carcinoma – [link](#)
- Avacopan for the treatment of ANCA-associated vasculitis – [link](#)

Pain

- Assessing reasons for decreased primary care access for individuals on prescribed opioids. An audit study - [link](#)

Pediatric Quality and Safety

- A quality improvement learning collaborative for human papillomavirus vaccination - [link](#)
- Improving preventive care for children with sickle cell anemia: a quality improvement initiative - [link](#)
- delayed antibiotic prescription for children with respiratory infections: A randomized trial - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Food effects on the formulation, dosing, and administration of cannabidiol (cbd) in humans: a systematic review of clinical studies - [link](#)
- Prophylactic norepinephrine infusion for postspinal anesthesia hypotension in patients undergoing cesarean section: a randomized, controlled, dose-finding trial - [link](#)
- Use of psychiatric medication by college students: A decade of data - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Comparative effect of physical exercise versus statins on improving arterial stiffness in patients with high cardiometabolic risk: A network meta-analysis - [link](#)

PLOS ONE

- Heat-stability study of various insulin types in tropical temperature conditions: New insights towards improving diabetes care - [link](#)

Thrombosis Research

- Prediction models for recurrence and bleeding in patients with venous thromboembolism: A systematic review and critical appraisal - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 11 Feb 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) updated statement on minimising the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools - [link](#)
- Australia's vaccination strategy - [link](#)
- Minimising the risk of infectious respiratory disease transmission in the context of COVID-19: the hierarchy of controls - [link](#)
- COVID-19 National Incident Room Surveillance Team:
 - Epidemiology Report 34 - reporting period [ending 31 January 2021](#); technical [supplement](#)

Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA)

- Allergy, Immunodeficiency, Autoimmunity and COVID-19 Vaccination Position Statement - [link](#), FAQ [-link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit

- Emerging evidence about COVID-19 vaccines evidence check (update 5/2/21) - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 variants evidence check (update 5/2/21) - [link](#)
- Self-collected and saliva test evidence check 8/2/21 - [link](#)
- 10 Feb 2021 - Risk Monitoring [Dashboard](#)

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

- COVID-19 vaccine information for GPs - [link](#)

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA)

- Webinar: Global challenges with COVID-19 vaccines - 7pm AEDT, Thurs 25 February - [link](#)

TGA

- COVID-19 vaccine safety monitoring and reporting - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

- Policy Responses to Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines for developing countries: An equal shot at recovery - [link](#)

WHO

- Definition and categorization of the timing of mother-to-child transmission of SARS-CoV-2: scientific brief, 8 February 2021 - [link](#)
- Community needs, perceptions and demand: community assessment tool: a module from the suite of health service capacity assessments in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic: interim guidance, 5 February 2021 - [link](#)
- Operational guidance: legal and regulatory framework facilitating vaccine deployment - [link](#)
- WHO's Science in 5 on COVID-19: [Vaccine myths vs science](#) 5 February 2021.
- Different types of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- WHO launches pilot [social listening tool for COVID-19](#) - platform analyses people's questions and concerns in 20 countries to help ensure they receive accurate and understandable health information
- Online vaccination training for health workers - free 3-hour course to ensure safe and efficient COVID-19 vaccine administration - [link](#)
- 10 steps to community readiness: what countries should do to prepare communities for a COVID-19 vaccine, treatment or new test, 8 February 2021 - [link](#)
- Data for action: achieving high uptake of COVID-19 vaccines: gathering and using data on the behavioural and social drivers of vaccination: a guidebook for immunization programmes and implementing partners: interim guidance, 3 February 2021 - [link](#)
- Acceptance and demand for COVID-19 vaccines 31 January 2021: interim [guidance](#); communications plan [template](#),
- Conducting community engagement for COVID-19 vaccines: interim [guidance](#), 31 January 2021

Canada

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine: Updated Dosage and Administration and Post-Market Adverse Reaction Information - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- EMA reviewing data on monoclonal antibody use for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- EMA starts rolling review of Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine (NVX-CoV2373) - [link](#)

UK

-Department of Health and Social Care

- World-first COVID-19 alternating dose vaccine study launches in UK - [link](#)
- NHS England SPS
- Suitability for COVID-19 vaccination based on prior allergy or current dietary practices - [link](#)
- MHRA
- Latest monitoring data confirms safety of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Report: Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine adverse reactions - [link](#)
- Interleukin-6 inhibitors (tocilizumab and sarilumab) for critically ill patients with COVID-19 pneumonia (adults) - [link](#)
- Public Health England
- COVID-19 vaccination programme: Information for healthcare practitioners (updated) - [link](#)
- Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK
- Evidence Review: Assessment of COVID-19 in primary care: the identification of symptoms, signs, characteristics, comorbidities and clinical signs in adults, children and young people, which may indicate a higher risk of progression to severe disease - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Summary of COVID-19 medicines guidance (updated): [Respiratory disorders](#)
- The Kings Fund

- Covid-19 recovery and resilience: what can health and care learn from other disasters? - [link](#)
- [Resources](#): Leading through Covid-19: supporting health & care leaders in unprecedented times

USA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: sharing of different suspect vaccines ADR; vaccination cards;
- Optimizing the Preparation and Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines (2/4/2021) – [link](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Decline in COVID-19 Hospitalization Growth Rates Associated with Statewide Mask Mandates - 10 States, March-October 2020 - [link](#)
- Demographic Characteristics of Persons Vaccinated during the First Month of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program - United States, December 14, 2020-January 14, 2021 - [link](#)
- Toolkit for Pregnant People and New Parents - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (updated) - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Specific Groups - [link](#)
- FDA
- FDA alerts health care professionals and compounders of potential risks associated with the compounding of remdesivir drug products - [link](#)
- FDA Updates Emergency Use Authorization for COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma to Reflect New Data - [link](#)
- [Emergency use authorization \(EUA\) issued for bamlanivimab and etesevimab administered together for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients](#)
- ISMP
- COVID-19 Medication Safety Resource Page - [link](#)
- The Joint Commission
- Quick Safety 57: Supporting safe, equitable care during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Antimicrobial stewardship perspectives from a New York City hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic: Challenges and opportunities - [link](#)
- Multicenter point prevalence evaluation of the utilization and safety of drug therapies for COVID-19 at the onset of the pandemic timeline in the United States - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Major Update: Remdesivir for Adults with COVID-19: A Living Systematic Review and Meta-analysis for the American College of Physicians Practice Points - [link](#)

BMJ

- Why aren't covid-19 vaccines being manufactured in standard prefilled syringes? - [link](#)
- Analysis: Put to the test: use of rapid testing technologies for covid-19 - [link](#)

Emerging Infectious Diseases

- COVID-19–Associated Pulmonary Aspergillosis, March–August 2020 - [link](#)

Environmental Research

- Evaluation of SARS-COV-2 transmission through indoor air in hospitals and prevention methods: A systematic review - [link](#)

European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- The effect of tocilizumab on mortality in hospitalized patients with COVID-19: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

Health Affairs

- Variation In Telemedicine Use And Outpatient Care During The COVID-19 Pandemic In The United States - [link](#)

Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology

- Air contamination of households versus hospital inpatient rooms occupied by SARS-CoV-2 positive patients - [link](#)

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

- Incubation period of COVID-19: a meta-analysis - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: A Viral Pandemic, Vaccine Safety, and Compensation for Adverse Events - [link](#)

- Viewpoint: COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnant and Lactating Women - [link](#)

- Research letter: Comparison of Demand for Drugs Used for COVID-19 Treatment and Other Drugs during the Early Phase of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Italy - [link](#)

- Assessment of Seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2 and Risk Factors Associated with COVID-19 Infection among Outpatients in Virginia - [link](#)

- Susceptibility to SARS-CoV-2 Infection among Children and Adolescents Compared With Adults A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Research letter: Povidone Iodine Mouthwash, Gargle, and Nasal Spray to Reduce Nasopharyngeal Viral Load in Patients with COVID-19. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Health Forum

- Experts Offer Advice to Shore Up Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)

Lancet

- Safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity of an inactivated SARS-CoV-2 vaccine (CoronaVac) in healthy adults aged 60 years and older: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 1/2 clinical trial - [link](#)

- Peginterferon lambda for the treatment of outpatients with COVID-19: a phase 2, placebo-controlled randomised trial - [link](#)

- Interleukin-1 and interleukin-6 inhibition compared with standard management in patients with COVID-19 and hyperinflammation: a cohort study - [link](#)

- Report: Understanding variants of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

- A simple nomogram for predicting failure of non-invasive respiratory strategies in adults with COVID-19: a retrospective multicentre study - [link](#)

- COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in a representative working-age population in France: a survey experiment based on vaccine characteristics - [link](#)

- Correspondence: CovMT: an interactive SARS-CoV-2 mutation tracker, with a focus on critical variants - [link](#)

Nature Communications

- Rapid decline of neutralizing antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 among infected healthcare workers - [link](#)

Nature Podcast

- Coronapod: Variants – what you need to know - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Covid-19 Vaccine Training: Explore the virology of SARS-CoV-2, mechanism of action of Covid-19 vaccines, the efficacy and safety of currently available Covid-19 vaccines, and the practicalities involved in vaccine administration – Free online course - [link](#)

- Commentary: Opportunities for Artificial Intelligence–Enabled Social Media Analysis of Public Attitudes toward Covid-19 Vaccines - [link](#)

- Comment: SARS-CoV-2 vaccination and phase 1 cancer clinical trials - [link](#)

medRxiv

- Pre-print: Decreased SARS-CoV-2 viral load following vaccination - [link](#)

- Pre-print: Poor antigen-specific responses to the second BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine dose in SARS-CoV-2-experienced individuals - [link](#)

Postgraduate Medical Journal

- Statin use and clinical outcomes in patients with COVID-19: An updated systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

PROSPERO - International prospective register of systematic reviews
- The use of janus kinase inhibitors in hospitalized patients with COVID-19: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Thorax

- Current smoking and COVID-19 risk: results from a population symptom app in over 2.4 million people - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

AHHA

- Evidence Brief No. 22 - Supporting school aged children with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Active Ingredient Prescribing - [link](#), fact sheet [link](#), prescriber user guide [link](#),
-- List of Medicines for Brand Consideration (LMBC) – [link](#)
-- List of Excluded Medicinal Items (LEMI) - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Eye health - [link](#)

TGA

- AusPARs

-- [Decitabine and cedazuridine](#) (Inqovi 35/100) is indicated for the treatment of adult ps with myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) intermediate-1, intermediate-2, and high-risk International Prognostic Scoring System groups, and patients with chronic myelomonocytic leukaemia (CMML)

- Registration of [new or extended uses](#) of registered medicine

-- Tremfya (guselkumab) for treatment of adult patients with active psoriatic arthritis, who have had an inadequate response to, or are intolerant to prior DMARD therapy.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Research Protocol: Management of Infantile Epilepsy - [link](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Rapid Response: Hypertonic Saline for the Treatment of Diabetic Ketoacidosis in Children - [link](#)

Care Quality Commission (UK)

- Enabling innovation and adoption in health and social care: Developing a shared view - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (UK)

- Licence extensions

-- Nplate ([romiplostim](#)) –for chronic primary immune thrombocytopenia in paediatric patients' ≥ 1 year of age refractory to other treatments (e.g. corticosteroids, immunoglobulins)

-- Tivicay ([dolutegravir](#)) - paediatric extension. Use in combination with other antiretrovirals, for HIV in children from 6 years old, weighing at least 14kg. New dispersible tablets for children aged ≥ 4 weeks and weighing > 3 kg now available. Elevated bilirubin levels added as rare side-effect.

-- Doptelet ([avatrombopag maleate](#)) - for primary chronic immune thrombocytopenia in adults who are refractory to other treatments (e.g. corticosteroids, immunoglobulins).

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- Nitrosamine impurities - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- Breyanzi ([lisocabtagene maraleuce](#)) - for adults with relapsed or refractory Large-B-Cell Lymphoma
- Tepmetko ([tepotinib](#)) – for non-small cell lung cancer
- Ukoniq ([umbralisib](#)) – for relapsed or refractory marginal zone lymphoma and relapsed or refractory follicular lymphoma

NHS England

- Managing a healthy weight in adult secure services – practice guidance - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Trabectedin for the treatment of advanced soft tissue sarcoma ([TA185](#))
- Leukomed Sorbact for preventing surgical site infection ([MTG55](#))

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Indivina ([medroxyprogesterone acetate/estradiol valerate](#)) – Large meta-analysis showed that after stopping treatment, excess risk of breast cancer will decrease with time and time needed to return to baseline depends on duration of prior HRT use.
- Salofalk ([mesalazine](#)) - Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis added as adverse effects (unknown frequency).
- Triumeq ([lamivudine/abacavir sulfate/dolutegravir sodium](#)) 50 mg/600 mg/300 mg film-coated tablets - In vitro study found concomitant administration of single dose riociguat (0.5 mg) led to 3-fold higher riociguat levels. Elevated bilirubin levels added as a rare adverse effect.
- Enbrel ([etanercept](#)) - Headache added as an ADR (very common frequency).
- Ozempic ([semaglutide](#))- updated to incorporate information from a study of semaglutide as add-on to SGLT2 inhibitor treatment (SUSTAIN 9), including efficacy results and safety (rates of hypoglycaemia and gastrointestinal adverse events).
- Rydapt ([midostaurin](#)) – do not use in combination with intensive paediatric AML combination chemotherapy regimens including anthracyclines, fludarabine and cytarabine because of risk of prolonged haematological recovery (e.g. prolonged severe neutropenia and thrombocytopenia).
- [Lamotrigine](#)– added information on photosensitivity reactions. In several cases, the reaction occurred with a high dose ($\geq 400\text{mg}$), upon dose escalation or rapid up-titration.
- [Sertraline](#)-updated to include information on the risk of developing Serotonin Syndrome or Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome, including increased risk with concomitant use of other serotonergic medicines.
- [Duloxetine](#) updated to include caution in the elderly, risk of serotonin syndrome when using concomitantly with serotonergic agents. Also details new potential adverse effect of postpartum haemorrhage (unknown frequency)
- [Venlafaxine](#) - a new potential adverse effect of postpartum haemorrhage (unknown frequency).

EMA

- Sorafenib product-specific bioequivalence guidance (update) - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Tofacitinib (Xeljanz, Xeljanz XR):
- Initial safety trial results find increased risk of serious heart-related problems and cancer - [link](#)
- FDA approves Boxed Warning about increased risk of blood clots and death with higher dose of arthritis and ulcerative colitis medicine tofacitinib - [link](#)
- Product Information (Labelling) safety-related changes:
- Lamotrigine –Updated warnings and precautions – In vitro testing showed that lamotrigine exhibits Class IB antiarrhythmic activity at therapeutically relevant concentration. Lamotrigine could slow ventricular conduction (widen QRS) and induce proarrhythmia, including sudden death, in patients with structural heart disease or myocardial ischemia. Recommend avoiding use in patients with cardiac conduction disorders (e.g., second- or third-degree heart block), ventricular arrhythmias, or cardiac disease or abnormality (e.g., myocardial ischemia, heart failure, structural heart disease, Brugada syndrome or other sodium channelopathies). Concomitant use of other sodium channel blockers may increase the risk of proarrhythmia - [link](#); ILAE/AES Task Force Advisory document - [link](#)

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA

- ISMP Identifies Errors with Extended-Release Opioids, Infusion Pumps as among Top Medication Safety Issues in 2020 - [link](#)
- Medication Safety Alert! [February 11, 2021](#)
- Updated Guidance Needed for Longstanding Large Volume Parenteral (LVP) Labeling and Packaging Problems
- Cisatracurium mislabeling incident calls for more efficient ways to alert the field
- Dosing errors with ENTRESTO
- Syringe with trailing zeros

TGA

- Safety information: Resurrection Male Sexual Enhancement capsules pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Iodine allergy: Common misperceptions - [link](#)
- Fostemsavir: The first oral attachment inhibitor for treatment of HIV-1 infection - [link](#)
- Drug information: Atoltivimab, Maftivimab, and Odesivimab-ebgn - [link](#)
- The high-value pharmacy enterprise framework: Advancing pharmacy practice in health systems through a consensus-based, strategic approach - [link](#)
- Assessment of the impact of an opioid-specific education series on rates of medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder in veterans - [link](#)
- Brief intervention medication therapy management: Establishment of an opioid misuse intervention model delivered in a community pharmacy - [link](#)
- The substance use intervention team: A hospital-based intervention and outpatient clinic to improve care for patients with substance use disorders - [link](#)
- Point-of-care naloxone distribution in the emergency department: A pilot study - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Acute Pancreatitis - [link](#)
- Should You Recommend Cannabinoids for This Patient With Painful Neuropathy? Grand Rounds Discussion From Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- Review: New Therapeutic Targets in Antineutrophil Cytoplasm Antibody–Associated Vasculitis - [link](#)
- Long-Term Outcomes in Patients with Connective Tissue Disease-Associated Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension in the Modern Treatment Era: Meta-Analyses of Randomized, Controlled Trials and Observational Registries - [link](#)
- ACR, AAD, RDS, and AAO 2020 Joint Statement on Hydroxychloroquine Use with Respect to Retinal Toxicity - [link](#)
- Efficacy and Safety of Tocilizumab for Polyarticular-Course Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis in the Open-Label Two-Year Extension of a Phase III Trial - [link](#)

Australian Health Review, Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association

