



NSW
Therapeutic
Advisory
Group Inc.

Advancing
quality use
of medicines
in NSW

TAG Mail: January to June 2025

Cumulative Listing of Reports, Publications, Medication Safety

Fortnightly TAG Mail – resources list

10th April 2025

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

Open email discussions

- Use of dupilumab for bullous pemphigoid: Do sites have a policy or treatment guideline formulated to treat this condition? Is any site observing increasing requests? Closes 16/4/2025

Recently completed email discussions

-Use of inpatient medicinal cannabis vapes

New NSW TAG publications

Medication Management Indicators for Residential Care Homes (RCHs)

Monash University and NSW TAG have developed a series of indicators, the MEGA-MAC Indicators, to measure the implementation of and adherence to the Guiding Principles for Medication Management in Residential Aged Care Facilities. The MEGA-MAC indicators were developed as part of Monash University's Maximising Embedded Pharmacists in AGed CAre Medication Advisory Committees (MEGA-MAC) trial. The MEGA-MAC project is funded by the Commonwealth of Australia's 2022 Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Quality, Safety and Effectiveness of Medicine Use by Pharmacists grant. NSW TAG led the development of the indicators in consultation with Monash University and an expert steering group. Indicator specifications and data collection tools can be found at: <https://www.nswtag.org.au/residential-aged-care-facility-qum-indicators/>

Updated NSW TAG publications

- [SGLT2 inhibitor medicines for diabetes – Consumer information leaflet](#) (Version 3, March 2025)

Upcoming NSW TAG meeting dates

-NSW TAG Management Committee 14th April 2025

-NSW TAG General Members' Meeting 15th May 2025 2.30-4pm

Contact Sasha Bennett at sasha.bennett@svha.org.au for further information about any email discussions, publications or upcoming meetings.

CATAG Webinar: Empowering patients: Tools for understanding medicines governance

The webinar is the culmination of the Collaborating with Consumers QUDTP project, and will discuss how the developed resources assist health professionals explain off-label medicines use, non-formulary high-cost treatments, medicines access programs and novel and emerging therapies to consumers.

The webinar will be held on **30th April between 1 and 2pm (AEST)**.

The registration link is: <https://tinyurl.com/medicinesgovernance>

Educating health professionals through a Knowledge Transfer Framework to reduce use of high-risk, and/or unnecessary medicines Project

Advertisements for two positions closing 16th April 2025:

Research fellow (A/B) - Centre for Medicine Use and Safety- Monash Job board - [External](#)

Lecturer (Practice) level B - Centre for Medicine Use and Safety Monash Job board - [External](#)

EDITOR'S PICKS

AJHP: The impact of a customized eHR CDS tool on pharmacist renal dosing interventions - [link](#)
AJMQ: A Checklist to Improve Acute Stroke Evaluation and Treatment in the ED - [link](#)
AIM: Cannabis or Cannabinoids for the Management of CNCP - [link](#)
AIM: U.S. ED Visits Attributed by Clinicians to Semaglutide Adverse Events, 2022–2023 - [link](#)
BJCP: Education about deprescribing for pre-licensed and licensed healthcare professionals - [link](#)
BJCP: Best fit framework synthesis of qualitative studies on factors associated with medication nonadherence in people with T2DN using the COM-B model - [link](#)
BJCP: Typical complications with immunosuppressants in rheumatic disease- [link](#)
BJCP: Suspected adverse drug reactions in infants through breastfeeding - [link](#)
BJP: -Efficacy of pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions for improving QoL of people with dementia - [link](#)
Cochrane: Withdrawal of antihypertensive drugs in older people - [link](#)
Cochrane: Effect of adrenergic agonist oral decongestants on blood pressure - [link](#)
DTB: Initiating renin–angiotensin system inhibitors in chronic kidney disease - [link](#)
EJHP: [Improving patient outcomes during cancer drug shortages: the role of patient education](#) - [link](#)
Health Canada: Systemic fluoropyrimidines and severe toxicity in patients with DPD deficiency - [link](#)
IMJ: -Advancements in multiple sclerosis - [link](#)
IJCP: DRPs experienced by RA patients during the first three months of methotrexate use- [link](#)
IJCP: Streamlining the quality assessment in medication reviews - [link](#)
IJCP: Screening tool to understand the medication habits of patients with swallowing difficulty- [link](#)
JAMA: IV Ferric Carboxymaltose in Heart Failure with Iron Deficiency - [link](#)
JAMA: Management of Staphylococcus aureus Bacteremia: A Review - [link](#)
JAMA Card: Encouraging Pharmacist Referrals for Evidence-Based Statin Initiation - [link](#)
JAMA IM: Inclusion of Retracted Studies in SRs and Meta-Analyses of Interventions- [link](#)
JAMA IM: Risk of Major Congenital Malformations Following Prenatal Exposure to Smoking Cessation Medicines - [link](#)
JAMA IM: Hospital Addiction Consultation Service and Opioid Use Disorder Treatment - [link](#)
JAMA Neur: Optimal Delay Time for Anticoagulation After Ischemic Stroke in Atrial Fibrillation- [link](#)
JAMA Onc: Immunotherapy Strategies After Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Exposure in Renal Cell Carcinoma - [link](#)
JCQPS: Implementation Science-Informed Strategies to Improve ToC for VTE- [link](#)
JCQPS: Safety Interventions in Cardiac Anesthesia: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
Lancet ID: Management of CMV in patients after allogeneic haematopoietic cell transplantation and other T-cell-engaging therapies - [link](#)
Lancet Onc: Non-ICANS neurological complications after CAR T-cell therapies - [link](#)
Lancet RH: - 2024 AGIHO guideline on diagnosis and empirical treatment of fever of unknown origin in adult neutropenic patients with solid tumours and hematological malignancies - [link](#)
Medsafe: Ayurvedic medicines update - [link](#)
MJA Perspective: Dismantling barriers to research and clinical care for vision impaired patients - [link](#)
MJA Editorial: Accountability for pharmaceuticals-related greenhouse gas emissions - [link](#)
NEJM: Dapagliflozin in Patients Undergoing Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Implantation - [link](#)
Paed: Monoclonal Antibodies for Pediatric Viral Disease Prevention and Treatment - [link](#)
Pharmacotherapy: Updates in chronic kidney disease management: A systematic review - [link](#)
PLOS Med: Pharmacogenetics and adverse drug reports- [link](#)
RCEM Advisory: Time Critical Medication Self- Administration in Emergency Departments - [link](#)
SPS: Using contraception with enzyme-inducing medicines - [link](#)
TGA: New safety warnings for isotretinoin ([Roaccutane](#)) - [link](#)
Thorax: - Use of inhaled corticosteroids in bronchiectasis - [link](#)

OTHER NEWS

NSW Health

- Measles alert for Sydney's Eastern Suburbs [[2 April 2025](#)]
- Public Health Warning: Nitazenes found in counterfeit oxycodone tablets in NSW [[28 March 2025](#)]
- Recognition and management of patients who are deteriorating ([PD2025_014](#)) [06 April 2025]
- Patient Admission and Discharge to NSW Health Facilities ([PD2025_012](#)) [26 March 2025]

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988
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An initiative of NSW clinical pharmacologists & pharmacists
ABN: 82 707 308 091

TGA

- Updates to the Prescribing Medicines in Pregnancy database - [March 2025](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

The latest weekly Evidence Digest can be found [here](#)

- Synthetic oxytocin evidence brief - [link](#)

Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

- National Opioid Pharmacotherapy Statistics Annual Data collection annual report - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates

- New Products

-- Momelotinib (as dihydrochloride monohydrate) ([Omijara](#)) for disease-related splenomegaly or symptoms in adults with moderate to severe anaemia who have primary myelofibrosis, post-polycythaemia vera myelofibrosis or post-essential thrombocythaemia myelofibrosis and who are JAK inhibitor naïve or have been treated with ruxolitinib. Omijara is contraindicated in pregnancy and breastfeeding.

- New Indications

-- Amivantamab ([Rybrevant](#)) - combination of carboplatin and pemetrexed for the treatment of adults with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) exon 19 deletions or exon 21 L858R substitution mutations, whose disease has progressed on or after treatment with an EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitor, and as first-line treatment of adults with locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC, with activating EGFR exon 20 insertion mutations

-- Dupilumab ([Dupixent](#)) - add-on maintenance treatment for uncontrolled COPD, characterised by raised blood eosinophils, in adults on a stable combination of an inhaled corticosteroid (ICS), a long-acting beta2-agonist (LABA), and a long-acting muscarinic antagonist (LAMA), or on a combination of a LABA and a LAMA if ICS is not appropriate

-- Durvalumab ([Imfinzi](#)) - monotherapy for the treatment of adults with limited-stage small cell lung cancer whose disease has not progressed following platinum-based chemoradiation therapy

-- Enfortumab vedotin ([Padcev](#)), in combination with pembrolizumab, for the first-line treatment of adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer

-- Enzalutamide ([Xtandi](#)) for patients with non-metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer with biochemical recurrence at high-risk for metastasis

-- Nivolumab (rch) ([Opdivo](#)), in combination with platinum-doublet chemotherapy, for neoadjuvant treatment of adults with resectable (tumours \geq 4 cm or node positive) non-small cell lung cancer and no known epidermal growth factor receptor mutations or anaplastic lymphoma kinase rearrangements, followed by Opdivo as a single agent in the adjuvant setting after surgical resection

-- Pembrolizumab (rch) ([Keytruda](#)), in combination with enfortumab vedotin, for the first-line treatment of adults with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma; in combination with carboplatin and paclitaxel, followed by Keytruda as a single agent, for the treatment of adults with primary advanced or recurrent endometrial carcinoma; and in combination with chemoradiotherapy, for the treatment of patients with high-risk, locally advanced cervical cancer (FIGO 2014 Stage IB2-IIB and node-positive, or Stage III-IVA)

PBS

- Expanded access to empagliflozin for type 2 diabetes patients with high cardiovascular risk - [1 April 2025](#)

- New Minimum Stockholding Requirements Online Notification Portal and Fact Sheet - [9 April 2025](#)

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages

- AusPARs:

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-- [Comirnaty JN.1](#) vaccine (Bretovameran), adapted to the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron JN.1 strain, has been approved to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 6 months of age and older

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Rapid review: Cabozantinib for 2L Renal Cell Carcinoma - [link](#)
- Rapid review: Midline Catheters for Administering Intravenous Infusion Therapy - [link](#)
- Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide Inhibitors for Migraine Prophylaxis - [link](#)
- Switching Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide Inhibitors for Migraine Prophylaxis - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [New products](#)

- Acetylcysteine 200mg Powder for oral solution - adjuvant in the therapy of respiratory disorders associated with thick, viscous, mucus hypersecretion. The contents of one sachet should be emptied into a glass containing 150 ml of water and stirred until it dissolves completely
- Besavar XL (alfuzosin) - contraindicated with concomitant use of ritonavir alone or in combination with ombitasvir/paritaprevir, as alfuzosin blood levels may be increased. Additionally, palpitations, hypotension, flushes and dry mouth added as uncommon adverse reactions
- Efluelda TIV-HD suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe - inactivated, split virion vaccine for active immunisation in adults 60 years of age and older to prevent
- Fortacin (lidocaine, prilocaine) 150 mg/ml + 50 mg/ml Cutaneous spray solution - for the treatment of primary premature ejaculation in adult men
- Lytgobi (futibatinib) tablets - irreversible kinase inhibitor of FGFR 1, 2, 3 & 4, for treatment of adults with locally advanced or metastatic cholangiocarcinoma with a fibroblast growth factor receptor 2 fusion or rearrangement that have progressed after ≥1 prior line of systemic therapy
- Supemtek TIVr solution for injection in pre-filled syringe - recombinant, trivalent influenza vaccine (prepared in cell culture) for active immunization to prevent influenza disease in adults.

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- Clinical Trials Information System designated as WHO primary registry - [link](#)
- Streamlining development and assessment of biosimilar medicines - [link](#)
- CHMP recommends approval
- acalabrutinib ([Calquence](#)) for adults with previously untreated mantle cell lymphoma
- atropine eye drops ([Ryjunea](#)) to slow progression of myopia in children aged 3-14 years
- bosutinib ([Bosulif](#)) for use in paediatric patients
- dalbavancin ([Xydalba](#)) for use in younger children
- ferric citrate coordination complex ([Xoanacyl](#)) for the treatment of concomitant hyperphosphataemia and iron deficiency in adults with chronic kidney disease (CKD)
- [Flucelvax](#) influenza vaccine for use in younger children
- [guselkumab](#) (Tremfya) for treatment of Crohn's disease
- [nivolumab](#) for neoadjuvant and adjuvant treatment of NSCLC
- subcutaneous formulation of [nivolumab](#) (Opdivo)
- tislelizumab ([Tevimbra](#)) for the treatment of small cell lung cancer (SCLC)
- CHMP negative opinions: donanemab ([Kisunla](#)) for Alzheimer's disease; extension of indication for pemigatinib ([Pemazyre](#)) for myeloid/lymphoid neoplasms with FGFR1 rearrangement.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- durvalumab ([Imfinzi](#)) for muscle invasive bladder cancer
- Cabometyx ([cabozantinib](#)) for adults & pediatric patients 12 years + with pNET & epNET
- expands [Pluvicto](#)'s (lutetium Lu 177 vipivotide tetraxetan) metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer indication
- [Qfitlia](#) (fitusiran) to prevent/reduce the frequency of bleeding episodes in hemophilia A/B - [link](#)
- [Vanrafia](#) (Atrasentan) to reduce proteinuria in adults with primary immunoglobulin A nephropathy (IgAN) at risk of rapid disease progression

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Approves trofolostat for diagnostic imaging of prostate cancer in men - [link](#)
- Approves eplontersen for adults with rare inherited nerve disease or polyneuropathy - [link](#)
- Approves trastuzumab deruxtecan to treat adults with HER2-positive cancer that has spread or cannot be removed by surgery - [link](#)

Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS) UK

- Hayfever: clinical review - [link](#)
- First anti-androgen cream, Winlevi (clascoterone), launched in UK for acne - [link](#)

Neonatal & Paediatric Pharmacists Group UK

- Updated Position Statement: Enteral Calcium, Phosphate, Potassium and Zinc Supplementation in Neonates and Children - [link](#)

NHS England

- Interim commissioning guidance: implementation of the NICE technology appraisal TA1026 and the NICE funding variation for tirzepatide (Mounjaro®) for the management of obesity - [link](#)
- Cardiovascular disease prevention: Lipid management including access to inclisiran - [link](#)
- Nationwide roll out across NHS of artificial intelligence (AI) tool that predicts falls and viruses - [link](#)
- NHS England and NICE genomic testing pathway - [link](#)

NHS Scotland

- Accepted for use:
 - Alectinib ([Alecensa](#)®) as monotherapy for adjuvant treatment of adults with Stage 1B to IIIA anaplastic lymphoma kinase positive NSCLC following complete tumour resection
 - Elafibranor ([Iqirvo](#)®) for primary biliary cholangitis when used in combination with ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) in adults with an inadequate response to UDCA, or as a monotherapy in adults unable to tolerate UDCA
 - Eplontersen ([Wainzua](#)®) for hereditary transthyretin-mediated amyloidosis in adults with Stage 1 and 2 polyneuropathy, offering an additional treatment choice of transthyretin gene silencer
 - Futibatinib ([Lytgobi](#)®), an additional treatment choice in the therapeutic class of fibroblast growth factor receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitors used to treat adults with locally advanced or metastatic cholangiocarcinoma
- Accepted for restricted use:
 - Bimekizumab ([Bimzelx](#)®) for active moderate to severe hidradenitis suppurativa in patients with an inadequate response to conventional systematic therapy and in whom adalimumab is contraindicated or considered otherwise unsuitable
 - Dapagliflozin ([Forxiga](#)®) as an additional treatment choice within its therapeutic class for the treatment of chronic kidney disease in patients that have individually optimised standard care including an ACEI or ARB unless contra-indicated
- Not recommended:
 - Tebentafusp ([Kimmtrak](#)®) for human leukocyte antigen (HLA)-A*02:01-positive adult patients with unresectable or metastatic uveal melanoma - insufficiently robust economic analysis to support it

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) UK

- Efanesoctocog alfa for treating and preventing bleeding episodes in haemophilia A in people 2 years and over ([TA1051](#))
- Olipudase alfa for treating acid sphingomyelinase deficiency (Niemann–Pick disease) type AB and type B ([HST32](#))
- Burosumab for treating X-linked hypophosphataemia in children and young people ([HST8](#))
- Suspected cancer: recognition and referral - updated ([NG12](#))

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

- Anti-VEGF drugs compared with laser photocoagulation for the treatment of proliferative diabetic retinopathy: a systematic review and individual participant data meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Recent research in myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome: an evidence map - [link](#)

Royal College of Emergency Medicine

- Advisory Statement: Time Critical Medication Self- Administration in Emergency Departments - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Pain treatment during pregnancy - [link](#)
- Switching between morphine and other opioids in palliative care - [link](#)
- Using potassium permanganate for skin conditions or wound care - [link](#)

UK Health Security Agency

- Antibiotic-resistant gonorrhoea cases rising in England - [link](#)
- Latest update on Clade Ib mpox - [link](#)
- UKHSA launches campaign to tackle misconceptions on antibiotics - [link](#)
- Vaccination against mpox: information for healthcare practitioners - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Guidance on mental health policy and strategic action plans - [link](#)
- WHO issues its first-ever reports on tests and treatments for fungal infections - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [Revised SPCs](#)

- Adacel (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine) suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe - normal appearance is a uniform, cloudy, white suspension, which may sediment and form clumpy or flaky aggregates during storage. Syringe should be shaken well to uniformly distribute suspension before administering vaccine
- Bosulif (bosutinib) - recommendation to monitor patients for signs and symptoms consistent with cardiac failure and cardiac ischaemia and treated as clinically indicated, noting cardiotoxicity can be managed by dose interruption, dose reduction and/or discontinuation
- Doxorubicin Solution for Injection (Pfizer) - women should use two effective contraception methods during treatment and for ≥ 7 months after last dose, and men during treatment and for ≥ 4 months after last dose. Women should not breastfeed during and for at least 10 days after last dose
- Drovelis (drospirenone/ estetrol) contraindicated in women with severe renal impairment and not recommended in women with moderate renal impairment. No dose adjustment is required in women with mild renal impairment
- Durogesic DTrans (fentanyl) Transdermal - new contraindication of acute or post-operative pain because there is no opportunity for dose titration during short-term use, and because serious or life-threatening hypoventilation or persistent post-operative opioid use could result influenza.
- Evrenzo (roxadustat) - thrombocytopenia included as common ADR
- Fragmin (dalteparin) - hyperkalaemia as a potential ADR of treatment (frequency: common).
- Glyxambi - phimosis/acquired phimosis (tight foreskin) reported concurrent with genital infections, and in some cases, circumcision was required. Also updated with additional info on prolonged ketoacidosis and prolonged glucosuria, as well as elevated haematocrit
- Oxlummo (lumasiran) - hypersensitivity as an ADR (frequency unknown) reported during post-marketing use
- Rezurock (belumosudil) Predicted to increase theophylline levels by 40%. Caution also advised when co-administering with other CYP1A2 substrates such as warfarin, tizanidine or pomalidomide
- Rybelsus (semaglutide) - should be taken after a recommended fasting period of at least 8 hours
- Sitagliptin/Metformin - metformin is not recommended in patients with known or suspected mitochondrial diseases, due to the risk of lactic acidosis exacerbation and neurologic complications which may lead to worsening of the disease
- Steglatro (ertugliflozin) - rash added as a new ADR of unknown frequency
- Risk minimisation materials

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- AbbVie: [Duodopa](#) (levodopa, carbidopa monohydrate) intestinal gel - guide for healthcare professionals provides information on recommended measures to minimise gastrointestinal, gastrointestinal device, and gastrointestinal procedure related events. A patient guide is also available
- Neon Healthcare: [Roaccutane](#) (isotretinoin) - Materials include a checklist for pharmacists dispensing oral isotretinoin, regarding the contraindication for its use in pregnancy, an acknowledgement of risk form, and a patient reminder card on pregnancy risks and mental health

EMA

- European Medicines Agency concludes review of weight management medicine Mysimba (naltrexone / bupropion) - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Health Product InfoWatch, [March 2025](#) includes:
 - Monthly recap: Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs) (dulaglutide, exenatide, liraglutide, lixisenatide and semaglutide); Isotretinoin; Lacosamide Injection, USP; Oral anticoagulants (apixaban, dabigatran, edoxaban, rivaroxaban and warfarin)
 - Review article: Systemic fluoropyrimidines and severe toxicity in patients with dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase deficiency

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- MHRA Safety Roundup: [March 2025](#) includes:
 - Prolonged-release opioids: Removal of indication for relief of post-operative pain

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Ayurvedic medicines update - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates

- New Contraindications
 - Metronidazole ([Flagyl](#)) is now contraindicated in patients with Cockayne syndrome
 - Obeticholic acid ([Ocaliva](#)) is now contraindicated in patients with compensated cirrhosis who have evidence of portal hypertension (e.g. ascites, gastroesophageal varices, persistent thrombocytopenia)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- ACEI suggestions for adults with swallowing difficulties - [link](#)
- Using contraception with enzyme-inducing medicines - [link](#)

TGA

- Further shortage of methylphenidate hydrochloride products - [link](#)
- New safety warnings for isotretinoin ([Roaccutane](#)) - [link](#)
- Product Information safety updates - [March 2025](#)
- NAD, NAD+, NADH or NMN medicines sold in Australia - [link](#)
- Magnum XXL capsules - [link](#)
- Counterfeit Ozempic injection pens detected - [link](#)
- Product Alert: Vyvanse capsules multiple strength - [link](#)
- Recall: Multiple vitamin and perinatal products - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- The impact of a customized electronic health record clinical decision support tool on pharmacist renal dosing interventions - [link](#)
- Cabotegravir/rilpivirine resistance in a patient living with HIV despite on-time administration: A case report - [link](#)

American Journal of Medical Quality

- A Checklist to Improve Acute Stroke Evaluation and Treatment in the Emergency Department - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- National Trends in Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonist Use in Adults Without Diabetes, 2018 to 2022 - [link](#)
- Comparison of Dose Escalation Versus Switching to Tirzepatide Among People with Type 2 Diabetes Inadequately Controlled on Lower Doses of Dulaglutide: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Cannabis or Cannabinoids for the Management of Chronic Noncancer Pain: Best Practice Advice From the American College of Physicians - [link](#)
- U.S. Emergency Department Visits Attributed by Clinicians to Semaglutide Adverse Events, 2022–2023 - [link](#)
- In the clinic: Epilepsy - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- Clinical factors associated with pneumocystis pneumonia despite its primary prophylaxis: When to stop prophylaxis? - [link](#)
- Recurrence Risk in Pediatric Non-Infectious Uveitis during Adalimumab Tapering: An International Multicenter Retrospective Study - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Education about deprescribing for pre-licensed and licensed healthcare professionals: A scoping review - [link](#)
- Best fit framework synthesis of qualitative studies on factors associated with medication nonadherence in people with type 2 diabetes using the COM-B model - [link](#)
- Incidence and spectrum of typical complications associated with immunosuppressant use in rheumatic disease: A nationwide retrospective study - [link](#)
- EudraVigilance insights: Suspected adverse drug reactions in infants through breastfeeding - [link](#)
- The impact of early-life and prolonged antibiotics exposure on 78 common diseases: Evidence from epidemiology - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- GLP-1 receptor agonists: panacea or affirmation of societal failure? - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Systematic review of the efficacy of pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions for improving quality of life of people with dementia - [link](#)
- Missing a trick? Bupropion for the pharmacological treatment of depression in the UK - [link](#)
- Efficacy and tolerability of antidepressants in individuals suffering from physical conditions and depressive disorders: network meta-analysis - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Stepwise dual antiplatelet therapy de-escalation in patients after drug coated balloon angioplasty (REC-CAGEFREE II): multicentre, randomised, open label, assessor blind, non-inferiority trial - [link](#)
- Tuberculosis in the UK - [link](#)
- Practice Pointer: Caring for patients experiencing homelessness - [link](#)
- How tariffs are likely to detrimentally affect global medicine supply chains - [link](#)
- Evaluating patients with chest pain in the emergency department - [link](#)
- Finding the right treatment for severe depression - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Vitamin D supplementation for managing COVID-19 in patients with vitamin D deficiency: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - [link](#)
- Alpha-lipoic acid on intermediate disease markers in overweight or obese adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Safety surveillance of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine among pregnant individuals: a real-world pharmacovigilance study using the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Withdrawal of antihypertensive drugs in older people - [link](#)

- Effect of amphetamines on blood pressure - [link](#)
- Mucolytics for children with chronic suppurative lung disease - [link](#)
- Antibiotic treatment for non-tuberculous mycobacteria lung infection in people with cystic fibrosis - [link](#)
- Effect of adrenergic agonist oral decongestants on blood pressure - [link](#)
- Multimodal interventions for cachexia management - [link](#)
- Delayed initiation or reduced initial dose of calcineurin-inhibitors for kidney transplant recipients at high risk of delayed graft function - [link](#)
- Drug treatment for myotonia - [link](#)
- Gonadotropins for ovulation induction in women with polycystic ovary syndrome - [link](#)
- Preoperative medical therapy before surgery for uterine fibroids – [link](#)
- Transversus abdominis plane (TAP) blocks for prevention of postoperative pain in women undergoing laparoscopic and robotic gynaecological surgery - [link](#)
- Stem cell injections for osteoarthritis of the knee - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Association Between Use of Sodium–Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitors and Epilepsy: A Population-Based Study Using Target Trial Emulation - [link](#)
- Cardiovascular and Kidney Outcomes and Mortality With Long-Acting Injectable and Oral Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists in Individuals With Type 2 Diabetes: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Trials - [link](#)
- Risk of Urogenital Infections in People With Type 2 Diabetes Initiating SGLT2i Versus GLP-1RA in Routine Clinical Care: A Danish Cohort Study - [link](#)

Diabetic Medicine

- Extended use of real-time continuous glucose monitoring in adults with insulin-requiring type 2 diabetes: Results from the first 26 weeks of the 2GO-CGM trial - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Initiating renin–angiotensin system inhibitors in chronic kidney disease - [link](#)

EClinical Medicine

- Efficacy and safety of immune checkpoint inhibitors in elderly patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, C-reactive protein, and lipoprotein(a) universal one-time screening in primary prevention: the EPIC-Norfolk study - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Improving patient outcomes during cancer drug shortages: the role of patient education - [link](#)

Heart

- Long-term benefits of atorvastatin on the incidence of cardiovascular events: the ASCOT-Legacy 20-year follow-up - [link](#)
- Inflammation in coronary atherosclerosis: diagnosis and treatment - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Impact of sulfonamide allergy label on clinical outcomes of acute cystitis: a retrospective matched cohort study - [link](#)
- Vulnerability of a New Zealand hospital computerised provider order entry system to prescribing error: a comparative study with other systems - [link](#)
- Advancements in multiple sclerosis - [link](#)
- Letter: Short course antiviral therapy to prevent donor-derived hepatitis C virus infection - [link](#)
- Letter: Rapid desensitisation therapy in a patient with furosemide-induced anaphylactic shock: a case report and short-term follow-up - [link](#)
- Letter: Cardiac medication non-adherence: the elephant in the room - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Drug-related problems experienced by rheumatoid arthritis patients during the first three months of methotrexate use: a longitudinal observational study - [link](#)
- Streamlining the quality assessment in medication reviews: a biased random sampling approach using BRANT-MERQS criteria - [link](#)
- Application of a screening tool to understand the medication habits of patients with swallowing difficulty: a prospective observational study - [link](#)