- Developing and piloting an adaptable oxycodone quality improvement strategy: steps towards opioid stewardship - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Proton pump inhibitors and risk of all-cause and cause-specific mortality: A cohort study - [link](#)
- Comprehensive evaluation of microneedle-based intradermal adalimumab delivery vs. subcutaneous administration: results of a randomized controlled clinical trial - [link](#)
- Impact Of Anticoagulant Exposure Misclassification On The Bleeding Risk Of DOACs - [link](#)
- A pharmacovigilance study of pharmacokinetic drug interactions using a translational informatics discovery approach - [link](#)
- Developing a physiologically based pharmacokinetic model of apixaban to predict scenarios of drug-drug interactions, renal impairment and pediatric populations - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Effectiveness of exercise-based interventions in reducing depressive symptoms in people without clinical depression: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - [link](#)

BMC Health Services Research

- Delivering exceptionally safe transitions of care to older people: a qualitative study of multidisciplinary staff perspectives - [link](#)
- Acting between guidelines and reality- an interview study exploring the strategies of first line managers in patient safety work - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Clinical Review: Uveitis for the non-ophthalmologist - [link](#)
- Absolute cardiovascular disease risk score and pharmacotherapy at the time of admission in patients presenting with acute coronary syndrome due to coronary artery disease in a single Australian tertiary centre: a cross-sectional study - [link](#)
- Use of high dose cyproterone acetate and risk of intracranial meningioma in women: cohort [study](#)

BMJ DTB

- Republished: Denosumab-induced severe hypocalcaemia in a patient with vitamin D deficiency - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Adherence to guideline-recommended HbA1c testing frequency and better outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes: a 5-year retrospective cohort study in Australian general practice - [link](#)

Circulation

- Empagliflozin Effects on Pulmonary Artery Pressure in Patients with Heart Failure: Results from EMPagliflozin Evaluation By MeasuRing ImpAct on HemodynamiCs in PatiEnts with Heart Failure (EMBRACE-HF) Trial - [link](#)
- Blood Pressure Effects of Canagliflozin and Clinical Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease: Insights from the CREDENCE Trial - [link](#)
- Ablation Versus Drug Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation in Heart Failure: Results from the CABANA Trial - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Chemotherapy versus surgery for initial treatment in advanced ovarian epithelial cancer - [link](#)
- Salbutamol for transient tachypnea of the newborn - [link](#)
- Skin care interventions in infants for preventing eczema and food allergy - [link](#)
- Brexpiprazole versus placebo or other antidepressive agents for treating depression - [link](#)
- Ozanimod for relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Glucose Control, Sulfonylureas, and Insulin Treatment in Elderly People with Type 2 Diabetes and Risk of Severe Hypoglycemia and Death: An Observational Study - [link](#)
- Rapid Changes in Serum Testosterone in Men with Newly Diagnosed Type 2 Diabetes with Intensive Insulin and Metformin - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Case Report: An unusual case of piperacillin-tazobactam-induced fever, eosinophilia, thrombocytopenia and liver damage - [link](#)

Health Expectations

- How different health literacy dimensions influences health and well-being among men and women: The mediating role of health behaviours - [link](#)
- Knowledge sharing to support long-term condition self-management—Patient and health-care professional perspectives - [link](#)

Health Technology Assessment

- Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays for monitoring TNF-alpha inhibitors and antibody levels in people with rheumatoid arthritis: a systematic review and economic evaluation - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Patterns of azithromycin use in obstructive airway diseases: a real-world observational study - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Potentially inappropriate prescriptions and therapeutic complexity in older HIV patients with comorbidities - [link](#)
- Impact of clinical pharmacist services on quality adjusted life years in head and neck cancer patients - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Time and Predictors of Treatment for Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Haemorrhage (ASAH): A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Mitigating Imperfect Data Validity in Administrative Data PSIs: a Method for Estimating True Adverse Event Rates - [link](#)

JAMA

- Review: Diagnosis and Treatment of Hip and Knee Osteoarthritis - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Risk of Progression to Diabetes among Older Adults with Prediabetes - [link](#)
- Teachable moment: The Toxic Effects of an Incomplete Medication History - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Association of Rituximab Use with Adverse Events in Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults - [link](#)
- Comparison between Non-vitamin K Antagonist Oral Anticoagulants and Low-Molecular-Weight Heparin in Asian Individuals With Cancer-Associated Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)
- Association between Statin use at the Time of Intra-abdominal Surgery and Postoperative Adhesion-Related Complications and Small-Bowel Obstruction - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Comparison of Corticosteroid Tapering Regimens in Myasthenia Gravis. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Efficacy of Endocrine Therapy for the Treatment of Breast Cancer in Men. Results from the MALE Phase 2 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Association between Proton Pump Inhibitor use and risk of Asthma in Children - [link](#)

JAMA Surgery

- Early Corticosteroid Cessation vs Long-term Corticosteroid Therapy in Kidney Transplant Recipients. Long-term Outcomes of a Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Advancement in predicting interactions between drugs used to treat psoriasis and its comorbidities by integrating molecular and clinical resources - [link](#)
- Moving toward a sociotechnical systems approach to continuous health information technology design: the path forward for improving electronic health record usability and reducing clinician burnout - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Adjuvant Pertuzumab and Trastuzumab in Early HER2-Positive Breast Cancer in the APHINITY Trial: 6 Years' Follow-Up - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- The Association between Health Care Staff Engagement and Patient Safety Outcomes. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

Journal of Palliative Medicine

- An Assessment of Emergency Department-Based Interventions for Patients with Advanced or End-Stage Illness: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Interventions to decrease the incidence of dispensing errors in hospital pharmacy: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Review: Pharmacological management of stroke in older people - [link](#)
- Review: Carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, and lacosamide as adjunctive analgesics: a review of the literature - [link](#)

Lancet

- Review: Established and novel therapeutic options for autoimmune hepatitis - [link](#)
- Posaconazole versus voriconazole for primary treatment of invasive aspergillosis: a phase 3, randomised, controlled, non-inferiority trial - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Pharmaceutical Discharge Management: Implementation in Swiss Hospitals Compared to International Guidelines - [link](#)
- Application of Standardized Antimicrobial Administration Ratio as a Motivational Tool within a Multi-Hospital Healthcare System - [link](#)
- What Is Known about Community Pharmacy-Based Take-Home Naloxone Programs and Program Interventions? A Scoping Review - [link](#)
- The Association between Medication Experiences and Beliefs and Low Medication Adherence in Patients with Chronic Disease from Two Different Societies: The USA and the Sultanate of Oman - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- High prevalence of Crohn disease and ulcerative colitis among older people in Sydney - [link](#)
- Research Letter: Residential medication management reviews in Australian residential aged care facilities - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals

- Active monitoring in early prostate cancer prevents as many deaths as surgery or radiotherapy, new research shows - [link](#)
- A simple checklist reliably identified paranoia in adolescents with mental health problems, research shows - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Review: Management of Antithrombotic Therapy after Acute Coronary Syndromes - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Improving Influenza Vaccination in Children with Comorbidities: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Marijuana Use to Address Symptoms and Side Effects by Youth with Chronic Medical Conditions - [link](#)

Pediatric Anesthesia

- Outcomes from wake up safe, the pediatric anesthesia quality improvement initiative - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Factors Influencing Antibiotic Duration in Culture-Negative Neonatal Early-Onset Sepsis - [link](#)
- Clinical and economic evaluation of a surveillance protocol to manage hepatitis B virus (HBV) reactivation among lymphoma patients with resolved HBV infection receiving rituximab - [link](#)
- Association between the timing of asthma diagnosis and medication use during pregnancy - [link](#)
- Comparative Effectiveness and Safety of High-Dose Rivaroxaban and Apixaban for Atrial Fibrillation: A Propensity Score-Matched Cohort Study - [link](#)
- Influence of Digoxin on Mortality in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation: Overview of Systematic Reviews - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 4 Feb 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Expression of Interest for primary care participation in Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine rollout – [link](#)
- Community pharmacy COVID-19 vaccine rollout from Phase 2A - [link](#)

Australian Prescriber

- COVID-19 vaccines – are we there yet? - [link](#)

CEC

- Medication Safety updates (last updated 27 Jan 2021) - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and Updated recommendations as at [29/01/2021](#)
- New Recommendations: Baricitinib, REGN-COV2, Sarilumab
- Updated Recommendations: Azithromycin, Tocilizumab, Convalescent plasma (new remark)
- Taskforce recommendation for tocilizumab unchanged
- Azithromycin recommendation updated to 'Do Not Use'

NSW Health Critical Intelligence [Unit](#)

- 3 Feb 2021 - Risk Monitoring Dashboard - [link](#)
- Living Evidence - COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Living Evidence - SARS-CoV-2 variants - [link](#)

TGA

- Investigation reveals no specific risk of harm from vaccination with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in elderly patients - [link](#)
- Advice on face masks and gowns during COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Reuse of face masks and gowns during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- Guidance on medical/surgical face masks and respirator standards - key performance aspects – [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)

- COVID-19 vaccines: Frequently asked questions: storage, handling and use of COVID-19 vaccines from the manufacturers: Moderna; Pfizer/BioNTech; University of Oxford/AstraZeneca - [link](#)

WHO

- Laboratory biosafety guidance related to coronavirus disease (COVID-19): interim guidance- [link](#)
- Contact tracing in the context of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Risk communication & community engagement for COVID-19 contact tracing: interim guidance - [link](#)
- WHO public health checklist for controlling the spread of COVID-19 at ground crossings - [link](#)
- WHO's Science in 5 on COVID-19: [I am vaccinated, what next?](#) 29 January 2021
- WHO recommends follow-up care, low-dose anticoagulants for COVID-19 patients- [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- COVID-19 vaccine safety update – Comirnaty (Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine) - [link](#)
- EMA recommends COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca for authorisation in the EU - [link](#)
- Treatments and vaccines for COVID-19: authorised medicines - [link](#)

UK

-Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance (UK)

- Principles for COVID-19 Vaccination in Musculoskeletal and Rheumatology for Clinicians - [link](#)
- Care Quality Commission (UK)

- Collaboration in urgent and emergency care - [link](#)
- Department of Health and Social Care
- Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy
- Sarilumab for critically ill patients with COVID-19 pneumonia (adults) - [link](#)
- Tocilizumab for critically ill patients with COVID-19 pneumonia (adults) - [link](#)
- Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB)
- Interim bulletin: Oxygen issues during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- NHS England
- Monitoring the quality of care and safety for people with a learning disability and/or people who are autistic in inpatient care - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Therapeutic Alerts
- Interleukin-6 inhibitors (tocilizumab or sarilumab) for critically ill patients with COVID-19 pneumonia (adults) - [link](#)
- Antimicrobials (azithromycin and doxycycline). Not Beneficial in the Management of COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) Positive Patients - [link](#)
- Public Health England
- Guidance for investigating and managing individuals with a possible or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Giving COVID-19 vaccine to individuals at extremes of bodyweight - [link](#)
- Summary of COVID-19 medicines guidance: Nutritional and inherited metabolic disorders - [link](#)

USA

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis after Receipt of the First Dose of Moderna Vaccine - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkits - [link](#)
- Interim Clinical Considerations
- For Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States - [link](#)
- Preparing for the Potential Management of Anaphylaxis after COVID-19 Vaccination - [link](#)
- The Joint Commission
- Sentinel Event Alert shares concerns from health care workers during COVID-19 - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)

- Emergency preparation and mitigation for COVID-19 response in an integrated pharmacy practice model - [link](#)

Anaesthesia

- Mortality in patients admitted to intensive care with COVID-19: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Clinical Decision Making During the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)
- ACP journal club
- The BNT162b2 (BioNTech/Pfizer) vaccine had 95% efficacy against COVID-19 ≥ 7 days after the 2nd dose - [link](#)
- Tocilizumab did not reduce hypoxemic respiratory failure or death in hospitalized patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)
- In inpatients with COVID-19, none of remdesivir, hydroxychloroquine, lopinavir, or interferon β -1a differed from standard care for in-hospital mortality - [link](#)

BMC Infectious Diseases

- Examining Australian public perceptions and behaviours towards a future COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)

BMC Public Health

- Control of COVID-19 in Australia through quarantine: the role of special health accommodation (SHA) in New South Wales, Australia - [link](#)

BMJ

- News: Covid-19: People who have had infection might only need one dose of mRNA vaccine - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- No association between use of ACE inhibitors or angiotensin II receptor blockers prior to hospital admission and clinical course of COVID-19 in the COvid MEDicaTion (COMET) study - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Coronavirus (COVID-19): evidence relevant to critical care - [link](#)

Emerging Infectious Diseases

- Post-Vaccination COVID-19 among Healthcare Workers, Israel - [link](#)

Frontiers in Medicine

- Face Mask Use in the Community for Reducing the Spread of COVID-19: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

Healthcare Quarterly

- Shortages of Palliative Care Medications in Canada during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Gambling with Suffering - [link](#)
- Decontaminating N95 Respirators for Reuse in a Hospital Setting - [link](#)

Infectious Diseases

- A systematic review on the recurrence of SARS-CoV-2 virus: frequency, risk factors, and possible explanations - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Human factors and ergonomics systems approach to the COVID-19 healthcare crisis - [link](#)

JAMA

- Association of Intravenous Immunoglobulins plus Methylprednisolone vs Immunoglobulins Alone with Course of Fever in Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children- [link](#)
- Viewpoint: Rapid Implementation of a Vaccination Superstation - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines and the Growing Threat of Viral Variants - [link](#)

Lancet

- Safety and efficacy of an rAd26 and rAd5 vector-based heterologous prime-boost COVID-19 vaccine: an interim analysis of a randomised controlled phase 3 trial in Russia - [link](#)
- Assessment, endoscopy, and treatment in patients with acute severe ulcerative colitis during the COVID-19 pandemic (PROTECT-ASUC): a multicentre, observational, case-control study – [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 persistence is associated with antigen-specific CD8 T-cell responses - [link](#)
- Azithromycin in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 (RECOVERY): a randomised, controlled, open-label, platform trial - [link](#)

Nature Partner Journal Clean Water

- A review of the impact of environmental factors on the fate and transport of coronaviruses in aqueous environments - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)

- Efficacy and Safety of the mRNA-1273 SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine - [link](#)
- A Cluster-Randomized Trial of Hydroxychloroquine for Prevention of Covid-19 - [link](#)
- Perspective: Vaccine Innovations - Past and Future - [link](#)
- Audio Interview: A Covid-19 Conversation with Dr Anthony Fauci - [link](#)

New Scientist

- Will vaccines work on new variants? - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Modelling the impact of relaxing COVID-19 control measures during a period of low viral transmission - [link](#)

MedRxiv

- Single Dose Vaccination in Healthcare Workers Previously Infected with SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

SN comprehensive clinical medicine

- A Systematic Review of Systematic Reviews on the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)

Thorax

- Renin-angiotensin system blocker and outcomes of COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Mental health services in Australia - [link](#)

- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Corporate Plan 2020–21 to 2023–24 - [link](#)

TGA

- The Poisons Standard (the SUSMP) updated - [link](#)

- AusPARs:

-- Epidyolex ([Cannabidiol](#)) - adjunctive therapy of seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome or Dravet syndrome

-- Terrosa ([Teriparatide](#)) – for osteoporosis a) in postmenopausal women and primary osteoporosis in men when other agents are considered unsuitable and when there is a high risk of fractures; and b) associated with sustained systemic glucocorticoid therapy in women and men at high risk for fracture

-- Cosentyx ([Secukinumab](#)) licence extension for nonradiographic axial spondyloarthritis (nr-axSpA), as part of axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA) with or without radiographic damage

- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:

-- Akliel ([Trifarotene](#)) cream for acne vulgaris of the face and/or the trunk in patients ≥ 12 years of age, when many comedones, papules and/or pustules are present.

Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine

- Future Leaders Communiqué Volume 6 Issue 1 [January 2021](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Treatments for Acute Pain: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

- Living Systematic Review on Cannabis and Other Plant-Based Treatments for Chronic Pain - [link](#)

British National Formulary (BNF) newsletter – [January 2021](#)

- New monographs (BNF): acalabrutinib, avatrombopag, mometasone furoate with glycopyrronium bromide and indacaterol, phenazone with lidocaine, and ozanimod.

- New monographs (BNF for Children): cobicistat and darunavir with cobicistat, and phenazone with lidocaine.

- MHRA advice on bupropion hydrochloride, ferric carboxymaltose, modafinil, and pirfenidone

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Rapid Responses:

-- Tailored Opioid Prescribing after Gynecologic Surgery: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)

-- Stellate Ganglion Block for the Treatment Pain - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products

- Leqvio ([inclisiran](#))- for adults with primary hypercholesterolaemia (heterozygous familial and non-familial) or mixed dyslipidaemia, as an adjunct to diet, either alone or in combination with a statin or statin with other lipid-lowering therapies

- Licence extension

-- Tivicay ([dolutegravir](#))- paediatric licence extension. Approved, in combination with other antiretrovirals, for the treatment of HIV in children ≥ 6 years old, weighing at least 14kg. A new dispersible formulation also recently approved in the EU.

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- European CHMP approval recommendations:

- [Bedaquiline](#) (Sirturo) - paediatric license extension - as part of an appropriate combination regimen for pulmonary multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in adults and paediatric patients (5 -18 years and weighing ≥ 15 kg) when an effective treatment regimen cannot otherwise be composed for reasons of resistance or tolerability
- [Bevacizumab](#) (Almysys and Oyavas) biosimilar
- [Cenobamate](#) (Ontozry) for adults with epilepsy
- [Icosapent ethyl](#) (Vazkepa) for cardiovascular events reduction in patients at high cardiovascular risk
- [Natalizumab](#) (Tysabri) - new strength, pharmaceutical form and route of administration
- [Ofatumumab](#) (Kesimpta) for active relapsing multiple sclerosis
- [Pembrolizumab](#) (Keytruda) paediatric license extension- monotherapy for patients aged ≥ 3 years with relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma who have failed autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT) or following at least two prior therapies when ASCT is not a treatment option
- [Pemigatinib](#) (Pemazyre) for second-line treatment of advanced or metastatic cholangiocarcinoma
- [Remimazolam](#) (Byfavo) for procedural sedation
- [Salmeterol / fluticasone](#) (BroPair Spiromax and Seffalair Spiromax) for asthma
- [Selinexor](#) (Nexpovio) for relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma
- [Somapacitan](#) (Sogroya) for growth hormone deficiency in adults

Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand

- National medication chart toolkit, user guide and medication charting standard (updated) - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Early Access Medicines Scheme (EAMS) scientific opinion: Nivolumab with ipilimumab in the treatment of malignant pleural mesothelioma - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Suspected cancer: recognition and referral ([NG12](#))
- Brain tumours (primary) and brain metastases in adults ([NG99](#))
- DOAC Dipstick for detecting direct oral anticoagulants ([MIB248](#))
- Faecal microbiota transplant for recurrent or refractory Clostridioides difficile infection ([MIB247](#))
- Brolicizumab for treating wet age-related macular degeneration – ([TA672](#))
- Mepolizumab for severe eosinophilic asthma – ([TA671](#))

The King's Fund (UK)

- Innovation in treatment for people with rarer or less well-recognised long-term conditions - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Rocephin ([ceftriaxone](#)) - encephalopathy reported, particularly in elderly patients with severe renal impairment or CNS disorders. If suspected (e.g. decreased level of consciousness, altered mental state), consider discontinuation.
- Calcort ([deflazacort](#)) - tumour lysis syndrome (TLS) reported in patients with haematological malignancies following use alone or in combination with other chemotherapeutics. Closely monitor patients at high risk of TLS and take appropriate precautions.
- Kivexa ([abacavir and lamivudine](#)) - updated with new information about the drug-drug interactions between abacavir and riociguat.
- Mayzent ([siponimod](#)) - Basal cell carcinoma listed as a potential adverse effect of treatment (common frequency), and the warnings/precautions section on cutaneous neoplasms updated.
- Enbrel ([etanercept](#)) – all products - updated with ADR addition of headache (frequency very common).

- Rinvoq ([upadacitinib](#)) - updated to include psoriatic arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis as additional licensed indications. Acne, bronchitis, herpes zoster, herpes simplex added as common ADEs.
- Bavencio ([avelumab](#)) -licence extension, for use as monotherapy for first-line maintenance treatment in locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma following platinum-based chemotherapy.
- Neupro ([rotigotine](#)) transdermal patch – all strengths – now includes information on symptoms of dopamine agonist withdrawal syndrome and reference to dopamine dysregulation syndrome, a potential adverse effect.
- ViePax XL ([Venlafaxine](#))- notes observational data indicate an increased risk of postpartum haemorrhage following SSRI/SNRI exposure within the month prior to birth. Manufacturers advise to give in pregnancy only if the expected benefits outweigh any possible risk.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Information about Nitrosamine Impurities in Medications - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Summary Safety Review:
 - Sofosbuvir-containing products - potential risk of severe cutaneous adverse reactions - [link](#)
- Health Product Infowatch, [January 2021](#)
- Monthly recap safety information: Bacitracin for Injection, Bamlanivimab, Carboplatin-containing products, Clobazam-containing products, Dexrazoxane for Injection, US-labelled Direct-acting antiviral products containing a protease inhibitor, Elmiron (pentosan polysulfate sodium), GUM Paroex, Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Tramadol-containing products

MIMS monthly updates – [February 2021](#)

- New Contraindications:
 - Measles, mumps and rubella live virus vaccine (M-M-R II) should not be given to pregnant females. If vaccination of post-pubertal females is undertaken for protection against rubella, pregnancy should be avoided for one month following vaccination.
 - Metronidazole (Metronidazole IV Infusion (Pfizer)) contraindicated in patients who have taken disulfiram within the previous two weeks; and with concomitant consumption of alcohol or products containing propylene glycol (or within three days after therapy with metronidazole).
 - Monobasic sodium phosphate/dibasic sodium phosphate (Phospho-Soda) contraindicated in children under 18 years of age. Should not be used in combination with other laxative products containing sodium phosphate.

TGA

- [Safety advisory](#): Pregabalin and gabapentin - enhanced warnings relating to abuse and dependence

PAPERS OF INTEREST

Annals of Internal Medicine

- The Use of Rifaximin in the Prevention of Overt Hepatic Encephalopathy after Transjugular Intrahepatic Portosystemic Shunt. A Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)
- ACP journal club
- In CKD, dapagliflozin reduced a composite of eGFR decline, end-stage kidney disease, or CV or renal mortality - [link](#)
- After TAVI, aspirin vs. aspirin + clopidogrel for 3 months reduced bleeding and a composite of bleeding and thrombotic events at 1 year - [link](#)
- Fluoroquinolones vs. amoxicillin–clavulanate or ampicillin–sulbactam were not linked to aortic aneurysm or dissection - [link](#)

Australian Health Review

- Is there unwarranted variation in obstetric practice in Australia? Obstetric intervention trends in Queensland hospitals - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Predicting mortality from acetaminophen poisoning shortly after hospital presentation - [link](#)

- Short Report: Atropine-induced toxicity after off-label sublingual administration of eyedrop for sialorrhea treatment in neurological disabled patients - [link](#)
- β -blockers associated hypoglycaemia: new insights from a real-world pharmacovigilance study - [link](#)
- Pharmacokinetics and Safety of Pegylated Recombinant Human Granulocyte Colony-Stimulating Factor in Children with Acute Leukemia - [link](#)
- Drug-induced peripheral edema: an etiology-based review - [link](#)
- Change in the regulatory framework for zolpidem: what is the impact on the landscape of the prescription of sedative medications? The French national ZORRO study - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Association between human papillomavirus vaccination and serious adverse events in South Korean adolescent girls: nationwide cohort study - [link](#)
- Therapeutics: Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for musculoskeletal pain - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Changing mindsets about side effects - [link](#)

Circulation

- Gestational Diabetes History and Glucose Tolerance after Pregnancy Associated with Coronary Artery Calcium in Women during Midlife: The CARDIA Study - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Intermittent fasting for the prevention of cardiovascular disease - [link](#)
- Electrocoagulation for liver metastases - [link](#)
- Urgent-start peritoneal dialysis versus haemodialysis for people with chronic kidney disease - [link](#)
- Pulmonary rehabilitation for interstitial lung disease - [link](#)
- Antibiotics for hospital-acquired pneumonia in neonates and children - [link](#)
- Psychological therapies delivered remotely for the management of chronic pain (excluding headache) in adults - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Case Report - Quinidine hypersensitivity: a side effect of a forgotten antiarrhythmic - [link](#)

Heart

- Antiplatelet therapy in patients with myocardial infarction without obstructive coronary artery disease - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Report: Evaluation of the quality of 'do not use' medication abbreviation audits: a key enabler to successful implementation of audit and feedback - [link](#)
- Prevalence of non-adherence to antihypertensive medication in Asia: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

JAMA

- Clinical Challenge: A Purpuric Rash - [link](#)
- Clinical Guidelines Synopsis - Management of Immunotherapy-Related Toxicities in Patients Treated with Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Effectiveness of a Female Community Health Volunteer-Delivered Intervention in Reducing Blood Glucose among Adults with Type 2 Diabetes. An Open-Label, Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Evaluation of THC-Related Neuropsychiatric Symptoms among Adults Aged 50 Years and Older: A Systematic Review and Meta-regression Analysis - [link](#)

JAMIA

- A systematic review of contributing factors of and solutions to electronic health record-related impacts on physician well-being - [link](#)
- Comparison of an oncology clinical decision-support system's recommendations with actual treatment decisions - [link](#)

- Renal medication-related clinical decision support (CDS) alerts and overrides in the inpatient setting following implementation of a commercial electronic health record: implications for designing more effective alerts - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy, Endocrine Therapy, and Targeted Therapy for Breast Cancer: ASCO Guideline - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Clinical Cancer Advances 2021: ASCO's Report on Progress Against Cancer - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

- Commentary: Making the investment case for national regulatory authorities - [link](#)

Journal of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare

- Use of Simulation to Measure the Effects of Just-in-Time Information to Prevent Nursing Medication Errors. A Randomized Controlled Study - [link](#)

Lancet

- Long-term safety & efficacy of lumacaftor–ivacaftor therapy in children aged 6–11 years with cystic fibrosis homozygous for the F508del-CFTR mutation: a phase 3, open-label, extension study - [link](#)

- Chlorhexidine plus alcohol versus povidone iodine plus alcohol, combined or not with innovative devices, for prevention of short-term peripheral venous catheter infection and failure (CLEAN 3 study): an investigator-initiated, open-label, single centre, randomised-controlled, two-by-two factorial trial - [link](#)

- Review: Management of diabetes and hyperglycaemia in the hospital - [link](#)

- Therapeutics targeting the IL-23 and IL-17 pathway in psoriasis - [link](#)

- Biliary tract cancer - [link](#)

- Multiple myeloma - [link](#)

- Treatment of multiple myeloma-related bone disease: recommendations from the Bone Working Group of the International Myeloma Working Group - [link](#)

- Use of fibrinolytics and deoxyribonuclease in adult patients with pleural empyema: a consensus statement - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Research Letter: Complementary medicine use by community-dwelling older Australians - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals

- Mental health problems in complex trauma: the most promising therapies are identified in a new review - [link](#)

- Dialysis for acute kidney injury can be safely delayed for many patients - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Perspective: At the Cusp - Reimagining Infective Endocarditis Care amid the Opioid Epidemic – [link](#), [podcast link](#)

- Dexmedetomidine or Propofol for Sedation in Mechanically Ventilated Adults with Sepsis - [link](#)

- Management of Antithrombotic Therapy after Acute Coronary Syndromes - [link](#)

Oxford Medicine

- Book: The Cognitive Autopsy: A Root Cause Analysis of Medical Decision Making - [link](#)

Patient Safety

- Health Information Technology–Related Wrong-Patient Errors: Context is Critical - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Trends in Dispensed Opioid Analgesic Prescriptions to Children in South Carolina: 2010–2017 - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Pharmacist contributions to consultant-led post-take ward rounds: a service evaluation - [link](#)

- Case study: an error with a medicine containing arachis oil - [link](#)

- Case-based learning: shingles - [link](#)

Prescribe

- Prescribe International, Issue Number 223 February 2021 - [link](#)
- Review: Ebola vaccine rVSV-Zebov (Ervebo®) in an outbreak of Ebola virus disease. Major reduction in incidence among those at risk for this often-fatal infection - [link](#)
- New Products: Liraglutide, Cemiplimab, Blinatumomab, Osilodrostat, Fremanezumab, Lipegfilgrastim
- Adverse Effects
- Smoking cessation: toxic dose levels of certain drugs - [link](#)
- Fluconazole: teratogenic, even with as little as just one 150 mg dose – [link](#)
- Pregabalin abuse and dependence: on the increase in Europe and elsewhere - [link](#)
- Liposomal forms of drugs - [link](#)
- Reviews:
- Deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism - [link](#)
- Deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism: choosing an oral anticoagulant - [link](#)
- Outlook: Towards better patient care: drugs to avoid in 2021 - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Evaluation of oral dextrose gel for prevention of neonatal hypoglycemia (hPOD): A multicenter, double-blind randomized controlled trial - [link](#)

Thrombosis and Haemostasis

- Anticoagulant Treatment for Splanchnic Vein Thrombosis in Liver Cirrhosis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- Review: Antithrombotic Therapy in Acute Coronary Syndromes: Current Evidence and Ongoing Issues Regarding Early and Late Management - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 28 Jan 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- COVID-19 Web resources, last updated 4 January 2021 - [link](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- Epidemiology Report 33: Fortnightly reporting period ending [17 January 2021](#); technical [supplement](#)
- Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) statement on COVID-19 and influenza vaccination requirements for aged care workers - [link](#)
- Prime Minister's update following the National Cabinet meeting on 20 January 2021 - [link](#)
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) at a glance infographic collection - [link](#)

ACI Critical Intelligence Unit

- Evidence check: Emerging evidence about COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

Heart Foundation & Australian Cardiovascular Health and Rehabilitation Association (ACRA)

- Position Statement on Cardiac Rehabilitation: Face-to-face and telehealth delivery options - [link](#)

Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG)

- COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women ([Updated](#) Tue 26 January 2021)

TGA

- TGA provisionally approves Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- AusPAR: BNT162b2 (mRNA) – [COMIRNATY](#) vaccine - Approved for provisional registration

- International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA) statement for healthcare professionals: How COVID-19 vaccines will be regulated for safety and effectiveness - [link](#)
- Batch release assessment of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine: Information for consumers and health professionals - [link](#)
- Reporting suspected side effects associated with a COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Covid-19 vaccines: safety surveillance manual - [link](#)
- Quiz: What's your risk of getting COVID-19? – [link](#)
- WHO's Science in 5 on COVID-19 - [Children & COVID-19](#) - 22 January 2021
- Emergency Committee on COVID-19 advises on variants, vaccines - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Clinical management: living guidance, 25 January 2021 - [link](#)
- Interim recommendations for use of the Moderna mRNA-1273 vaccine against COVID-19, Interim [guidance](#), 25 January 2021
- Online global consultation on contact tracing for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Operational guidance: acceptance and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines, [January 2021](#)
- Operational guidance: COVID-19 vaccination data and information management, including monitoring of vaccine effectiveness, [January 2021](#)
- Operational guidance: evidence-based decision making process for developing national COVID-19 vaccination strategies, [January 2021](#)
- Operational guidance: management structure, advocacy and resources for COVID-19 vaccine deployment and vaccination, [January 2021](#)

UK

- Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) and Cancer Research UK
- [Report](#): Stepping up: The response of stop smoking services in England to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT)
- [Clinical practice guide](#) for improving the management of adult COVID-19 patients in secondary care
- GOV.UK
- Supply chain workers crucial to vaccination programme to receive jabs - [link](#)
- the [green book](#), chapter 14a (COVID-19) – updated to include changes to the advice on timing of vaccine in those being given immunosuppressive treatments and further detail on history of previous allergies
- NERVTAG paper on COVID-19 variant of concern B.1.1.7 - [link](#)
- NICE
- Rapid evidence summary: [Sarilumab](#) for COVID-19
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Post-administration observation requirements for [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](#); [AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine](#),
- Issues to consider when defrosting the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)
- Using COVID-19 vaccines in patient taking immunosuppressive medicines - [link](#)

USA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: Late injection site reactions; Post-discharge VTE Prophylaxis in COVID-19 patients; 7th dose and/or pooling from the same lot vials; Vaccine for In-Patients; COVID-19 Vaccine Coordinator; and more
- Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)
- A [Guide](#) to Promoting Health Care Workforce Well-Being during and after the COVID-19 Pandemic
- ISMP
- Learning from Errors with the New COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#); summary [article](#)
- Medication Safety Alert! [January 28, 2021](#)
- More on dilution errors with Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
- USP publishes COVID-19 vaccine toolkit
- Additional COVID-19 resources

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

- Advancing ambulatory pharmacy practice through a crisis: Objectives and strategies used in an ambulatory care action team's response to the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- Developing statewide remdesivir use criteria - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Thrombosis, Bleeding, and the Observational Effect of Early Therapeutic Anticoagulation on Survival in Critically Ill Patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)
- The Proportion of SARS-CoV-2 Infections That Are Asymptomatic, A Systematic [Review](#)
- Letter: Reported Adverse Drug Reactions Associated with the Use of Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine during the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)
- Opinion: Inclusion of Pregnant and Lactating Persons in COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts - [link](#)

Annals of Palliative Medicine

- Australian specialist palliative care's response to COVID-19: an anonymous online survey of service providers - [link](#)

bioRxiv

- Preprint: mRNA-1273 vaccine induces neutralizing antibodies against spike mutants from global SARS-CoV-2 variants - [link](#)

BMJ

- Effect of tocilizumab on clinical outcomes at 15 days in patients with severe or critical coronavirus disease 2019: randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Managing the long term effects of covid-19: summary of NICE, SIGN, and RCGP rapid [guideline](#)

BMJ Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and risk of death from COVID-19: an OpenSAFELY cohort analysis based on two cohorts - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- COVID-19 and healthcare workers: a rapid systematic review into risks and preventive measures - [link](#)

Cell Death and Differentiation

- Review: COVID-19 vaccines: where we stand and challenges ahead - [link](#)

Center for Clinical and Translational Research COVID-19 Clinical Trial Committee

- The development of a review and prioritization matrix during a pandemic - [link](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

- Drug-induced Liver Injury in a Patient with Coronavirus Disease 2019: Potential Interaction of Remdesivir with P-Glycoprotein Inhibitors - [link](#)

Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology

- The Use of Procalcitonin as an Antimicrobial Stewardship Tool and a Predictor of Disease Severity in COVID-19 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Research Agenda for Healthcare Epidemiology - [link](#)