JAMA

- Long-Term Risk of Stroke After Transient Ischemic Attack or Minor Stroke: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- Patient page: What Is Carbon Monoxide Poisoning? - [link](#)
- Intravenous Ferric Carboxymaltose in Heart Failure with Iron Deficiency: The FAIR-HF2 DZHK05 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Iron Deficiency in Adults: A Review - [link](#)
- Reported psychiatric adverse events among isotretinoin users: Monitoring priorities from a 20-year FDA Adverse Event Reporting System database study - [link](#)
- Small Cell Lung Cancer: A Review - [link](#)
- Management of Staphylococcus aureus Bacteremia: A Review - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Asundexian or Apixaban in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation According to Prior Oral Anticoagulant Use: A Subgroup Analysis of the OCEANIC-AF Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Encouraging Pharmacist Referrals for Evidence-Based Statin Initiation: Two Cluster Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Inclusion of Retracted Studies in Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses of Interventions: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- Risk of Major Congenital Malformations Following Prenatal Exposure to Smoking Cessation Medicines - [link](#)
- Change in Default Prescription Length and Statin Prescribing Behavior - [link](#)
- Hospital Addiction Consultation Service and Opioid Use Disorder Treatment The START Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Mortality among veterans with opioid use disorder after medical hospitalisation - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- N-Acetylcysteine for Hereditary Cystatin C Amyloid Angiopathy: A Nonrandomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Optimal Delay Time to Initiate Anticoagulation After Ischemic Stroke in Atrial Fibrillation: A Pragmatic, Response-Adaptive Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Accuracy of New John Cunningham Virus Antibody Assay in Natalizumab-Treated Patients With Multiple Sclerosis - [link](#)
- Cardioprotective Glucose-Lowering Agents and Dementia Risk: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- GLP-1RA and SGLT2i Medications for Type 2 Diabetes and Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Immunotherapy Strategies After Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Exposure in Renal Cell Carcinoma: A Review - [link](#)

JAMA Ophthalmology

- Semaglutide and Nonarteritic Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy Risk Among Patients with Diabetes - [link](#)

Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety

- Using Implementation Science-Informed Strategies to Improve Transitions of Care for Patients with Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)
- Safety Interventions in Cardiac Anesthesia: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

Journal of Sleep Research

- A randomised crossover trial of daridorexant for the treatment of chronic insomnia and nocturia - [link](#)

Lancet

- Pancreatic cancer - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Futility of plasmapheresis, insulin in normoglycaemic individuals, or heparin in the treatment of hypertriglyceridaemia-induced acute pancreatitis - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

- Prevention and interception trials in inflammatory bowel disease: an international taskforce assessment on clinical trial design - [link](#)

Lancet Haematology

- A 3-week pause versus continued Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitor use during COVID-19 vaccination in individuals with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (IMPROVE trial): a randomised, open-label, superiority trial - [link](#)

Lancet HIV

- HIV seropositivity and viral non-suppression in transgender, non-binary, and gender-diverse people in primary care receiving gender-affirming hormone therapy in the USA between 2013 and 2019 (LEGACY): an observational, longitudinal, cohort study - [link](#)
- Statin effects on the incidence of major non-cardiovascular disease events among a global cohort of people with HIV: a randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Serotype distribution of remaining invasive pneumococcal disease after extensive use of ten-valent and 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (the PSERENADE project): a global surveillance analysis - [link](#)
- Efficacy and safety of individualised versus standard 10-day antibiotic treatment in children with febrile urinary tract infection (INDI-UTI): a pragmatic, open-label, multicentre, randomised, controlled, non-inferiority trial in Denmark - [link](#)
- Recommendations from the 10th European Conference on Infections in Leukaemia for the management of cytomegalovirus in patients after allogeneic haematopoietic cell transplantation and other T-cell-engaging therapies - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Innovative, early-phase clinical trials of drug–radiotherapy combinations - [link](#)
- Non-ICANS neurological complications after CAR T-cell therapies: recommendations from the EBMT Practice Harmonisation and Guidelines Committee - [link](#)
- New models for the development of and access to CAR T-cell therapies for children and adolescents with cancer: an ACCELERATE multistakeholder analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- INTEGRATE: international guidelines for the algorithmic treatment of schizophrenia - [link](#)
- Comparative cardiovascular safety of medications for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder in children, adolescents, and adults: a systematic review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet Regional Health (Europe)

- 2024 update of the AGIHO guideline on diagnosis and empirical treatment of fever of unknown origin (FUO) in adult neutropenic patients with solid tumours and hematological malignancies - [link](#)

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988

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ABN: 82 707 308 091

- Paramedic analgesia comparing ketamine and morphine in trauma (PACKMaN): a randomised, double-blind, phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Impact of Removing Race Coefficient from Glomerular Filtration Rate Estimation Equations on Antidiabetics Among Black Patients - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Perspective: Dismantling barriers to research and clinical care for individuals with a vision impairment - [link](#)
- Editorial: Pills, profits, and pollution: accountability for pharmaceuticals-related greenhouse gas emissions - [link](#)
- Accountability, ambition, and quantifiable action in the carbon emission reduction plans of the ten largest pharmaceutical companies in Australia: a cross-sectional analysis - [link](#)

Nature Medicine

- Stapokibart for moderate-to-severe seasonal allergic rhinitis: a randomized phase 3 trial - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Unexplained or Refractory Chronic Cough in Adults - [link](#)
- Dapagliflozin in Patients Undergoing Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Implantation - [link](#)
- Extended Reduced-Dose Apixaban for Cancer-Associated Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)
- Global Effect of Cardiovascular Risk Factors on Lifetime Estimates - [link](#)
- Lepodisiran — A Long-Duration Small Interfering RNA Targeting Lipoprotein(a) - [link](#)
- Oral Semaglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in High-Risk Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)
- Sotatercept in Patients with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension at High Risk for Death - [link](#)
- A Phase 3 Trial of Upadacitinib for Giant-Cell Arteritis - [link](#)
- Alteplase for Posterior Circulation Ischemic Stroke at 4.5 to 24 Hours - [link](#)
- Left Atrial Appendage Closure after Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)
- Malaria - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- Monoclonal Antibodies for Pediatric Viral Disease Prevention and Treatment - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Medicines derived from UK blood plasma distributed to NHS hospitals for 'first time in a generation' - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Updates in chronic kidney disease management: A systematic review - [link](#)
- Pharmacokinetic approaches to standardize antiviral exposure in cerebrospinal fluid - [link](#)

PLOS Medicine

- Pharmacogenetics and adverse drug reports: Insights from a United Kingdom national pharmacovigilance database - [link](#)

Prescribe International April 2025 includes

- Esketamine (Spravato®) in depression after failure of several antidepressants or with a high risk of suicide?
- SSRI antidepressants and venlafaxine: increased risk of injuries
- Editorial: Metamizole (also known as dipyrone) is an analgesic and antipyretic drug that exposes patients to a risk of fatal agranulocytosis of unpredictable onset

Thorax

- Use of inhaled corticosteroids in bronchiectasis: data from the European Bronchiectasis Registry (EMBARC) - [link](#)

CONSULTATIONS (new additions in bold)

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Consultation: Choices for kidney failure treatment, closes 23 May 2025 - [link](#)

WEBINARS & PODCASTS

Australian Prescriber Podcasts

- [Episode 185](#) – The role of triple antithrombotic therapy in patients with atrial fibrillation and coronary stent insertion

UPCOMING EVENTS

EACPT

- 17th Congress of the European Association for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 28 June – 1 July, Helsinki, Finland - [register](#)

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

- 2025 Congress: Partnering to advance VBHC in Australia, 1-2 May 2025, Melbourne - [register](#)
- 3rd Annual Healthcare Real Estate Summit, 6 May 2025, Sydney - [register](#)

NHMRC Medicines Intelligence Centre of Research Excellence (MI-CRE)

- Fifth Annual Research Symposium: Better together: advancing medicines intelligence through partnerships, 29-30 October 2025, UNSW Sydney - abstracts emailed to mi-cre@unsw.edu.au by Friday 8 August 2025

Fortnightly TAG Mail – resources list

27 March 2025

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

Open email discussions

Use of inpatient medicinal cannabis vapes

Scenario: A patient who is using prescribed, legally obtained non-registered medicinal cannabis vape (dry leaf and smoking) was admitted as an inpatient and wanted to use their own medicinal cannabis, which was brought into hospital. There is currently no specific guidance relating to the use of medicinal cannabis vapes - however, there is general smoking policies (which states that all NSW Health facilities are smoke free). This is in a context where use of medicinal cannabis, especially vapes has rapidly increased in recent years and more patients are presenting who are on pre-existing medicinal cannabis vapes.

How is your LHD/N/hospital managing these types of situations? **Closes 2/4/2025**

Upcoming TAG meeting dates

NSW TAG Management Committee 3rd April 2025 3-4pm

NSW TAG General Members' Meeting

Updated NSW TAG publications

- [SGLT2 inhibitor medicines for diabetes – Consumer information leaflet](#) (Version 3, March 2025)

Contact *Sasha Bennett* at sasha.bennett@svha.org.au for further information about any email discussions, publications or upcoming meetings.

EDITOR'S PICKS

ASAM: The Joint Clinical Practice Guideline on Benzodiazepine Tapering - [link](#)

AJHP: Strategies to prevent awareness with paralysis following administration of NMBA's - [link](#)

AJHP: Prescribing errors in hospitalized patients on the ketogenic diet - [link](#)

AJHP: Antifungalgram: A unique tool to track fungal resistance - [link](#)

AJHP: Evaluation of pharmacist-prescribed nirmatrelvir/ritonavir for patients with COVID-19 - [link](#)

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AJHP: Analysis of responses from AI programs to medication-related questions derived from critical care guidelines - [link](#)
AJHP: Assessing inhaler usage and associated greenhouse gas emissions in a health system - [link](#)
AM: Acute Pain Management in People with Opioid Use Disorder: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
ADC: Glycerol intoxication syndrome in young children with consumption of slush ice drinks - [link](#)
BJP: The developing evidence base for psychedelic treatment of addiction disorders - [link](#)
BMJ: Effects of intensive blood pressure treatment on orthostatic hypertension - [link](#)
BMJ EBM: Analgesic effects of non-surgical and non-interventional treatments for low back pain - [link](#)
BMJ Open: Retrospective study of long-acting injectable antipsychotic initiation in inpatients - [link](#)
BMJ QS: Global, regional and national time trends in incidence of adverse effects of medical treatment, 1990–2019– [link](#)
BMJ QS: Prevention in adults of transmission of infection with multidrug-resistant organisms: an updated systematic review from Making Healthcare Safer IV – [link](#)
BMJ QS: Rapid response systems, antibiotic stewardship and medication reconciliation: a scoping review on implementation factors, activities and outcomes - [link](#)
Circ: Albuminuria in Cardiovascular, Kidney, and Metabolic Disorders: A State-of-the-Art Review - [link](#)
Circ: Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing for Cardiovascular Disease - [link](#)
Circ: Cardiovascular Toxicity in Patients Treated for Childhood Cancer – [link](#)
Circ: Disparities in Current Pulmonary Embolism Management and Outcomes - [link](#)
Diab Care: Modeling Cardiovascular Protection with SGLT Inhibition in Type 1 Diabetes - [link](#)
Diab Care: Management of Diabetes and Hyperglycemia in the Hospital - [link](#)
Diab Care: The Modern Role of Basal Insulin in Advancing Therapy in Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)
DTB Select: Gabapentinoids and COPD exacerbations - [link](#)
Epilepsia: Safety & effectiveness of fenfluramine in children & adults with Dravet syndrome - [link](#)
EHJ: [Artificial intelligence to improve cardiovascular population health](#) - [link](#)
IJCP: Perspective of older people on which medicines they need to report to HCPs as part of a medicines history- [link](#)
IJCP: Exploring Australian pharmacists' experiences with the eNRMC - [link](#)
IJCP: Improving medication adherence in the community - [link](#)
JAMA Derm: Systemic Therapies for Psoriatic Disease and Serious Infections in Older Adults - [link](#)
JAMA NO: Safety and Effectiveness for Tenecteplase and Alteplase in Acute Ischemic Stroke - [link](#)
JAMA Onc: Accelerated Approval: Wrong Dose and Indication - [link](#)
JAMA Psych: Expectancy Effects, Failure of Blinding Integrity, and Placebo Response in Trials of Treatments for Psychiatric Disorders - [link](#)
JCO: Fertility Preservation in People with Cancer: ASCO Guideline Update - [link](#)
JHQ: Personalizing Quality Improvement: Addressing Anticoagulation Gaps in Atrial Fibrillation – [link](#)
JHQ: Pharmacist-Led Population Health Initiative to Address Statin Care Gaps- [link](#)
Lancet Psych: The trajectory of sedative adverse events caused by antipsychotics - [link](#)
Lancet Resp Care: Transition of adolescents with asthma to adult care - [link](#)
MJA: Responding to reports of nitazene toxicity in Australia - [link](#)
MJA: Methylphenidate and (lis)dexamfetamine toxicity-related adult deaths, Australia, 2000–24- [link](#)
P'therapy: Reducing vancomycin use & AKI with AUC & trough-based dosing guideline - [link](#)
P'therapy: Insulin requirements after switching from GLP-1RAs to dual GIP/GLP-1Ras in T2DM- [link](#)
P'therapy: A review of antibiotic safety in pregnancy—2025 update - [link](#)
Thorax: Use of inhaled corticosteroids in bronchiectasis)- [link](#)

OTHER NEWS

NSW Health

- Measles alert for Sydney [[18 March 2025](#)] and Sydney Airport and western NSW [[26 March 2025](#)]
- Emergency Department Short Stay Unit (EDSSU) Admissions ([PD2025 011](#)) [[19 March 2025](#)]

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

The latest weekly Evidence Digest can be found [here](#)

Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

- Handbook of tools to support medicine management in multimorbidity and polypharmacy - [link](#)
- Infectious respiratory disease prevention: responsibilities and obligations - [guideline](#) - [collection](#)

PBS

- Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee (DUSC) Utilisation Analysis Public Release Documents - [14 March 2025](#) ; Outcome Statement - [21 March 2025](#)
- PBAC Public Summary Documents (first time decisions not to recommend and deferrals) – [November 2024 meeting](#)

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages Prescription medicine registrations - [link](#)
- Registration of new generic medicines: [BENDAMUSTINE EPSL](#) ; [CETRORELIX RBX](#) ; [ABIRATERONE DR.REDDY'S](#) ; [NEBALOC](#) ; [ARIPENA](#) ; [TRANEXAMIC ACID WAYMADE](#) ; [FUROSEMIDE-REACH](#) ; [MIDOSTAURIN](#) ; [ALEXIBIC](#) ; [ANIDULAFUNGIN](#) ; [CARBOPLATIN EPSL](#)
- Registration of new extension of indications: [BOOSTRIX-IPV](#)
- Registration of new biosimilar medicines: [ENOXAJECT](#) ; [UTEKNIX](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

- The Joint Clinical Practice Guideline on Benzodiazepine Tapering: Considerations When Benzodiazepine Risks Outweigh Benefits - [link](#)

British National Formulary

- Updates to potency labelling for topical corticosteroids - [link](#)
- BNF/BNFc Newsletter: [March 2025](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Trends in Opioid Prescribing in Canada, 2018-2022 - [link](#)
- In Brief Autologous Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation for the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis — Guidance [Statement](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [New products](#)
- Alyftrek (deutivacaftor 50mg, tezacaftor 20mg and vanzacaftor 4mg) for cystic fibrosis in people ≥6 years who have ≥1 F508del or another responsive mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene. Table of responsive CFTR gene mutations provided.
- Lazcluze (lazertinib) film-coated tablets, with amivantamab, licensed for 1st line treatment of adults with advanced non-small cell lung cancer with EGFR exon 19 deletions or exon 21 L858R substitution mutations. The dose is 240mg once daily, with dose reductions to 160mg or 80mg daily if required.
- Nemluvio (nemolizumab) 30 mg injection in pre-filled pen - mAb of the IgG2 subclass that inhibits IL-31 signalling licensed for moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis and for the treatment of adults with moderate-to-severe prurigo nodularis, who are candidates for systemic therapy.
- Vaxigrip (influenza virus inactivated split) suspension for injection for prevention of influenza caused by the two influenza A virus and one influenza B virus type contained in the vaccine for: active immunisation in adults and children ≥6 months, & passive protection of infants <6 months following vaccination of pregnant women.
- Vivotif (Salmonella typhi strain ty 21a) gastro-resistant capsules for active oral immunisation against typhoid fever, caused by Salmonella enterica serovar Typhi, in adults and children aged five years and older. For use in accordance with official recommendations.
- [Revised SPCs](#)
- Hepcludex (bulevirtide) – therapeutic indication for the treatment of chronic hepatitis delta virus infection in plasma (or serum) HDV-RNA positive patients expanded to include use in paediatric patients 3 years of age and older weighing at least 10 kg with compensated liver disease

- IXCHIQ (Chikungunya vaccine) powder and solvent for solution for injection licensed for active immunisation for the prevention of disease caused by chikungunya virus in individuals ≥ 18 years. Use in accordance with official recommendations.
- Rybrevant (amivantamab) - based on Mariposa study, use in combination with lazertinib for first-line treatment of adult patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer with EGFR Exon 19 deletions or Exon 21 L858R substitution mutations added
- Sitagliptin 50 mg/2 ml oral solution for use as monotherapy, as part of dual or triple oral therapy, or in combination with insulin, for the treatment of adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus. It must be stored in a fridge and has a 90-day expiry once opened.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- [cabozantinib](#) for adults and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older with pNET and epNET
- [pembrolizumab](#) for HER2 positive gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma expressing PD-L1 (CPS ≥ 1)
- Fabhalta ([iptacopan](#)) for adults with complement 3 glomerulopathy (C3G) to reduce proteinuria
- [Guselkumab](#), the first and only interleukin-23 inhibitor that offers both subcutaneous and intravenous induction options for moderately to severely active Crohn's disease
- [Vutrisiran](#) indication extended for ATTR-Cardiomyopathy - wild-type or hereditary transthyretin-mediated amyloidosis
- Blujepa ([Gepotidacin](#)) for uncomplicated urinary tract infection 12y and older weighing 40kg

Health Services Safety Investigation Body UK

- Medication not given: anticoagulation before and after a procedure. Investigation report - [link](#)

Hospital Pharmacy Europe

- How and why pharmacists should get involved in clinical research - [link](#)

Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS) UK

- New MIMS table outlines antibiotic regimens for UTI - [link](#)
- A practical guide to conducting a structured medication review - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Early access to medicines scheme (EAMS) scientific opinion: Sebetralstat in the treatment of hereditary angioedema (HAE) attacks - [link](#)

NHS England

- Review of tuberculosis national report - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) UK

- Lisocabtagene maraleucel for treating relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma after first-line chemoimmunotherapy when a stem cell transplant is suitable ([TA1048](#))
- Blinatumomab with chemotherapy for consolidation treatment of Philadelphia-chromosome-negative CD19-positive minimal residual disease-negative B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukaemia ([TA1049](#))
- Fenfluramine for seizures associated with Lennox–Gastaut syndrome in people ≥ 2 years ([TA1050](#))

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

- Benefits of aldosterone receptor antagonism in chronic kidney disease: the BARACK-D RCT - [link](#)
- NIHR Commentaries: Culturally-adapted therapy improved postnatal depression in British South Asian women - [link](#)
- NIHR Commentaries: Population-level policies on risk factors for dementia could reduce costs - [link](#)
- NIHR Collections- Prostate cancer research: what's next? - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Individually labelled medicines in residential custodial settings - [link](#)

- Ex-Vivo (cell based) GMO Gene Therapy Medicinal Products – Pharmacy Institutional Readiness Guidance - [link](#)
- Pharmacogenomics: resources to support answering questions - [link](#)
- Supporting people with sight loss in managing their medicines - [link](#)
- Developing opioid safety across a system - [link](#)
- Handling of COVID-19 vaccines - [link](#)
- Labelling and packaging medicines supplied by dental teams - [link](#)
- Somatic Cell Therapy Medicinal Products – Pharmacy Institutional Readiness Guidance - [link](#)

UK Health Security Agency

- UKHSA highlights pathogens of greatest risk to public health - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- WHO recommendations on maternal health: guidelines approved by the WHO Guidelines Review Committee, 2nd ed - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [Revised SPCs](#)

- Adizem-SR (diltiazem) - warning that diltiazem (an inhibitor of CYP3A4 and P-gp) may increase the plasma concentrations of DOACs (i.e. apixaban, rivaroxaban, dabigatran) metabolised through these pathways with resulting increases in pharmacodynamic effects such as bleeding risk
- Aquipta (atogepant) – updated with findings of a small study in 12 breastfeeding women, in which the relative infant dose was found to be approximately 0.19% of the maternal weight-adjusted dose, with a milk-to-plasma ratio of 0.08
- Depo-Medrone (methylprednisolone acetate) - rhabdomyolysis added as ADR (unknown frequency)
- Gilenya (fingolimod) - progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) and immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome (IRIS) reported in association with treatment; add suspected or
- Ivermectin - severe cutaneous adverse reactions (including SJS & TEN, which can be life-threatening or fatal) reported. Advise patients of the signs & symptoms and monitor closely.
- Jayempi (azathioprine) - cases of non-cirrhotic portal hypertension/portosinusoidal vascular disease have been reported (unknown frequency)
- MST (morphine sulfate) Continus – in light of new MHRA advice, therapeutic indication now restricted to prolonged relief of severe and intractable pain. Information on dosing provided for use in patients presenting with severe pain, uncontrolled by weaker opioids, & for patients on normal release oral morphine
- Nivestim (filgrastim) - extramedullary haematopoiesis included as rare ADR, attributable to the expected pharmacological actions, which is reversible after discontinuation of treatment
- Nutrizym (pancreatin) 22 - fibrosing colonopathy (narrowing of colon and ileocecal part of the intestine) can occur with high doses. Suspect this if symptoms of ileus are seen. Additionally, hyperuricemia (also with high doses) added as an ADR (unknown frequency).
- Ocrevus (ocrelizumab) – can be used during breastfeeding starting a few days after birth, based on newly available clinical data, and to update the required duration of contraception after the last administered dose to 4 (previously 12) months
- Padcev (enfortumab vedotin) – skin hyperpigmentation, skin discoloration, and pigmentation disorder with use both as monotherapy and in combination with pembrolizumab added as ADRs of unknown frequency
- Plegridy (peginterferon beta-1a) - 63mcg, 94mcg are no longer available as pre-filled syringes for IM use. Available as pre-filled pens for SC use. Can be used whilst breast feeding as interferon levels excreted in human milk are negligible.
- Provera (medroxyprogesterone) - cases of meningioma reported in patients treated with medroxyprogesterone acetate (MPA) for several years, and to include details of a French case-control study, which observed an excess risk in those treated with injectable MPA for ≥3 years
- Relvar Ellipta updated to clarify the instructions for use. Information about the excipient 'lactose' added and information about the paediatric population added (pharmacodynamics/pharmacokinetics)

- Rinvoq (upadacitinib hemihydrate) prolonged-release tablets - medication residue in stool or ostomy output, mostly in patients with ileostomy, colostomy, intestinal resection or conditions with shortened gastrointestinal transit times. In such cases, consider alternative options if response inadequate.
- Xtandi (enzalutamide) - dysphagia and decreased appetite added as possible ADRs. Now advises tablet "should be swallowed whole with a sufficient amount of water". Information about 'dysphagia related to product formulation' added to special warnings and precautions for use section
- Risk minimisation materials
- Amgen: Imdylltra (tarlatamab) The Healthcare Professional guide contains information on the risks of Cytokine Release Syndrome and Immune Effector Cell Associated Neurotoxicity Syndrome, and instructions on monitoring requirements during & after treatment. A Patient Alert Card is also available
- Bavarian Nordic: Vaxchora (recombinant, live, oral cholera vaccine) The guide for healthcare professionals contains detailed information about the reconstitution and administration procedures, to minimise potential risks of medication errors that could occur during self-administration. A patient guide is also available
- Pfizer combined hormonal contraceptives (Brevinor, Norimin, Norinyl-1, Ovranette, Synphase): Checklist for prescribers to use to evaluate the risk of thromboembolism associated with norethisterone or levonorgestrel-based combined hormonal contraceptives. A patient card listing VTE risk factors and symptoms is also available

EMA

- Unregulated advanced therapy medicinal products pose serious risks to health - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Warning to consumers not to inhale or recreationally use any flavor of nitrous oxide in any size canister, tank, or charger - [link](#)

Health Services Safety Investigation Body UK

- Medication not given: anticoagulation before and after a procedure - [link](#)

Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS) UK

- Patient data suggest medicine shortages could be improving - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Emergency Medicine

- Intravenous vs intraosseous administration of drugs for out of hospital cardiac arrest: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

American Journal of Kidney Diseases

- Kidney and Cardiovascular Outcomes Among Patients With CKD Receiving GLP-1 Receptor Agonists: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Trials - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Use of thrombin time to transition from dabigatran to intravenous unfractionated heparin in patients with acute kidney injury - [link](#)
- Implementation of antimicrobial stewardship certification program and its impact on low-resource settings - [link](#)
- A review of mirvetuximab soravtansine-gynx in folate receptor-expressing platinum-resistant ovarian cancer - [link](#)
- Considerations in educating patients receiving oral anticoagulation: Quality over quantity - [link](#)
- Pharmacy practice for therapeutic orphans: Current and future reflections for pediatric pharmacy - [link](#)
- Strategies to prevent awareness with paralysis following administration of neuromuscular blocking agents - [link](#)
- Prescribing errors in hospitalized patients on the ketogenic diet - [link](#)
- Antifungalgram: A unique tool to track fungal resistance - [link](#)
- Clevidipine and a cost-saving initiative for titratable intravenous antihypertensive agents- [link](#)

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- Clearing the air: Assessing inhaler usage and associated greenhouse gas emissions in a health system - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Acute Pain Management in People with Opioid Use Disorder: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
- Patients' Values and Preferences Regarding the Pharmacologic Treatment of Acute Episodic Migraine: A Rapid Review - [link](#)

Archives of Disease in Childhood

- Glycerol intoxication syndrome in young children, following the consumption of slush ice drinks - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- Association of physical therapy care with utilization of intra-articular injections in people with knee osteoarthritis: a real-world cohort study - [link](#)
- Macrophage Activation Syndrome - [link](#)