JAMA

- Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis after Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)
- Effect of Bamlanivimab as Monotherapy or in Combination with Etesevimab on Viral Load in Patients With Mild to Moderate COVID-19 A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Letter: Association of Smoking and Cumulative Pack-Year Exposure with COVID-19 Outcomes in the Cleveland Clinic COVID-19 Registry – [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Respiratory and Psychophysical Sequelae among Patients With COVID-19 Four Months After Hospital Discharge - [link](#)

JAMA Ophthalmology

- Unintended Consequences of Hand Sanitizer Use in the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Association of Psychiatric Disorders with Mortality among Patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

- Letter: mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is well tolerated in patients with cutaneous and systemic mastocytosis with mast cell activation symptoms and anaphylaxis - [link](#)

Lancet

- Effect of pre-exposure use of hydroxychloroquine on COVID-19 mortality: a population-based cohort study in patients with rheumatoid arthritis or systemic lupus erythematosus using the OpenSAFELY platform - [link](#)

- α 1-Antitrypsin deficiency and the risk of COVID-19: an urgent call to action - [link](#)

- SARS-CoV-2 vaccination for patients with inflammatory bowel disease: a British Society of Gastroenterology Inflammatory Bowel Disease section and IBD Clinical Research Group position [statement](#)

- Nebulised heparin for patients with or at risk of acute respiratory distress syndrome: a multicentre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial – [link](#)

- Effect of anakinra versus usual care in adults in hospital with COVID-19 and mild-to-moderate pneumonia (CORIMUNO-ANA-1): a randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

- Safety and immunogenicity of an inactivated SARS-CoV-2 vaccine, BBV152: a double-blind, randomised, phase 1 trial - [link](#)

- Quarantine and testing strategies in contact tracing for SARS-CoV-2: a modelling study - [link](#)

- Letter: The need for a global COVID-19 maternal immunisation research plan - [link](#)

- Commentary: The right place for IL-1 inhibition in COVID-19 - [link](#)

- Commentary: Optimism and caution for an inactivated COVID-19 vaccine - [link](#)

medRxiv

- Preprint: Trends, regional variation, and clinical characteristics of COVID-19 vaccine recipients: a retrospective cohort study in 23.4 million patients using OpenSAFELY - [link](#)

NEJM

- REGN-COV2, a Neutralizing Antibody Cocktail, in Outpatients with Covid-19 - [link](#)

- Beyond Politics — Promoting Covid-19 Vaccination in the United States - [link](#)

- Commentary: What Health Care Can Learn from Operation Warp Speed – [link](#)

PLOS ONE

- Converting the maybes: Crucial for a successful COVID-19 vaccination strategy - [link](#)

Science

- Model-informed COVID-19 vaccine prioritization strategies by age and serostatus – [link](#)

- Perspective: Optimizing age-specific vaccination - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- BMT long-term follow up fact sheets - [link](#)

- Institute of Trauma and Injury Management - new web-based information system supporting trauma, retrieval and critical care across NSW - iTRACC.- [link](#)

AHHA

- Healthy People, Healthy Systems: A blueprint for outcomes focused, value-based health care - [link](#)

- Australian healthcare after COVID-19: An opportunity to think differently - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- Antimicrobial Stewardship in Australian Health Care Book: Antimicrobial Stewardship in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is the latest addition to the book - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health expenditure estimates 2010-11 to 2016–17 - [link](#)

TGA

- TGA decision: Trientine Waymade ([trientine dihydrochloride](#)) approved to treat Wilson's disease patients intolerant to penicillamine.

- [Ergometrine](#) maleate injection (500 microgram/mL) ampoule - Alternative product approved to address expected shortage

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products

-- Bevespi Aerosphere ([glycopyrronium bromide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate](#)) inhalation-maintenance bronchodilator treatment to relieve symptoms in adults with COPD.

-- Trixeo Aerosphere ([formoterol fumarate dihydrate/budesonide/glycopyrronium](#)) inhalation - maintenance treatment in adults with moderate to severe COPD who are not adequately treated by a combination of inhaled corticosteroid & long-acting beta2-agonist or combination of long-acting beta2-agonist & long-acting muscarinic antagonist.

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- Human medicines: highlights of 2020 (overview of its key recommendations in 2020 on the authorisation and safety monitoring of medicines for human use - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Advancing Health through Innovation: New Drug Approvals 2020 - [link](#)

- New Drug approvals

-- Cabenuva ([cabotegravir and rilpivirine](#)) First extended-release (once-a-month), injectable drug regimen for adults living with HIV

-- Cabenuva ([cabotegravir;rilpivirine](#)) combination tablet

-- Verquvo ([vericiguat](#)) to reduce risk of cardiovascular death and heart failure (HF) hospitalization following a hospitalization for HF or need for outpatient IV diuretics, in adults with symptomatic chronic HF and ejection fraction less than 45%.

-- Vocabria ([cabotegravir](#)) 30 mg tablet in combination with Edurant (rilpivirine) 25 mg tablet for the short-term treatment of HIV1 infection in adults (before commencing Cabenuva to ensure medications are well tolerated);

-- Cabometyx ([cabozantinib](#)) for patients with advanced renal cell carcinoma, as first-line treatment in combination with nivolumab.

-- Lupkynis ([voclosporin](#)) capsule in combination with a background immunosuppressive therapy regimen for the treatment of adult patients with active lupus nephritis

- New indications

-- Xalkori ([crizotinib](#)) for treatment of pediatric patients 1 year of age and older and young adults with relapsed or refractory, systemic anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL) that is ALKpositive

-- Carbaglu ([carglumic acid](#)) for use as an adjunctive therapy to standard of care for the treatment of acute hyperammonemia due to propionic acidemia or methylmalonic acidemia

Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB)

- Investigation into weight-based medication errors in children - [link](#)

- National Learning Report: Never Events: analysis of HSIB's national investigations - [link](#)

Institute for Healthcare Improvement

- A Guide to Promoting Health Care Workforce Well-Being During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)

NHS England

- National Dose Banding Table – [Irinotecan](#) 20mg/ml
- Clinical Commissioning Policy: Addition of rituximab to first-line standard chemotherapy for CD20 positive B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (Adults) - [link](#)
- Transformation of urgent and emergency care: models of care and measurement - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Abortion care Quality standard [\[QS199\]](#)
- Brigatinib for ALK-positive advanced non-small-cell lung cancer that has not been previously treated with an ALK inhibitor – guidance ([TA670](#))
- Trifluridine–tipiracil for treating metastatic gastric cancer or gastro-oesophageal junction adenocarcinoma after 2 or more therapies - guidance ([TA699](#))

Public Health England

- Avian influenza: PGD templates updates - [link](#)

Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK

- Minor update to guideline on management of osteoporosis and the prevention of fragility fractures: algorithm for detection and management of osteoporosis and recommendations for romosozumab use - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Strengthening NCD service delivery through UHC benefit package: technical meeting report - [link](#)
- Meeting report of the WHO expert consultation on the definition of extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- NiQuitin ([nicotine](#)) patch - updated to emphasise requirement for safe disposal; nicotine doses tolerated by adult & adolescent smokers can produce severe toxicity in children. Pre-cessation regimen should not be used in people with known CVD without HCP evaluation of risk/benefit.
- Ofev ([nintedanib](#)) - updated with information on ischaemic colitis, reported in the post-marketing setting, and to note co-administration with oral hormonal contraceptives did not relevantly alter their pharmacokinetics. Fertility, pregnancy & lactation information has been updated.
- Piriton ([chlorphenamine](#))- now notes a minimum dosing interval of 4 hours and states not to use for longer than 2 weeks without consulting a doctor, and to avoid use in elderly patients with confusion. Medical advice should be sought before using with other drugs that cause sedation.
- Valcyte ([valganciclovir](#)) 50 mg/mL Powder for Oral Solution - updated noting 100mg of sodium benzoate in each 12g bottle, equivalent to 1mg/mL after reconstitution. Benzoate salt may increase jaundice in newborn babies (up to 4 weeks old).
- Lamictal ([lamotrigine](#)) - updated to include warning on photosensitivity (frequency uncommon). In several cases, the reaction occurred with a high dose upon dose escalation or rapid up-titration. Advise patient to avoid exposure to sunlight/UV light and take protective measures.
- Ocrevus ([ocrelizumab](#))- updated to include case reports of late onset of neutropenia (frequency unknown) at least 4 weeks after the latest infusion. In patients with signs and symptoms of infection, measurement of blood neutrophils is recommended.
- Ziagen ([abacavir sulfate](#)) – all products - in vitro study showed concomitant administration of single dose of riociguat (0.5 mg) to HIV patients receiving combination of abacavir/dolutegravir/lamivudine (600mg/50mg/300mg once daily) led to approx 3-fold higher riociguat levels. Riociguat dose may need to be reduced.
- Relestat ([epinastine hydrochloride](#)) eye drops - updated to warn of very rare reported cases of corneal calcification in association with the use of phosphate-containing eye drops such as Relestat, in some patients resulting in significantly damaged corneas.
- Benepali ([etanercept](#)) - updated to include Kaposi's sarcoma (a rare type of cancer caused by a virus, which can affect the skin and mouth and potentially the internal organs) as adverse effect of (unknown frequency).
- Medikinet ([methylphenidate hydrochloride](#))- updated to include the following undesirable effects: dysphemia and trismus (unknown frequency).

- Mekinist ([trametinib](#)) & Tafinlar ([dabrafenib](#))- now report that sarcoidosis is an uncommon potential adverse effect of trametinib and dabrafenib combination therapy, though in the majority of cases treatment was maintained. It is important not to misinterpret sarcoidosis as disease progression.

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- GILENYA ([fingolimod](#)) - Risk of Liver Injury

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA

- [Hazardous Packaging Error](#) involving certain cisatracurium products from Meitheal Pharmaceuticals
- Medication Safety Alert! [January 28, 2021](#)
- Start the Year Off Right by Preventing These Top 10 Medication Errors and Hazards
- Assuring proper mixing of mycophenolate suspension
- [Acute Care Action Agenda](#) (October – December 2020)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)

- Clinical review: Systemic targeted and immunotherapy for advanced hepatocellular carcinoma - [link](#)
- Comparison of intermittent audit vs daily documentation of pharmacist interventions – [link](#)
- Biosimilar formulary placement in Medicare Part D prescription drug plans: A case study of infliximab - [link](#)
- Association between opioid dose escalation and time to death in a comfort measures only population - [link](#)
- Effectiveness and impact of a structured research approach for health-system pharmacy administration and leadership residents - [link](#)
- Navigating uncharted waters: Developing a standardized approach for evaluating and implementing biosimilar products at a comprehensive cancer center - [link](#)
- ASHP Guidelines on Emergency Medicine Pharmacist Services - [link](#)
- The innovative role of an “opioid overdose prevention pharmacist” at a mental health teaching hospital - [link](#)
- A comprehensive approach to addressing the opioid epidemic in a large health system - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- The Effect of Preconception-Initiated Low-Dose Aspirin on Human Chorionic Gonadotropin–Detected Pregnancy, Pregnancy Loss, and Live Birth. Per Protocol Analysis of a Randomized [Trial](#)

Australian Health Review, Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association

- Systematic review and content analysis of Australian health care substitute decision making online resources - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Impact of pharmacist-led medication therapy management in ambulatory elderly patients with chronic diseases - [link](#)
- Correlation between vancomycin clearance and cystatin C-based glomerular filtration rate in paediatric patients - [link](#)
- Pharmacokinetics of amoxicillin in obese and non-obese subjects - [link](#)
- Pharmacist led intervention on chronic pain management: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Short Report: Evaluation of intravenous to oral antimicrobial switch at a hospital with a tightly regulated antimicrobial stewardship program - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Efficacy and safety of antidepressants for the treatment of back pain and osteoarthritis: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Practice pointer: Diagnosis and referral of adults with suspected bony metastases - [link](#)

BMJ Gut

- The influence of proton pump inhibitor therapy on the outcome of infliximab therapy in inflammatory bowel disease: a patient-level meta-analysis of randomised controlled studies - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Evaluation of an implemented new insulin chart to improve quality and safety of diabetes care in a large university hospital: a follow-up study - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Association between intrahospital transfer and hospital-acquired infection in the elderly: a retrospective case-control study in a UK hospital network - [link](#)

Circulation – American Heart Association

- Psychological Health, Well-Being, and the Mind-Heart-Body Connection: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association - [link](#)

- Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2021 Update: A [Report](#) from the American Heart Association

Cochrane

- Beta-blockers versus placebo or no intervention for primary prophylaxis of oesophageal variceal bleeding in children with chronic liver disease or portal vein thrombosis - [link](#)

- Effect of atorvastatin on testosterone levels - [link](#)

- Topical antibiotic prophylaxis to reduce respiratory tract infections and mortality in adults receiving mechanical ventilation - [link](#)

- Ethosuximide, sodium valproate or lamotrigine for absence seizures in children and adolescents - [link](#)

- Interventions for treating iron deficiency anaemia in inflammatory bowel disease - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Effects of Vitamin C Supplementation on Glycemic Control and Cardiovascular Risk Factors in People with Type 2 Diabetes: A GRADE-Assessed Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials - [link](#)

- Comparative Effectiveness and Safety of Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitors Versus Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists in Older Adults - [link](#)

- The Effect of Exenatide Once Weekly on Carotid Atherosclerosis in Individuals with Type 2 Diabetes: An 18-Month Randomized Placebo-Controlled Study - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Persistence of PIMs in older people – [link](#)

- Variation in statin prescribing across England - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Factors influencing the implementation of clinical pharmacy services on paediatric patient care in hospital settings - [link](#)

- Risk of acute kidney injury by initiation of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs in hospitalised patients treated with diuretics and renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitors - [link](#)

- Case report: A patient with ulcerative colitis treated with a combination of vedolizumab and tofacitinib - [link](#)

European Heart journal

- Valvular atrial fibrillation and a CHA₂DS₂-VASc score of 1—a statement of the ESC working group on cardiovascular pharmacotherapy and ESC council on stroke - [link](#)

- Cardiovascular health after menopause transition, pregnancy disorders, and other gynaecologic conditions: a [consensus document](#) from European cardiologists, gynaecologists, and endocrinologists

Health Expectations

- Development of a novel gout treatment patient decision aid by patient and physician: A qualitative research study - [link](#)

- What does safety in mental healthcare transitions mean for service users and other stakeholder groups: An open-ended questionnaire study - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- An Observational Study of the Incidence and Factors Associated with Patient Readmission from Home Based Care under the Hospital in the Home Program - [link](#)

- Effectiveness of a locality-based integrated diabetes care service on clinical outcomes - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Qualitative study of medication review in Flanders, Belgium among community pharmacists and general practitioners - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: Revised UNAIDS/WHO Ethical Guidance for HIV Prevention Trials - [link](#)
- Review: Acute Pancreatitis - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Association of Secukinumab Treatment with Tuberculosis Reactivation in Patients with Psoriasis, Psoriatic Arthritis, or Ankylosing Spondylitis - [link](#)
- Association of Potent and Very Potent Topical Corticosteroids and the Risk of Osteoporosis and Major Osteoporotic Fractures - [link](#)
- Temporal Trends and Clinician Variability in Potassium Monitoring of Healthy Young Women Treated for Acne with Spironolactone – [link](#)
- Patient [page](#): Allergic Contact Dermatitis

JAMA Network Open

- Physician, Practice, and Patient Characteristics Associated with Biosimilar Use in Medicare Recipients - [link](#)
- Evaluation of Ruxolitinib for Steroid-Refractory Chronic Graft-vs-Host Disease after Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation - [link](#)
- Cost-effectiveness of Pembrolizumab as a Second-Line Therapy for Hepatocellular Carcinoma - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Aspirin Use and Risk of Colorectal Cancer among Older Adults - [link](#)

JAMA Ophthalmology

- Association of Metformin Use with Age-Related Macular Degeneration. A Case-Control Study - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- A bottom-up approach to creating an ontology for medication indications - [link](#)
- Quality assessment of real-world data repositories across the data life cycle: A literature review - [link](#)
- Importance-aware personalized learning for early risk prediction using static and dynamic health data - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Initial Management of Non-castrate Advanced, Recurrent, or Metastatic Prostate Cancer: ASCO Guideline Update - [link](#)

Journal of the American Geriatrics Society

- Transforming the Medication Regimen Review Process Using Telemedicine to Prevent Adverse Events - [link](#)

Lancet

- Biomarker-guided tuberculosis preventive therapy (CORTIS): a randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Outcomes of patients with chronic myelomonocytic leukaemia treated with non-curative therapies: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Seminar: Adrenal insufficiency - [link](#)
- Seminar: Classical Hodgkin lymphoma – [link](#)
- Review: Preservation of fertility in teenagers and young adults treated for haematological malignancies - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Experiences of the Medication Use Process by People with Intellectual Disabilities. What a Pharmacist Should Know! - [link](#)
- Community Pharmacist Telephonic Medication Reviews with Uncontrolled Asthma Patients: A Pilot Study – [link](#)

- Role of Nutrition Education in Pharmacy Curriculum—Students' Perspectives and Attitudes - [link](#)
- Sentiment Analysis of Online Reviews for Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors and Serotonin–Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitors - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Late mortality in people with cancer: a population-based Australian study - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals

- Older people move safely from hospital to home when staff communicate widely and bridge gaps in the system - [link](#)
- Aspirin could reduce the risk of heart attack or stroke in people with pneumonia - [link](#)
- Lansoprazole for persistent throat symptoms in secondary care: the TOPPITS RCT - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Polypill with or without aspirin in Persons without Cardiovascular Disease - [link](#)
- Inhaled Treprostinil in Pulmonary Hypertension Due to Interstitial Lung Disease - [link](#)
- Levonorgestrel vs. Copper Intrauterine Devices for Emergency Contraception - [link](#)
- Cryoballoon Ablation as Initial Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)
- Cryoablation or Drug Therapy for Initial Treatment of Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)
- Clinical practice: Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Contemporary Management of Urinary Tract Infection in Children - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- A Guide to Therapeutic Drug Monitoring of β -lactam Antibiotics - [link](#)
- The Impact of Statin Use prior to Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Admission on critically ill patients with sepsis - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 21 Jan 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- CDNA National Guidance for Urban & Regional Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Communities for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- COVID-19 Australia: Epidemiology [Report 32](#) (four-week report ending 03/01/21)

ACI

- Risk Monitoring Dashboard (20 Jan 2021) - [link](#)
- Evidence check: SARS-CoV-2 variants - [link](#)
- Evidence check: Ivermectin and COVID-19 (updated 15 Jan 2021) - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- Child protection in the time of COVID-19 - [link](#)

CEC

- Medication Safety Updates (last updated 15 Jan 2021) - [link](#)

SHPA

- New open and accessible [vaccine info hub](#)
- A [new member-only discussion forum](#) for COVID-19 vaccines members can self-enrol [here](#)
- YouTube: Conversation with Cleveland Clinic on US vaccine logistics - [link](#)

TGA

- Face masks and COVID-19 - [link](#); Post-market review of face masks: Outcomes and actions - [link](#)
- TGA grants additional provisional determination to Biocelect Pty Ltd (on behalf of Novavax Inc.) in relation to the COVID-19 Vaccine, NVX-CoV2373 - [link](#)
- Norwegian investigation of COVID-19 vaccination risks for elderly, very frail patients - [link](#)
- Ability of COVID-19 tests to detect emerging genetic variants of SARS-CoV-2 - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Science in 5 episode 21: COVID-19 origins of the virus - [link](#)
- The race for a COVID-19 vaccine, explained - [link](#)
- Who can take the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine? - [link](#)
- How will we ensure fair access to COVID-19 vaccines? - [link](#)
- Governments push for Universal Health Coverage as COVID-19 continues to devastate communities and economies – [link](#)
- Background document on mRNA vaccine BNT162b2 (Pfizer-BioNTech) against COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Infection prevention & control (IPC) principles & procedures for COVID-19 vaccination activities - [link](#)
- Analysing and using routine data to monitor the effects of COVID-19 on essential health services: practical guide for national and subnational decision-makers - [link](#)
- Interim recommendations for use of the Pfizer–BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, BNT162b2, under Emergency Use Listing - [link](#)
- Genomic sequencing of SARS-CoV-2: a guide to implementation for maximum impact on public health - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 genomic sequencing for public health goals: Interim guidance, 8 January 2021 - [link](#)
- mRNA-1273 vaccine (Moderna) against COVID-19 background doc: draft prepared by the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization Working Group on COVID-19 vaccines, [19 January 2021](#)

Europe

EMA

- Global regulators highlight key role of healthcare professionals in fostering confidence in COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

UK

-CEBM

- Baricitinib summary - [link](#)
- Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB)
- Oxygen issues during COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- NHS England
- SOP COVID-19 vaccine deployment [programme](#): Frontline social care workers
- Instruction on timing of second dose of COVID-19 vaccinations - [link](#)
- NICE
- COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: Tocilizumab for COVID-19 (15/01/2021) [[ES33](#)]
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society, the Pharmaceutical Journal
- Everything you need to know about the COVID-19 therapy trials - [link](#)
- Ten things pharmacists should know about COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK
- Reporting suspected COVID-19 vaccine side effects, and potential product defects or counterfeit products - [link](#)

USA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- ASHP discussion forum ([Sign up](#) for free) recent topics of discussion include: Moderna vaccine (syringe stability; doses dependent on needle gauge used; 2nd dose in patients COVID-19+; muscle fasciculation cases); Vaccinating inpatients; Bamlanivimab
- CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
- Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis after Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 14–23, 2020 - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Allergy – European Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

- EAACI statement on the diagnosis, management and prevention of severe allergic reactions to COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines: Much Accomplished, Much to Learn - [link](#)

Australia and New Zealand Journal of Public Health

- Communications in the time of a pandemic: readability of documents for public consumption - [link](#)

BMJ

- Editorial: Vaccinating against covid-19 in people who report allergies – [link](#)

- Analysis: Mitigating ethnic disparities in covid-19 and beyond - [link](#)

- What we know about covid-19 reinfection so far – [link](#)

- News: Covid-19: What new variants are emerging and how are they being investigated? - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Care bundles for improving outcomes in patients with COVID-19 or related conditions in intensive care – a rapid scoping [review](#)

Special collections updates from 7/1/2021: [support for wellbeing in the healthcare workforce](#); [evidence relevant to critical care](#); [regional anaesthesia to reduce drug use in anaesthesia and avoid aerosol generation](#); [infection control and prevention measures](#); [remote care through telehealth](#); [evidence relevant to clinical rehabilitation](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- A prospective, observational study to evaluate adverse drug reactions in patients with COVID-19 treated with remdesivir or hydroxychloroquine: a preliminary [report](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Gut and glucose: an unusual first presentation of COVID-19 - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: Funding of Pharmaceutical Innovation During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic - [link](#)

- Effect of Discontinuing vs Continuing Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors and Angiotensin II Receptor Blockers on Days Alive and Out of the Hospital in Patients Admitted with COVID-19: [RCT](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Clinical Characteristics and Outcomes of Hospitalized Women Giving Birth With and Without COVID-19 - [link](#)

- Comparison of Saliva and Nasopharyngeal Swab Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing for Detection of SARS-CoV-2: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

- Risk Factors Associated With All-Cause 30-Day Mortality in Nursing Home Residents With COVID-19 - [link](#)

Journal of Inflammation Research

- Understanding COVID-19 Pandemic: Molecular Mechanisms and Potential Therapeutic Strategies. An Evidence-Based Review - [link](#)

Journal of Perioperative Practice

- Awareness of Human Factors in the operating theatres during the COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)

Lancet

- Editorial: Vitamin D and COVID-19: why the controversy? – [link](#)

- Medium-term effects of SARS-CoV-2 infection on multiple vital organs, exercise capacity, cognition, quality of life and mental health, post-hospital discharge - [link](#)

- Correspondence: Thromboses and COVID-19: reducing inflammation in addition to thromboprophylaxis - [link](#)

- Assessing the importance of interleukin-6 in COVID-19 – [correspondence](#) & authors' [reply](#)

- Renin–angiotensin system blockers and susceptibility to COVID-19: an international, open science, cohort analysis - [link](#)

- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the detection and management of colorectal cancer in England: a population-based study - [link](#)
- Clinical characteristics and outcomes of COVID-19 in haematopoietic stem-cell transplantation recipients: an observational cohort study - [link](#)
- Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on primary care-recorded mental illness and self-harm episodes in the UK: a population-based cohort study - [link](#)
- Development and validation of the ISARIC 4C Deterioration model for adults hospitalised with COVID-19: a prospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Prevalence and risk factors for delirium in critically ill patients with COVID-19 (COVID-D): a multicentre cohort study - [link](#)
- The effect of early treatment with ivermectin on viral load, symptoms & humoral response in patients with non-severe COVID-19: A pilot, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized clinical trial - [link](#)

MJA

- COVID-19 safety: aerosol-generating procedures and cardiothoracic surgery and anaesthesia — Australian and New Zealand [consensus statement](#)
- Outcomes for patients with COVID-19 admitted to Australian intensive care units during the first four months of the pandemic - [link](#)
- Perspective: COVID-19 and residential aged care: priorities for optimising preparation and management of outbreaks - [link](#)
- Letter in reply: Consensus statement: Safe Airway Society principles of airway management and tracheal intubation specific to the COVID-19 adult patient group - [link](#)
- Pre-print: High rate of persistent symptoms up to 4 months after community and hospital-managed SARS-CoV-2 infection - [link](#)

Nature

- Duration and key determinants of infectious virus shedding in hospitalized patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Psychological characteristics associated with COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and resistance in Ireland and the United Kingdom - [link](#)
- Perspective: Looking beyond COVID-19 vaccine phase 3 trials - [link](#)

NEJM

- A Neutralizing Monoclonal Antibody for Hospitalized Patients with Covid-19 - [link](#)
- Perspective: Vaccinating Children against Covid-19 — The Lessons of Measles - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Factors Associated With Severe SARS-CoV-2 Infection - [link](#)
- Acute ANCA Vasculitis and Asymptomatic COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Enrolling Minors in COVID-19 Vaccine Trials - [link](#)

PLOS Medicine

- Comparative efficacy and safety of pharmacological interventions for the treatment of COVID-19: A systematic review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)

Vaccine

- Commentary: Anaphylactic reactions to novel mRNA SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

AHHA

- AHHA Healthcare in Brief (15 January 2021) - [link](#)

NSW Health Intranet

- [Safety Notice 001/21](#): Discontinuation of nifedipine immediate release products (update) - [link](#)
- [Safety Information 001/21](#): Minimising the risks of serious harm while switching antipsychotics
- Wellness and Reablement in Aged Care - [link](#)
- Framework for Termination of Pregnancy in New South Wales - [link](#)

TGA

- Registration of [new or extended uses](#) of registered medicine:
- Insulin degludec; liraglutide (XULTOPHY) - as an adjunct to diet and exercise for the treatment of adults with T2DM to improve glycaemic control in combination with metformin, with or without other oral glucose-lowering medicinal products
- Ciclosporin (IKERVIS) - for treatment of severe keratitis in adult patients with dry eye disease which has not improved despite treatment with tear substitutes.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Reducing inappropriate outpatient medication prescribing in older adults across electronic health record systems - [link](#)
- Algorithmic prediction of failure modes in healthcare - [link](#)
- Observational study of drug formulation manipulation in pediatric versus adult inpatients - [link](#)
- Treatments for Acute Pain: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Acute Treatments for Episodic Migraine - [link](#)
- Out-of-Pocket Spending for Retail Prescribed Drugs by Age and Type of Prescription Drug Coverage - [link](#)

Bowel Interest Group

- Cost of Constipation [Report](#)

Center for Implementation (TCI)

- Core Competencies for Implementation Practice - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- [Vericiguat](#) (Verquvo™) a soluble guanylate cyclase (sGC) stimulator, indicated to reduce the risk of cardiovascular death and heart failure (HF) hospitalization following a hospitalization for HF or need for outpatient IV diuretics, in adults with symptomatic chronic HF and ejection fraction less than 45%.

Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch

- National Learning Report: Support for staff following patient safety incidents - [link](#)

Open Access Text Book

- Textbook of Patient Safety and Clinical Risk Management - [link](#)

Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK

- Management of osteoporosis and the prevention of fragility fractures - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) NHS UK

- PGD template for the administration of benzylpenicillin injection - [link](#)

The King's Fund (UK)

- Brexit and the end of the transition period: what does it mean for the health and care system? - [link](#)

WHO

- Policy [brief](#): Access to assistive technology
- Guidelines for establishing a poison centre - [link](#)
- Action framework for developing and implementing public food procurement and service policies for a healthy diet - [link](#)
- WHO Pharmaceuticals Newsletter - [N°6, 2020](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- [Cyclopentolate Hydrochloride](#) 0.5%, Eye drops solution, Minims - Seizures, necrotising colitis, anaphylactic reaction/shock added as adverse effects.

- Neulasta ([pegfilgrastim](#)) products - now includes data from post-marketing observational study of pegfilgrastim in conjunction with chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy showing link to development of myelodysplastic syndrome and acute myeloid leukaemia in breast and lung cancer patients.
- Busilvex ([busulfan](#)) solution for infusion - updated to note increases in busulfan exposure have been observed when administered concomitantly with deferasirox. In those who are or have recently been treated with deferasirox, regularly monitor busulfan plasma concentrations and adjust dose if necessary.
- Darzalex ([daratumumab](#))- updated to include cytomegalovirus infection as an adverse effect (1% incidence).
- Imbruvica ([ibrutinib](#)) - updated to note that cases of hepatitis E, which may be chronic, have occurred in patients treated with ibrutinib. Monitor patients for abnormal liver function tests.
- Rifadin ([rifampicin](#))- updated to note that as rifampicin is a potent inducer of drug metabolizing enzymes and transporters, it may increase the activity of a co-administered pro-drug, where metabolic activation is required.
- Mezavant XL ([mesalazine](#))- now includes hepatotoxicity as adverse event (unknown frequency).
- Yervoy ([ipilimumab](#))- now includes warnings regarding increased risk of solid organ transplant rejection and haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH). Caution is advised as HLH has been observed with ipilimumab both as monotherapy and in combination with a PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibitor.
- Gilenya ([fingolimod hydrochloride](#))- now includes acute hepatic failure as adverse effect (unknown frequency).
- Orkambi ([ivacaftor/lumacaftor](#)) – now includes bronchospasm as a common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$) adverse reaction.
- Granocyte ([lenograstim](#)) pre-filled syringe - now highlights that cases of venous thromboembolism & arterial thromboembolism (e.g. myocardial infarction & cerebrovascular event) have been reported in donors treated with lenograstim. Closely monitor donors and patients with known risk factors.
- [Propylthiouracil](#) - now notes that hypersensitivity reactions can occur, which may be associated with the development of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA).
- Stelara ([ustekinumab](#)) - Hypersensitivity added as a rare potential adverse effect.
- Educational Risk Minimisation Materials for Medabon Combipack ([mifepristone 200 mg tablet and misoprostol 4 x 0.2 mg vaginal tablets](#)) combination therapy for medical abortion.

EMA

- Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) concludes evaluation of risk of acute adrenal insufficiency in children when switching to Alkindi (hydrocortisone) granules - [link](#)

TGA

- Safety advisory: Medicines containing *Eucommia ulmoides* (known as Du-Zhong or Tu-chung)- contains latex - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

Australian Health Review

- Medicine shortages: there are solutions! - [link](#)
- The effect of a state hospital formulary on medicines utilisation and implications for medicines policy in Australia - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Letter: Increasing pharmacotherapy safety at physicians' career start—Presentation of a 10-item list with helpful hints - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- GPs' insights about discontinuing long-term antidepressant use: a qualitative study - [link](#)
- Does methenamine hippurate decrease urinary tract symptoms in community adult women: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

British Journal of Sports Medicine

- Acute glycaemic management before, during and after exercise for cardiac rehabilitation participants with diabetes mellitus: a joint statement of the British and Canadian Associations of Cardiovascular

Prevention and Rehabilitation, the International Council for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation and the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Clinical review: Management of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease - [link](#)
- Electronic health record alerts for acute kidney injury: multicenter, randomized clinical trial – [link](#)
- Home and Online Management and Evaluation of Blood Pressure (HOME BP) using a digital intervention in poorly controlled hypertension: randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

BMJ Heart

- Long-term survival benefit of ramipril in patients with acute myocardial infarction complicated by heart failure - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Effect of the vancomycin minimum inhibitory concentration on clinical outcomes in patients with methicillin-susceptible Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia: a [systematic review and meta-analysis](#)
- Acute pain management among patients with opioid maintenance therapy: specificities and difficulties identified in primary care: a qualitative study – [link](#)

Circulation

- Clinical Efficacy and Safety of Alirocumab after Acute Coronary Syndrome According to Achieved Level of Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol: A Propensity Score-Matched Analysis of the ODYSSEY OUTCOMES Trial - [link](#)
- Apixaban or Vitamin K Antagonists and Aspirin or Placebo According to Kidney Function in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation after Acute Coronary Syndrome or PCI: Insights from The AUGUSTUS [Trial](#)

Clinics in Geriatric Medicine – Gastroenterology edition

- Esophageal and Gastric Motility Disorders in the Elderly - [link](#)
- Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease and Barrett Esophagus in the Elderly - [link](#)
- Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs, Anticoagulation, and Upper Gastrointestinal Bleeding - [link](#)
- Managing Gallstone Disease in the Elderly - [link](#)
- Fecal Incontinence in the Elderly - [link](#)
- Evaluation and Treatment of Constipation in the Geriatric Population - [link](#)
- Common Diarrheal Illnesses in the Elderly - [link](#)
- Functional Bowel Disease - [link](#)
- Nutrition and Weight Management in the Elderly - [link](#)
- Diverticulosis, Diverticulitis, and Diverticular Bleeding - [link](#)
- Upper Gastrointestinal Bleeding - [link](#)
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease in the Older Adult - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Antibiotic therapy versus no antibiotic therapy for children aged 2 to 59 months with WHO-defined non-severe pneumonia and wheeze - [link](#)
- Thrombolytic strategies versus standard anticoagulation for acute deep vein thrombosis of the lower limb - [link](#)
- Immediate-release methylphenidate for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in adults - [link](#)
- Long-term effects of weight-reducing drugs in people with hypertension - [link](#)
- Atovaquone-proguanil for treating uncomplicated Plasmodium falciparum malaria - [link](#)
- Indomethacin for symptomatic patent ductus arteriosus in preterm infants - [link](#)
- Prophylactic antibiotics for adults with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Durable Effects of iGlarLixi Up to 52 Weeks in Type 2 Diabetes: The LixiLan-G Extension [Study](#)