Blood

- Long-term efficacy and safety of danicopan as add-on therapy to ravulizumab or eculizumab in PNH with significant EVH - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Janus kinase inhibitors for the treatment of lichen Sclerosus: A systematic review - [link](#)
- Severe myelosuppression and alopecia after thiopurine initiation in a patient with NUDT15 deficiency - [link](#)
- Safety of sulfamethoxazole–trimethoprim for the treatment of bacterial infection in outpatient settings: A systematic review and meta-analysis with active comparator disproportionality analysis - [link](#)
- European Medicines Agency (EMA) commentary on EMA/CHMP Guideline on allergen products development for immunotherapy and allergy diagnosis in moderate to low-sized study populations - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Examining the needs, outcomes and current treatment pathways of 2461 people with treatment-resistant depression: mixed-methods study - [link](#)
- Hype or hope? The developing evidence base for psychedelic treatment of addiction disorders - [link](#)
- Isotretinoin use, mood changes and suicidality. What is the link? – [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Artificial intelligence risks becoming an environmental disaster - [link](#)
- WHO warns “measles is back” as virus spreads across Europe - [link](#)
- Assessment and management of dengue - [link](#)
- Diagnosing and defining obesity - [link](#)
- Effects of intensive blood pressure treatment on orthostatic hypertension: individual level meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Are “copycat” compounded weight loss drugs safe? - [link](#)

BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine

- Analgesic effects of non-surgical and non-interventional treatments for low back pain: a systematic review and meta-analysis of placebo-controlled randomised trials - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Exploring patient engagement in atrial fibrillation with multimorbidity: impact on quality of life, medication adherence and healthcare perceptions—a multicountry cross-sectional study - [link](#)
- Retrospective cohort study of long-acting injectable (LAI) antipsychotic initiation in the inpatient setting: impact of LAI characteristics on transition and continuation of care among patients with schizophrenia in the USA - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Editorial: Low-quality evidence on practices to prevent transmission of resistant organisms calls for rigorous trials and a paradigm shift - [link](#)
- Global, regional and national time trends in incidence of adverse effects of medical treatment, 1990–2019: an age–period–cohort analysis from the Global Burden of Disease 2019 study – [link](#)
- Prevention in adults of transmission of infection with multidrug-resistant organisms: an updated systematic review from Making Healthcare Safer IV – [link](#)
- Rapid response systems, antibiotic stewardship and medication reconciliation: a scoping review on implementation factors, activities and outcomes - [link](#)

Circulation

- Albuminuria in Cardiovascular, Kidney, and Metabolic Disorders: A State-of-the-Art Review - [link](#)
- Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing for Cardiovascular Disease: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association - [link](#)
- Withdrawal of Guideline-Directed Medical Therapy in Patients with Heart Failure and Improved Ejection Fraction - [link](#)
- Cardiovascular Toxicity in Patients Treated for Childhood Cancer: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association – [link](#)
- Disparities in Current Pulmonary Embolism Management and Outcomes: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Combined pharmacological and psychosocial interventions for alcohol use disorder - [link](#)
- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for acute renal colic - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Early Fasting Serum Glucose or Weight Reduction With Tirzepatide and Metabolic Outcomes in People With Type 2 Diabetes: A Post Hoc Analysis of the SURPASS Trials - [link](#)
- Modeling Cardiovascular Protection with SGLT Inhibition in Type 1 Diabetes: A Risk-Based Approach to Guide Therapy? - [link](#)
- Management of Diabetes and Hyperglycemia in the Hospital: A Systematic Review of Clinical Practice Guidelines - [link](#)
- Association Between Diabetes and Anemia: Evidence From NHANES and the UK Biobank - [link](#)
- The Modern Role of Basal Insulin in Advancing Therapy in People With Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)

Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism

- A comparison of ultra-rapid and rapid insulin in automated insulin delivery for type 1 diabetes: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)
- Use of semaglutide and risk of non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy: A Danish–Norwegian cohort study - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- DTB Select: Gabapentinoids and COPD exacerbations - [link](#)

Epilepsia

- Long-term safety and effectiveness of fenfluramine in children and adults with Dravet syndrome - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Artificial intelligence to improve cardiovascular population health - [link](#)

- The Australian-New Zealand spontaneous coronary artery dissection cohort study: predictors of major adverse cardiovascular events and recurrence - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Physicochemical stability of a polysorbate-80-containing solvent compounded in the hospital pharmacy and used to reconstitute a biologic for nebulisation - [link](#)

Gut

- Glucaagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist use is associated with a lower risk of major adverse liver-related outcomes: a meta-analysis of observational cohort studies - [link](#)

Heart

- Cardiovascular disease burden and risk factor management in cancer survivors: insights into a multiethnic, socioeconomically deprived urban population - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Shorter-term and longer-term mortality prediction in the Australian Diabetes, Obesity and Lifestyle (AusDiab) study - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Comparative effectiveness of potassium-competitive acid blockers and proton pump inhibitors in dual antiplatelet therapy patients: a nationwide cohort study - [link](#)
- Optimizing tacrolimus dosage in post-renal transplantation using DoseOptimal framework: profiling CYP3A5 genetic variants for interpretability - [link](#)
- Cost-benefit analysis of pharmacist early active consultation in patients with multidrug-resistant bacteria in China - [link](#)
- Perspective of older people on which medicines they need to report to healthcare professionals as part of a medicines history: a qualitative descriptive study - [link](#)
- Exploring Australian pharmacists' experiences with the electronic National Residential Medication Chart: a qualitative descriptive study - [link](#)
- Improving medication adherence in the community: a purposive umbrella review of effective patient-directed interventions that are readily implementable in the United Kingdom National Health Service - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Dying in hospital – A retrospective medical record analysis on care in the dying phase in intensive care units and general wards - [link](#)
- Effects of early palliative care intervention on medical resource use among end-of-life patients - [link](#)

JAMA

- Adjuvant PD-1 Blockade with Camrelizumab for Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma: The DIPPER Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Atezolizumab in High-Risk Locally Advanced Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Inhaled Sedation in Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome: The SESAR Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Optimal Vasopressin Initiation in Septic Shock: The OVISS Reinforcement Learning Study - [link](#)
- Chronic Myeloid Leukemia: A Review - [link](#)
- Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease: A Review - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Characterizing Chronic Cutaneous Immune-Related Adverse Events Following Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors - [link](#)
- Systemic Therapies for Psoriatic Disease and Serious Infections in Older Adults - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

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- Statin Use and Risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma and Liver Fibrosis in Chronic Liver Disease - [link](#)
- Avoidable Mortality Across US States and High-Income Countries - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Donepezil for Fatigue and Psychological Symptoms in Post–COVID-19 Condition: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Short-Term Safety and Effectiveness for Tenecteplase and Alteplase in Acute Ischemic Stroke - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Riluzole in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: Results From the COURAGE-ALS Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Adjuvant Chemoradiotherapy vs Radiotherapy Alone for Patients with Intermediate-Risk Cervical Cancer - [link](#)
- Sotorasib's Accelerated Approval: Wrong Dose and Indication - [link](#)
- What Is Dialysis? - [link](#)
- Accelerated Aging in Survivors of Childhood Cancer—Early Onset and Excess Risk of Chronic Conditions - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Expectancy Effects, Failure of Blinding Integrity, and Placebo Response in Trials of Treatments for Psychiatric Disorders: A Narrative Review - [link](#)
- Suicide and Self-Harm Events With GLP-1 Receptor Agonists in Adults With Diabetes or Obesity: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

Journal of the American College of Cardiology

- Efficacy of Acoramidis on All-Cause Mortality and Cardiovascular Hospitalization in Transthyretin Amyloid Cardiomyopathy - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Fertility Preservation in People with Cancer: ASCO Guideline Update - [link](#)

Journal for Healthcare Quality

- Personalizing Quality Improvement: Addressing Anticoagulation Gaps in Atrial Fibrillation – [link](#)
- Pharmacist-Led Population Health Initiative to Address Statin Care Gaps: A Quality Improvement Project - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Case report: Therapeutic drug monitoring and pharmacogenomic guided perhexiline therapy in kidney failure requiring haemodialysis: a case study - [link](#)

Lancet

- Calcitonin gene-related peptide-targeted therapy in migraine: current role and future perspectives - [link](#)
- Early impact of RSV vaccination in older adults in England - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- 14 days of high-dose versus low-dose primaquine treatment in patients with Plasmodium vivax infection in Cambodia: a randomised, single-centre, open-label efficacy study - [link](#)
- Future immunisation strategies to prevent Streptococcus pneumoniae infections in children and adults - [link](#)
- Safety and effectiveness of MVA-BN vaccination against mpox in at-risk individuals in Germany (SEMVAc and TEMVAc): a combined prospective and retrospective cohort study - [link](#)
- The burden of β -lactam allergy labels in health care: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Tuberculosis disease among people with HIV: therapeutic advances - [link](#)

- Tuberculosis preventive therapy: scientific and ethical considerations for trials of ultra-short regimens - [link](#)

Lancet Neurology

- Intravenous thrombolysis before endovascular treatment versus endovascular treatment alone for patients with large vessel occlusion and carotid tandem lesions: individual participant data meta-analysis of six randomised trials - [link](#)
- Advances in diagnosis, classification, and management of pain in Parkinson's disease - [link](#)
- Epilepsy with myoclonic-atonic seizures: an update on genetic causes, nosological limits, and treatment strategies - [link](#)
- Multiple sclerosis and COVID-19: interactions and unresolved issues - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy followed by active surveillance versus standard surgery for oesophageal cancer (SANO trial): a multicentre, stepped-wedge, cluster-randomised, non-inferiority, phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Clinical and cost-effectiveness of lithium versus quetiapine augmentation for treatment-resistant depression: a pragmatic, open-label, parallel-group, randomised controlled superiority trial in the UK - [link](#)
- The trajectory of sedative adverse events caused by antipsychotics: a meta-analysis of individual participant data from randomised, placebo-controlled, clinical trials in acute phase schizophrenia - [link](#)
- Quality improvement for suicide prevention and self-harm intervention: addressing the implementation gap and saving lives - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Post-tuberculosis lung disease: towards prevention, diagnosis, and care - [link](#)
- Transition of adolescents with asthma to adult care - [link](#)
- Global, regional, and national burden of asthma and atopic dermatitis, 1990–2021, and projections to 2050: a systematic analysis of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Timing of Naldemedine Initiation and Occurrence of Diarrhea in Patients Receiving Strong Opioid Analgesics: A Retrospective Study - [link](#)
- Ekbohm Syndrome Management in Elderly Patients: Challenges in Risperidone Titration and Treatment Adherence - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Responding to reports of nitazene toxicity in Australia - [link](#)
- Letter: Methylphenidate and (lisd)amphetamine toxicity-related deaths of adults, Australia, 2000–24: analysis of NCIS data - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Infertility Evaluation and Treatment - [link](#)
- A Randomized Trial of Automated Insulin Delivery in Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- COVID-19 Vaccination During Pregnancy and Major Structural Birth Defects - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- More than 500 people hospitalised following use of GLP-1 agonists indicated for weight management - [link](#)
- Scottish Drugs Forum warns multiple doses of naloxone may be needed to reverse drug overdoses - [link](#)
- The journey towards dedicated pharmacy support for all emergency departments - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Better together? Reducing vancomycin use and acute kidney injury with a blended AUC and trough-based dosing guideline - [link](#)
- Insulin requirements after switching from GLP-1 receptor agonist to dual GIP/GLP-1 receptor agonist in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus - [link](#)
- A review of antibiotic safety in pregnancy—2025 update - [link](#)

Thorax

- Short-term efficacy of inhaled short-acting beta-2-agonists for acute wheeze/asthma symptoms in preschool-aged children: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Use of inhaled corticosteroids in bronchiectasis: data from the European Bronchiectasis Registry (EMBARC) - [link](#)
- Effect of vitamin A on adult lung function: a triangulation of evidence approach - [link](#)

CONSULTATIONS

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Consultation: Neonatal jaundice and hyperbilirubinaemia, closes 4 April 2025 - [link](#)

WEBINARS & PODCASTS

Australian Prescriber Podcasts

- [Episode 184](#) – Device-assisted therapies for Parkinson disease

Purple Pen Podcast

- [PPP 172](#) - Tuberculosis (TB)

UPCOMING EVENTS

AHHA

- Investing in DIAMONDS: transforming a surgical waitlist into a 'preparation list', online 1 April, 2025 12:30-13:30 AEDT - [register](#)
- Mental Health Access & Quality in Emergency Departments, April 8, 2025 09:00 AEST – [register](#)

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

- 2025 Congress: Partnering to advance VBHC in Australia, 1-2 May 2025, Melbourne - [register](#)

NHMRC Medicines Intelligence Centre of Research Excellence (MI-CRE)

- Fifth Annual Research Symposium: Better together: advancing medicines intelligence through partnerships, 29-30 October 2025, UNSW Sydney - abstracts emailed to mi-cre@unsw.edu.au by Friday 8 August 2025

Fortnightly TAG Mail – resources list

13 March 2025

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

Open email discussions

Use of inpatient medicinal cannabis vapes

Scenario: A patient who is using prescribed, legally obtained non-registered medicinal cannabis vape (dry leaf and smoking) was admitted as an inpatient and wanted to use their own medicinal cannabis, which was brought into hospital. There is currently no specific guidance relating to the use of medicinal cannabis vapes - however, there is general smoking policies (which states that all NSW Health facilities are smoke free). This is a context where use of medicinal cannabis, especially vapes has rapidly increased in recent years and more patients are presenting who are on pre-existing medicinal cannabis vapes.

How is your LHD/N/hospital managing these types of situations? **Closes 2/4/2025**

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Contact Sasha Bennett at sasha.bennett@svha.org.au for further information about any email discussions, publications or upcoming meetings.

EDITOR'S PICKS

AIM: Evaluation and Management of CKD: 2024 Clinical Practice Guideline - [link](#)
AJHP: The role of artificial intelligence in emergency medicine pharmacy practice - [link](#)
ArthRheum: Effectiveness of JAKis Compared With BDMARDS on Pain Reduction in RA- [link](#)
BJCP: Safety and effectiveness of lecanemab for early Alzheimer's disease- [link](#) ;TGA - [link](#)
BJCP: GPT-4's accuracy answering clinical pharmacological questions on pain therapy - [link](#)
BJCP: Factors influencing physicians' antimicrobial prescribing decisions- [link](#)
BJCP: Methotrexate toxicity and glucarpidase: A call for dose optimization - [link](#)
BMJ: Primary prevention of heart attacks and strokes: the polypill approach - [link](#)
BMJ Open: Efficacy & safety of 11 SGLT2i in type 2 DM inadequately controlled with metformin- [link](#)
BMJ Open: Allopurinol use and risk of acute coronary syndrome in gout patients- [link](#)
CCM: A Focused Update to the CPGs for the Prevention and Management of Pain, Anxiety, Agitation/Sedation, Delirium, Immobility, and Sleep Disruption in Adult Patients in the ICU - [link](#)
CDA: Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Impact of Nirmatrelvir/Ritonavir, Remdesivir, and Tocilizumab for COVID-19- [link](#)
CMAJ: Effect of emergency department opioid prescribing on health outcomes - [link](#)
Cochrane: Antidepressants for low back pain and spine-related leg pain - [link](#)
EHJ: Great debate: default duration of dual antiplatelet treatment after PCI in ACS- [link](#)
EJHP: [Unit dose drug dispensing systems in hospitals](#) - [link](#)
Heart: Evolution of coronary stents: innovations, antithrombotic strategies and future directions - [link](#)
IJQHC: Look-Alike, Sound-Alike Medication Perioperative Incidents in a Regional Australian Hospital: Assessment using a Novel Medication Safety Culture Assessment Tool - [link](#)
IMJ: Results of rapid plasma DOAC levels greatly expand stroke thrombolysis eligibility: - [link](#)
IMJ: Retrospective cohort study of general medicine heart failure management - [link](#)
JAC: The TARGET antibiotic checklist in England's community pharmacies - [link](#)
JAMA: Cardiovascular Outcomes with Icosapent Ethyl by Baseline LDL-C - [link](#)
JAMA Card: Viewpoint: Simultaneous or Rapid Initiation of Combination Therapy for HFpEF - [link](#)
JAMA Derm: Effectiveness of Adalimumab Biosimilars and Originator for Psoriasis - [link](#)
JPPP: Medication-focused telehealth interventions to reduce the hospital readmission rate - [link](#)
JPS: Ambulatory medication errors and adverse events involved in medicine-related malpractice - [link](#)
Lancet GH: The urgent need for implementation science to achieve hepatitis C elimination - [link](#)
Lancet Onc: Dose optimisation to improve access to effective cancer medicines - [link](#)
MJA: A future for the hospital-in-the-home (HITH) deteriorating patient: shifting the paradigm - [link](#)
MJA: Potentially preventable medication-related hospitalisations with CVD of ATSI people- [link](#)
NEJM: Supporting the Development of Drugs for Rare Diseases -Regulatory Transparency - [link](#)
NIHR Commentaries: Which drugs are best for migraine attacks? - [link](#)
Nuffield Trust Quality Watch: Antibiotic prescribing - [link](#)
Pharmacotherapy: Hyponatremia among older adults exposed to SSRIs and thiazide diuretics - [link](#)
Pharmacotherapy: Potentially inappropriate medications among older adults receiving PD- [link](#)
Thorax: Impact of COPD on CV risk factors and outcomes in people with established CVD- [link](#)
SPS: Advising on missed or delayed doses of medicines - [link](#)
TGA: Risk of neurodevelopmental disorders in children born to men taking sodium valproate - [link](#)
WHO: Use of lower-sodium salt substitutes- [link](#)

OTHER NEWS

NSW Health

- Tropical Cyclone Alfred – Information for pharmacists - [link](#)
- Smoke-Free Health Care ([PD2025_009](#)) [07 March 2025]
- Notifiable Conditions Data Security and Confidentiality ([PD2025_008](#)) [28 February 2025]

TGA

- TGA confirms decision to not register lecanemab (LEQEMBI) - [link](#)

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REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

The latest weekly Evidence Digest can be found [here](#)

- Specialised chronic pain management in children and young people - [link](#)

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

- Documenting oxygen therapy and response for safety - [link](#) – [fact sheet](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- Biosimilar medicine fact sheet – [enoxaparin](#) - [bevacizumab](#) – [adalimumab](#)

- Handbook of tools to support medicine management in multimorbidity and polypharmacy - [link](#)

- Medication Management Review Programs dataset - [link](#)

- AVALGLUCOSIDASE ALFA Terms of Reference and Protocol Questions - [link](#)

CATAG

MAIA Optimising implementation of guideline-directed medical therapy (GDMT) for heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) toolkit.

The toolkit can assist Medicines and Therapeutic Committees support local stewardship of HFrEF management. The toolkit consists of:

- **Practice Tool** – Provides an overview of the GDMT-recommended quadruple therapy for managing HFrEF and presents possible strategies to optimise GDMT implementation.
- **Teaching tool**– Provides a clinical example that educators can use to demonstrate medication optimisation for HFrEF.

Please share and disseminate these resources with your Medicines and Therapeutics Committees, Directors of Pharmacy, your colleagues and anyone within your network who may be interested in these resources. For your convenience, we have attached a flyer that can be shared within your networks.

MIMS monthly updates

- New Products

-- Fenfluramine (hydrochloride) ([Fintepla](#)) - add-on therapy in the treatment of seizures associated with Dravet syndrome and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome in patients 2 years of age and older

-- Indocyanine green ([Verdye](#)) - diagnostic agent for the measurement of cardiac output, stroke volume, circulating blood volumes, cerebral perfusion; liver blood flow, excretory function of the liver; and perfusion of the choroid

- New Presentation

-- Clobetasol propionate (Xobet) now as [cream](#) and [ointment](#) for short-term treatment of resistant or severe inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of steroid responsive dermatoses, including psoriasis (excluding widespread plaque psoriasis), recalcitrant dermatoses, lichen sclerosus/planus and discoid lupus erythematosus in adults

- New Indications

-- Blinatumomab ([Blincyto](#)) now also indicated for the treatment of B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in the consolidation phase in combination with chemotherapy in patients with Philadelphia chromosome negative disease, and in combination with a tyrosine kinase inhibitor in patients with Philadelphia chromosome positive disease who are unable to receive chemotherapy

-- Durvalumab ([Imfinzi](#)) in combination with platinum-based chemotherapy as neoadjuvant treatment, followed by Imfinzi as monotherapy after surgery, now indicated for the treatment of adults with resectable (tumours ≥ 4 cm and/or node positive) non-small cell lung cancer and no known epidermal growth factor receptor mutations or anaplastic lymphoma kinase rearrangements

-- Letermovir ([Prevymsis](#)) now also indicated for the prophylaxis of CMV disease in adult kidney transplant recipients at high risk (donor CMV-seropositive/recipient CMV-seronegative)

PBS

- PBS item supply for formerly private prescription items (e.g. Yaz®, Yasmin® listed - [1 March 2025](#))

- Shortages of hormone replace therapy (HRT) patches: PBS subsidy and substitution of Estradot, Estraderm MX and overseas alternatives - [4 March 2025](#)

- Update to Continued Dispensing Arrangements – Emergency Measures - [5 March 2025](#)

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- PBAC Public Summary Documents – November 2024 meeting - [7 March 2025](#)

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages
- AusPARs:
- [Eladynos](#) approved for osteoporosis in postmenopausal women at increased risk of fracture

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Association of Digestible Carbohydrate Intake With Cardiovascular Disease, Type 2 Diabetes, Obesity, and Body Composition - [link](#)

All Wales Medicines Strategy Group

- Managing medicines shortages in Wales - [link](#) - [new webpage](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Crushed Buprenorphine-Naloxone Tablets - [link](#)
- Drug Shortages in Canada — [Expert Panel](#)
- Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide Inhibitors for Migraine Prophylaxis – [final protocol](#)
- Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Impact of Remdesivir for Outpatient Treatment of COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Impact of Nirmatrelvir-Ritonavir for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Impact of Tocilizumab for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Impact of Remdesivir for Inpatient Treatment of COVID-19 - [link](#)

Department of Health and Social Care UK

- The regulation of artificial intelligence as a medical device: government response to the RHC - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [New products](#)
- Akizza (ethinylestradiol/gestodene) 75mcg/20mcg tablets – for oral contraception and recognised gynaecological indications for such oestrogen-progestogen combinations. The decision to prescribe should consider the individual woman's current risk factors, particularly those for VTE.
- Andembry (garadacimab) 200mg pre-filled pen - human monoclonal antibody targeting IgG4 for routine prevention of recurrent attacks of hereditary angioedema in adults and adolescent patients aged over 12 years. Administered monthly subcutaneously
- Filsapri (sparsentan) tablets– RAS-acting agent for adults with primary immunoglobulin A nephropathy with urine protein excretion ≥ 1.0 g/day (or urine protein-to-creatinine ratio ≥ 0.75 g/g)
- [Revised SPCs](#)
- Esperoct (turoctocog alfa pegol) - use extended to all age groups for treatment & prophylaxis of bleeding due to haemophilia A. Paediatric dosing advice & info from paediatric studies included.
- Evkeeza (evinacumab) - use in paediatric patients aged 6 months and above included, as an adjunct to diet and other LDL-C lowering therapies, for homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia
- OPDIVO (nivolumab) - use in combination with chemotherapy as neoadjuvant treatment, continued as monotherapy as adjuvant treatment after surgical resection, for treatment of adults with resectable NSCLC & no known EGFR mutations or ALK rearrangements

Epilepsy Society UK

- MPs call for urgent review into medicines shortages - [letter](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- New clinical trial map launched in the EU - [link](#)
- European CHMP recommends:
- a change to the existing indication for daratumumab ([Darzalex](#))
- acalabrutinib ([Calquence](#)) for the treatment of mantle cell lymphoma
- [Abrysvo](#) (RSV vaccine) in younger adults
- [beremagene](#) geperpavec for dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa

- [Degsiga](#) (human normal immunoglobulin)
- iptacopan ([Fabhalta](#)) for the treatment of adults with complement 3 glomerulopathy
- [Kaftrio](#) (ivacaftor/tezacaftor/elexacaftor) and Kalydeco (ivacaftor) for use in patients with at least one non-class I CFTR mutation
- [linvoseltamab](#) (Lynozofic) for multiple myeloma
- [Trabectedin Accord](#) for the treatment of soft tissue sarcoma and ovarian cancer
- trastuzumab deruxtecan ([Enhertu](#)) for adults with unresectable or metastatic HR-positive HER2-low or -ultralow breast cancer
- [glofitamab](#) for the treatment of relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL)
- Chikungunya vaccine ([Ixchiq](#)) for use in younger children
- durvalumab ([Imfinzi](#)) for the treatment of adults with resectable NSCLC at high risk of recurrence
- guselkumab ([Tremfya](#)) for treatment of ulcerative colitis
- letermovir ([Prevydis](#)) for use in children
- pirtobrutinib ([Jaypirca](#)) for the treatment of adults with relapsed or refractory chronic lymphocytic
- [Supemtek Tetra](#) (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine) for use in younger children
- upadacitinib ([Rinvog](#)) for the treatment of giant cell arteritis
- ustekinumab ([Stelara](#)) for use in children with Crohn's disease
- European CHMP refuses marketing authorisation for temozolomide ([Kizfio](#))

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- Gomekli ([mirdametinib](#)) to treat neurofibromatosis type 1 who have symptomatic plexiform neurofibromas not amenable to complete resection
- Romvimza ([vimseltinib](#)) to treat symptomatic tenosynovial giant cell tumor for which surgical resection will potentially cause worsening functional limitation or severe morbidity
- Omlyclo ([omalizumab-igec](#)) SC injection for certain allergic/inflammatory/autoimmune conditions
- Encelto ([revakinagene taroretcel-lwey](#)), an allogeneic encapsulated cell-based gene therapy for the treatment of adults with idiopathic macular telangiectasia type 2 (MacTel)
- TNKase ([tenecteplase](#)) to treat acute ischemic stroke (AIS) in adults
- Odactra to include use in individuals 5 through 11 years of age to treat house dust mite induced nasal inflammation (allergic rhinitis), with or without eye inflammation (conjunctivitis)

Health Innovation Network, UK

- The mechanics of tackling overprescribing and problematic polypharmacy - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- approves mRESVIA respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine to protect patients ≥ 60 years - [link](#)
- MHRA collaboration with hospital DNA sequencing service cuts time to diagnose infections - [link](#)
- approves Alyftrek (deutivacaftor/tezacaftor/vanzacaftor) to treat cystic fibrosis (CF) - [link](#)
- approves lazertinib (Lazcluze) in combination with amivantamab for 1st-line treatment of advanced NSCL cancer with EGFR exon 19 deletions or exon 21 L858R substitution mutations - [link](#)

Monthly Index of Medical Specialities MIMS UK

- MIMS learning: Management of diabetes during Ramadan - [link](#)
- Melatonin prescribing options compared in new MIMS table - [link](#)
- Women's health product updates: HRT shortage, fezolinetant liver alert and new generics - [link](#)

NHS England

- Etanercept and adalimumab for deficiency of adenosine deaminase type 2 (≥ 5 years) - [link](#)
- Arsenic trioxide in combination with all-trans retinoic acid for the treatment of high-risk acute promyelocytic leukaemia (age 12 months and over) - [link](#)
- Clinical response to local incidents and outbreaks of infectious disease: Commissioning guidance for Integrated Care Boards - [link](#)
- Neighbourhood health guidelines 2025/26 – [link](#)

NHS Scotland

- Accepted for use:

- [Cabozantinib](#) (Cabozantinib Ipsen) for the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma
- [Talazoparib](#) (Talzenna®) for the treatment of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer
- Not recommended:
- [Ripretinib](#) (Qinlock®) for the treatment of advanced gastrointestinal stromal tumour (GIST)
- [Spesolimab](#) (Spevigo®) for the treatment of generalised pustular psoriasis

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) UK

- 12 SQ-HDM SLIT for allergic rhinitis and allergic asthma caused by house dust mites ([TA1045](#))
- Zolbetuximab with chemotherapy for untreated claudin-18.2-positive HER2-negative unresectable advanced gastric or gastro-oesophageal junction adenocarcinoma ([TA1046](#))

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

- NIHR Commentaries: COVID-19 vaccine during pregnancy reduces risks to mother and baby - [link](#)
- NIHR Commentaries: Which drugs are best for migraine attacks? - [link](#)
- NIHR Evidence: Adult social care- how to improve support for people at risk through homelessness, learning disabilities or dementia - [link](#)
- NIHR commentaries: Vaping is linked with breathing issues in young people - [link](#)
- The acceptability of blood spot screening and genome sequencing in newborn screening: a systematic review examining evidence and frameworks - [link](#)

Nuffield Trust

- QualityWatch: Antibiotic prescribing - [link](#)

Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network (SIGN) UK

- Prevention and remission of type 2 diabetes ([SIGN 172](#))

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Advising on missed or delayed doses of medicines - [link](#)
- Combined oral hormonal contraceptive (COC) in reproductive health - [updated PGD](#)
- Lidocaine injection for subdermal etonogestrel in contraception - [updated PGD](#)
- Ulipristal acetate 30mg tablets for emergency contraception - [updated PGD](#)
- Vitamin D deficiency: treatment during pregnancy - [link](#)
- Individually labelled medicines in residential custodial settings - [link](#)
- Preparing for audits and inspections of aseptic services - [link](#)

UK Health Security Agency

- Mosquito summary - HECC Chapter 8: climate and vector-borne diseases - [link](#)
- Whole genome sequencing service launched to tackle hepatitis C (HCV) - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Japan's AMR response 2013-2025: developing, implementing and evaluating national AMR action plans - [link](#)
- Use of lower-sodium salt substitutes: WHO guideline - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [Revised SPCs](#)
- Adanif (nifedipine) XL - depression added as ADR of unknown frequency
- Amvuttra (vutrisiran) pre-filled syringe - may be administered by a HCP, patient, or caregiver
- Butrans (buprenorphine) transdermal - concomitant use of buprenorphine with gabapentinoids may result in respiratory depression, hypotension, profound sedation, coma or death, and administration of buprenorphine with anticholinergics may result in increased anticholinergic adverse effects
- Camzyos hard capsules (mavacamten) - revised to advise that once an individualised maintenance dose is achieved with LVEF $\geq 55\%$, patients should be assessed every 6 months (previously every 12 weeks). Assess patients with LVEF 50-55% every 3 months regardless of Valsalva LVOT gradient.

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988

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ABN: 82 707 308 091

- Depo-Provera (medroxyprogesterone acetate) - meningioma or history of meningioma as a contra-indication to treatment; may be associated with prolonged treatment with (frequency unknown)
- Elvanse (lisdexamfetamine dimesylate), Elvanse Adult hard capsules - Tourette's disorder added as an ADR of unknown frequency in all age groups. Stimulants can exacerbate motor and phonic tics and Tourette's so clinical evaluation should precede use of these agents.
- Eylea (aflibercept) - 'scleritis' added as an ADR and to note that there is 0.003mg of polysorbate 20 in each 0.01 ml dose (0.3 mg/ml)
- Episenta (sodium valproate) - carnitine supplementation should be considered when symptoms of hypocarnitaemia or hyperammonaemia are observed. Acquired Pelger-Huet anomaly added as a potential side effect of unknown frequency.
- Fosrenol (lanthanum carbonate hydrate) - bowel obstruction added as a contraindication
- Ixylidone (oxycodone) prolonged-release - Following PRAC recommendation, SPC updated to state "Do not use for acute post-operative pain owing to the increased risk of persistent post-operative opioid use (PPOU) and opioid-induced ventilatory impairment (OIVI)"
- Lioresal (baclofen) - cases of encephalopathy reported in patients receiving baclofen at therapeutic doses, which were reversible after treatment discontinuation. Symptoms included somnolence, depressed level of consciousness, confusion, myoclonus and coma.
- Movicol-Half - consider interactions in patients with swallowing problems, who need the addition of a thickener to solutions to enhance an appropriate intake, added back to section 4.4
- Moviprep, Plenvu - cases of seizures observed, mostly associated with electrolyte abnormalities. Cases of oesophageal rupture (Boerhaave syndrome) associated with excessive vomiting after intake have also been reported, mostly in elderly patients.
- Oxlumo (lumasiran sodium) - Undesirable effects and pharmacodynamic properties sections updated with information from the ILLUMINATE-A trial, including about long-term safety profile
- Paracetamol – all preparations - several sections updated to include information about high anion gap metabolic acidosis (HAGMA), following a recent PRAC recommendation for paracetamol-containing medicinal products
- Prograf (tacrolimus) – Kaposi's sarcoma (KS), including cases with aggressive forms of disease and fatal outcomes, reported in those taking tacrolimus. It notes, in some cases, regression of KS has been observed after reducing the intensity of immunosuppression.
- Salofalk (mesalazine) enema - idiopathic intracranial hypertension (pseudotumor cerebri) added as a potential ADR (frequency unknown). If it occurs, consider discontinuation of mesalazine.
- Solu-Cortef, Solu-Medrone (hydrocortisone sodium succinate) - cases of rhabdomyolysis reported with the use of corticosteroids (frequency unknown)
- Spevigo (spesolimab) – several changes, including the addition of treatment of generalised pustular psoriasis flares in adolescents as monotherapy, and inclusion of dosing information for adolescents including those weighing ≥ 30 & < 40 kg. Information about hypersensitivity also updated
- Synjardy (empagliflozin/metformin) – additional information about prolonged ketoacidosis and glucosuria. Information about necrotising fasciitis also updated & additional information on elevated haematocrit added. Adverse effect information relating to phimosis/acquired phimosis also included
- Tecentriq (atezolizumab) - information regarding switching treatment between IV and subcutaneous formulations (and vice versa) added, based on results from an open-label cross-over study evaluating reported preferences in people with NSCLC
- Upravi (selexipag) - angioedema added as a common side-effect. Cases have been reported in post-marketing experience with a latency that can exceed 30 days of treatment.
- Zegluxen (liraglutide) – cutaneous amyloidosis added ADR of unknown frequency. In this condition, amyloid or amyloid-like proteins are deposited in the dermis of the skin. May occur at the injection site

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA issues class-wide labeling changes for testosterone products - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Modified release opioids and treatment of post-operative Pain - [link](#)

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Mpox vaccine and pericarditis - [update](#)
- Prescriber Update Vol. 46. No. 1 - [March 2025](#) – includes

- Spotlight on weekly methotrexate
- Medicines Monitoring: Anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies and pyoderma gangrenosum
- Factors contributing to colchicine toxicity
- Medroxyprogesterone acetate and meningioma
- Sickle-cell crisis with pegfilgrastim and filgrastim
- Immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome (ICANS)

MIMS monthly updates

- New Contraindications
- Carbamazepine ([Tegretol](#)) is now contraindicated in neonates below 4 weeks of age
- Clarithromycin ([Klacid](#)) is now contraindicated for concomitant use with ivabradine
- Esomeprazole (magnesium trihydrate), amoxicillin (trihydrate) and clarithromycin ([Nexium Hp7](#)) now contraindicated for concomitant use with ivabradine
- Triptorelin (embonate) ([Diphereline](#)) now contraindicated in patients where there are indications that the tumour is not hormone-dependent or following surgical castration

Pharma

- Astellas: Vezoza ▼ (fezolinetant): risk of drug-induced liver injury and new recommendations on monitoring of liver function before and during treatment - [letter](#)
- Medac: Sodiofolin® (folinic acid) 50mg/ml solution for injection/infusion – requirement to use a PES or PVDF filter for certain batches due to observation of particles and potential risk of thromboembolic event - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Medication Safety Update [February 2025](#)
- 'Flozin' suggestions for adults with swallowing difficulties - [link](#)
- 'Gliptin' suggestions for adults with swallowing difficulties - [link](#)
- Haemorrhoids: treatment during pregnancy - [link](#)

TGA

- Potential risk of neurodevelopmental disorders in children born to men taking sodium valproate - [link](#)
- More prominent warnings about serious side effects for fluoroquinolone antibiotics - [link](#)
- Valproate safety alert - [link](#)
- Strengthened warnings for broad-spectrum antibiotics - [link](#)

US Pharmacopeia

- 2024-2025 Vulnerable Medicines List for the United States: A data-based approach to identify risks and enable interventions to increase reliability of supply - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Therapeutic advances in chronic lymphocytic leukemia: A focus on molecular pathogenesis, targeted therapies, and supportive care - [link](#)
- Moral values for implementation of AI and machine learning in healthcare - [link](#)
- The impact of change in regulations on buprenorphine prescribing for opioid use disorder - [link](#)
- Impact of paralytic choice on postintubation sedation and analgesia in the emergency department - [link](#)
- The role of artificial intelligence in emergency medicine pharmacy practice - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Evaluation and Management of Chronic Kidney Disease: Synopsis of the Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes 2024 Clinical Practice Guideline - [link](#)
- In the clinic: Gout - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- Long-Term Safety and Efficacy of Mepolizumab in Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of JAK Inhibitors Compared With Biologic Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs on Pain Reduction in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Results From a Nationwide Swedish Cohort Study - [link](#)
- Minimal Tofacitinib dose for Maintenance in Axial Spondyloarthritis: Real world data from a Resource-limited setting - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Adverse events associated with monoclonal antibodies used for treatment of COVID-19: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Safety and effectiveness of the anti-amyloid monoclonal antibody (mAb) drug lecanemab for early Alzheimer's disease: The pharmacovigilance perspective - [link](#)
- Assessing GPT-4's accuracy in answering clinical pharmacological questions on pain therapy - [link](#)
- Factors influencing physicians' antimicrobial prescribing decisions: A systematic review of qualitative studies - [link](#)
- Utilization and expenditure on medicines for the management of osteoporosis in Ireland: A repeated cross-sectional study - [link](#)
- Methotrexate toxicity and glucarpidase: A call for dose optimization - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Transdiagnostic use of 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine-assisted therapy to treat obsessive-compulsive disorder - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists and risk of suicidality among patients with type 2 diabetes: active comparator, new user cohort study - [link](#)
- Shaping the UK's long term relationship with tirzepatide - [link](#)
- European Medicines Association upholds decision to recommend lecanemab for Alzheimer's disease - [link](#)
- Practice Pointer: Diagnosis and management of faecal incontinence in primary care - [link](#)
- Primary prevention of heart attacks and strokes: seeking consensus on the polypill approach - [link](#)
- Projections for prevalence of Parkinson's disease and its driving factors in 195 countries and territories to 2050: modelling study of Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 - [link](#)
- Advances in the management of endometrial cancer - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Efficacy and safety of 11 sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors at different dosages in type 2 diabetes mellitus patients inadequately controlled with metformin: a Bayesian network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Effects of aspirin and omega-3 fatty acids on age-related macular degeneration in ASCEND-Eye: a randomised placebo-controlled trial in a population with diabetes - [link](#)
- Evaluating the implementation of inclisiran in primary care: process evaluation interim findings from interviews with key stakeholders - [link](#)
- Allopurinol use and risk of acute coronary syndrome in gout patients: a population-based cohort study in Sweden - [link](#)
- Can we trust published evidence on point-of-care tests for cholesterol? A rapid review - [link](#)
- Predictors of treatment REsponse to inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) in Chronic Obstructive pulmonary disease: randomised controlled trials individual participant Data re-Evaluation-protocol of the ICS-RECODE individual participant data meta-analysis - [link](#)

Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)

- Effect of emergency department opioid prescribing on health outcomes - [link](#)

Circulation

- 2025 ACC/AHA/ACEP/NAEMSP/SCAI Guideline for the Management of Patients with Acute Coronary Syndromes - [link](#)
- Efficacy of Irbesartan in Celiprolol-Treated Patients with Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Rituximab for people with multiple sclerosis - [link](#)
- Safety and efficacy of proton pump inhibitors in preterm infants with gastroesophageal reflux disease - [link](#)
- Sulfonylurea drugs for people with severe hemispheric ischemic stroke - [link](#)
- Antidepressants for low back pain and spine-related leg pain - [link](#)
- Vasodilators for women undergoing fertility treatment - [link](#)
- Azathioprine and 6-mercaptopurine for maintenance of remission in ulcerative colitis - [link](#)
- Renin inhibitors versus angiotensin receptor blockers for primary hypertension - [link](#)

Critical Care Medicine

- A Focused Update to the Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Pain, Anxiety, Agitation/Sedation, Delirium, Immobility, and Sleep Disruption in Adult Patients in the ICU - [link](#)
- Acetylsalicylic Acid Treatment in Patients With Sepsis and Septic Shock: A Phase 2, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Early Continuous Glucose Monitor Use in Children and Adolescents With Type 1 Diabetes: Rates of Initiation and Impact on Glycemic Outcomes - [link](#)
- Efficacy and Safety of Finerenone in Type 2 Diabetes: A Pooled Analysis of Trials of Heart Failure and Chronic Kidney Disease - [link](#)
- Effect of Oral Semaglutide Versus Comparators on Multiple Cardiometabolic Risk Factor Control in Adults With Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)

Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism

- Temporal risk patterns of severe hypovolemia associated with sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: A self-controlled case series study - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- DTB Editorial: Paying the price - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Tafamidis in octogenarians with wild-type transthyretin cardiac amyloidosis: an international cohort study - [link](#)
- Empagliflozin in resistant hypertension and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction: the EMPEROR-Preserved trial - [link](#)
- Great debate: default duration of dual antiplatelet treatment after percutaneous coronary intervention in acute coronary syndrome should be 12 months - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Unit dose drug dispensing systems in hospitals: a systematic review of medication error reduction and cost-effectiveness - [link](#)
- Adherence and persistence rates for antidiabetic treatments in type 2 diabetes: a real-world study in an Italian region - [link](#)

Heart

- Cardiovascular health effects of vaping e-cigarettes: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Missed opportunities to manage complex comorbidity of heart failure, type 2 diabetes mellitus and chronic kidney disease: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Evolution of coronary stents: innovations, antithrombotic strategies and future directions - [link](#)
- Advancing clinical management of left ventricular thrombosis: prevention, detection and treatment modalities in the modern era - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Results of rapid plasma direct oral anticoagulant levels greatly expand stroke thrombolysis eligibility: evidence from real-world implementation - [link](#)
- Performance and opportunity: retrospective cohort study of general medicine heart failure management - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Defining histamine H2 receptor antagonist response in critically ill patients with heart failure: a machine learning cluster analysis - [link](#)
- Investigating the controversy surrounding statin therapy and Achilles tendinopathy using Mendelian randomization analysis - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Look-Alike, Sound-Alike Medication Perioperative Incidents in a Regional Australian Hospital: Assessment using a Novel Medication Safety Culture Assessment Tool - [link](#)

JAC - Antimicrobial resistance

- Assessing the impact of using a patient counselling prompt—the TARGET antibiotic checklist in England's community pharmacies - [link](#)

JAMA

- Cardiovascular Outcomes with Icosapent Ethyl by Baseline Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol: A Secondary Analysis of the REDUCE-IT Randomized Trial - [link](#)
- Testicular Germ Cell Tumors: A Review - [link](#)
- Eating Disorders: A Review - [link](#)
- HIV Viral Suppression with Use of Long-Acting Antiretroviral Therapy in People With and Without Initial Viremia - [link](#)
- High-Dose Vitamin D in Clinically Isolated Syndrome Typical of Multiple Sclerosis: The D-Lay MS Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Prostate Cancer: A Review - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Finerenone for Heart Failure and Risk Estimated by the PREDICT-HFpEF Model: A Secondary Analysis of FINEARTS-HF - [link](#)
- Simultaneous or Rapid Initiation of Combination Therapy for Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Risk of Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events Following Nicotinamide Exposure - [link](#)
- At-Home LED Devices for the Treatment of Acne Vulgaris: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of Adalimumab Biosimilars and Originator for Psoriasis - [link](#)
- Efficacy, Safety, and Tolerability of Oral DFD-29, a Low-Dose Formulation of Minocycline, in Rosacea: Two Phase 3 Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)
- Long-Term Efficacy and Safety of Rituximab in Patients With Pemphigus Foliaceus Compared With Pemphigus Vulgaris - [link](#)
- Human Papillomavirus Vaccination and Actinic Keratosis Burden: The VAXAK Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Multivitamins After Myocardial Infarction in Patients with Diabetes: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Expanding Alcohol Use Disorder Medications in Primary Care - [link](#)
- Butter and Plant-Based Oils Intake and Mortality - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Hematologic Cancers Among Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Prescribed GLP-1 Receptor Agonists - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Frailty and Implications for Multiple Sclerosis Management - [link](#)
- Amyloid-Related Imaging Abnormalities With Donanemab in Early Symptomatic Alzheimer Disease: Secondary Analysis of the TRAILBLAZER-ALZ and ALZ 2 Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Long-Term Toxicity of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors—Time to Widen the Lens - [link](#)
- Efficacy of Hand Cooling and Compression in Preventing Taxane-Induced Neuropathy: The POLAR Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Ophthalmology

- Semaglutide and Nonarteritic Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Evidence-Based Practicing in Mental Health - [link](#)

Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety

- Editorial: The Invisible Work to Manage Drug Shortages – [link](#)
- Reflections on a Dobutamine Shortage in an Academic Health System: A Roadmap for Risk Reduction - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Therapy for Stage IV Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer with Driver Alterations: ASCO Living Guideline, Version 2024.3 - [link](#)
- Therapy for Stage IV Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer Without Driver Alterations: ASCO Living Guideline, Version 2024.3 - [link](#)
- Explaining the Relationships Between Age, Endocrine Therapy Persistence, and Risk of Recurrence in Hormone Receptor–Positive Early Breast Cancer: A Nationwide Cohort Study – [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- Ambulatory medication errors and adverse events involved in medicine-related malpractice cases from 2011 to 2021 - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

- Medication-focused telehealth interventions to reduce the hospital readmission rate: a systematic review - [link](#)

Lancet

- Direct oral anticoagulants versus no anticoagulation for the prevention of stroke in survivors of intracerebral haemorrhage with atrial fibrillation (PRESTIGE-AF): a multicentre, open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial - [link](#)
- Extended treatment of venous thromboembolism with reduced-dose versus full-dose direct oral anticoagulants in patients at high risk of recurrence: a non-inferiority, multicentre, randomised, open-label, blinded endpoint trial - [link](#)
- Zika Virus: Research Priorities for Preparedness and Response - [link](#)
- Efficacy and safety of twice per year depemokimab in chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (ANCHOR-1 and ANCHOR-2): phase 3, randomised, double-blind, parallel trials - [link](#)
- Atosiban versus placebo for threatened preterm birth (APOSTEL 8): a multicentre, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Global, regional, and national prevalence of adult overweight and obesity, 1990–2021, with forecasts to 2050: a forecasting study for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 - [link](#)
- Global, regional, and national prevalence of child and adolescent overweight and obesity, 1990–2021, with forecasts to 2050: a forecasting study for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 - [link](#)
- Tuberculosis - [link](#)
- Effect of digital adherence technologies on treatment outcomes in people with drug-susceptible tuberculosis: four pragmatic, cluster-randomised trials - [link](#)

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Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Impact of bodyweight loss on type 2 diabetes remission: a systematic review and meta-regression analysis of randomised controlled trials - [link](#)
- GLP-1 receptor agonists in kidney transplant recipients with pre-existing diabetes: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)
- A step towards more physiological glucocorticoid dosing in congenital adrenal hyperplasia - [link](#)
- Adrenocortical carcinoma: a practical guide for clinicians - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology-

- The urgent need for implementation science to achieve hepatitis C elimination - [link](#)
- Global epidemiology of acute kidney injury in hospitalised patients with decompensated cirrhosis: the International Club of Ascites GLOBAL AKI prospective, multicentre, cohort study - [link](#)
- The intestinal barrier: a pivotal role in health, inflammation, and cancer - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Antimicrobials in serious illness and end-of-life care: lifting the veil of silence - [link](#)
- Facts and myths about measles - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Dose optimisation to improve access to effective cancer medicines - [link](#)
- Proceedings of the National Cancer Institute Workshop on combining immunotherapy with radiotherapy: challenges and opportunities for clinical translation - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Efficacy of clozapine versus second-generation antipsychotics in people with treatment-resistant schizophrenia: a systematic review and individual patient data meta-analysis - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Methadone and Buprenorphine as Medication for Addiction Treatment Diversely Affect Inflammation and Craving Depending on Their Doses - [link](#)
- Hospital Clinicians' Knowledge of and Opportunity and Motivation for Prescribing Short Antibiotic Courses for Common Infections - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- National consensus statement on opioid agonist treatment in custodial settings - [link](#)
- Management of Mycobacterium ulcerans infection (Buruli ulcer) in Australia: consensus [statement](#)
- Shortages of benzathine benzylpenicillin G in Australia highlight the need for new sovereign manufacturing capability - [link](#)
- Making climate change a national health priority: Australia's first National Health and Climate Strategy - [link](#)
- Improving palliative care for people who use alcohol and other drugs - [link](#)
- A future for the hospital-in-the-home (HITH) deteriorating patient: shifting the paradigm - [link](#)
- Potentially preventable medication-related hospitalisations with cardiovascular disease of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Queensland, 2013–2017: a retrospective cohort study - [link](#)

Nature Medicine

- Global patterns and trends in breast cancer incidence and mortality across 185 countries - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Oral Infigratinib Therapy in Children with Achondroplasia - [link](#)
- Tezepelumab in Adults with Severe Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps - [link](#)
- Male-Partner Treatment to Prevent Recurrence of Bacterial Vaginosis - [link](#)
- Remibrutinib in Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria - [link](#)
- Micronutrients — Assessment, Requirements, Deficiencies, and Interventions - [link](#)
- Supporting the Development of Drugs for Rare Diseases —The Importance of Regulatory Transparency - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- GLP-1 Receptor Agonists in Pediatric and Adolescent Obesity - [link](#)
- Recommendations for Pneumonia in Hospitalized Children With Neurologic Impairment - [link](#)
- Adapting a Risk Prediction Tool for Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- Understanding the role of sex hormones in asthma - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Evaluation of hyponatremia among older adults exposed to selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors and thiazide diuretics - [link](#)
- Prevalence of potentially inappropriately prescribed medications among older adults receiving peritoneal dialysis - [link](#)

Prescribe International – [March 2025](#) issue includes:

- Exagamglogene autotemcel (Casgevy^o) in beta-thalassaemia or sickle-cell disease
- Children exposed to progestogens in utero: excess cancers?
- Anticoagulants and heavy menstrual bleeding

Thorax

- Impact of COPD on cardiovascular risk factors and outcomes in people with established cardiovascular disease - [link](#)

CONSULTATIONS

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

- Consultation: Neonatal jaundice and hyperbilirubinaemia, closes 4 April 2025 - [link](#)

WEBINARS & PODCASTS

Australian Prescriber Podcasts

- [Episode 183](#): Drug safety in pregnancy

Canadian Pharmacists Association

- Beyond the numbers: A pharmacist's guide to dyslipidemia management and clinical decision-making - [link](#)

FDA Division of Drug Information is presenting a [series](#) of CE webinars

- An Update on Transmucosal Buprenorphine and Dental Caries - [December 10, 2024](#)

MJA Podcasts

- [Episode 5](#): Gender inequality in health

UPCOMING EVENTS

AHHA

- Investing in DIAMONDS: transforming a surgical waitlist into a 'preparation list', online 1 April, 2025 12:30-13:30 AEDT - [register](#)
- Mental Health Access & Quality in Emergency Departments, April 8, 2025 09:00 AEST – [register](#)

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

- 2025 Congress: Partnering to advance VBHC in Australia, 1-2 May 2025, Melbourne - [register](#)

Fortnightly TAG Mail – resources list 27th February 2025

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988
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ABN: 82 707 308 091

Upcoming NSW TAG Meetings

NSW TAG General Meeting: 12th March 2025 4-5.30pm

Contact Sasha Bennett at sasha.bennett@svha.org.au for further information about any email discussions, publications or upcoming meetings.