European Heart Journal

- Alcohol consumption, cardiac biomarkers, and risk of atrial fibrillation and adverse outcomes - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Identification and safe storage of look-alike, sound-alike medicines in automated dispensing cabinets - [link](#)
- Severe and fatal medication errors in hospitals: findings from the Norwegian Incident Reporting System - [link](#)

Health Expectations

- Views about integrating smoking cessation treatment within psychological services for patients with common mental illness: A multi-perspective qualitative study - [link](#)
- Providing culturally safe care to Indigenous people living with diabetes: Identifying barriers and enablers from different perspectives - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Dialysis and driving: An anonymous survey of patients receiving dialysis for end stage kidney disease - [link](#)
- Communicating deprescribing decisions made in hospital with general practitioners in the community: a qualitative study - [link](#)
- Documentation of Adverse Drug Reactions to Opioids in an Electronic Health Record – [link](#)
- Alcohol Misuse and Critical Care Admissions in the Northern Territory. - [link](#)
- Safety of RAPid INJECTIon of Undiluted Ferric Carboxymaltose to Patients with Iron Deficiency Anaemia (RAPINJECT): A Phase II Single Arm study - [link](#)
- Barriers and challenges of returning patients back to community after renal transplantation in Central Australia - [link](#)
- Demystifying machine learning – a primer for physicians - [link](#)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis: a canary in the mine for mental health disorders? - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Duloxetine for the reduction of opioid use in elective orthopedic surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Medication reconciliation in the geriatric unit: impact on the maintenance of post-hospitalization prescriptions - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Measurement and Monitoring Patient Safety in Prehospital Care: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Does Implementation of a Tailored Intervention Increase Adherence to a National Safety and Quality Standard? A Study to Improve Delirium Care - [link](#)
- An Evidence-Based Oxytocin Protocol for the Third Stage of Labor to Improve Hemorrhage Outcomes - [link](#)
- Patient-Reported Outcome Measures in Mental Health Clinical Research: A Descriptive Review in Comparison with Clinician-Rated Outcome Measures - [link](#)

JAMA

- The Pharmacologic Treatment of Schizophrenia—2021 - [link](#)
- Effect of Oral Moxifloxacin vs Intravenous Ertapenem Plus Oral Levofloxacin for Treatment of Uncomplicated Acute Appendicitis: The APPAC II Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#) ([Editorial](#) - Evolving Issues in the Use of Antibiotics for the Treatment of Uncomplicated Appendicitis)
- Effect of Endovascular Treatment Alone vs Intravenous Alteplase Plus Endovascular Treatment on Functional Independence in Patients With Acute Ischemic Stroke: The DEVT Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Effect of Mechanical Thrombectomy Without vs With Intravenous Thrombolysis on Functional Outcome Among Patients With Acute Ischemic Stroke: The SKIP Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Interventions for Tobacco Cessation in Adults, Including Pregnant Persons: Updated Evidence Report and Systematic Review for the US Preventive Services Task Force - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Assessing the Risks of Bleeding vs Thrombotic Events in Patients at High Bleeding Risk after Coronary Stent Implantation: The ARC–High Bleeding Risk Trade-off Model - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Genetics of Smoking and Risk of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Diseases: A Mendelian Randomization Study - [link](#)

- Evaluation of Aspirin Use with Cancer Incidence and Survival among Older Adults in the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal, and Ovarian Cancer Screening Trial - [link](#)
- Association of Immunosuppression and Viral Load with Subcortical Brain Volume in an International Sample of People Living With HIV - [link](#)
- Safety, Reactogenicity, and Health-Related Quality of Life after Trivalent Adjuvanted vs Trivalent High-Dose Inactivated Influenza Vaccines in Older Adults: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Association of Pertuzumab, Trastuzumab, and Docetaxel Combination Therapy with Overall Survival in Patients with Metastatic Breast Cancer - [link](#)
- Evaluation of Dietary Niacin and New-Onset Hypertension among Chinese Adults - [link](#)
- Characterization of Ebola Virus–Associated Eye Disease - [link](#)
- Association of Gabapentinoids With the Risk of Opioid-Related Adverse Events in Surgical Patients in the United States - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Findings of Efficacy, Safety, and Biomarker Outcomes of Atabecestat in Preclinical Alzheimer Disease: A Truncated Randomized Phase 2b/3 Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Association of Pharmacological Interventions with Symptom Burden Reduction in Patients with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Comparison of Systemic Treatments for Metastatic Castration-Sensitive Prostate Cancer: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Frequency of and Factors Associated With Nonmedical Opioid Use Behavior Among Patients with Cancer Receiving Opioids for Cancer Pain - [link](#)

JAMA Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery

- Association of Prolonged-Duration Chemoprophylaxis with Venous Thromboembolism in High-Risk Patients With Head and Neck Cancer - [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Association of Cannabis Use with Self-harm and Mortality Risk among Youths with Mood Disorders - [link](#)
- Risk of Substance Use Disorder and Its Associations With Comorbidities and Psychotropic Agents in Patients With Autism - [link](#)

JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)

- Telemedicine, privacy, and information security in the age of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Clinician involvement in research on machine learning–based predictive clinical decision support for the hospital setting: A scoping review - [link](#)
- A comparison of general and disease-specific machine learning models for the prediction of unplanned hospital readmissions - [link](#)
- Building longitudinal medication dose data using medication information extracted from clinical notes in electronic health records - [link](#)
- Building the evidence-base to reduce electronic health record–related clinician burden - [link](#)
- Electronic health records and clinician burnout: A story of three eras - [link](#)
- Measurement of clinical documentation burden among physicians and nurses using electronic health records: a scoping review - [link](#)
- Persistent inequitable design and implementation of patient portals for users at the margins - [link](#)
- The burden of the digital environment: a systematic review on organization-directed workplace interventions to mitigate physician burnout - [link](#)
- Evaluation of electronic health record-integrated digital health tools to engage hospitalized patients in discharge preparation - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Development and Validation of a Risk Tool for Predicting Severe Toxicity in Older Adults Receiving Chemotherapy for Early-Stage Breast Cancer - [link](#)

Journal of Palliative Medicine

- Deficiencies with the Use of Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in Cancer Pain Management: A Report of Two Cases - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- A snapshot of the prescribing patterns and off-label use of gabapentinoid agents in tertiary care: a retrospective, cross-sectional, descriptive study - [link](#)

Lancet

- Machine learning-based prediction of adverse events following an acute coronary syndrome (PRAISE): a modelling study of pooled datasets - [link](#)
- The effect of vitamin D supplementation on acute respiratory tract infection in older Australian adults: an analysis of data from the D-Health Trial - [link](#)
- Effect of denosumab on osteolytic lesion activity after total hip arthroplasty: a single-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, proof of concept trial - [link](#)
- The metformin in tuberous sclerosis (MiTS) study: A randomised double-blind placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)
- Acrolein and other toxicant exposures in relation to cardiovascular disease among marijuana and tobacco smokers in a longitudinal cohort of HIV-positive and negative adults - [link](#)
- Mifepristone followed by misoprostol compared with placebo followed by misoprostol as medical treatment for early pregnancy loss (the Triple M trial): A double-blind placebo-controlled randomised trial - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Pilot Study of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) Cessation Methods - [link](#)
- Use of Alfentanil in Palliative Care - [link](#)
- Implementation of Smart Infusion Pumps: A Scoping Review and Case Study Discussion of the Evidence of the Role of the Pharmacist - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Education: Sudden onset vision loss: an atypical presentation of giant cell arteritis and myeloproliferative neoplasm - [link](#)
- The prevalence and impact of unprofessional behaviour among hospital workers: a survey in seven Australian hospitals - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Sotagliflozin in Patients with Diabetes and Recent Worsening Heart Failure - [link](#)
- Sotagliflozin in Patients with Diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease - [link](#)
- Bupropion and Naltrexone in Methamphetamine Use Disorder - [link](#)
- Editorial: Polypills — A Central Strategy for Improving Cardiovascular Health - [link](#)
- Review article: Ewing's Sarcoma - [link](#)
- Review article: Postinfectious Epigenetic Immune Modifications — A Double-Edged Sword - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Comparison of Manual and Automated Sepsis Screening Tools in a Pediatric Emergency Department - [link](#)
- Standard versus Long Peripheral Catheters for Multiday IV Therapy: A Randomized Controlled [Trial](#)
- Use of E-cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products and Progression to Daily Cigarette Smoking - [link](#)
- Implementation of a Standardized Approach to Improve the Pediatric Discharge Medication Process - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Association of proton pump inhibitor use with endothelial function and metabolites of the nitric oxide pathway: a cross-sectional study - [link](#)
- Predictors of a Response to Dexmedetomidine in Intubated, Critically Ill Adult Patients - [link](#)
- Cisplatin-Induced Nephrotoxicity in an Outpatient Setting - [link](#)
- Performance of nasal methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus screening for intra-abdominal infections in critically ill adult patients - [link](#)
- Methadone-Associated QT Interval Prolongation in Patients Undergoing Maintenance Therapy in an Urban Opioid Treatment Program - [link](#)
- Immunosuppression considerations in simultaneous organ transplant - [link](#)

Prescribe

- Adverse effects of cancer drugs: often downplayed in articles reporting results of clinical trials - [link](#)
- Treatment-resistant depression: avoid esketamine (Spravato®) - [link](#)
- SSRI antidepressants & pregnancy: long-term neuropsychiatric disorders in exposed children? - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Assessing the risk of ketoacidosis due to sodium-glucose cotransporter (SGLT)-2 inhibitors in patients with type 1 diabetes: A meta-analysis and meta-regression - [link](#)

Thrombosis and Haemostasis

- Use of Non-vitamin K Antagonist Oral Anticoagulants for Stroke Prevention across the Stroke Spectrum: Progress and Prospects - [link](#)
- Specific Point-of-Care Testing of Coagulation in Patients Treated with Dabigatran - [link](#)

TAG Mail – 14 Jan 2021

COVID-19 RESOURCES & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please click this [link](#) for the cumulative listing of COVID-19 resources in past TAG Mails.

AUSTRALIAN

Australian Government Department of Health

- Australia's Epidemiology and COVID-19 Vaccine Roadmap - [link](#)

National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

- New and Updated recommendations as at [17/12/2020](#)
- Statement on media release from REMAP-CAP, ACTIV-4 and ATTACC trials re anticoagulation [24/12/2020](#)
- New Recommendations: Interferon β -1a (inhaled), Peginterferon lambda
- Updated Recommendations: remdesivir for adults, remdesivir for pregnant or breastfeeding women, interferon β -1a, human umbilical cord mesenchymal stem cell, sofosbuvir-daclatasvir,

NSW Health

- COVID-19 variant - [link](#)

NSW Health Critical Intelligence Unit – Evidence checks

- Ivermectin and COVID-19 - [link](#)

NPS MedicineWise

- COVID-19 vaccines – are we there yet? - [link](#)
- Dexamethasone reduces mortality in patients seriously ill with COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Vaccines and COVID-19 - [link](#)

INTERNATIONAL

WHO

- Therapeutics and COVID-19 Living Guidelines [17 December 2020](#)
- A year without precedent: WHO's COVID-19 response - [link](#)
- Timeline: WHO's COVID-19 response - [link](#)
- Vaccine related topics: Journey of a vaccine - [link](#); Covid Vaccine Facts with the WHO's Dr. Kate O'Brien - [link](#); WHO issues its first emergency use validation for a COVID-19 vaccine and emphasizes need for equitable global access - [link](#)
- 'Science in 5' webinar series
- Episode 17 [Vaccine approvals](#); Episode 18 [Immunity after recovery from COVID-19](#); Episode 19 [Prolonged symptoms after COVID-19](#); Episode 20 [Variants & Vaccines](#)
- 'Explainers series' – Vaccine development and distribution
- [Part 1](#) How do vaccines work, [Part 2](#) How are vaccines developed? [Part 3](#) Manufacturing, safety and quality control of vaccines.

Canada

Health Canada

--Drug and Vaccine authorizations for COVID-19: Authorization with terms and conditions for bamlanivimab and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine - [link](#)

Europe

EMA

- EMA recommends COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna for authorisation in the EU - [link](#)

- Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine - updated product information to clarify that each vial contains 6 doses of vaccine - [link](#)

UK

-Care Quality Commission

-- COVID-19 Insight: Issue 6 - [link](#)

-Department of Health and Social Care

-- Prioritising the first COVID-19 vaccine dose: JCVI statement - [link](#)

-GOV.UK

-- Information on the new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus - [link](#)

-NHS England

-- COVID-19 Vaccine Oxford AstraZeneca – movement of vaccine - [link](#)

-- Community pharmacy local enhanced service – coronavirus vaccination - [link](#)

-- Guidance: Patient Group Direction for COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca, (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) - [link](#)

-MHRA

-- Interim Position Statement Interleukin-6 inhibitors (tocilizumab or sarilumab) for patients admitted to ICU with COVID-19 pneumonia (adults) - [link](#)

-- COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer/BioNTech and COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca): current advice - [link](#)

-- Regulatory approval of COVID-19 Vaccine [Moderna](#) and [AstraZeneca](#)

-- Information for Healthcare Professionals on COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca - [link](#)

-- How tests and testing kits for coronavirus (COVID-19) work - [link](#)

-- Access Consortium statement on COVID-19 vaccines evidence - [link](#)

- NICE

-- COVID-19 rapid guidelines: Managing the long-term effects of COVID-19 ([NG188](#)); Vitamin D ([NG187](#))

-Public Health England

-- COVID-19 vaccination: information for healthcare practitioners - [link](#)

-- National protocol for COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) - [link](#)

-- National protocol for COVID-19 mRNA vaccine BNT162b2 (Pfizer/BioNTech) - [link](#)

-- COVID-19: pre-existing health conditions and ethnicity - [link](#)

-- Safety of COVID-19 vaccines when given in pregnancy guidance – [link](#)

- Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (UK)

-- National guidance for the recovery of elective surgery in children - [link](#)

-- National guidance for the management of children with bronchiolitis and lower respiratory tract infections during COVID-19 - [link](#)

-Royal Pharmaceutical Society – the Pharmaceutical Journal

-- The pandemic's challenge to evidence-based medicine shows off-label use is an important [tool](#)

-Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) Healthcare Improvement Scotland

-- Managing the long-term effects of COVID-19 guidelines - [link](#)

-Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) NHS England

-- Answering your questions and getting in touch about the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme - [link](#)

-- Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine: Preparation in Trusts - [link](#); Vaccine Formulation information - [link](#);

Transporting Vaccine from PCN Designated Sites to end user location - [link](#)

-- Summary of [COVID-19 medicines guidance updates](#) to the following topics: Allergy and immunology, Renal and urologic disorders, Haematological disorders, Obstetrics and gynaecology, Mental health and illness, Cardiovascular system disorders, Diabetes and more...

USA

-FDA

-- FDA Statement on Following the Authorized Dosing Schedules for COVID-19 Vaccines - [link](#)

-- Alert Regarding SARS-CoV-2 Viral Mutation to Health Care Providers & Clinical Lab Staff - [link](#)

- Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions - [link](#)
- The Joint Commission
- Joint Commission questionnaire identifies COVID-19 impact, challenges and needs among health care organizations - [link](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)

- Leveraging pharmacists to maintain and extend buprenorphine supply for opioid use disorder amid COVID-19 pandemic - [link](#)
- Application of emergency preparedness principles to a pharmacy department's approach to a "black swan" event—COVID-19 - [link](#)
- A survey of US hospitals' criteria for the allocation of remdesivir to treat COVID-19 - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- COVID-19 Vaccine: Promoting Vaccine Acceptance - [link](#)

BMJ

- Practice Pointer: Returning to physical activity after covid-19 - [link](#)
- Impact of cardiovascular disease and risk factors on fatal outcomes in patients with COVID-19 according to age: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- A living WHO guideline on drugs for covid-19 – [link](#)

BioMedCentral

- Corticosteroid use in COVID-19 patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis on clinical outcomes - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- INHALEd nebulised unfractionated HEParin for the treatment of hospitalised patients with COVID-19 (INHALE-HEP): Protocol and Statistical Analysis Plan for an investigator-initiated international meta-trial of randomised studies - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Renin-angiotensin system inhibitors for treating COVID-19 in adults - [link](#)

Critical Care

- Corticosteroid use in COVID-19 patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis on clinical outcomes - [link](#)

European Journal of Medical Research

- Review: Airborne transmission of COVID-19 and the role of face mask to prevent it: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- COVID-19 emergencies around the globe: China's experience in controlling COVID-19 and lessons learned - [link](#)

JAMA

- Viewpoint: Genetic Variants of SARS-CoV-2—What Do They Mean? - [link](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 Transmission From People Without COVID-19 Symptoms - [link](#)

Lancet

- Prevalence and risk factors for delirium in critically ill patients with COVID-19 (COVID-D): a multicentre cohort study - [link](#)
- 6-month consequences of COVID-19 in patients discharged from hospital: a cohort study - [link](#)
- Continuation versus discontinuation of renin–angiotensin system inhibitors in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19: a prospective, randomised, open-label trial - [link](#)

medRxiv

- Pre-print: Vitamin D supplementation to prevent acute respiratory infections: systematic review and meta-analysis of aggregate data from randomised controlled trials - [link](#)