EDITOR'S PICKS

ARD: Efficacy and safety reviews of JKI in immune-mediated inflammatory diseases- [link](#), [link](#)
BJCP: Adherence and persistence with DOACs by dose regimen: A systematic review - [link](#)
BJCP: Acute CV effects associated with prescription medications - [link](#)
BJCP: Navigating challenges and opportunities in orphan medicines - [link](#)
BJCP: - Understanding factors that influence the drug choice of prescribers - [link](#)
BMJ: Stroke and MI with contemporary hormonal contraception - [link](#)
BMJ Open: Comparative effectiveness and safety of nifedipine and Mg SO₄ for preterm birth- [link](#)
BMJ QS: Problem with reporting standards for adverse event and medical error research - [link](#)
CADTH: Association Between Opioid Use and the Development of Diverticulitis - [link](#)
DTB Select: No benefit from bisoprolol for COPD but no increase in serious harms- [link](#)
EHJ: [Translation of genomics into routine cardiological practice](#) - [link](#)
IMJ: A new era in myeloma: chimeric antigen receptor-T (CAR-T) cells and bispecific antibodies - [link](#)
IMJ: Treatment of obesity: will incretin agonists make bariatric surgery a thing of the past? - [link](#)
IJCP: Medication-induced causes of delirium in patients with and without dementia - [link](#)
IJCP: Genetic polymorphisms and anti-tuberculosis drug-induced liver injury - [link](#)
[JAMA IM](#): Buprenorphine, Pain, and Opioid Use in Patients on High-Dose Long-Term Opioids- [link](#)
[JAMA IM](#): Comparative Bleeding Risk in Older Patients With HIV and AF Receiving OACs - [link](#)
[JAMA NO](#): Harm Reduction Strategies for People Who Use Drugs - [link](#)
[JAMA Psych](#): Integrated Nicotine Replacement and Behavioral Support for Smoking in OAT- [link](#)
[JAMA Psych](#): Strengthening Safeguards for Psychiatric Uses of Ketamine - [link](#)
[JACC](#): Anticoagulation and Antiplatelet Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation and Stable Coronary Disease- [link](#)
[JACC](#): Antithrombotic Therapy to Minimize Total Events After ACS or PCI in Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)
Lancet: A 5-drug class model using available clinical features to optimise prescribing in T2DM- [link](#)
Lancet DE: Realigning DM regimens in older adults: simplification and deprescribing strategies - [link](#)
Lancet ID: - Global guideline for the diagnosis and management of candidiasis - [link](#)
Lancet ID: Early evidence of RSV vaccination impact on hospitalisation rates of older people - [link](#)
Lancet ID: DoxyPEP: thinking towards implementation - [link](#)
Lancet Neur: Enzyme replacement therapy for metabolic storage disorders: lessons from Pompe disease - [link](#)
MJA: Shortages of benzathine benzylpenicillin G in Australia highlight the need for new sovereign manufacturing capability - [link](#)
MJA: Management of Mycobacterium ulcerans infection (Buruli ulcer) in Australia - [link](#)
MJA: The role of GLP-1 RAs in the management of obesity in the Australian HC system - [link](#)
Stroke: Thrombolysis for Ischemic Stroke Beyond the 4.5-Hour Window - [link](#)

OTHER NEWS

NSW Health

- First Japanese encephalitis case this summer [[15 February 2025](#)]
- NSW records first death of person with Japanese encephalitis since 2022 [[25 February 2025](#)]
- Measles alert for Sydney [[21 February 2025](#)] ... for Western Sydney [[26 February 2025](#)]

Pharmacy Board of Australia

- Discrimination and racism will not be tolerated - [link](#)

TGA

- Nitrosamine and Nitroso-structure impurities acceptable intakes update - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988
Ph: 0407418 072 | Email: nswtag@stvincents.com.au | www.nswtag.org.au
An initiative of NSW clinical pharmacologists & pharmacists
ABN: 82 707 308 091

The latest weekly Evidence Digest can be found [here](#)

CATAG

Collaborating with Consumers: Understanding changing brands of biologics - [link](#)

MAIA Optimising guideline-directed medical therapy for HFrEF toolkit - [link](#)

MAIA Perioperative management of SGLT2 inhibitors and GLP-1 receptor agonists toolkit - [link](#)

Stroke Foundation

- Australian and New Zealand Living Clinical Guidelines for Stroke Management - [link](#)

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages

- AusPARs:

-- Gazyva ([obinutuzumab](#)) as pre-treatment to reduce the risk of cytokine release syndrome (CRS) induced by glofitamab

-- [Truqap](#), in combination with fulvestrant, for adult patients with HR positive, HER2 negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer following recurrence or progression on or after an endocrine-based regimen

-- [Columvi](#) monotherapy with obinutuzumab pretreatment has provisional approval for adult patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) after two or more lines of systemic therapy. Columvi is not indicated for patients with primary central nervous system lymphoma

- Registration of new generic medicines:

-- [LACOSAMIDE INTERPHARMA](#) ; [PANTOPRAZOLE MEDICIANZ](#) ; [ANKSILON](#) (buspirone)

- Registration of extension of indications:

-- [ARCATUS](#) ; [ALHEMO](#) ; [IMFINZI](#) ; [ILARIS](#) ; [BLINCYTO](#) ; [SYFOVRE](#) ; [EMPAVELI](#) ; [KEYTRUDA](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

All Wales Medicines Strategy Group

- Emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide fumarate ([Descovy](#)®) recommended for restricted use for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)

British National Formulary

- BNF/BNFC newsletter: [February 2025](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [New products](#)

-- Altuvoct (efanesoctocog alfa): a replacement factor VIII therapy, for treatment and prophylaxis of bleeding in patients 2 years and above with severe or moderate haemophilia A ($\leq 5\%$ endogenous plasma factor VIII activity)

-- Enalto (escitalopram) orodispersible tablets - new formulation: for major depressive episodes, panic disorder with or without agoraphobia, social anxiety disorder, generalised anxiety disorder, and obsessive-compulsive disorder

-- Glycopyrronium Bromide 2mg/5ml Oral Solution - new strength licensed for symptomatic treatment of severe sialorrhoea (chronic pathological drooling) due to chronic neurological disorders of childhood-onset in patients aged 3 years and older

- [Revised SPCs](#)

-- Fasentra (benralizumab) pre-filled pen - as an add-on treatment for adult patients with relapsing or refractory eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis

-- Keytruda (pembrolizumab) for first-line treatment of primary advanced or recurrent endometrial carcinoma in adults combined with carboplatin and paclitaxel. Recommended dose is 200 mg every 3 weeks for 6 cycles, then 400 mg every 6 weeks for up to 14 cycles as monotherapy

-- Retsevmo (selpercatinib) - extension for use in the first-line treatment of advanced RET fusion positive thyroid cancer

Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare

- FSRH statement: Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) agonists and oral contraception - [link](#)

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988

Ph: 0407418 072 | Email: nswtag@stvincents.com.au | www.nswtag.org.au

An initiative of NSW clinical pharmacologists & pharmacists

ABN: 82 707 308 091

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- rapid-acting insulin biosimilar product ([Merilog](#); insulin-aspart-szjj) for diabetes
- [vimseltinib](#) (Romvimza) for symptomatic tenosynovial giant cell tumor
- Ctexli ([chenodiol](#)), for cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis, a Rare Lipid Storage Disease

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Approves medical imaging agent gozetotide (68Ga PSMA-11; Illuccix®) for diagnosis of prostate cancer - [link](#)
- Approves efanesoctocog alfa (Altuvoc) to prevent and treat bleeding in children and adults with severe or moderate haemophilia A - [link](#)
- Approves nemolizumab (Nemluvio) for prurigo nodularis and atopic dermatitis (eczema) - [link](#)

Monthly Index of Medical Specialities MIMS UK

- Availability updates for topical psoriasis treatments - [link](#)
- Two new continuous glucose monitoring sensors available for NHS prescribing: FreeStyle Libre 3 Plus sensors and CareSens - [link](#)
- Two new formoterol/beclometasone pMDIs launched - [link](#)
- Oral oestrogen HRT product now available generically - [link](#)
- New MIMS table summarises epilepsy drugs - [link](#)
- New liraglutide biosimilars (Zegluxen and Nevolat) launched - [link](#)

NHS England

- Offering 'new hope' for hundreds of children with severe epilepsy - [link](#)

National Audit Office UK

- Investigation into how government is addressing antimicrobial resistance - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) UK

- Durvalumab with etoposide and either carboplatin or cisplatin for untreated extensive-stage small-cell lung cancer ([TA1041](#))
- Early and locally advanced breast cancer: diagnosis and management – updated ([NG101](#))
- Ganaxolone for seizures caused by CDKL5 deficiency disorder in people ≥ 2 years ([TA1033](#))
- Selpercatinib for previously treated RET fusion-positive advanced non-small-cell lung cancer ([TA1042](#))
- Osimertinib for adjuvant treatment of EGFR mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer after complete tumour resection ([TA1043](#))
- Exagamglogene autotemcel for severe sickle cell disease in people ≥ 12 years ([TA1044](#))

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Commentaries

- Can we improve care for women at risk of early birth? - [link](#)
- What impact does hearing loss have on dementia risk? - [link](#)
- Children in deprived areas are most at risk of avoidable poisoning by medicines - [link](#)

Public Policy Projects UK

- How medicines optimisation contributes to population health - [link](#)

UK Health Security Agency

- Guidelines on post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for varicella or shingles (update) - [link](#)
- Hepatitis B vaccine for renal patients: patient group direction template - [update](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Alcohol health warning labels: a public health perspective for Europe - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Summary report: Association Between Opioid Use and the Development of Diverticulitis - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [Revised SPCs](#)

- Abraxane - duration of use of effective contraceptive after the last dose of treatment updated for both female patients (from 1 to 6 months) and for male patients with female partners of reproductive potential (from 6 to 3 months)
- Arexvy (RSV vaccine) - Guillain-Barré syndrome reported very rarely following vaccination with Arexvy. In a US post-marketing study, there were an estimated 7 excess cases per million doses administered during the 42 days following vaccination
- Benlysta (belimumab) - serious cutaneous adverse reactions (Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis) as a warning and undesirable effect with a frequency 'not known'
- Depakote (valproate semisodium) – updated around counselling of female patients on risks of congenital malformations in children exposed to valproate, section 4.5 notes increased risk of neutropenia and myocarditis when used with clozapine, & pleural effusion added as adverse effect
- Epilim (sodium valproate) products - information on risk of congenital malformations & neuro-developmental disorders, and lower weight at birth for gestational age, in children exposed to valproate in utero. Clozapine (CZ) interaction added (increased risk of neutropenia & CZ-induced myocarditis)
- Leustat (cladribine) injection - limited data from cases have shown that cladribine is excreted in breast milk, however the amount has not yet been well established
- Lupkynis (voclosporin) - hypersensitivity (unknown frequency), pneumonia (common) and mouth ulceration (common)
- Opiodur (fentanyl) transdermal – two new contraindications: acute pain (as there is no opportunity for dose titration during short-term use) and post-operative pain (as persistent post-operative opioid use or serious or life-threatening hypoventilation could result)
- Talzenna (talazoparib) capsules - breast-feeding is contra-indicated (previously not recommended) and that it has a minor influence on ability to drive (previously stated it might have a minor influence)
- Toviaz (fesoterodine) prolonged-release tablets - oral hypoaesthesia added as a rare potential ADR
- Vyxeos (cytarabine, daunorubicin) liposomal - updated to note women of childbearing potential should undergo pregnancy testing before initiation of treatment, & both male patients with partners of childbearing potential & female patients should use effective contraception during and for 6 months after treatment
- Veoza (fezolinetant) - “Monitoring of liver function in women with known/suspected hepatic disorder is advised during treatment” deleted; text amended to include monitoring advice for serious cases of liver injury (LFTs prior to & for 1st 3 months, & when symptoms occur)
- Vyvgart (efgartigimiod) concentrate - Nausea added as a common potential ADR
- Xalkori (crizotinib) capsules – for paediatric ALK+ve, unresectable inflammatory myofibroblastic tumours in patients ≥1 year (previously ≥6 years). A new formulation (granules in capsules for opening, 20mg, 50mg and 150mg) has been produced for this use
- Xaluprine (mercaptopurine) - updated to strengthen warnings about immunosuppression, the risks of UV exposure, and interactions with xanthine oxidase inhibitors and ribavirin
- Zyloric (allopurinol) - addition of information on interaction with 6-mercaptopurine and advice that concomitant use should be avoided if possible. Lichenoid drug reaction added as ADR of unknown frequency
- Risk minimisation materials
- idecabtagene vicleucel ([Abecma](#)) - Materials include an educational guide containing information regarding cytokine release syndrome, neurologic toxicities, including immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome and secondary malignancy of T-cell origin. A patient card is also available
- [Propecia Proscar](#) (finasteride) - patient/carer card highlighting the potential for this medicine to cause depression, thoughts of suicide, decreased sex drive and erectile dysfunction, is available
- [deferiprone](#) - reminder card is available for this medicine highlighting the importance of weekly blood monitoring, and for women of childbearing age the need to use effective contraception

EMA

- Begins review of all available data on suicidal ideation and behaviours with finasteride and dutasteride - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Adds Boxed Warning about anaphylaxis with the multiple sclerosis medicine, glatiramer acetate (Copaxone, Glatopa) - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Health Product InfoWatch: [February 2025](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Drug Safety Update [February 2025](#)

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies and the possible risk of pyoderma gangrenosum - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

Academic Emergency Medicine

- Comparison of the incidence of recovery agitation with two different doses of ketamine in procedural sedation: A randomized clinical trial - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- De-escalating Dual Antiplatelet Therapy to Ticagrelor Monotherapy in Acute Coronary Syndrome: A Systemic Review and Individual Patient Data Meta-Analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)
- Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists and Risk for Depression in Older Adults with Type 2 Diabetes: A Target Trial Emulation Study - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Efficacy of Janus kinase inhibitors in immune-mediated inflammatory diseases—a systematic literature review informing the 2024 update of an international expert consensus statement - [link](#)
- Safety of Janus kinase inhibitors in immune-mediated inflammatory diseases—a systematic literature review informing the 2024 update of an international expert consensus statement - [link](#)

Australian Prescriber

- Editorial: Australian Prescriber: celebrating 50 years of growth and change - [link](#)
- Drug safety in pregnancy - [link](#)
- Device-assisted therapies for Parkinson disease - [link](#)
- The role of triple antithrombotic therapy in patients with atrial fibrillation and coronary stent insertion - [link](#)
- Medicinal mishap: Propranolol overdose following prescription for anxiety - [link](#)
- Editorial: New drug comments: aiming to deliver useful, timely, independent information for health professionals - [link](#)
- New drug - [Etrasimod](#) for moderate to severe ulcerative colitis ; [Mavacamten](#) for symptomatic obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy ; [Teclistamab](#) for relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma
- TGA Medicines Safety Update summary: Promethazine hydrochloride ([Phenergan](#)) not to be used in children under 6 ; More prominent safety warnings about the neuropsychiatric effects of [montelukast](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Adherence and persistence with direct oral anticoagulants by dose regimen: A systematic review - [link](#)
- Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms induced by paclitaxel, a rare combination - [link](#)
- Exposure to pseudoephedrine during pregnancy and major congenital malformations: Findings from a large population-based cohort of pregnancies - [link](#)
- Navigating challenges and opportunities in orphan medicines: A spotlight commentary on rare diseases - [link](#)

- Acute cardiovascular effects associated with the use of prescription medications: A Danish nationwide screening study - [link](#)
- Prescriptions of CYP3A4- and P-gp inducers for patients on direct oral anticoagulants: Bridging the gap between epidemiology and patient management for optimal thromboembolic event prevention - [link](#)
- Investigation of a broad-spectrum micronutrient formulation as a possible precipitant of pharmacokinetic micronutrient–drug interactions - [link](#)
- Effect of hydration schedules on dose-limiting toxicity in patients with head and neck squamous cell carcinoma treated with cisplatin - [link](#)
- Assessment of ethnic differences in pharmacokinetics and clinical responses of acalabrutinib between Chinese and White patients with B-cell malignancies - [link](#)
- Feasibility and population exposure of 5-fluorouracil using therapeutic drug monitoring (PREDICT-5FU): A multicentre clinical trial - [link](#)
- Empirical dosage determination of vancomycin for a target area under the concentration-time curve of 400 µg·h/mL in the first 24 h: A prospective multicenter observational study with rich sampling - [link](#)
- Population pharmacokinetics and dosing of dispersible moxifloxacin formulation in children with rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis - [link](#)
- The effect of severe renal impairment on the pharmacokinetics, safety and tolerability of balcirenone - [link](#)
- Understanding factors that influence the drug choice of prescribers: A Q-methodology study - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Stroke and myocardial infarction with contemporary hormonal contraception: real-world, nationwide, prospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Practice Pointer: How to recognise and manage measles - [link](#)
- New UK asthma guideline: meeting the challenge to change - [link](#)
- Common interventional procedures for chronic non-cancer spine pain: a systematic review and network meta-analysis of randomised trials - [link](#)
- GLP-1 agonists: 82 deaths linked to adverse reactions according to Yellow Card Scheme data - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Inhaled methoxyflurane (Penthrox) use in the outpatient and ambulatory setting: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Investigating outcomes in a substance use treatment provider: a cross-sectional comparison of long-acting injectable buprenorphine and oral medication for opioid use disorder - [link](#)
- Effect of statins on neurological functional outcomes in critically ill adult patients with traumatic brain injury: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Changes in global quality of life after treatment with immune checkpoint inhibitors in patients receiving different treatment regimens for advanced stage lung cancer in the Netherlands: a 2015–2021 cohort study - [link](#)
- Comparative effectiveness and safety of nifedipine and magnesium sulfate as treatment options for preterm birth: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Medication adherence of patients with peripheral arterial disease to antithrombotic therapy: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Intravenous lidocaine for gut function recovery in colonic surgery: a health economic evaluation of the ALLEGRO randomised clinical trial - [link](#)

BMJ Quality & Safety

- Problem with the existing reporting standards for adverse event and medical error research - [link](#)

Circulation

- Cardiovascular Disease in Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Users - [link](#)
- Bleeding and New Malignancy Diagnoses After Anticoagulation for Atrial Fibrillation: A Population-Based Cohort Study - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants (NOACs) after transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR): a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors for juvenile idiopathic arthritis - [link](#)
- Glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists for people with chronic kidney disease and diabetes - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Comparative Efficacy of Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists for Cardiovascular Outcomes in Asian Versus White Populations: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Trials of Populations With or Without Type 2 Diabetes and/or Overweight or Obesity - [link](#)

Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism

- Comparison of the efficacy and safety of GLP-1 receptor agonists on cardiovascular events and risk factors: A review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Republished case reports:
 - Airway consequences of alendronic acid aspiration - [link](#)
 - Chronic diarrhoea, weight loss and a positive anti-tissue transglutaminase antibody: a case report of olmesartan-induced enteropathy - [link](#)
 - Drug-induced liver injury secondary to tamoxifen - [link](#)
 - Metformin-associated lactic acidosis: a serious complication of a common drug - [link](#)
 - Topiramate-induced acute eosinophilic pneumonia - [link](#)
- DTB select: No benefit from bisoprolol for COPD - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Translation of genomics into routine cardiological practice: insights from a European Society of Cardiology Cardiovascular Round Table - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Algorithm-managed dosing and pharmacist-managed dosing of erythropoietin stimulating agents in renal anaemia: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Case report: Therapeutic drug monitoring of linezolid in a case of pulmonary nocardiosis: a case report - [link](#)

Heart

- Age-stratified effects of intravenous ferric derisomaltose in heart failure with iron deficiency: insights from the IRONMAN trial - [link](#)
- Advancing clinical management of left ventricular thrombosis: prevention, detection and treatment modalities in the modern era - [link](#)
- Updated evidence on selection and implementation of an invasive treatment strategy for older patients with non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction - [link](#)
- Safety and effectiveness of anticoagulation therapy in older people with atrial fibrillation during exposed and unexposed treatment periods - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- A new era in myeloma: the advent of chimeric antigen receptor-T (CAR-T) cells and bispecific antibodies - [link](#)
- Use of sodium–glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors among Aboriginal people with type 2 diabetes in remote Northern Territory: 2012 to 2020 - [link](#)
- Treatment of obesity: will incretin agonists make bariatric surgery a thing of the past? - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Medication-induced causes of delirium in patients with and without dementia: a systematic review of published neurology guidelines - [link](#)
- Genetic polymorphisms and anti-tuberculosis drug-induced liver injury: an umbrella review of the evidence - [link](#)

JAMA

- CNM-Au8 in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: The HEALEY ALS Platform Trial - [link](#)
- Pridopidine in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: The HEALEY ALS Platform Trial - [link](#)
- Patient page: Peptic Ulcer Disease - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Buprenorphine, Pain, and Opioid Use in Patients Taking High-Dose Long-Term Opioids: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Benzocaine-Induced Methemoglobinemia After Nasogastric Tube Insertion: A Teachable moment - [link](#)
- Comparative Bleeding Risk in Older Patients With HIV and Atrial Fibrillation Receiving Oral Anticoagulants - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Efficacy and Safety of Zilucoplan in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Harm Reduction Strategies for People Who Use Drugs - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Verdiperstat in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: Results from the Randomized HEALEY ALS Platform Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Integrated Nicotine Replacement and Behavioral Support to Reduce Smoking in Opioid Agonist Therapy: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Once-Weekly Semaglutide in Adults with Alcohol Use Disorder - A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Strengthening Safeguards for Psychiatric Uses of Ketamine - [link](#)

Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

- Real-life degradation of epinephrine in adrenaline autoinjectors: A single-center, 12-month prospective observation - [link](#)

Journal of the American College of Cardiology

- Worsening of Heart Failure in Outpatients With Transthyretin Amyloidosis and Cardiomyopathy in the APOLLO-B Trial - [link](#)
- Anticoagulation and Antiplatelet Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation and Stable Coronary Disease: Meta-Analysis of Randomized Trials - [link](#)
- Antithrombotic Therapy to Minimize Total Events After ACS or PCI in Atrial Fibrillation: Insights From AUGUSTUS - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Comparison of Standard-of-Care Idecabtagene Vicleucel and Ciltacabtagene Autoleucel in Relapsed/Refractory Multiple Myeloma - [link](#)
- Where Is the Future of Adjuvant Therapy for Hepatocellular Carcinoma? - [link](#)

Lancet

- Efficacy and safety of nerinetide in acute ischaemic stroke in patients undergoing endovascular thrombectomy without previous thrombolysis (ESCAPE-NEXT): a multicentre, double-blind, randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Atopic dermatitis - [link](#)
- A five-drug class model using routinely available clinical features to optimise prescribing in type 2 diabetes: a prediction model development and validation study - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Prediabetes: much more than just a risk factor - [link](#)

- Realigning diabetes regimens in older adults: a 4S Pathway to guide simplification and deprescribing strategies - [link](#)
- Vitamin D supplementation to prevent acute respiratory infections: systematic review and meta-analysis of stratified aggregate data - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

- Management of alcohol use disorder: a gastroenterology and hepatology-focused perspective - [link](#)
- Global, regional, and national estimates of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection incidence among people who inject drugs and number of new annual HCV infections attributable to injecting drug use: a multi-stage analysis - [link](#)
- Lancet Series: Management of hepatocellular carcinoma - [link](#)

Lancet HIV

- Virological outcomes and genotypic resistance on dolutegravir-based antiretroviral therapy versus standard of care in children and adolescents: a secondary analysis of the ODYSSEY trial - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Global guideline for the diagnosis and management of candidiasis: an initiative of the ECMM in cooperation with ISHAM and ASM - [link](#)
- Early evidence of RSV vaccination impact on hospitalisation rates of older people in Scotland - [link](#)
- Oral treatment of Whipple's disease with doxycycline and hydroxychloroquine versus intravenous therapy with ceftriaxone followed by oral trimethoprim–sulfamethoxazole in Germany: a phase 2/3, prospective, open-label, randomised, controlled, non-inferiority trial - [link](#)
- DoxyPEP: thinking towards implementation - [link](#)

Lancet Neurology

- Safety and efficacy of nerinetide in patients with acute ischaemic stroke enrolled in the early window: a post-hoc meta-analysis of individual patient data from three randomised trials - [link](#)
- Direct oral anticoagulants versus vitamin K antagonists for cerebral venous thrombosis (DOAC-CVT): an international, prospective, observational cohort study - [link](#)
- Clinical insights in enzyme replacement therapy for metabolic storage disorders: lessons from Pompe disease - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Drug development in psychiatry: 50 years of failure and how to resuscitate it - [link](#)

Lancet Regional Health (Europe)

- Neurodevelopmental outcomes at five years in children born very preterm (24–31 weeks) exposed to opioids with or without midazolam: results from the French nationwide EPIPAGE-2 cohort study - [link](#)
- Biliary tract cancers: addressing healthcare disparities and improving access to innovative treatments in Europe - [link](#)

Ophthalmology

- Risk of Glaucoma in Non-Diabetic Patients using a Glucagon Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonist - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Shortages of benzathine benzylpenicillin G in Australia highlight the need for new sovereign manufacturing capability - [link](#)
- Management of Mycobacterium ulcerans infection (Buruli ulcer) in Australia: consensus statement - [link](#)
- The role of GLP-1 receptor agonists in the management of obesity: risks and opportunities for the Australian health care system - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Treatment of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder in Children and Youth: A Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

- Atraumatic Subdural Hematoma in a Patient on Adalimumab - [link](#)

Pediatric Dermatology

- Efficacy and Safety of Once-Daily Roflumilast Cream 0.05% in Pediatric Patients Aged 2–5 Years With Mild-to-Moderate Atopic Dermatitis (INTEGUMENT-PED): A Phase 3 Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Changes in serum potassium in people with type 2 diabetes taking sodium-glucose co-transporter-2 inhibitors - [link](#)
- GLP-1RA-induced delays in gastrointestinal motility: Predicted effects on coadministered drug absorption by PBPK analysis - [link](#)
- The potential role of GLP-1 receptor agonists in osteoarthritis - [link](#)
- Comment on “Use of proton pump inhibitors and risk of severe COVID-19: A case–control study in United States Medicare beneficiaries” - [letter](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- NHS data show inclisiran prescribed to 7% of expected target population in three years - [link](#)
- The dangers of propranolol for anxiety - [link](#)
- Allergic rhinitis: diagnosis and treatment - [link](#)

Stroke

- Thrombolysis for Ischemic Stroke Beyond the 4.5-Hour Window: A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

WEBINARS & PODCASTS

Australian Prescriber Podcasts

- [Episode 182](#) – A national standard for people living with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

MJA Podcasts

- [Episode 4](#): Perinatal anxiety and depression

Purple Pen Podcast

- [PPP 171](#) - Proton Pump Inhibitors

UPCOMING EVENTS

AHHA

- Investing in DIAMONDS: transforming a surgical waitlist into a ‘preparation list’, online 1 April, 2025 12:30-13:30 AEDT - [register](#)
- Mental Health Access & Quality in Emergency Departments, April 8, 2025 09:00 AEST – [register](#)

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

- 2025 Congress: Partnering to advance VBHC in Australia, 1-2 May 2025, Melbourne - [register](#)

Fortnightly TAG Mail – resources list 13th February 2025

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

Upcoming NSW TAG Meetings

NSW TAG General Meeting: 12th March 2025 4-5.30pm

Contact Sasha Bennett at sasha.bennett@svha.org.au for further information about any email discussions, publications or upcoming meetings.

EDITOR'S PICKS

ACSQHC: New fact sheets on discontinuation of some insulin products - [link](#)
AIM: Bleeding Risks with Non-Vitamin K Oral Anticoagulants Versus Single Antiplatelet Therapy - [link](#)
AJHP: Safe handling of gene therapy and biohazardous drugs in a health-system setting - [link](#)
BJCP: Impact of general practice pharmacist-led person-centred medicines reviews - [link](#)
BMJ: International consensus guideline for trustworthy and deployable AI in healthcare - [link](#)
BMJ Open: Clinical outcomes after immune checkpoint inhibitor-associated acute kidney injury - [link](#)
Cochrane: antidepressants for generalised anxiety disorder - [link](#)
DTB: Medication errors involving intravenous paracetamol in children - [link](#)
Health Canada: Summary Safety Review: HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors & myasthenia gravis - [link](#)
Heart: Anticoagulants or antiplatelets for secondary prevention of cryptogenic stroke - [link](#)
IJQHC: Prevalence and contributing factors of IV medication administration errors in EDs - [link](#)
IMJ: Editorial: Has medicinal cannabis found a role in oncology/palliative care? - [link](#)
JAMA: Contemporary Hormonal Contraception and Risk of Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)
JAMA Card: Salt Substitution and Recurrent Stroke and Death - [link](#)
JAMA Derm: Optimizing Pemphigus Management with Rituximab and Relapse Predictors - [link](#)
JAMA NO: Prophylactic Aspirin Dose and Preeclampsia - [link](#)
Lancet GH: Overcoming the challenges of overtreatment and undertreatment of IBD - [link](#)
Lancet RM: - Predicting benefit from adjuvant therapy with corticosteroids in CAP - [link](#)
MDPI: Medication Non-Adherence in Inflammatory Bowel Disease - [link](#)
MDPI: Using Healthcare Redesign to Identify Medication Management Issues in PD - [link](#)
MJA: Consensus recommendations on multiple sclerosis management in ANZ: [Part 1](#) ; [Part 2](#)
Neurology: Antiseizure Medications in Poststroke Seizures - [link](#)
Paed: Clinical Application of Bacteriophage Therapy in Children - [link](#)
PJ: Pharmacogenomics trial expands across England - [link](#)

OTHER NEWS

TGA

- TGA publishes literature review of sunscreen ingredients - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

The latest weekly Evidence Digest can be found [here](#)

MIMS monthly updates

- New Products

-- RelabotulinumtoxinA ([Relfydess](#)) –for the temporary improvement in the appearance of moderate to severe glabellar lines at maximum frown and lateral canthal lines seen at maximum smile in adults
-- Tislelizumab ([Tevimbra](#)) - indicated in combination with platinum-based chemotherapy for the first-line treatment of unresectable, locally advanced or metastatic oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) with a PD-L1 expression $\geq 1\%$ as determined by a validated test; as monotherapy for unresectable, recurrent, locally advanced, or metastatic OSCC after prior chemotherapy; in combination with pemetrexed and platinum-containing chemotherapy for the first-line treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), with PD-L1 expression $\geq 50\%$ but no epidermal growth factor receptor or anaplastic lymphoma kinase genomic tumour aberrations; in combination with carboplatin and either paclitaxel or nab-paclitaxel for the first-line treatment of locally advanced or metastatic squamous NSCLC; and as monotherapy for locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC after prior chemotherapy

- New Indications

-- Alectinib ([Alecensa](#)) as an adjuvant treatment in adults following tumour resection of anaplastic lymphoma kinase-positive non-small cell lung cancer (tumours ≥ 4 cm or node positive)
-- Daratumumab (rch) ([Darzalex](#)) in combination with carfilzomib and dexamethasone for patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma who have received at least one prior therapy
-- Daratumumab (rch) ([Darzalex SC](#)) in combination with carfilzomib and dexamethasone for patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma who have received at least one prior therapy and in

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combination with pomalidomide and dexamethasone after at least one prior therapy including lenalidomide and a proteasome inhibitor

-- Osimertinib (mesilate) ([Tagrisso](#)) as monotherapy for the treatment of locally advanced, unresectable (stage III) non-small cell lung cancer where tumours have activating epidermal growth factor receptor mutations and where disease has not progressed during or following platinum-based chemoradiation therapy

-- Semaglutide ([Wegovy FlexTouch](#)) as an adjunct to standard of care therapy to reduce the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction or non-fatal stroke) in adults with established cardiovascular disease, with a BMI \geq 27 kg/m², and without established type 1 or type 2 diabetes

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages

- AusPARs:

-- [Verdye](#) - for diagnostic use only

- Australian prescription medicine decision summaries:

-- [Steqeyma](#) (ustekinumab) for moderate to severe plaque psoriasis, active psoriatic arthritis, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

BBC Health News

- 'Alarming' rise in strong illicit nicotine pouches - [link](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- High Dose Bupropion for Depression - [link](#)

Care Quality Commission (UK)

- New self-assessment and improvement framework for integrated care systems (ICSs) to address health inequalities - [link](#)

Department of Health and Social Care

- New opportunities to reclassify medicines - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [New products](#)

-- Abecma (idecabtagene vicleucel) 260 - 500 x 10⁶ cells dispersion for infusion - CAR T-cell therapy for adults with relapsed & refractory multiple myeloma who have received \geq 2 prior therapies, including an immunomodulatory agent, a proteasome inhibitor & an anti-CD38 antibody, and have had disease progression on last therapy

-- Breyanzi (lisocabtagene maraleucel) 1.1-70 x 10⁶ cells/mL / 1.1-70 x 10⁶ cells/mL Dispersion for infusion for adults diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma and follicular lymphoma who have relapsed within 12 months, or are refractory to, first-line chemotherapy

-- Comirnaty KP.2 30 microgram/dose dispersion for injection in pre-filled syringe - vaccine, encoding the viral spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron KP.2, is indicated for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2, in individuals 12 years of age and older

-- Crysvida (burosumab) 10mg, 20mg and 30mg pre-filled syringes (rather than a vial) - for X-linked hypophosphataemia, in children and adolescents aged 1 to 17 years with radiographic evidence of bone disease, and in adults

-- Livdelzi (seladelpar) 10 mg capsules for primary biliary cholangitis, including pruritus, in adults in combination with ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) who have an inadequate response to UDCA alone, or as monotherapy in those unable to tolerate UDCA

-- Winlevi (clascoterone) 10 mg/g cream - licensed as a twice daily cream for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris in patients 12 years of age and older

- [New/expanded indications](#)

-- Sarclisa (isatuximab) - in combination with bortezomib, lenalidomide, and dexamethasone, for adult patients with newly diagnosed multiple myeloma who are ineligible for autologous stem cell transplant

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- Synjardy (metformin/empagliflozin) - indication expanded to include use in children aged ≥10years. However interaction studies have only been performed in adults.
- Vocabria (cabotegravir) – extension for use in adolescent population (at least 12 years of age and weighing at least 35kg)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- European CHMP recommends approval of: [Capvaxive](#) (pneumococcal polysaccharide conjugate vaccine; 21-valent) ; aflibercept biosimilar ([Pavblu](#)) and ([Skojoy](#)) ; Chikungunya vaccine ([Vimkunya](#)) ; [datopotamab deruxtecan](#) for the treatment of breast cancer ; [Eltrombopag Accord](#) bioequivalent to Revolade) for primary immune thrombocytopenia in adults and paediatric patients from 1 year of age, and for adults with chronic hepatitis C virus ; [ivermectin/albendazole](#) for soil-transmitted helminth infections and microfilaraemia in patients with lymphatic filariasis ; pegfilgrastim biosimilar ([Dyrupeg](#)) ; [tisotumab vedotin](#) for recurrent or metastatic cervical cancer ; [durvalumab](#) (Imfinzi) for small cell lung cancer ; [ipilimumab](#) (Yervoy) for hepatocellular carcinoma ; [lisocabtagene maraleuceL](#) (Breyanzi) for relapsed or refractory follicular lymphoma ; [melatonin](#) (Slenyto) for insomnia in children and adolescents with ADHD ; [nivolumab](#) (Opdivo) for hepatocellular carcinoma
- European CHMP recommends extension of existing indication for: casirivimab / imdevimab ([Ronapreve](#)) to include treatment of Covid-19 in younger children ; [brexpiprazole](#) (Rxulti) to include the treatment of schizophrenia in adolescents ; [tedizolid](#) phosphate (Sivextro) to include treatment of acute bacterial skin and skin structure infections (ABSSSI) in younger children
- Company withdraws application for European approval of: [Datopotamab deruxtecan Daiichi Sankyo](#) for non-squamous cell lung cancer ; [govorestat](#) for classic galactosaemia

Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare UK

- FSRH Statement: Ulipristal Acetate and Breastfeeding - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- Journavx (suzetrigine) 50 milligram oral tablets, a first-in-class non-opioid analgesic, to treat moderate to severe acute pain in adults. It reduces pain by targeting a pain-signalling pathway involving sodium channels in the peripheral nervous system, before pain signals reach the brain - [link](#)
- mirdametinib for adult and pediatric patients with neurofibromatosis type 1 who have symptomatic plexiform neurofibromas not amenable to complete resection - [link](#)
- Grafapex ([treosulfan](#)) in combination with fludarabine as a preparative regimen for allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for acute myeloid leukemia and myelodysplastic syndrome
- BV+R2 Combo for R/R LBCL - adding brentuximab vedotin to lenalidomide and rituximab significantly reduced the risk of death by 37% in the r ECHELON-3 trial - [link](#)
- NSAID/Triptan Combo for Migraine in Adults - rizatriptan and meloxicam ([Symbravo](#), Axome Therapeutics) for acute treatment of migraine with or without aura in adults

General Pharmaceutical Council UK

- Online pharmacies to strengthen safeguards to prevent unsafe supply of medicines - [link](#)

Healthy Living

- Patient resource: Healthy Living for people with type 2 diabetes - [link](#)

Health Services Safety Investigation Body UK

- Mental health inpatient settings: Creating conditions for learning from deaths in mental health inpatient services and when patients die within 30 days of discharge - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Draft guidance on individualised mRNA cancer immunotherapies - [link](#)
- UK-wide licensing for human medicines: supplementary guidance - [link](#)
- MHRA approves IXCHIQ vaccine approved to protect adults against Chikungunya - [link](#)

Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS) UK

- Glucophage SR (metformin) approved in UK for ovulation stimulation to support conception in women with polycystic ovary syndrome - [link](#)
- MIMS summary of NICE acne guideline - [link](#)
- Low-dose 1mg and 2.5mg aripiprazole tablets launched - [link](#)
- New tiotropium inhaler (Trokide) available in UK for patients with COPD - [link](#)

NHS England

- Green plan guidance - [link](#)
- Principles for using digital technologies in mental health inpatient treatment and care - [link](#)

NHS Scotland

- Accepted for use:
 - [Cemiplimab](#) (Libtayo®) for cervical cancer
 - [Durvalumab](#) (Imfinzi®) for extensive-stage small cell lung cancer (ES-SCLC)
 - [Olaparib](#) (Lynparza®) for adults with germline BRCA1/2-mutations, who have HER2 negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer
- Accepted for restricted use:
 - [Cabotegravir](#) (Apretude®) prolonged-release suspension (for injection and film-coated tablets for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
 - [Fenfluramine](#) (Fintepla®) for seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome
 - Netarsudil plus latanoprost ([Roclanda](#)®) for the reduction of elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in primary open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension
- Not recommended:
 - [Lecanemab](#) (Leqembi®) for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) UK

- NICE joins international collaboration on health technology assessment methods research - [link](#)
- Epilepsies in children, young people and adults - updated ([NG217](#))
- Tobacco: preventing uptake, promoting quitting and treating dependence - updated ([NG209](#))
- Elacestrant for treating oestrogen receptor-positive HER2-negative advanced breast cancer with an ESR1 mutation after endocrine treatment ([TA1036](#))
- Pembrolizumab for adjuvant treatment of resected non-small-cell lung cancer ([TA1037](#))
- Ovarian cancer – update ([QS18](#))
- Ganaxolone for treating seizures caused by CDKL5 deficiency disorder in people ≥2 years ([TA1033](#))
- Olaparib for treating BRCA mutation-positive HER2-negative advanced breast cancer after chemotherapy ([TA1040](#))
- Selpercatinib for advanced thyroid cancer with RET alterations after treatment with a targeted cancer drug in people ≥12 years ([TA1038](#))
- Selpercatinib for advanced thyroid cancer with RET alterations untreated with a targeted cancer drug in people ≥12 years ([TA1039](#))

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

- Multi-cancer early detection tests for general population screening: a systematic literature [review](#)
- A clinical decision support tool for primary care management of lower urinary tract symptoms in men: the PriMUS study - [link](#)
- NIHR Commentaries: Recurrent UTIs: more urine testing would improve choice of antibiotic - [link](#)
- NIHR commentaries: D-mannose does not prevent urinary tract infections - [link](#)
- NIHR commentaries: Walking just 2 weeks after ankle surgery is safe for many - [link](#)

Nuffield Trust UK

- Public expenditure in the last year of life - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Cysticlinine for smoking cessation - [link](#)
- Stability resources for aseptic services - [link](#)

The King's Fund (UK)

- Designing inclusive and trusted digital health services with people and communities - [link](#)

UK Health Security Agency

- PCV risk groups: updated patient group direction template - [link](#)
- Post-exposure prophylaxis for chickenpox and shingles - [update](#)
- Interim guidance for the management of Helicobacter pylori cases - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

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

- New fact sheets on discontinuation of some insulin products - [link](#)

Community Pharmacy England

- Supply of unlicensed pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [Revised SPCs](#)

- Aldactone (spironolactone) - may reduce mitotane plasma levels in adrenocortical carcinoma patients treated with mitotane, and hence it should not be used concomitantly with mitotane
- Candesartan products - intestinal angioedema reported in patients treated with angiotensin II receptor antagonists (present with abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea). Symptoms resolved after treatment discontinuation
- Depo-Medrone (methylprednisolone) – updated with more info on potential for methylprednisolone to enhance the efficacy of vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants. However, it is also noted there are reports of diminished effects too and thus INR should be monitored carefully
- Durogesic DTrans (fentanyl) Transdermal Patch - warnings that long-term use of fentanyl may influence the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal and gonadal axes included, potentially resulting in increases in serum prolactin and decreases in plasma cortisol and testosterone
- Epidyolex (cannabidiol) - co-administration with cannabidiol (CBD) led to ~2.5-fold increase in everolimus (EV) exposure. When starting CBD in patients taking EV, drug levels of EV should be monitored. When starting EV in patients taking CBD, a lower starting dose is recommended
- Fragmin (dalteparin) - updated to include information regarding the increased risk of haemorrhage when drugs affecting haemostasis are administered with Fragmin (e.g. thrombolytic agents, oral anticoagulants, NSAIDs, platelet inhibitors, or dextran)
- Galafold (migalastat) - angioedema added as an ADR (frequency uncommon)
- Imfinzi (durvalumab)– polymyalgia rheumatica added as another immune-related ADR observed in patients treated with durvalumab monotherapy or in combination with tremelimumab
- Glucophage SR (metformin) prolonged release – now includes use as monotherapy or in combination with other treatment options for ovulation stimulation to support conception in women with polycystic ovary syndrome
- Imjudo (tremelimumab) - rhabdomyolysis and transverse myelitis added to list of immune-related ADRs seen in patients treated with tremelimumab in combination with durvalumab
- Kisqali (ribociclib) – for use in combination with aromatase inhibitors, in women and men diagnosed with hormone receptor positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 negative early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence
- Levosert (levonorgestrel) IUD – has additional advice to healthcare professionals to consider before insertion and when removing or replacing Levosert. It also now notes that Levosert could pose a risk to the environment and should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements
- Litak (cladribine) - updates detail on pregnancy & lactation. Cladribine is contraindicated due to serious birth defects and potential adverse effects in nursing infants. Effective contraception is advised for women and men taking cladribine, during and for 6 months post-treatment
- Palexia SR and Zydol SR (tramadol) prolonged-release tablets, Transtec (buprenorphine) transdermal patch - warnings of opioid-induced ventilatory impairment and persistent post-operative opioid use included for all prolonged release opioids when used post operatively
- Panadol (paracetamol) - cases of high anion gap metabolic acidosis reported in patients with severe illness or malnutrition & other sources of glutathione deficiency (e.g. chronic alcoholism) who were treated with paracetamol for a prolonged period or paracetamol with flucloxacillin

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- Spravato (esketamine) nasal spray - bradycardia (uncommon) & seizures (rare) included as ADRs
- Synjardy (metformin/empagliflozin) - Warning added empagliflozin should not be used in patients with type 1 diabetes; refer to section covering diabetic ketoacidosis
- Tecartus (brexucabtagene autoleucel) - not recommended for patients who have CD19-negative disease or an unconfirmed CD19 status
- Tegretol (carbamazepine) all formulations – microcephaly added as a potential malformation in children born to epileptic mothers treated with carbamazepine during 1st trimester. SPC notes data from epidemiological study suggesting higher risk of infant being born small for gestational age in pregnant women receiving AEDs
- Tepkinly (epcoritamab) - updated to provide two alternative ways to prepare the infusion – one using an empty sterile vial and one using a sterile syringe
- Transtec (buprenorphine) 52.5 micrograms/h transdermal patch - updated to include warnings of opioid-induced ventilatory impairment and persistent post-operative opioid use for all prolonged release opioids when used post operatively
- Trulicity (dulaglutide) - events related to impaired gastric emptying, including severe gastroparesis, have been reported. Patients who develop severe gastrointestinal symptoms while on treatment should be monitored and dose modification or discontinuation considered
- Ursfolk (ursodeoxycholic acid) - new side effects ‘pruritus’ and ‘nausea and vomiting’ added (frequencies not known) based on new pharmacovigilance data
- Xgeva (denosumab) - Phase IV study information added providing long-term safety follow-up for those with giant cell tumour of bone who completed study 6. Osteonecrosis of the jaw reported in 11.8% (6/51), atypical femoral fractures in 3.9% (2/51) & new malignancies in 6/51 (11.8%)
- Xigduo (dapagliflozin/metformin) - increased haematocrit (frequency common) observed with dapagliflozin treatment. Patients with pronounced elevations should be monitored and investigated for underlying haematological disease
- Zarzio (filgrastim) - extramedullary haematopoiesis (EMH) added as a rare ADR in the blood and lymphatic system disorders. EMH is a condition where blood cells are produced outside the bone marrow. Symptoms vary depending on the location and extent of the blood cell production
- Zegluxen (liraglutide) - cutaneous amyloidosis added as an adverse effect
- Risk minimisation materials
- [Dymista](#)® Control (azelastine, fluticasone) nasal spray: Pharmacy Essential Guide
Guide covers symptoms and management of seasonal allergic rhinitis, when to refer, self-care advice, treatment options & considerations, assessing suitability for supply of Dymista Control nasal spray, when not to supply, warnings, interactions, and advice for customers
- lisocabtagene maraleucel ([Breyanzi](#)): Materials include a healthcare professional guide containing information regarding cytokine release syndrome, neurologic toxicities, and secondary malignancy of T-cell origin. A product handling and administration guide and patient card are also available
- ponesimod ([Ponvory](#)): Materials include a prescriber’s checklist, which provides information on the most important identified and potential risks associated with treatment and the activities required to minimise these risks. A pregnancy reminder card and patient caregiver guide are also available

EMA

- European Shortages Monitoring Platform fully operational for monitoring of shortages in the EU - [link](#)
- One Health: EU agencies unite to tackle azole fungicide resistance in Aspergillus fungi - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Alerts healthcare professionals about the risk of medication errors with tranexamic acid injection resulting in inadvertent intrathecal (spinal) injection - [link](#)
- Alerts patients of potential to miss critical safety alerts due to phone settings when using smartphone-compatible diabetes devices - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Health Product InfoWatch, [January 2025](#)
- Summary Safety Review: CAR-T therapies - Breyanzi (lisocabtagene maraleucel), Carvykti (ciltacabtagene autoleucel), Kymriah (tisagenlecleucel), Tecartus (brexucabtagene autoleucel) and Yescarta (axicabtagene ciloleucel) - [link](#)

-- Summary Safety Review: HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors - atorvastatin, fluvastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, rosuvastatin and simvastatin - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Valproate (Belvo, Convulex, Depakote, Dyzantil, Epilim, Epilim Chrono or Chronosphere, Episenta, Epival, and Syonell ▼): review by two specialists is required for initiating valproate but not for male patients already taking valproate - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates

- New Contraindications
- Atazanavir and cobicistat ([Evotaz](#)) is now contraindicated for concomitant use with drugs that are strong inducers of CYP3A4; and apalutamide, encorafenib, ivosidenib, and ritonavir
- Levothyroxine sodium ([Eltroxin](#)) is now contraindicated for concomitant use with antithyroid agents for the treatment of hyperthyroidism during pregnancy
- Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir ([Paxlovid](#)) is now contraindicated for concomitant use with enzalutamid.

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Hay fever or allergic rhinitis: treatment during pregnancy - [link](#)
- Medication Safety Update: [January 2025](#)

TGA

- Product Information safety updates - [February 2025](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Implementation of an enhanced medication access workflow within a health-system specialty pharmacy: Impact on patient and clinician experience - [link](#)
- Estimating measured creatinine clearance for critically ill trauma patients with presumed normal kidney function - [link](#)
- Incidence and potential predictors of SGLT2 inhibitor initiation in acutely hospitalized patients with heart failure - [link](#)
- Implementing standard practices in the safe handling of gene therapy and biohazardous drugs in a health-system setting - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Comparative Effectiveness of Pharmacologic Treatments for the Prevention of Episodic Migraine Headache: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis for the American College of Physicians - [link](#)
- Patients' Values and Preferences Regarding Pharmacologic Treatments for the Prevention of Episodic Migraine Headache: A Systematic Review for the American College of Physicians - [link](#)
- Prevention of Episodic Migraine Headache Using Pharmacologic Treatments in Outpatient Settings: A Clinical Guideline from the American College of Physicians - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of the 2023-to-2024 XBB.1.5 COVID-19 Vaccines Over Long-Term Follow-up: A Target Trial Emulation - [link](#)
- Bleeding Risks with Non-Vitamin K Oral Anticoagulants Versus Single Antiplatelet Therapy: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Trials - [link](#)
- In the clinic: Hemochromatosis - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Trends in tricyclic antidepressant prescribing and poisoning in England and Wales 2016–2020 - [link](#)
- Setting of initiation and factors associated with antidepressant use on entry to long-term care facilities - [link](#)
- Social media as a source of drug safety information in the paediatric population - [link](#)
- Identifying longitudinal medication adherence patterns of antipsychotic treatments: A real-world cohort study in Catalonia, Spain - [link](#)

- Evaluating the impact of general practice pharmacist-led person-centred medicines reviews on medicines appropriateness and patient-reported outcome measures - [link](#)
- Papaverine safety during pregnancy: Insights from a large population-based cohort of pregnancies - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Ozempic babies: are weight loss drugs leading to unintended pregnancies? - [link](#)
- Practice Pointer: Diagnosis and management of complex post-traumatic stress disorder (C-PTSD) - [link](#)
- Ozempic v Mounjaro: what is the difference between semaglutide and tirzepatide? - [link](#)
- Diagnosis and management of endometriosis: summary of updated NICE guidance - [link](#)
- FUTURE-AI: international consensus guideline for trustworthy and deployable artificial intelligence in healthcare - [link](#)

BMJ Mental Health

- Will things feel better in the morning? A time-of-day analysis of mental health and wellbeing from nearly 1 million observations - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Beneficial and harmful effects of duloxetine versus placebo, 'active placebo' or no intervention for adults with major depressive disorder: a systematic review with meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis of randomised clinical trials - [link](#)
- Clinical outcomes after immune checkpoint inhibitor-associated acute kidney injury: a cohort study - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Antidepressants versus placebo for generalised anxiety disorder (GAD) - [link](#)
- Diuretics for preventing and treating acute kidney injury - [link](#)
- Tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors for psoriatic arthritis - [link](#)
- Colchicine for the primary prevention of cardiovascular events - [link](#)
- Neoadjuvant chemotherapy before surgery versus surgery followed by chemotherapy for initial treatment in advanced epithelial ovarian cancer - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- In-Hospital Diabetes Management by a Diabetes Team and Insulin Titration Algorithms Based on Continuous Glucose Monitoring or Point-of-Care Glucose Testing in Patients With Type 2 Diabetes (DIATEC): A Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)
- Wave in Pediatric Type 1 Diabetes Incidence After the Emergence of COVID-19: Peak and Trough Patterns in German Youth—A Population-Based Study From the Prospective Multicenter DPV Registry - [link](#)
- Health-Related Quality of Life and Health Utility After Metabolic/Bariatric Surgery Versus Medical/Lifestyle Intervention in Individuals With Type 2 Diabetes and Obesity: The ARMMS-T2D Study - [link](#)
- Risk of Incident Diabetes Related to Lipoprotein(a), LDL Cholesterol, and Their Changes With Alirocumab: Post Hoc Analyses of the ODYSSEY OUTCOMES Randomized Trial - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- Prioritising shared decision-making - [link](#)
- DTB select: Cytisinicline for vaping cessation - [link](#)
- DTB select: Medication errors involving intravenous paracetamol in children - [link](#)
- Overview of systemic anticancer treatments: conventional cytotoxics - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Clinical utility and implementation of polygenic risk scores for predicting cardiovascular disease: A clinical consensus statement of the ESC Council on Cardiovascular Genomics, the ESC Cardiovascular Risk Collaboration, and the European Association of Preventive Cardiology - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Extravasation of enfortumab vedotin: a case report and literature review on antibody-drug conjugates - [link](#)
- Improve quality of care in hospital-at-home by implementing medication reconciliation on admission: a retrospective observational study - [link](#)
- K-means clustering to identify high risk of early revisits in patients with drug-related problems attending the emergency department – [link](#)
- Resolution rate of prescribing errors after advice from a specialised hospital pharmacist or a substitute hospital pharmacist: a retrospective cross-sectional study - [link](#)

Heart

- Anticoagulants or antiplatelets for secondary prevention of cryptogenic stroke: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- The Impact of frailty on the effectiveness of intensive blood pressure control for patients with type 2 diabetes: a secondary analysis of a randomised controlled trial - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Editorial: Has medicinal cannabis found a role in oncology/palliative care? - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Developing and validating a global trigger tool for assessing frequency, level of harm, and preventability of adverse drug events in pediatric inpatients units - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

- Prevalence and contributing factors of intravenous medication administration errors in emergency departments: a prospective observational study - [link](#)

JAMA

- Removing Ineffective Drugs from the Market: Implications for Oral Phenylephrine and Beyond - [link](#)
- Age and Sex Differences in Efficacy of Treatments for Type 2 Diabetes: A Network Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- Adjuvant Atezolizumab for Early Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: The ALEXANDRA/IMpassion030 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Patient-Clinician Communication About Weight Loss - [link](#)
- Patient page: What Is Genital Herpes? - [link](#) ; What Is Pericarditis? - [link](#)
- Testicular Germ Cell Tumors: A Review - [link](#)
- Simvastatin and Rifaximin in Decompensated Cirrhosis: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Contemporary Hormonal Contraception and Risk of Venous Thromboembolism - [link](#)
- Obecabtagene Autoleucel for B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Salt Substitution and Recurrent Stroke and Death: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Imiquimod Cream Preceded by Superficial Curettage vs Surgical Excision for Nodular Basal Cell Carcinoma: A Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Optimizing Pemphigus Management with Rituximab and Short-Term Relapse Predictors - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Glucose-Lowering Medications and Risk of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Exacerbations in Patients With Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Prophylactic Aspirin Dose and Preeclampsia - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Images in Neurology: Central Retinal Artery Occlusion with Cilioretinal Artery Sparing After Semaglutide Injection - [link](#)
- Cognitive decline after first-time transient ischemic attack - [link](#)
- Viewpoint - aligning Alzheimer disease biology with care - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Surrogate End Points for Overall Survival in Neoadjuvant Randomized Clinical Trials for Early Breast Cancer - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Anticoagulation control of warfarin in anticoagulation medication therapy adherence clinics - [link](#)

Lancet

- Exenatide once a week versus placebo as a potential disease-modifying treatment for people with Parkinson's disease in the UK: a phase 3, multicentre, double-blind, parallel-group, randomised, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)
- Pregnancy and the liver - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Dissection of type 2 diabetes: a genetic perspective - [link](#)
- Outcomes after medical treatment for primary aldosteronism: an international consensus and analysis of treatment response in an international cohort - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

- Early antiviral treatment with tenofovir alafenamide to prevent serious clinical adverse events in adults with chronic hepatitis B and moderate or high viraemia (ATTENTION): interim results from a randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Overcoming the challenges of overtreatment and undertreatment inflammatory bowel disease - [link](#)

Lancet Haematology

- Survival and quality of life in patients with lower risk myelodysplastic syndromes exposed to erythropoiesis-stimulating agents: an observational cohort study - [link](#)
- Diagnosis and treatment of Burkitt lymphoma in adults: clinical practice guidelines from ERN-EuroBloodNet - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- The hospital and mortality burden of COVID-19 compared with influenza in Denmark: a national observational cohort study, 2022–24 - [link](#)
- Targeting the SARS-CoV-2 reservoir in long COVID - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Real-world effectiveness of pharmacological maintenance treatment of bipolar depression: a within-subject analysis in a Swedish nationwide cohort - [link](#)

Lancet Regional Health (Europe)