-Pre-print: Interleukin-6 Receptor Antagonists in Critically Ill Patients with Covid-19 – Preliminary report - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Efficacy and Safety of the mRNA-1273 SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine - [link](#)
- Safety and Efficacy of the BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine - [link](#)
- Interim Results of a Phase 1–2a Trial of Ad26.COV2.S Covid-19 Vaccine - [link](#)
- Early High-Titer Plasma Therapy to Prevent Severe Covid-19 in Older Adults - [link](#)
- Tocilizumab in Patients Hospitalized with Covid-19 Pneumonia - [link](#)
- Review article: Maintaining Safety with SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines - [link](#)

Pharmacy

- In the Eye of the Storm: The Role of the Pharmacist in Medication Safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic at an Urban Teaching Hospital - [link](#)

Thorax

- COVID-19, immunothrombosis and venous thromboembolism: biological mechanisms - [link](#)
- Current smoking and COVID-19 risk: results from a population symptom app in over 2.4 million people - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists & Faculty of Pain Medicine (ANZCA)

- Acute Pain Management: Scientific Evidence 5th edition - [link](#)

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Introducing iTRACC 2.0 - Supporting trauma, retrieval and critical care across NSW - [link](#)
- Consumer fact sheets: blood and marrow transplant - [link](#)

AHHA

- Understanding My Healthcare Rights: a guide for consumers – [link](#); a summary booklet - [link](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)

- new resources for consumers on the [Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights](#) (the Charter). The resources, a detailed [guide](#) and a summary [booklet](#), are designed to support consumers to better understand their healthcare rights and what they can expect from the Australian healthcare system

MIMS monthly updates – [January 2021](#)

- New products include: Caplacizumab (Cablivi), Melatonin (Slenyto)
- Products with new indications: Dapagliflozin (Forxiga), Ustekinumab (Stelara)

NSW Health Intranet

- Information Bulletins:
 - Outpatient Pharmaceutical Arrangements and the Life Savings Drugs Program (IB2020_047) - [link](#)
 - Pharmaceutical Charges for Hospital Outpatients and Safety Net Thresholds (IB2020_048) - [link](#)
- Policy directive: Authorised Nurse Immunisers (PD2020_050) updated - [link](#)
- NSW Aboriginal Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2020-2025 - [link](#)
- Annual Report 2019-20 - [link](#)

PBS

- Post-market review of the use of biologics in the treatment of severe chronic plaque psoriasis - [link](#)
- Recommendations made by the PBAC – [link](#)

Pharmacy Council of NSW

- Applying the poisons legislation – practical tips - [link](#)

TGA

- Community Q&A: Modafinil: Why 'smart drugs' are not the brightest option - [link](#)
- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages
- Notice of final decision to amend the current Poisons Standard - [nicotine](#)

- TGA confirms nicotine e-cigarette access is by prescription only - [link](#)
- AusPARs:
 - [Iodised oil](#) (Lipiodol Ultra Fluid®) - imaging agent for visualisation and localisation during Trans-Arterial Chemo-Embolisation of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) at intermediate stage in adults
 - [Influenza virus haemagglutinin](#) (Flucelvax Quad®) vaccine - for adults & children 9 years and older
 - [Larotrectinib](#) (Vitrakvi®) - for locally advanced or metastatic solid tumours that have a NTRK gene fusion without a known acquired resistance mutation, are metastatic or where surgical resection is likely to result in severe morbidity, and have either progressed following treatment or have no satisfactory alternative therapy.

Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine

- Clinical Communiqué Volume 7 Issue 4 [December 2020](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Treatments for Acute Pain: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Acute Treatments for Episodic Migraine - [link](#)
- Diagnostic Errors in the Emergency Department: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Interventional Treatments for Acute and Chronic Pain: Systematic Review - [link](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Rapid response
- Intrathecal Dexamethasone for Chronic Pain and Spinal Stenosis: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Antidepressants Administered using Weight-Based Dosing Strategies for Depression: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Internet-Delivered Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Chronic Pain: Clinical Effectiveness - [link](#)
- Closed-System Drug-Transfer Devices for Chemotherapeutic Drugs: Safety and Guidelines - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- New products
- Fintepla ([fenfluramine](#)) oral solution - for seizures associated with Dravet syndrome as an add-on therapy to other anti-epileptic medicines for patients ≥ 2 years of age
- Phesgo ([pertuzumab/trastuzumab](#)) - for use in combination with chemotherapy in neoadjuvant & adjuvant setting in treatment of HER2-positive, early breast cancer and in combination with docetaxel in HER2-positive metastatic or locally recurrent unresectable breast cancer.
- [Tecartus](#) (autologous anti-CD19-transduced CD3+ cells) for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma after two or more lines of systemic therapy including a Bruton's tyrosine kinase inhibitor.
- Velphoro ([sucroferric oxyhydroxide](#)) oral powder - for control of serum phosphorus levels in adult CKD patients on haemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis and in paediatric patients age ≥ 2 years with CKD stages 4-5 or with CKD on dialysis.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA Approves First Generic of Drug Used to Treat Severe Hypoglycemia (Glucagon) - [link](#)
- New Drug approvals
 - [Tirbanibulin](#) (Klisyri) - to treat actinic Keratosis of the face or scalp. Drug Trials Snapshot [link](#)
 - [Margetuximab](#) (Margetenza) - to treat HER2+ breast cancer. Drug Trials Snapshot [link](#)
 - [Relugolix](#) (Orgovyx) - to treat advanced prostate cancer. Drug Trials Snapshot [link](#)
 - [Ansuvimab-zykl](#) (Ebanga) - to treat ebola
 - [Vibegron](#) (Gemtesa) - to treat overactive bladder
 - [Selinexor](#) (Xpovio) – for refractory or relapsed multiple myeloma
 - [Osimertinib](#) (Tagrisso) – adjuvant therapy for non-small cell lung cancer with EGFR mutations

Institute for Healthcare Improvement

- Building Health-Creating Systems - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- An Evidence-Based Oxytocin Protocol for the Third Stage of Labor to Improve Hemorrhage Outcomes - [link](#)
- Clinical handover and handoff in healthcare: a systematic review of systematic reviews - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of health consumer representative involvement in implementation of interventions to change health professional behaviour - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Type 1 diabetes in adults: diagnosis and management – guideline ([NG17](#))
- Type 2 diabetes in adults: management – guideline ([NG28](#))
- Diabetes in pregnancy: management from preconception to the postnatal period –guideline ([NG3](#))
- Diabetes (type 1 & type 2) in children & young people: diagnosis & management – guideline ([NG18](#))
- Eating disorders: recognition and treatment –guideline ([NG69](#))
- Suspected neurological conditions: recognition and referral ([QS198](#))
- Encorafenib plus cetuximab for previously treated BRAF V600E mutation-positive metastatic colorectal cancer – ([TA668](#))
- Antimicrobial prescribing: delafloxacin for acute bacterial skin and skin structure infections – evidence summary ([ES32](#))
- Antimicrobial prescribing: cefiderocol – evidence summary ([ES31](#))
- Pancreatitis – guidance ([NG104](#))

Public Health England

- Guidance on the hepatitis B antenatal screening and selective neonatal immunisation pathway - [link](#)
- Wound aware: a resource for commissioners and providers of drug services - [link](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- Pharmacist-led feedback for prescribers cuts errors in hospital, study suggests - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services

- Extended-release methylphenidate: A review of the pharmacokinetic profiles of available products - [link](#)

The King's Fund (UK)

- Community pharmacy explained - [link](#)
- 2020: the health policy year in 12 charts - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Assessing the magnitude and nature of shortages of essential medicines and vaccines: focus on the WHO European Region (2020) - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs
- Zytiga ([abiraterone acetate](#)) - anaphylactic reaction added as adverse effect
- Erleada ([apalutamide](#)) tablets - decreased appetite (very common frequency) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (unknown frequency) added as adverse events.
- Zithromax ([azithromycin dehydrate](#)) –updated to advise that limited published literature indicates azithromycin is present in human milk at an estimated highest median daily dose of 0.1 to 0.7 mg/kg/day; and no serious adverse effects on breast-fed infants observed.
- Madopar ([benserazide hydrochloride, levodopa](#)) prolonged release capsules - updated to note capsules contain soya oil, therefore contraindicated in patients allergic to peanut or soya.
- Zirabev ([bevacizumab](#)) - license extension for use in combination with paclitaxel, topotecan or pegylated liposomal doxorubicin for treatment of adults with platinum-resistant recurrent epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube, or primary peritoneal cancer under specific conditions.
- Biktarvy ([bictegravir/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide fumarate](#)) - Stevens - Johnson syndrome added as rare adverse event.
- Blincyto ([blinatumomab](#)) - indication updated to clarify that patients with Philadelphia chromosome positive B-precursor acute lymphoblastic leukaemia should have failed treatment with at least 2 tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) and have no alternative treatment options.

- Bosulif ([bosutinib](#)) - advises that exposure to direct sunlight or UV radiation should be avoided or minimised due to risk of photosensitivity.
- Dysport ([botulinum toxin A](#)) - hypoesthesia added as ADR (unknown frequency).
- Cortiment ([budesonide](#)) prolonged release tablets - provides details for use in the new indication of induction of remission in active microscopic colitis.
- Cipramil ([citalopram](#)) - includes warning that SSRIs/SNRIs may increase the risk of postpartum haemorrhage (observational data indicate an increased risk, less than 2-fold, following exposure within the month prior to birth).
- Glensoludex ([dexamethasone](#)) soluble tablets - croup added as an indication and a section on pheochromocytoma crisis also added. Additionally, added license for COVID-19 treatment in adult and adolescent patients (aged 12 years and older with body weight at least 40 kg) who require supplemental oxygen therapy.
- Triumeq ([dolutegravir/abacavir/lamivudine](#))- now states dolutegravir is excreted in human milk in small amounts and there is insufficient information on its effects in neonates/infants.
- Dupixent ([dupilumab](#))- indication extended for use in children aged 6 to 11 years, for the treatment of severe atopic dermatitis, if they are considered candidates for systemic therapy.
- Empliciti ([elotuzumab](#))- updated to advise women of childbearing potential use effective contraception during and for 120 days after treatment, dose for dexamethasone in combination with pomalidomide adjusted according to age, and to consult SPCs for other drugs in regimen before starting treatment.
- Innovace ([enalapril](#)) - advises that patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, total lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicine.
- Kalydeco ([ivacaftor](#)) – includes information on peak LFT elevations being generally higher in paediatric patients than in older patients.
- Kisplyx ([lenvatinib](#)) capsules – notes in trials for use in differentiated thyroid cancer, Asian patients had a 10% higher incidence of peripheral oedema, hypertension, fatigue, PPE, proteinuria, stomatitis, thrombocytopenia, and myalgia than Caucasians.
- Lorviqua ([lorlatinib](#)) - psychotic effects & changes in mental status added as adverse effects.
- Equasym ([methylphenidate](#)) - dysphemia (stuttering) added as adverse effect (unknown frequency).
- Sandostatin ([octreotide](#)) –includes warning for cholangitis. Cases have been reported as a complication of cholelithiasis in the post-marketing setting.
- Onpattro ([patisiran sodium](#)) infusion - pruritus added as an undesirable effect.
- Pegasys ([peginterferon alfa-2a](#)) - optic neuritis (inflammation of optic nerve) added as an undesirable effect (unknown frequency).
- Keytruda ([pembrolizumab](#)) - Sjogren's syndrome added as adverse event (frequency rare for monotherapy and in combination with chemotherapy and uncommon in combination with axitinib).
- Crinone [progesterone](#) Vaginal Gel - headache, somnolence, abdominal pain have been removed as common side effects. Now states it has no influence on the ability to drive and use machines.
- Zocor ([simvastatin](#)) – concomitant use of ticagrelor not recommended with doses of simvastatin greater than 40 mg due to increases in serum concentration of simvastatin, with a 2-to 3-fold increase in some individuals.
- Xyrem ([sodium oxybate](#)) oral solution - updated with paediatric license extension (treatment of narcolepsy with cataplexy in children from > 7 years); a warning regarding sleep apnoea with advice to monitor for respiratory depression and addition of anxiety, bipolar disorder and psychosis as adverse events
- Velphoro ([sucroferric oxyhydroxide](#)) - the indication for the control of serum phosphorus levels in patients with CKD stages 4-5 or with CKD on dialysis has been extended to include use in paediatric patients aged ≥ 2 years.
- OBIZUR ([susoctocog alfa](#)) - advises that during the course of treatment, appropriate determination of Factor VIII levels is recommended to guide the dose to be administered and the frequency of repeated infusions.
- Depakote and Epilim ([valproic acid and sodium valproate](#)) - notes the safety profile in paediatrics is comparable to adults, some reactions are more severe or principally observed in children, e.g. particular increased risk of severe liver damage, pancreatitis, and psychiatric disorders e.g. aggression.
- Betnesol-N ([neomycin sulfate betamethasone sodium phosphate](#)) Eye, Ear and Nose Drops - SPC highlights warnings of increased risk of ototoxicity with aminoglycosides administered to pts with mitochondrial mutations, particularly the m.1555A>G mutation, including cases where aminoglycoside levels were within recommended range (incidence unknown).

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA warns consumers to avoid certain male enhancement and weight loss products sold through Amazon, eBay and other retailers due to hidden, potentially dangerous drug ingredients - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Summary Safety Reviews:

- Tamiflu (oseltamivir) and generics - potential risk of bleeding (haemorrhage) - [link](#)
- Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) – potential safety issue: persistent, worsening or new symptoms of sexual problems (dysfunction) despite stopping treatment - [link](#)
- Tramadol-containing products – potential risk of hallucinations - [link](#)
- Carboplatin-containing products – potential risk of Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome (PRES), a rare and serious brain condition - [link](#)
- Safety Information on Suboxone (buprenorphine and naloxone) and the risk of overdose or underdose when switching between dosage forms or routes of administration - [link](#)
- Health Product InfoWatch, [December 2020](#)
- New information: Safety brief - Opioid safety reminders; Product monograph update - Valcyte (valganciclovir)

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA

- Medication Safety Alert! [January 14, 2021](#)
- Learning from Errors with the New Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccines
- Bamlanivimab confused with belimumab
- PIQRAY (alpelisib) labeling confusion
- Discard rufinamide oral suspension within 90 days of opening

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Guidance: Use of medicines in pregnancy and breastfeeding - [link](#)
- Guidance: Valproate use by women and girls - [link](#)
- Public Assessment Report of antiepileptic drugs: review of safety of use during pregnancy - [link](#)

- Drug Safety Updates

- Antiepileptic drugs in pregnancy: updated advice following comprehensive safety review - [link](#)
- Dimethyl fumarate (Tecfidera): updated advice on the risk of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) associated with mild lymphopenia - [link](#)
- Fingolimod (Gilenya): updated advice about risks of serious liver injury & herpes meningoencephalitis - [link](#)
- SSRI/SNRI antidepressant medicines: small increased risk of postpartum haemorrhage when used in the month before delivery - [link](#)
- Aminoglycosides (gentamicin, amikacin, tobramycin, and neomycin): increased risk of deafness in patients with mitochondrial mutations - [link](#)
- Systemic and inhaled fluoroquinolones: small risk of heart valve regurgitation; consider other therapeutic options first in patients at risk - [link](#)
- Erythromycin: caution required due to cardiac risks (QT interval prolongation); drug interaction with rivaroxaban - [link](#); update on known risk of infantile hypertrophic pyloric stenosis - [link](#)

- Letters sent to Healthcare Professionals in [November 2020](#):

- Ondexxya (andexanet alfa): avoid use of andexanet prior to heparinization
- Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate): updated recommendations in the light of cases of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) in the setting of mild lymphopenia
- Gilenya (fingolimod): updated recommendations to minimise risk of drug-induced liver injury
- Rozlytrek (entrectinib): missing side effect in EU Patient Information Leaflet
- Solu-Medrone (methylprednisolone as sodium succinate): change from lactose-containing to a lactose-free formulation; risk of serious allergic reactions if formulations are confused
- Gliolan (5-aminolevulinic acid, 5-ALA): what to do in case of delayed surgery and information on fluorescence in non-high-grade glioma
- Midazolam maleate (Epistatus 10mg/1ml oromucosal solution, multidose bottle), unlicensed, emergency use medication for prolonged, acute, convulsive seizures: potential risk of incorrectly engaged child-resistant container closures

- Letters sent to Healthcare professionals in [December 2020](#)
- Systemic and inhaled fluoroquinolones: risk of heart valve regurgitation/incompetence
- Lorazepam (Ativan 4mg/ml): temporary supply of a different presentation and changes to the instructions
- Zerbaxa (ceftolozane/tazobactam) 1g/0.5g powder for concentrate for solution for infusion: global recall of product

MIMS monthly updates – [January 2021](#)

- New Contraindications:
 - Cefotaxime sodium (DBL Cefotaxime Sodium for Injection) contraindicated with pregnancy and during lactation.
 - Citalopram HBr (Cipramil) should not be used in combination with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs), including selegiline in daily doses exceeding 10 mg/day.
 - Metoclopramide HCl/paracetamol (Anagrain) contraindicated in children under 18 years of age.
 - Vincristine sulfate (DBL) Injection contraindicated with intrathecal administration.
 - Zoledronic acid (DBL Zoledronic Acid) contraindicated in patients with severe renal impairment (ClCr ≤ 30 mL/min).