- Benefits and harms associated with the use of AI-related algorithmic decision-making systems by healthcare professionals: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Immuno-metabolic depression: from concept to implementation - [link](#)
- Association between HPV vaccination and cervical screening policy changes and cervical cancer incidence and grade-3 cervical intraepithelial neoplasia incidence in England, 2006–2020: a population-based trends analysis - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of quadrivalent human papillomavirus vaccination against high-grade cervical lesions by age and doses: a population-based cohort study - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Predicting benefit from adjuvant therapy with corticosteroids in community-acquired pneumonia: a data-driven analysis of randomised trials - [link](#)

- Rezivertinib versus gefitinib as first-line therapy for patients with EGFR-mutated locally advanced or metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer (REZOR): a multicentre, double-blind, randomised, phase 3 study - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- University Pharmacy Clinic: Preventing Errors and Enhancing Lives Through Expert Medication Management - [link](#)
- Targeting Amyloid Pathology in Early Alzheimer's: The Promise of Donanemab-Azbt - [link](#)
- A Physicochemical Stability Study of Pembrolizumab Vial Leftovers: Let Us Stop Pouring Good Money Down the Drain – [link](#)
- Medication Non-Adherence in Inflammatory Bowel Disease: A Systematic Review Identifying Risk Factors and Opportunities for Intervention - [link](#)
- Social Determinants of Health and Medication Adherence in Older Adults with Prevalent Chronic Conditions in the United States: An Analysis of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) 2009–2018 - [link](#)
- Intravenously Administered Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs in Clinical Practice: A Narrative Review - [link](#)
- Designing Effective Protocol-Based Pharmacotherapy Management: Assessment of the Development Processes and Outcomes in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Care Prescription Management - [link](#)
- Operational Definitions of Polypharmacy and Their Association with All-Cause Hospitalization Risk: A Conceptual Framework Using Administrative Databases - [link](#)
- Using Healthcare Redesign to Identify Medication Management Issues in Parkinson's Disease - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Consensus recommendations on multiple sclerosis management in Australia and New Zealand: [Part 1](#) ; [Part 2](#)
- Classification of chronic kidney disease in older Australian adults by the CKD-EPI 2009 and 2021 equations: secondary analysis of ASPREE study data – [link](#) - [editorial](#)
- National Hypertension Taskforce of Australia: a roadmap to achieve 70% blood pressure control in Australia by 2030 – [letter](#) - [letter](#)

Nature Medicine

- Burdens of type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease attributable to sugar-sweetened beverages in 184 countries - [link](#)

Neurology

- Antiseizure Medications in Poststroke Seizures: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Oral Regimens for Rifampin-Resistant, Fluoroquinolone-Susceptible Tuberculosis - [link](#)
- Endovascular Treatment of Stroke Due to Medium-Vessel Occlusion - [link](#)
- Fixed-Duration Acalabrutinib Combinations in Untreated Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia - [link](#)
- Discovery of GLP-1–Based Drugs for the Treatment of Obesity - [link](#)
- Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis - [link](#)
- Efficacy and Safety of Obinutuzumab in Active Lupus Nephritis - [link](#)

NEJM Evidence

- Long-Term Cognitive Safety of Achieving Very Low LDL Cholesterol with Evolocumab - [link](#)

Pediatrics

- Safety and Efficacy of Probiotics for Preterm Infants - [commentary](#)
- Clinical Application of Bacteriophage Therapy in Children - [link](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- A shrinking world: What the COVID-19 pandemic taught us about travel vaccines in a globalised society - [link](#)
- Psychotropic deprescribing in ethnic minority individuals with a learning disability requires a more nuanced approach – [link](#)
- What does the assisted dying legislation mean for pharmacy? - [link](#)
- Does novel schizophrenia drug xanomeline-trospium chloride show renewed potential for better outcomes? - [link](#)
- Pharmacogenomics trial expands across England - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Editorial: Intracellular dried blood spot metabolite concentrations for assessing antiretroviral adherence and HIV progression - [link](#)
- Establishing discordance rate of estimated glomerular filtration rate between serum creatinine-based calculations and cystatin-C-based calculations in critically ill patients - [link](#)
- Intravenous ketamine successfully treats treatment-resistant catatonia in schizophrenia: A case report – [response](#) - [comment](#)

Prescribe International

- [February 2025](#) issue including:
 - Drugs to avoid in the name of better patient care: 2025 update - [free](#)
 - Dostarlimab (Jemperli^o) in advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer with DNA repair defects
 - Mavacamten (Camzyos^o) in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy?
 - Intravitreal VEGF inhibitors: systemic adverse effects

Stroke

- Early Versus Delayed Antihypertensive Treatment After Acute Ischemic Stroke by Hypertension History - [link](#)

CONSULTATIONS

TGA

- Proposed amendments to the Poisons Standard – ACCS and Joint ACMS-ACCS meetings – March 2025 - Closes on 17 February 2025 - [link](#)

WEBINARS & PODCASTS

Australian Prescriber Podcasts

- [Episode 181](#) – Adverse drug reactions reporting

FDA Division of Drug Information is presenting a [series](#) of CE webinars

- FDA Drug Topics: Cannabis Products and the Potential Impact on Patients - October 29, 2024 - [link](#)

MJA Podcasts

- [Episode 3](#): Murru Minya: examining ethical research processes and practices in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and medical research

UPCOMING EVENTS

AHHA

- Value at end of life: driving the outcomes that matter in palliative care, online 27 February 2025 12:30 pm AEDT – [register](#)
- Investing in DIAMONDS: transforming a surgical waitlist into a ‘preparation list’, online 1 April, 2025 12:30-13:30 AEDT - [register](#)
- Mental Health Access & Quality in Emergency Departments, April 8, 2025 09:00 AEST – [register](#)

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

- 2025 Congress: Partnering to advance VBHC in Australia, 1-2 May 2025, Melbourne - [register](#)

Australian Digital Health Agency and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- Connect. Care. Confidence Summit on Clinical Governance in Digital Health, online 18 February 2025 10.00 to 16:00 AEDT - [register](#)

Fortnightly TAG Mail – resources list 30th January 2025

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

Recently completed email discussions and surveys

- Smart drug libraries for subcutaneous infusion pumps:
- Protocols for critical medicines in NSW public facilities- survey report distributed to members for feedback

Contact Sasha Bennett at sasha.bennett@svha.org.au for further information about any email discussions, publications or upcoming meetings.

EDITOR'S PICKS

BJCP: Carbapenems in the management of valproic acid overdose - [link](#)
BJCP commentary: Changes in pharmacokinetics following significant weight loss - [link](#)
BJCP: Gut decontamination in the poisoned patient - [link](#)
BJGP: Antidepressants and risk of postural hypotension- [link](#)
BMJ: Dapagliflozin plus calorie restriction for remission of type 2 diabetes- [link](#)
BMJ Open: Survey of biological medicine users to investigate guidance to carry out successful treatment - [link](#)
BMJ Open RR: How do patients determine when their inhaler is empty? - [link](#)
Diab Care: Clinical Decision Support and Cardiometabolic Medication Adherence - [link](#)
EJHP: Feasibility study of the digital tool Max for the patient-provided medication list in the medication reconciliation process prior to hospitalisation- [link](#)
ERCSP: High-risk medication errors: Insight from the UK reporting and learning system - [link](#)
Heart: Determinants of medication adherence in patients with acute coronary syndrome- [link](#)
HTA: A systematic review of the cost-effectiveness of anti-VEGF drugs for diabetic retinopathy - [link](#)
IJCP: Pharmacist-led deprescribing of CV and diabetes medication within a medication review - [link](#)
IJCP: Evaluation of self-screening patient tool & alert cards to identify & manage severe ADRs - [link](#)
IMJ: Preventive medicine evaluation for people living with HIV in a hospital-based care setting - [link](#)
JAMA IM: Comparative Effectiveness of Individual Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitors - [link](#)
JAMA NO: Glutamatergic Medications for Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders - [link](#)
JCJ QPS: Methodological Approaches for Analyzing Medication Error Reports in Patient Safety Reporting Systems - [link](#)
JPPR: Effect of dose administration aids on adherence of self-administered medications- [link](#)
JPPR: The effectiveness of oral and sublingual ketamine in pain management- [link](#)
JPS: Enhancing Sepsis Care at an Academic ED in a Resource-Constrained Setting– [link](#)
JPS: Older Adult Misuse of OTC Medications: Effectiveness of a Pharmacy-Based Intervention - [link](#)
Lancet: Appendectomy versus antibiotics for acute uncomplicated appendicitis in children - [link](#)
Lancet: Multidrug-resistant Gram-negative bacterial infections - [link](#)
Lancet GH: Antibiotic treatment versus appendectomy for acute appendicitis in adults - [link](#)
MDPI: Unveiling the Complexities of Medications, Substance Abuse, and Plants for Recreational and Narcotic Purposes - [link](#)
Nature Med: Mapping the effectiveness and risks of GLP-1 receptor agonists - [link](#)
NEJM: - Fracture Prevention with Infrequent Zoledronate in Women 50 to 60 Years of Age - [link](#)
NEJM: Identification and Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder - [link](#)
NICE: New guidance on the use of surrogate endpoints in cost-effectiveness analysis - [link](#)
SPS: Information for polypharmacy, deprescribing and medication review- [link](#), [resources](#), [tools](#)
SPS: Assessing the clinical impact of lactose in medicines - [link](#)
Stroke: Tenecteplase thrombolysis up to 24 hours after stroke onset - [link](#)

OTHER NEWS

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988
Ph: 0407418 072 | Email: nswtag@stvincents.com.au | www.nswtag.org.au
An initiative of NSW clinical pharmacologists & pharmacists
ABN: 82 707 308 091

NSW Health

- Measures to address methylphenidate medication shortage - [link](#)
- Public health alert: Likely case of botulism linked to unregulated anti-wrinkle injections [[24 January 2025](#)]
- Measles alert for Western Sydney [[23 January 2025](#)]; ... for Sydney Airport [[24 January 2025](#)]

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

The latest weekly Evidence Digest can be found [here](#)

Australian Government Department of Health

- ICEG-endorsed resources for infection prevention and control - [link](#)

PBS

- PBS reason codes 162/163 when dispensing biosimilar brands - 23 January 2025 - [link](#)

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages
- Registration of [new or extended uses](#) of registered medicine:
 - [ALECENSA](#) (alectinib hydrochloride); [OMJJARA](#) (momelotinib dihydrochloride monohydrate)
- Registration of [new chemical or biological entities](#) in Australia:
 - [WINREVAIR](#) (sotatercept); [FRUZAQLA](#) (fruquintinib); [TALVEY](#) (talquetamab); [VORANIGO](#) (vorasidenib); [YSELTY](#) (linzagolix choline); [FABHALTA](#) (iptacopan); [ZILBRYSQ](#) (zilucoplan tetrasodium); [HEPCLUDEX](#) (bulevirtide acetate); ; [PLUVICTO](#) (lutetium (177Lu) vipivotide tetraxetan)
- Registration of [new generic medicines](#):
 - [TICAGRELOR RAN](#); [GANIRELIX GH](#); [FINGOLIMOD DR REDDY'S](#); [APIBAX](#); [METVANT FATTY OINTMENT](#); [NORADRENALINE KABI](#); [ERTAPENEM-AFT](#); [TOLVAPTAN GH](#); [LUCINDA](#); [SAMAKIND](#); [CIPLA TERIPARATIDE](#)
- Registration of [new biosimilar medicines](#): omalizumab [OMLYCLO](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Perspective: The Ongoing Journey to Prevent Patient Falls - [link](#) - [conversation](#)

Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland

- Elective peri-operative management of adults taking glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1) - [link](#)

Courts and Tribunals Judiciary UK

- Prevention of future deaths report recommends national action to make naloxone kits more widely available - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [New products](#)
 - Jeraygo (aprocitantan) oral treatment for resistant hypertension in adult patients in combination with at least three antihypertensive drugs
 - Lunivia (eszopiclone) – non-benzodiazepine hypnotic agent, the S-isomer of racemic zopiclone in adults, preferentially for short-term duration (not exceeding four weeks),
 - Lytenava (bevacizumab gamma) for (adult) neovascular (wet) age-related macular degeneration (nAMD). Administered by intravitreal injection every 4 weeks
 - Ospolot (sultiame) 20 mg/ml oral suspension - carbonic anhydrase inhibitor for Rolandic epilepsy (benign childhood epilepsy with centrotemporal spikes)
 - Voltarol (diclofenac) ONE A DAY 140 mg Medicated plaster for local symptomatic short-term treatment (max. 7 days) of pain in acute strains, sprains or bruises of the extremities following blunt trauma in adolescents from 16 years of age and adults
- [Revised SPCs](#)

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988

Ph: 0407418 072 | Email: nswtag@stvincents.com.au | www.nswtag.org.au

An initiative of NSW clinical pharmacologists & pharmacists

ABN: 82 707 308 091

- Adjuvanted Zoonotic Influenza Vaccine (Surface Antigen, Inactivated) Seqirus – now for individuals from 6 months of age and above, as active immunisation against H5 subtype of Influenza A virus
- Amglicia (glibenclamide) – information regarding evidence that glibenclamide “might improve some neurological deficits in patients with neonatal-onset diabetes due to KCNJ11 or ABCC8 mutations like epilepsy, motor function and hypotonia, by a mechanism independent from insulin secretion” added
- Dupixent (dupilumab) 2 pre-filled syringe - updated licence extension for eosinophilic esophagitis in adults, adolescents and children aged 1 year and older, weighing at least 15 kg, who are inadequately controlled by, are intolerant to, or who are not candidates for conventional medicinal therapy
- Venclyxto (venetoclax) - in combination with ibrutinib for adult patients with previously untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia

Department of Health and Social Care

- CHM's report on proposed changes to the availability of puberty blockers - [link](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

- Human medicines in 2024: overview of EMA key recommendations for marketing authorisation - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- [datopotamab deruxtecan-dlink](#) for unresectable or metastatic, HR-positive, HER2-negative breast cancer – [label/PI](#)
- Lumakras ([sotorasib](#)) with Vectibix (panitumumab) for adult patients with KRAS G12C-mutated metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC)
- Calquence ([acalabrutinib](#)) with bendamustine and rituximab for adults with previously untreated mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) who are ineligible for autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT), and to acalabrutinib as a single agent for adults with previously treated MCL
- US FDA authorises marketing of 20 ZYN nicotine pouch products - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- Approves seladelpar for Primary Biliary Cholangitis (PBC) - [link](#)
- Approves apocritentan (Jeraygo) to treat adults with resistant hypertension - [link](#)
- Approves garadacimab (Andembry) to prevent angioedema attacks – [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) UK

- Overweight and obesity management ([NG246](#))
- Maternal and child nutrition: updated guidance ([NG247](#))
- Gambling-related harms: identification, assessment and management ([NG248](#))
- Vamorolone for treating Duchenne muscular dystrophy in people 4 years and over ([TA1031](#))
- Anhydrous sodium thiosulfate for preventing hearing loss caused by cisplatin chemotherapy in people 1 month to 17 years with localised solid tumours ([TA1034](#))
- Vadadustat for symptomatic anaemia in adults having dialysis for chronic kidney disease ([TA1035](#))
- International collaboration provides new guidance on the use of surrogate endpoints in cost-effectiveness analysis - [link](#)
- A systematic review of the cost-effectiveness of anti-VEGF drugs for the treatment of diabetic retinopathy - [link](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Commentaries

- Older people who take statins live longer in better health - [link](#)
- Hospitalisation for COVID-19 is linked with long-term mental health and thinking problems - [link](#)
- What is the impact of a gradual reduction of antipsychotics? - [link](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- Collaborative Vision for Pharmacy Professional Leadership - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Understanding polypharmacy, overprescribing and deprescribing - [link](#)
- A person-centred approach to polypharmacy and medication review - [link](#)

- Resources to support medication review - [link](#)
- Tools to support medication review - [link](#)
- Assessing the clinical impact of lactose in medicines - [link](#)
- Managing dosage adjustments for prescribed medicines - [link](#)

UK Health Security Agency

- Guidance: UK Access, Watch, Reserve, and Other classification for antibiotics ([UK-AWaRe](#) antibiotic classification)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Guideline on management of pneumonia and diarrhoea in children up to 10 years of age - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

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

- Anaesthetic risk associated with tracheostomy speaking valve - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [Revised SPCs](#)

- Aldurazyme (laronidase) concentrate updated to advise that in patients with clinical decline, assessing urinary glycosaminoglycans, anti-drug antibodies and neutralising antibodies should be considered, and to refer to section 4.8 for further information
- Asacol (mesalazine) - idiopathic intracranial hypertension a possible ADR (frequency not known), and information about how to recognise and manage this added to special warnings and precautions
- Bisalax (bisacodyl) - information about bisacodyl's effect on constipation-related symptoms added, and a summary of results from a clinical trial
- Aspaveli (pegcetacoplan) - anaphylactic reaction and anaphylactic shock added as potential adverse effects of treatment (uncommon)
- in line with other angiotensin II receptor antagonists, intestinal angioedema added as a potential ADR. Patients present with abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting & diarrhoea and symptoms resolve after treatment discontinuation: azilsartan (Edarbi) tablets; Co-Diovan (valsartan and hydrochlorothiazide); olmesartan; irbesartan
- Episenta (sodium valproate) – new sections on severe cutaneous adverse reactions and angioedema, and on concomitant use with clozapine. Hyperpigmentation now included as a possible ADR of unknown frequency
- Evusheld (cilgavimab/tixagevimab) - warnings about the potential for this medicine to cause serious hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis included
- Kevzara (sarilumab) solution for injection for polymyalgia rheumatica in adult patients who have had an inadequate response to corticosteroids or who experience a relapse during corticosteroid taper
- Opfolda (miglustat) - paraesthesia added as adverse effect of treatment (common)
- Paclitaxel - Deferasirox and trimethoprim added to the list of medicines that can potentially increase paclitaxel toxicity due to inhibition of either CYP2C8 or CYP3A4 and St John Wort to the list that could compromise efficacy due to induction of these enzymes
- Scemblix (asciminib) - pancytopenia added as adverse reaction (uncommon)
- Vyloy (zolbetuximab) – time reconstituted vials may be stored at room temperature ($\leq 30^{\circ}\text{C}$) extended from up to 5 hours to up to 6 hours; time prepared infusion bag can be stored at room temperature ($\leq 30^{\circ}\text{C}$) extended from no longer than 6 hours to no longer than 8 hours
- Xeljanz (tofacitinib) - warning ≥ 1 confirmed case of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy reported in patients with rheumatoid arthritis on tofacitinib in post marketing setting. It should be considered in differential diagnosis in immunosuppressed with new onset/worsening neuro symptoms
- Zeyzelf (rivastigmine) - pleurosthotonus (Pisa syndrome) added as neurological ADR (unknown frequency)

EMA

- European PRAC initiates review of semaglutide-containing medicines following concerns of an increased risk of non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION) - [link](#)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- Adds Boxed Warning about anaphylaxis with the multiple sclerosis medicine [glatiramer acetate](#) (Copaxone, Glatopa) (rare)
- Adds Boxed Warning for increased risk of severe hypocalcemia in patients with advanced chronic kidney disease taking Prolia ([denosumab](#))
- Update on FDA's ongoing evaluation of reports of suicidal thoughts or actions with some medicines approved for type 2 diabetes and obesity - [link](#)
- Proposes reducing nicotine to minimally or nonaddictive level in cigarettes and certain other combusted tobacco products - [link](#)

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK

- Drug Safety Update [January 2025](#)
- GLP-1 and dual GIP/GLP-1 receptor agonists: potential risk of pulmonary aspiration during general anaesthesia or deep sedation - [link](#)

Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)

- Monitoring Communication: Anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies (rituximab, ocrelizumab, obinutuzumab, ofatumumab) and the possible risk of pyoderma gangrenosum - [link](#)

TGA

- Don't risk using tanning products containing melanotan - [link](#)
- Recall: Caruso's Natural Health WEE LESS, BLOAT EZE and ASHWAGANDHA 7500 - [link](#)
- Product Information safety updates - [January 2025](#)
- More prominent safety warnings about the neuropsychiatric effects of montelukast - [link](#)
- Montelukast safety alert - [link](#)

US Preventive Services Task Force

- Recommends osteoporosis screening to prevent fractures in women aged ≥ 65 - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Gene-ius at work: Hemophilia B treatment enters a new era - [link](#)
- Implementation of a pharmacy technician-driven, technology-assisted final product verification program at a community teaching hospital - [link](#)
- Utilizing pharmacy technicians for medication adherence patient outreach in an ambulatory care setting - [link](#)
- Allodynia (skin tenderness) associated with semaglutide: A case series - [link](#)
- Bridging the continuity: Practice-enhancing publications about the ambulatory care medication-use process in 2023 - [link](#)
- Ceftobiprole: A therapeutic update - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Stroke Rehabilitation: Synopsis of the 2024 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and U.S. Department of Defense Clinical Practice Guidelines - [link](#)

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

- Systematic literature review and meta-analysis informing the EULAR points to consider on the initiation of targeted therapies in patients with inflammatory arthritis and a history of cancer - [link](#)

Arthritis & Rheumatology

- Efficacy of a Tumor Necrosis Factor Inhibitor in Chronic Low-Back Pain With Modic Type 1 Changes: A Randomized Controlled Trial - [link](#)
- Changes in Descending Pain Modulation During Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy: A Prospective Study in Rheumatoid Arthritis and Spondyloarthritis - [link](#)
- Expert Perspective: Management of Relapses in Giant Cell Arteritis - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Carbapenems in the management of valproic acid overdose (MPT-01166-24 R1) - [link](#)
- Spotlight commentary: Changes in pharmacokinetics following significant weight loss - [link](#)
- The efficacy of hydroxychloroquine in paediatric chronic immune thrombocytopenia: A retrospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Gut decontamination in the poisoned patient - [link](#)
- Optimizing real-world evidence studies for regulatory decision-making and impact assessment in pharmacovigilance - [link](#)
- A review on the role of extrapolation as basis for paediatric marketing authorization applications of medicines in the EU - [link](#)
- Assessing the applicability of the DOAC, HAS-BLED and ORBIT risk scores in Chinese patients on non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Effectiveness of low-dose amitriptyline and mirtazapine in patients with insomnia disorder with sleep maintenance problems: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in general practice (DREAMING) - [link](#)
- Antidepressants and risk of postural hypotension: a self-controlled case series study - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Life expectancy and years of life lost for adults with diagnosed ADHD in the UK: matched cohort study - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Intra-arterial tenecteplase after successful endovascular recanalisation in patients with acute posterior circulation arterial occlusion (ATTENTION-IA): multicentre randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- The efficacy and safety of thymosin α 1 for sepsis (TESTS): multicentre, double blinded, randomised, placebo controlled, phase 3 trial - [link](#)
- Fact check: Human metapneumovirus in China - [link](#)
- Dapagliflozin plus calorie restriction for remission of type 2 diabetes: multicentre, double blind, randomised, placebo controlled trial - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Association between the intensity of statin therapy and physical activity 1 year after acute coronary syndrome: a multicentre prospective cohort study in Switzerland - [link](#)
- Cross-sectional patient survey of biological medicine users in Finland to investigate the types of guidance needed by patients in order to carry out their treatment successfully - [link](#)
- Effect of metformin on the clinical outcomes of stroke in patients with diabetes: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

BMJ Open Respiratory Research

- How do patients determine when their inhaler is empty? Insights from an analysis of returned inhalers and a patient survey - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Duration of antibiotic therapy in the intensive care unit: factors influencing decision-making during multidisciplinary meetings - [link](#)

CHEST Journal - American College of Chest Physicians

- Mortality in Patients With Sepsis Treated With Esmolol or Landiolol: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials With Trial Sequential Analysis - [link](#)

Circulation

- Assessing and Addressing Cardiovascular and Obstetric Risks in Patients Undergoing Assisted Reproductive Technology: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association - [link](#)
- 2025 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics: A Report of US and Global Data From the American Heart Association - [link](#)

- Aspirin Plus Rivaroxaban Versus Rivaroxaban Alone for the Prevention of Venous Stent Thrombosis Among Patients With Post-Thrombotic Syndrome: The Multicenter, Multinational, Randomized, Open-label ARIVA Trial - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Interrupted versus uninterrupted anticoagulation for cardiac rhythm management device insertion - [link](#)
- Alendronate for the primary and secondary prevention of osteoporotic fractures in postmenopausal women - [link](#)
- Direct factor Xa inhibitors versus low molecular weight heparins or vitamin K antagonists for prevention of venous thromboembolism in elective primary hip or knee replacement or hip fracture repair - [link](#)
- Intravenous antibiotics for pulmonary exacerbations in people with cystic fibrosis - [link](#)
- Lurasidone versus typical antipsychotics for schizophrenia - [link](#)
- Thrombolysis for aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage - [link](#)
- Tranexamic acid for preventing postpartum haemorrhage after vaginal birth - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Efficacy of GLP-1 Receptor Agonists on Weight Loss, BMI, and Waist Circumference for Patients With Obesity or Overweight: A Systematic Review, Meta-analysis, and Meta-regression of 47 Randomized Controlled Trials - [link](#)
- Diabetes Risk After Treatment for Childhood and Young Adult Cancer - [link](#)
- Clinical Decision Support and Cardiometabolic Medication Adherence - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- DTB select: Semaglutide and nonarteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy - [link](#)
- What role for ▼ gefapixant in chronic cough? - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Bromocriptine in the treatment of peripartum cardiomyopathy: is it ready for prime time? - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Feasibility study of the digital tool Max for the patient-provided medication list in the medication reconciliation process prior to hospitalisation: patient willingness and usability, time saved and reliability - [link](#)
- Physical compatibility of insulin aspart, lidocaine, alprostadil and vancomycin with individualised two-in-one parenteral nutrition used in the neonatal intensive care unit - [link](#)
- Stability study of topotecan in ophthalmic prefilled syringes for intravitreal delivery - [link](#)

Exploratory Research in Clinical and Social Pharmacy

- High-risk medication errors: Insight from the UK National Reporting and learning system - [link](#)

Heart

- Association of weight change with cardiovascular events and all-cause mortality in obese participants with cardiovascular disease: a prospective cohort study – [link](#)
- Cost-effectiveness of digoxin versus beta blockers in permanent atrial fibrillation: the Rate Control Therapy Evaluation in Permanent Atrial Fibrillation (RATE-AF) randomised trial - [link](#)
- Determinants of medication adherence in patients with acute coronary syndrome: a secondary analysis of a randomised clinical trial - [link](#)
- Statement on long-term cardiovascular consequences of maternal hypertension: call for urgent action - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Evaluation of preventive medicine amongst people living with human immunodeficiency virus attending a hospital-based care setting - [link](#)
- Severe sepsis-associated acute kidney injury and outcomes: a longitudinal cohort study - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Pharmacist-led deprescribing of cardiovascular and diabetes medication within a clinical medication review: the LeMON study (Less Medicines in Older Patients in the Netherlands), a cluster randomized controlled trial - [link](#)
- Evaluation of a self-screening tool and patient alert cards to help patients identify and manage severe adverse drug reactions - [link](#)
- Real-world safety of maribavir: a retrospective study based on signal detection in the FDA adverse event reporting system - [link](#)
- Lipids, lipid-lowering drug target genes and pancreatic cancer: a Mendelian randomization study - [link](#)
- Efficacy and safety of preoperative duloxetine in reducing post-laparoscopic surgery pain: a meta-analysis of randomized placebo-controlled trials - [link](#)