TGA

- Recall: Infants' Friend oral liquid recall due to presence of chloroform - [link](#)
- Recall: Tenofovir Disoproxil Emtricitabine Mylan 300/200 - potential for split tablets to lead to ineffective dose - [link](#)
- Safety advisory: Zostavax vaccine - risk of infection with the vaccine virus - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Cardiology

- Meta-Analysis Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Low-Intensity Warfarin for Patients >65 Years of Age with Non-Valvular Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)

American Journal of Gastroenterology

- Biologics during Pregnancy in Women with Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Risk of Infantile Infections. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)

- ASHP Guidelines on Medication-Use Evaluation - [link](#)
- Practice-enhancing publications about the medication-use process in 2019 - [link](#)
- Comparison of IV oncology infusions compounded via robotics and gravimetrics-assisted workflow processes - [link](#)
- Pharmacy-facilitated medication history program at a community teaching hospital: A pre-post study in an emergency department - [link](#)
- Bempedoic acid: Review of a novel therapy in lipid management - [link](#)
- Executive summary of the meeting of the 2020 ASHP Commission on goals: preparing the healthcare workforce for a digital future - [link](#)
- Navigating uncharted waters: Developing a standardized approach for evaluating and implementing biosimilar products at a comprehensive cancer center - [link](#)
- Critical care essentials for pharmacy trainees and new clinical practitioners - [link](#)
- Implementation of a pharmacist care manager model to expand availability of medications for opioid use disorder - [link](#)
- Preparing pharmacists to increase naloxone dispensing within community pharmacies under the Pennsylvania standing order - [link](#)
- Management of type 2 diabetes with oral semaglutide: Practical guidance for pharmacists - [link](#)
- Remote introductory pharmacy practice experiences focused on veterans prescribed chronic opioid therapy - [link](#)
- To crush or not to crush: A brief review of novel tablets and capsules prepared from nanocrystal and amorphous solid dispersion technologies - [link](#)
- In the midst of an opioid epidemic: Pharmacists on the frontline of substance use disorder treatment - [link](#)
- Evaluation of an opioid risk mitigation initiative for veterans undergoing hip or knee arthroplasty at San Francisco Veterans Affairs Health Care System - [link](#)

- Atoltivimab, Maftivimab, and Odesivimab-ebgn for Zaire ebolavirus - [link](#)
- Weight gain associated with insulin detemir vs insulin glargine in clinical practice: A retrospective longitudinal cohort study - [link](#)
- The substance use intervention team: A hospital-based intervention and outpatient clinic to improve care for patients with substance use disorders - [link](#)

Arthritis and Rheumatology

- Incidence, Clinical Features, and Outcomes of Late-Onset Neutropenia from Rituximab for Autoimmune Disease - [link](#)

Australian Journal of Primary Health

- Evaluation of academic detailing visits on GP knowledge and practice for statin use and management - [link](#)
- Why do people with long-term health needs see more than one GP?: a qualitative study - [link](#)
- Patient activation and Type 2 diabetes mellitus self-management: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Adequacy of health literacy and its effect on diabetes self-management: a meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Effect of community mental health care programs in Australia: a systematic review - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- The Irish National Adverse Event Study-2 (INAES-2): longitudinal trends in adverse event rates in the Irish healthcare system - [link](#)
- Quality & Safety in the Literature: March 2021 - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Adverse outcomes of proton pump inhibitors in patients with chronic kidney disease The CKD-REIN cohort study - [link](#)
- Safety of clonidine used for long-term sedation in paediatric intensive care: systematic review - [link](#)
- No population left behind: improving pediatric drug safety using informatics & systems biology - [link](#)
- Clinical correlates and outcomes associated with pregabalin use among people prescribed opioids for chronic non-cancer pain: A five-year prospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Trends in new prescription of gabapentinoids and of coprescription with opioids in the four nations of the United Kingdom, 1993-2017 - [link](#)
- Review: Ulipristal acetate: How to value safety in a new drug? - [link](#)
- Population pharmacokinetics of ganciclovir and valganciclovir in pediatric solid organ and stem cell transplant recipients - [link](#)
- Overcoming barriers to implementing precision dosing with 5-fluorouracil and capecitabine - [link](#)
- Pilot drug and therapeutic committee program in Sierra Leone: a descriptive mixed method study - [link](#)
- Proton pump inhibitors and risk of all-cause and cause-specific mortality: a cohort study - [link](#)
- Comprehensive evaluation of microneedle-based intradermal adalimumab delivery versus subcutaneous administration: results of a randomized controlled trial - [link](#)
- Domperidone and the Risks of Sudden Cardiac Death and Ventricular Arrhythmia: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Observational Studies - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- GPs' mindlines around deprescribing antihypertensives in older patients with multimorbidity: qualitative study - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Use of proton pump inhibitors to treat persistent throat symptoms: multicentre, double blind, randomised, placebo controlled trial - [link](#)
- Clinical Review: Axial spondyloarthritis: new advances in diagnosis and management - [link](#)
- Sodium-glucose cotransporter protein-2 (SGLT-2) inhibitors and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists for type 2 diabetes: systematic review and network meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - [link](#)
- Optimising antimicrobial stewardship interventions in English primary care: a behavioural analysis of qualitative and intervention studies - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Coenzyme Q10 supplementation for prophylaxis in adult patients with migraine—a meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Association between tendon ruptures and use of fluoroquinolone, and other oral antibiotics: a 10-year retrospective study of 1 million US senior Medicare beneficiaries – [link](#)
- Are patients' goals in treatment associated with expected treatment outcomes? Findings from a mixed-methods study on outpatient pharmacological treatment for opioid use disorder - [link](#)

Circulation

- How Should We Sequence the Treatments for Heart Failure and a Reduced Ejection Fraction? A Redefinition of Evidence-Based Medicine - [link](#)
- Efficacy of Ertugliflozin on Heart Failure-Related Events in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Established Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease: Results of the VERTIS CV Trial - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Blood pressure targets in adults with hypertension - [link](#)
- Metformin treatment before and during IVF or ICSI in women with polycystic ovary syndrome - [link](#)
- Levonorgestrel intrauterine system for endometrial protection in women with breast cancer on adjuvant tamoxifen - [link](#)
- Antenatal corticosteroids for accelerating fetal lung maturation for women at risk of preterm birth - [link](#)
- Treatment options for progression or recurrence of glioblastoma: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Paracetamol/acetaminophen (single administration) for perineal pain in the early postpartum period - [link](#)
- Oral non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (single dose) for perineal pain in the early postpartum period - [link](#)
- Interventions for treating leg ulcers in people with sickle cell disease - [link](#)
- Pharmacological interventions for self-harm in adults - [link](#)
- Behavioural interventions for smoking cessation: an overview and network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Tyrosine supplementation for phenylketonuria - [link](#)
- Gabapentin add-on treatment for drug-resistant focal epilepsy - [link](#)
- [Protocol](#): Pharmacological treatments for low back pain in adults: an overview of Cochrane Reviews

Diabetes Care

- Efficacy and Safety of Dulaglutide 3.0 mg and 4.5 mg Versus Dulaglutide 1.5 mg in Metformin-Treated Patients with Type 2 Diabetes in a Randomized Controlled Trial (AWARD-11) - [link](#)

Emergency Medicine Journal

- Improving outcomes for older people in the emergency department: a review of reviews - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Evolution of antithrombotic therapy in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention: a 40-year journey - [link](#)
- Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol reduction and statin intensity in myocardial infarction patients and major adverse outcomes: a Swedish nationwide cohort study - [link](#)
- Effect of empagliflozin on exercise ability and symptoms in heart failure patients with reduced and preserved ejection fraction, with and without type 2 diabetes - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Burden of enteral supplement interactions with common antimicrobial agents: a single-centre observational analysis - [link](#)
- Acute onset psychosis with complex neurobehavioural symptomatology following the intramuscular injection of hyoscine butylbromide: a case report with an overview of the literature - [link](#)
- Pharmacotherapeutic management of Parkinson's disease inpatients: how about asking hospital pharmacists? - [link](#)
- Impact of transplant pharmacists on length of stay and 30-day hospital readmission rate: a single-centre retrospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Levofloxacin induced bullous fixed drug eruption: a rare case report - [link](#)
- Position paper on patient safety - [link](#)
- Acute onset psychosis with complex neurobehavioural symptomatology following the intramuscular injection of hyoscine butylbromide: a case report with an overview of the literature - [link](#)

- Burden of enteral supplement interactions with common antimicrobial agents: a single-centre observational analysis - [link](#)
- Predictive performance of reported vancomycin population pharmacokinetic model in patients with different renal function status, especially those with augmented renal clearance - [link](#)

European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- What should patients do if they miss a dose? A systematic review of patient information leaflets and summaries of product characteristics - [link](#)
- Pattern of treatment of behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia and pain: evidence on pharmacoutilization from a large real-world sample and from a centre for cognitive disturbances and dementia - [link](#)
- Serotonin syndrome by drug interactions with linezolid: clues from pharmacovigilance-pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic analysis - [link](#)
- Ceftriaxone dosing in patients admitted from the emergency department with sepsis - [link](#)
- Monte Carlo simulation evaluation of tigecycline dosing for bacteria with raised minimum inhibitory concentrations in non-critically ill adults - [link](#)
- Effects of a multifaceted intervention to promote the use of intravenous iron sucrose complex instead of ferric carboxymaltose in patients admitted for more than 24 h - [link](#)
- Benzodiazepine withdrawal in older people: what is the prevalence, what are the signs, and which patients? - [link](#)
- Quality of anticholinergic burden scales and their impact on clinical outcomes: a systematic review - [link](#)
- The clinical and educational outcomes of an inter-professional student-led medication review team, a pilot study - [link](#)
- Current evidence on the impact of medication optimization or pharmacological interventions on frailty or aspects of frailty: a systematic review of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

Health Technology Assessment

- Non-benzodiazepine hypnotic use for sleep disturbance in people aged over 55 years living with dementia: a series of cohort studies - [link](#)
- Compression stockings in addition to low-molecular-weight heparin to prevent venous thromboembolism in surgical inpatients requiring pharmacoprophylaxis: the GAPS non-inferiority RCT - [link](#)

Heart

- Residual risks of ischaemic stroke and systemic embolism among atrial fibrillation patients with anticoagulation: large-scale real-world data (F-CREATE project) - [link](#)

Implementation Science

- Clinical decision support improves the appropriateness of laboratory test ordering in primary care without increasing diagnostic error: the ELMO cluster randomized trial - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Accessible and affordable healthcare? Views of Australians with and without chronic conditions - [link](#)
- Group B Streptococcal bacteraemia - Changing trends in a tropical region of Australia – [link](#)
- High Frequency of Anticoagulation Management Errors Preceding Ischemic Strokes in Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)
- Epidemiology and Microbiology of Severe Community-Acquired Pneumonia in Central Australia: A Retrospective Study - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Cancer pain management and the roles of pharmacists in China - [link](#)
- Stroke patients' support: evaluation of knowledge, practices and training needs of French community pharmacists – [link](#)
- Gabapentinoid misuse, abuse and non-prescribed obtainment in a United States general population sample - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of ibuprofen plus paracetamol combination on persistence of acute musculoskeletal disorders in primary care patients - [link](#)
- Guideline-led prescribing to ambulatory heart failure patients in a cardiology outpatient service - [link](#)
- The role of a clinical pharmacist in spurious penicillin allergy: a narrative review - [link](#)

- Training pharmacy residents as transitions of care specialists: a united states perspective - [link](#)

JAMA

- Review: Management of Crohn Disease - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: Balancing the Risks and Benefits of Benzodiazepines - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: Obesity Management in Women of Reproductive Age - [link](#)
- Effect of High-Dose Trivalent vs Standard-Dose Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine on Mortality or Cardiopulmonary Hospitalization in Patients With High-risk Cardiovascular Disease: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Effect of Digoxin vs Bisoprolol for Heart Rate Control in Atrial Fibrillation on Patient-Reported Quality of Life. The RATE-AF Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Research Letter: Mucocutaneous Adverse Events Associated with Oral Sirolimus for the Treatment of Vascular Anomalies - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Treatment and Outcomes of Inpatient Hypertension among Adults with Noncardiac Admissions - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Glaucoma in Adults—Screening, Diagnosis, and Management. A Review - [link](#)
- Management of Crohn Disease. A Review - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Add-On Cannabidiol Treatment for Drug-Resistant Seizures in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex. A Placebo-Controlled Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Assessment of Botulinum Neurotoxin Injection for Dystonic Hand Tremor. A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Prediction of Early Neurological Deterioration in Individuals with Minor Stroke and Large Vessel Occlusion Intended for Intravenous Thrombolysis Alone - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Frequency of and Factors Associated with Nonmedical Opioid Use Behavior among Patients with Cancer Receiving Opioids for Cancer Pain - [link](#)
- Review: Treatment Deescalation Strategies for Nasopharyngeal Cancer - [link](#)
- Association of Osteonecrosis of the Jaw with Zoledronic Acid Treatment for Bone Metastases in Patients with Cancer – [link](#)

JAMA Pediatrics

- Risk of Substance Use Disorder and Its Associations with Comorbidities and Psychotropic Agents in Patients With Autism - [link](#)

JAMA Surgery

- Association of Fluoroquinolone Use with Short-term Risk of Development of Aortic Aneurysm - [link](#); [commentary](#)

Journal of Health Services Research & Policy

- Working together to co-produce better health: The experience of the Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care for Northwest London - [link](#)
- Evidence-informed health care policy and practice: using record linkage to uncover new knowledge - [link](#)

Journal of the American Geriatrics Society

- Transforming the Medication Regimen Review Process Using Telemedicine to Prevent Adverse Events - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Defining the Optimal Total Number of Chemotherapy Courses in Younger Patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia: A Comparison of Three versus Four Courses - [link](#)

- Cardiac Safety of Osimertinib: A Review of Data - [link](#)
- Overview: Immunotherapy for Hematologic Malignancies - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Standard of practice in oncology and haematology for pharmacy services - [link](#)
- The impact of pharmacist-led strategies implemented to reduce errors related to cancer therapies: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Postoperative pain management on discharge after day case gynaecologic laparoscopy - [link](#)
- A retrospective review examining intravenous iron infusion dosing methods - [link](#)
- Perceptions of hospital pharmacists and pharmacy technicians towards expanding roles for hospital pharmacy technicians: a cross-sectional survey - [link](#)
- Knowledge, attitudes, and practices of mothers on the use of oral rehydration salts in children with diarrhoea: a cross-sectional survey in Malaysia - [link](#)

Lancet

- Isoniazid preventive therapy plus antiretroviral therapy for the prevention of tuberculosis: a systematic review and meta-analysis of individual participant data - [link](#)
- Effects of dapagliflozin on major adverse kidney and cardiovascular events in patients with diabetic and non-diabetic chronic kidney disease: a prespecified analysis from the DAPA-CKD trial – [link](#)
- Effects of empagliflozin on estimated extracellular volume, estimated plasma volume, and measured glomerular filtration rate in patients with heart failure (Empire HF Renal): a prespecified substudy of a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)
- APOE and Alzheimer's disease: advances in genetics, pathophysiology, and therapeutic approaches - [link](#)
- Ultra-early tranexamic acid after subarachnoid haemorrhage (ULTRA): a randomised controlled [trial](#)
- Review: Acute flaccid myelitis: cause, diagnosis, and management - [link](#)
- Viewpoint: The case for an HIV cure and how to get there - [link](#)
- Position paper: International consensus on a standard set of outcome measures for child and youth anxiety, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder - [link](#)
- Forecasting seizure risk in adults with focal epilepsy: a development and validation study - [link](#)
- Myelodysplastic syndrome and acute myeloid leukaemia in patients treated with PARP inhibitors: a safety meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials and a retrospective study of the WHO pharmacovigilance database - [link](#)
- The effect of vitamin D supplementation on acute respiratory tract infection in older Australian adults: an analysis of data from the D-Health Trial - [link](#)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals

- Spironolactone is not an effective treatment for one type of irregular heartbeat, research shows - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Clinical Practice: Osteoarthritis of the Knee - [link](#)
- Review: Pathophysiology of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases - [link](#)
- Review: Systemic Therapy for Estrogen Receptor–Positive, HER2-Negative Breast Cancer - [link](#)
- Changes in Seizure Frequency and Antiepileptic Therapy during Pregnancy - [link](#)

Pediatric Quality and Safety

- Effectiveness of Pediatric Asthma Pathways in Community Hospitals: A Multisite Quality Improvement Study - [link](#)
- A Standardized Protocol for the Management of Appendicitis in Children Reduces Resource Utilization - [link](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

- Assessing the risk of ketoacidosis due to sodium-glucose cotransporter (SGLT)-2 inhibitors in patients with type 1 diabetes: A meta-analysis and meta-regression - [link](#)

The British Journal of Psychiatry

- Incidence of neurodegenerative and cerebrovascular diseases associated with antihypertensive drug classes - [link](#)

Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management

- Review: Prevention and Treatment of Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting (PONV): A Review of Current Recommendations and Emerging Therapies - [link](#)
- Risk of True Allergy to Local Anesthetics: 10-Year Experience from an Anesthesia Allergy Clinic in China - [link](#)
- Drugs for the Treatment of Chronic Hand Eczema: Successes and Key Challenges - [link](#)
- Update on Safety Profiles of Vitamins B1, B6, and B12: A Narrative Review - [link](#)

Thrombosis Research

- Twice- or Once-Daily Dosing of Direct Oral Anticoagulants, a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Effectiveness and safety of direct-acting oral anticoagulants compared to vitamin K antagonists in patients with left ventricular thrombus: A meta-analysis - [link](#)