JAMA

- Essential Thrombocythemia: A Review - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Acne Relapse and Isotretinoin Retrial in Patients with Acne - [link](#)
- Doxycycline Postexposure Prophylaxis (DoxyPEP) for Bacterial STI Prevention - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Comparative Effectiveness of Individual Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitors - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of Empagliflozin vs Dapagliflozin for Kidney Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)
- Patient page: My Loved One Has Cancer—What Does This Mean for Me? - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- Glutamatergic Medications for Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Prourokinase vs Standard Care for Patients With Mild Ischemic Stroke: The PUMICE Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Apixaban to Prevent Covert Infarcts After Cryptogenic Stroke in Patients With Atrial Cardiopathy: A Secondary Analysis of the ARCADIA Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Ophthalmology

- Five-Year Outcomes of Lenadogene Nolpharvovec Gene Therapy in Leber Hereditary Optic Neuropathy - [link](#)

Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety

- Methodological Approaches for Analyzing Medication Error Reports in Patient Safety Reporting Systems: A Scoping Review - [link](#)

Journal of the American College of Cardiology

- Finerenone and Kidney Outcomes in Patients With Heart Failure: The FINEARTS-HF Trial - [link](#)
- Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate for Management of Hyperkalemia During Spironolactone Optimization in Patients With Heart Failure - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy for Newly Diagnosed, Advanced Ovarian Cancer: ASCO Guideline Update - [link](#)

Journal of Patient Safety

- Enhancing Sepsis Care at an Academic Emergency Department in a Resource-Constrained Setting: A Quality Improvement Initiative – [link](#)

- Older Adult Misuse of Over-the-Counter Medications: Effectiveness of a Novel Pharmacy-Based Intervention to Improve Patient Safety - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Effect of dose administration aids on adherence of self-administered medications: a systematic review - [link](#)
- The effectiveness of oral and sublingual ketamine in pain management: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Stability of dabigatran etexilate (Pradaxa) capsules in dose administration aids - [link](#)

Lancet

- Appendectomy versus antibiotics for acute uncomplicated appendicitis in children: an open-label, international, multicentre, randomised, non-inferiority trial - [link](#)
- Acute kidney injury - [link](#)
- Multidrug-resistant Gram-negative bacterial infections - [link](#)
- Hidradenitis suppurativa - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Estimating direct tissue effects versus weight loss effects of incretin-based drugs for obesity on various chronic conditions - [link](#)
- The role of the hypothalamic–pituitary–thyroid axis in thyroid cancer - [link](#)
- Automated insulin delivery during the first 6 months postpartum (AiDAPT): a prespecified extension study - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

- Antibiotic treatment versus appendectomy for acute appendicitis in adults: an individual patient data meta-analysis - [link](#)

Lancet HIV

- Efficacy of dolutegravir plus lamivudine in treatment-naive people living with HIV without baseline drug-resistance testing available (D2ARLING): 48-week results of a phase 4, randomised, open-label, non-inferiority trial - [link](#)
- Performance of the pooled cohort equations and D:A:D risk scores among individuals with HIV in a global cardiovascular disease prevention trial: a cohort study leveraging data from REPRIEVE - [link](#)

Lancet Infectious Diseases

- Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine effectiveness among US veterans, September, 2023 to March, 2024: a target trial emulation study - [link](#)

Lancet Neurology

- Apixaban versus aspirin for stroke prevention in people with subclinical atrial fibrillation and a history of stroke or transient ischaemic attack: subgroup analysis of the ARTESiA randomised controlled trial - [link](#)
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis caused by FUS mutations: advances with broad implications - [link](#)
- Crossing the blood–brain barrier: emerging therapeutic strategies for neurological disease - [link](#)
- Unique considerations in the assessment and management of traumatic brain injury in older adults - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Comparative effectiveness of antipsychotic treatment strategies for relapse prevention in first-episode schizophrenia in Finland: a population-based cohort study - [link](#)

Lancet Regional Health (Europe)

- Hypertension and orthostatic hypotension - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Unveiling the Complexities of Medications, Substance Abuse, and Plants for Recreational and Narcotic Purposes: An In-Depth Analysis - [link](#)

Nature Medicine

- Mapping the effectiveness and risks of GLP-1 receptor agonists - [link](#)
- Encorafenib, cetuximab and chemotherapy in BRAF-mutant colorectal cancer: a randomized phase 3 trial - [link](#)

Neurology

- Effect of IV Thrombolysis With Alteplase in Patients With Vessel Occlusion in the WAKE-UP Trial - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Fracture Prevention with Infrequent Zoledronate in Women 50 to 60 Years of Age - [link](#)
- Survival with Trastuzumab Emtansine in Residual HER2-Positive Breast Cancer - [link](#)
- Identification and Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder - [link](#)
- The Future of Gender-Affirming Care — A Law and Policy Perspective on the [Cass Review](#)
- Abrelcimab versus Rivaroxaban in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation - [link](#)

Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Fezolinetant and Elinzanetant Therapy for Menopausal Women Experiencing Vasomotor Symptoms: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)

- Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule: United States, 2025: Policy Statement - [link](#)
- Prescription Stimulant Dispensing to US Children: 2017–2023 – [link](#) - [commentary](#)

Pharmaceutical Journal

- NHS data show melatonin prescribing in children rises by 245% in nine years - [link](#)
- ‘Confusing blur’ between genuine medicines shortages and procurement issues, says wholesalers trade body - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Cross-titration from risperidone to clozapine utilizing clozapine serum concentrations: A case report - [link](#)
- Intravenous thrombolysis for patients with acute ischemic stroke while receiving a direct oral anticoagulant: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)

Stroke

- Tenecteplase Thrombolysis for Stroke up to 24 Hours After Onset with Perfusion Imaging Selection: The CHABLIS-T II Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

CONSULTATIONS

TGA

- Proposed amendments to the Poisons Standard – ACCS and Joint ACMS-ACCS meetings – March 2025 - Closes on 17 February 2025 - [link](#)

WEBINARS & PODCASTS

Australian Prescriber Podcasts

- [Episode 180](#): Diagnosis and management of antiphospholipid syndrome

MJA Podcasts

- [Episode 1](#): Male Infertility
- [Episode 2](#): Advanced back pain management and robotic advances

UPCOMING EVENTS

AHHA

- Value at end of life: driving the outcomes that matter in palliative care, online 27 February 2025 12:30 pm AEDT – [register](#)
- Mental Health Access & Quality in Emergency Departments, April 8, 2025 09:00 AEST – [register](#)

AHRQ

- Webinar: Evidence on Advancing Rapid Response Systems and Opioid Stewardship, online 11 February 2025 05:00 (Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney) – [link](#) - [register](#)

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

- 2025 Congress: Partnering to advance VBHC in Australia, 1-2 May 2025, Melbourne - [register](#)

Australian Digital Health Agency and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- Connect. Care. Confidence Summit on Clinical Governance in Digital Health, online 18 February 2025 10.00 to 16:00 AEDT - [register](#)

Fortnightly TAG Mail – resources list

16th January 2024

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

Open email discussions

Smart drug libraries for subcutaneous infusion pumps: how are facilities/districts utilising smart drug libraries for their subcutaneous infusion pumps including the types/brands that are used across facilities. They would also like to know if they have experienced any issues with the wrong rates of medication being administered to patients and risk mitigation strategies employed to address this. Due to close 24th January 2025

Recently completed email discussions and surveys

- Protocols for critical medicines in NSW public facilities- survey report distributed to members for feedback- closes 24th January 2025

Contact Sasha Bennett at sasha.bennett@svha.org.au for further information about any email discussions, publications or upcoming meetings.

CATAG ACTIVITIES

CATAG is calling for nominations to provide expert input for the CATAG response to the Dept. of Health and Aged Care's review of PBS prescriber's bag item. Expertise is requested in the following:

- Infectious diseases
- Pharmacology
- Emergency medicine
- Formulary/MTC/QUM pharmacist
- Ambulance
- GP/GP liaison

Please email Lisa Pulver at catag.coordinator@outlook.com for further information.

EDITOR'S PICKS

AJHP: ASHP and ASHP Foundation Pharmacy Forecast 2025: Strategic Planning Guidance for Pharmacy Departments in Hospitals and Health Systems - [link](#)

AJHP: Tailoring patient education for Generation Alpha in health-system pharmacy practice - [link](#)

AEM: Effectiveness and Safety of Pharmacologic Therapies for Migraine in the ED- [link](#)

AIM: Medical Reference Tools and Pharmaceutical Promotion: A History of Entanglement - [link](#)

AIM: Denosumab Versus Oral Bisphosphonates in Patients Receiving Dialysis- [link](#)

AIM: Effectiveness of Synchronous Post discharge Contacts on Health Care Use and Patient Satisfaction– [link](#)

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BJCP: Evaluating the effect of making the indication field compulsory in electronic prescriptions- [link](#)
BJCP: Strategies employed and experiences associated with the implementation of pharmaceutical services and interventions in geriatric wards- [link](#)
BJCP: Implementability of opioid deprescribing interventions at transitions of care- [link](#)
BJCP: Medication adherence—Everybody's problem but nobody's responsibility? - [link](#)
BJGP: Structured medication reviews: progress since 2020 and opportunities for improvement - [link](#)
BJP: Cost-effectiveness of 10 commonly used antipsychotics in first-episode schizophrenia - [link](#)
BMJ: Effectiveness of SDM strategies for stroke prevention among AF patients - [link](#)
BMJ Med: Dementia risk with anticholinergic drugs for overactive bladder in adults ≥ 55 years - [link](#)
BMJ OQ: How often do parents administer medications to their children in hospital? - [link](#)
BMJ QS: - Editorial: Patient work self-managing medicines – [link](#)
BMJ QS: What do clinical practice guidelines say about deprescribing? A scoping review - [link](#)
Diab Care: Understanding Microdosing Semaglutide for Diabetes in Multidose Pens - [link](#)
DiabObesMetab: Effects of SGLT2 inhibitors in myocardial infarction patients - [link](#)
EHJ: Coffee drinking timing and mortality in US adults - [link](#)
EJHP: Over 40% of cancer patients use complementary and alternative medications- [link](#)
IMJ: Comparative study of management strategies for immune checkpoint inhibitor-induced inflammatory arthritis: rheumatologists versus oncologists - [link](#)
IJCP: Established and emerging roles for pharmacy in operating theatres: a scoping review - [link](#)
IJQHC: Adverse medication reactions: raising a red flag locally, sharing lessons globally, and improving safety and quality in health care - [link](#)
JAMA: Harm Reduction Strategies for People Who Use Drugs - [link](#)
Lancet GH: Ramadan intermittent fasting for patients with gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary diseases: practical guidance for health-care professionals - [link](#)
Lancet Haem: Position statement on the diagnosis and management of acute leukaemia and aggressive lymphomas in pregnancy - [link](#)
Lancet PH: - The public health risks of counterfeit pills - [link](#)
MDPI: Pharmacist-Mediated Deprescribing in Long-Term Care Facilities: A Systematic Review - [link](#)
MJA: Updated recommendations for warfarin reversal in the setting of four-factor prothrombin complex concentrate - [link](#)

OTHER NEWS

NSW Health

- Measles alert for Inner Sydney [[20 December 2024](#)], NSW [[24 December 2024](#)]
- Public Health Warning: Severe overdoses after using drugs thought to be cocaine [[31 December 2024](#)]
- NSW residents urged to stay mosquito safe this summer [[7 January 2025](#)]

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW (ACI)

The latest weekly Evidence Digest can be found [here](#)

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

- AGAR Surveillance Outcome Programs 2023 Report - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates

- New Products
- Amivantamab ([Rybrevant](#)) for patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer that has an activating EGFR exon 20 insertion mutation, whose disease has progressed on or after platinum-based chemotherapy
- SARS-CoV-2 JN.1 mRNA vaccine ([Spikevax JN.1](#)) for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 in individuals 12 years of age and older in accordance with official recommendations. Spikevax JN.1 is contraindicated in individuals with known severe allergic reactions (e.g. anaphylaxis) to a previous dose of Spikevax (Original, Bivalent Original/Omicron (BA.1), Bivalent Original/Omicron BA.4-5 or XBB.1.5)

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-- Talazoparib (tosilate) ([Talzena](#)) for patients with a deleterious or suspected deleterious germline BRCA mutation according to a validated diagnostic test, who have human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative, locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer and in combination with enzalutamide for the treatment of adult patients with HRR gene-mutated metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer

- New Indications

-- Brexpiprazole ([Rexulti](#)) for treatment of agitation associated with Alzheimer's dementia, in adult patients who are unresponsive to non-pharmacological interventions

-- Nivolumab (rch) ([Opdivo](#)) for first-line treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in combination with cisplatin and gemcitabine.

-- Osimertinib (mesilate) ([Tagrisso](#)) for first-line treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer whose tumours have EGFR exon 19 deletions or exon 21 L858R mutations, in combination with pemetrexed and platinum-based chemotherapy.

TGA

- [Database](#) of section 19A approvals to import and supply medicines to address medicine shortages

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

British Menopause Society

- Management of unscheduled bleeding on hormone replacement therapy (HRT) - [FAQ](#)

British National Formulary

- BNF/BNFC newsletter: [December 2024](#)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Methadone for Surgical Patients - [link](#)

- Emerging Antiviral Drugs to Prevent or Treat Influenza - [link](#)

Department of Health and Social Care UK

- Oral methadone and buprenorphine: recommendations - [link](#)

- New research finds smokers who choose to quit on New Year's Day could save a whole day of their life by 8 January - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [New products](#)

-- Cequa (ciclosporin) eye drops – for moderate-to-severe dry eye disease (keratoconjunctivitis sicca) in adult patients who have not responded adequately to artificial tears

-- Fomicyt (fosfomycin) for infusion – for all age groups for a range of infections, where appropriate

-- Imdylltra (Tarlatab) for infusion – for adults with extensive-stage small cell lung cancer with disease progression on/after ≥2 prior lines of therapy including platinum-based chemotherapy

-- Mektovi (binimetinib) 15mg tablets – in combination with encorafenib for treatment of melanoma & non-small cell lung cancer, in adults with BRAF V600E mutation. The standard dose is 45mg twice daily (reduced for stated ADRs)

-- MISABRI PR (pregabalin prolonged-release) for peripheral & central neuropathic pain in adults, at a dose ranging between 165 to 660mg per day, taken once daily directly after an evening meal

-- Vivaire (beclomethasone/formoterol) - combined corticosteroid and long-acting beta2-agonist inhaler for asthma or severe COPD with a history of exacerbations

- [Revised SPCs](#)

-- Arexvy (respiratory syncytial virus vaccine [recombinant, adjuvanted]) for adults aged 50-59 years who are at increased risk for RSV disease

-- Cerdelga (eliglustat) – now includes use in paediatric patients with Gaucher disease type 1, age ≥6 years, with minimum body weight of 25 kg, stable on enzyme replacement therapy, and who are CYP2D6 poor, intermediate or extensive metabolisers

-- Cresemba (isavuconazonium) - invasive aspergillosis and mucormycosis when amphotericin B in inappropriate now includes treatment of paediatric patients aged 1 year and older

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- Imfinzi (durvalumab) - in combination with carboplatin and paclitaxel for first-line treatment of adults with primary advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer who are candidates for systemic therapy, followed by maintenance treatment
- Jemperli (dostarlimab) - monotherapy in adult patients with mismatch repair deficient (dMMR)/microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) recurrent or advanced endometrial cancer that has progressed on or following prior treatment with a platinum-containing regimen
- Kevzara (sarilumab) - new indication of polymyalgia rheumatica (PMR) in adult patients who have had inadequate response to corticosteroids or who experience a relapse during corticosteroid taper
- Lynparza (olaparib) - for use in combination with durvalumab for the maintenance treatment of adults with primary advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer that is mismatch repair proficient (pMMR) whose disease has not progressed on first-line treatment

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA updates sotrovimab emergency use authorization - [link](#)
- New drug approvals
- Tryngolza ([olezarsen](#)) to treat familial chylomicronemia syndrome
- [tirzepatide](#) for treatment of moderate to severe obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) in adults with obesity in combination with a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity
- accelerated approval to encorafenib with cetuximab and mFOLFOX6 for metastatic colorectal cancer with a BRAF V600E mutation - [link](#)
- remestemcel-L-rknd for steroid-refractory acute graft versus host disease in pediatric patients - [link](#)
- [ensartinib](#) (Ensacove [PI-label](#)) for ALK-positive locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer
- [Alyftrek](#) (vanzacaftor, tezacaftor, and deutivacaftor) to treat cystic fibrosis
- [Alhemo](#) (concizumab-mtci) for routine prophylaxis to prevent bleeding episodes in hemophilia A & B
- New indications/products
- [Opdivo Qvantig](#) BLA #761429 Nivolumab;Hyaluronidase-Nvhy for subcutaneous injection
- [Tevimbra](#) BLA #761417 Tislelizumab-Jsgr for the first-line treatment of adults with unresectable or metastatic HER2-negative gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma (G/GEJ) whose tumors express PD-L1 (≥ 1), in combination with platinum and fluoropyrimidine-based chemotherapy,

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

- approves [sotatercept](#) to treat adult patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)
- approves [tarlatamab](#) (Imdylytra) to treat adult patients with small cell lung cancer
- conditional marketing authorisation for [givinostat](#) (Duvyzat) for Duchenne muscular dystrophy

Monthly Index of Medical Specialities MIMS UK

- GLP-1 agonists back in stock - [link](#)
- New MIMS table highlights drugs with anticholinergic side-effects - [link](#)

Neonatal & Paediatric Pharmacists Group UK

- Vascular Access Device Flushing and Locking for Paediatric Patients - [link](#)

NHS England

- Antimicrobial stewardship: self-assessment toolkit for integrated care boards - [link](#)

NHS Scotland - Scottish Medicines Consortium

- SMC initial assessment of the evidence for fosdenopterin (Nulibry) for the treatment of patients with molybdenum cofactor deficiency (MoCD) Type A - [link](#)
- Accepted for use:
- Relugolix, estradiol, norethisterone acetate film-coated tablets ([Rveqo](#)®) for endometriosis
- Risankizumab ([Skyrizi](#)®) for moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis (UC)
- Sirolimus ([Hyftor](#)®) for facial angiofibroma associated with tuberous sclerosis complex in adults and paediatric patients aged ≥ 6 years
- Vamorolone ([Agamree](#)®) for Duchenne muscular dystrophy
- Accepted for restricted use:
- Ciclosporin ([Cequa](#)®) for moderate-to-severe Dry Eye Disease (keratoconjunctivitis sicca)

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- Crovalimab ([Piasky®](#)) for paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria
- Danicopan ([Voydeya®](#)) as an add-on to ravulizumab or eculizumab for the treatment of adults with paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria (PNH)
- Iptacopan ([Fabhalta®](#)) for adults with paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria (PNH) who have haemolytic anaemia
- Ublituximab ([Briumvi®](#)) for adults with relapsing multiple sclerosis

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) UK

- Digital technologies to support self-management of COPD: early value assessment ([HTE19](#))
- Tirzepatide for managing overweight and obesity ([TA1026](#))
- Home-testing devices for diagnosing obstructive sleep apnoea hypopnoea syndrome ([DG62](#))
- Tebentafusp for treating advanced uveal melanoma ([TA1027](#))
- Electrically stimulated intravesical therapy for interstitial cystitis or overactive bladder in adults – interventional procedures guidance ([IPG799](#))
- Overweight and obesity management ([NG246](#))
- Durvalumab with chemotherapy before surgery (neoadjuvant) then alone after surgery (adjuvant) for treating resectable non-small-cell lung cancer ([TA1030](#))
- Andexanet alfa for reversing anticoagulation from apixaban or rivaroxaban ([TA679](#))

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

- Cervical ripening at home or in hospital during induction of labour: the CHOICE prospective cohort study, process evaluation and economic analysis - [link](#)
- Group-based intervention reduced opioid use among people with long-term pain - [link](#)
- Clinicians' perspectives on supporting individuals with severe anorexia nervosa in specialist eating disorder intensive treatment settings - [link](#)
- What is the impact of COVID-19 on memory and thinking? - [link](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- RPS launches new policy on Artificial Intelligence in Pharmacy - [link](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Swallowing difficulties - updated SPS pages - [link](#)
- Shelf lives of aseptically prepared medicines in NRFit syringes - [link](#)
- Treating acute hypomagnesaemia in adults - [link](#)
- Considering interactions with local anaesthetics in dentistry - [link](#)
- Managing interactions with local anaesthetics in dentistry - [link](#)
- Updated SPS PGD template for administering gadobenate dimeglumine intravenously for imaging investigations and procedures by registered radiographers - [link](#)
- Updated SPS PGD template for administering gadoxetate disodium intravenously for imaging investigations and procedures by registered radiographers - [link](#)

UK Health Security Agency

- Beat the heat: advice for hot weather - [link](#)
- Varicella vaccine (live): updated PGD template - [link](#)
- Update to smallpox and mpox chapter of the [Green Book](#) - revised to include updated epidemiology following clade I cases in UK & clarification of advice in the event of a failed intradermal administration

MEDICATION SAFETY

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

- Unfamiliar drug presentations and concentrations - [link](#)

electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- [Revised SPCs](#)
- Bupreze (buprenorphine) transdermal patches - now advises not to use for acute post-operative pain owing to the increased risk of persistent post-operative opioid use and opioid-induced ventilatory impairment

- Columvi (glofitamab) - risk management measures, in light of serious cases of immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome (ICANS) which could be life-threatening or fatal, that have occurred following treatment with glofitamab
- Convulex (valproic acid) - 'Severe Cutaneous Adverse Reactions' and angioedema. Information about concomitant treatment with valproate and clozapine increasing the risk of neutropenia and clozapine-induced myocarditis added, & hyperpigmentation listed as possible ADR
- Dropizol (opium tincture) 10mg/ml oral drops - storage conditions updated - not to refrigerate/freezer
- Elvanse Adult (lisdexamfetamine) - stimulants have been reported to exacerbate Tourette's syndrome (frequency unknown) so clinical evaluation of Tourette's syndrome should precede use
- Dynastat (parecoxib) - some NSAIDs and selective COX-2 inhibitors have been associated with an increased risk of generalized bullous fixed drug eruptions
- Epival CR (sodium valproate) - Severe Cutaneous ADRs and angioedema, information regarding increased the risk of neutropenia and clozapine-induced myocarditis when used with clozapine, and to include hyperpigmentation as an ADR
- Gazyvaro (obinutuzumab) - hypogammaglobulinemia added as an uncommon adverse effect following recommendation from the EMA's Pharmacovigilance committee (PRAC)
- Keytruda (pembrolizumab) - pericarditis information in special warnings and precautions section, the term representing a group of related events that describe a medical condition versus single event
- Lumykras (sotorasib) – hepatic impairment section added highlighting that compared to subjects with normal liver function, AUCinf was decreased by 25.4% in subjects with moderate impairment & increased by 3.6% in severe impairment, and unbound AUCinf increased by 1.8-fold and 6.3-fold, respectively
- Micardis (telmisartan) and MicardisPlus (hydrochlorothiazide, telmisartan) - cases of intestinal angioedema (abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea) reported after use of angiotensin II receptor antagonists. Symptoms resolved after their discontinuation. If diagnosed, discontinue telmisartan.
- Multaq (dronedrone) - women of childbearing potential should use effective methods of contraception during treatment with dronedarone and for 7 days after the final dose. Prior to initiating dronedarone, the prescriber should confirm women of childbearing potential are not pregnant
- Nimenrix (meningococcal groups A, C, W-135 and Y conjugate vaccine) - temperature excursion data: the unopened vial is stable for 72 hours when stored at temperatures from 0° C to 2°C or from 8° C to 25°C. At the end of this period, Nimenrix should be used or discarded
- Nurofen Express (ibuprofen lysine) - Kounis Syndrome (a cardiovascular adverse effect) included as an ADR of unknown frequency and severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs) as a very rare adverse effect in line with 2024 EMA PRAC recommendation
- Regaine (minoxidil) - (reversible) cases of hypertrichosis reported in infants following skin contact with minoxidil application sites of patients (caregivers) using topical minoxidil. Contact between children & minoxidil application sites should be avoided
- Revestive (teduglutide) - upper GI endoscopy/other imaging recommended before & during treatment as a precaution, based on results of a rat carcinogenicity study and as development of small intestinal polyps has also been observed several months after the start of treatment in humans
- Solu-Cortef (hydrocortisone sodium succinate), Solu-Medrone (methylprednisolone) injection - corticosteroids may "exacerbate existing infections, increase risk of reactivation or exacerbation of latent infections" & to advise "Monitor for development of infection and consider withdrawal of corticosteroids or dosage reduction as needed."
- Steqeyma (ustekinumab) - now also for adults with moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis who've had inadequate response with, or lost response to, or were intolerant to conventional therapy or a biologic or have medical contraindications to such therapies
- Tecentriq (atezolizumab) - xerosis (severe dry skin; common) and increased blood creatine phosphokinase (uncommon) added as ADRs
- Valproate products - includes warning regarding 'Severe Cutaneous Adverse Reactions' (SCARs) and angioedema, requiring discontinuation of treatment should they occur. Hyperpigmentation is also added as an adverse effect of unknown frequency
- VPRIV (velaglucerase alfa) - information on self-administration included, which may be considered for patients who have received ≥3 infusions and who tolerated their infusions well. It should be closely monitored by the treating physician & should occur in the presence of a responsible adult

- Zocor (simvastatin) - statins reported to induce de novo or aggravate pre-existing myasthenia gravis or ocular myasthenia. Treatment should be discontinued in case of aggravation of symptoms
- Risk minimisation materials
- [baricitinib](#) Lilly 2 and 4 mg Film-Coated Tablets - A guide for healthcare professionals to assist initial discussion with patients covers pregnancy & breast feeding, infections, changes in lipids, VTE, major adverse CV events, and lymphoma/other malignancies. A Patient Alert Card contains important safety information
- [Carvykti](#) $3.2 \times 10^6 - 1 \times 10^8$ cells dispersion for infusion (ciltacabtagene autoleucel) - Materials include important safety and monitoring information for healthcare professionals, a handling guide (to minimise the risk of decrease in cell viability due to inappropriate handling or preparation), and a 'My CAR-T cell therapy journey guide' for patients
- [Mexiletine](#) hydrochloride hard capsules - Materials include a guide for healthcare professionals on minimising the risks of cardiac arrhythmia and severity of adverse reactions in those with hepatic impairment, and a patient alert card to raise awareness of these risks
- [Truxima](#) (rituximab) - materials include a guide for healthcare professionals, which discusses the risk of infections, including progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy, and how to counsel and monitor patients during therapy. A patient safety information guide is also available

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- FDA requires Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) warning in Prescribing Information for RSV Vaccines (Abrysvo and Arexvy) - [link](#)
- Potential Signals of Serious Risks/New Safety Information Identified by the FDA Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS), [July - September 2024](#): alectinib, brigatinib, crizotinib, Cardene IV, look-alike vasopressin products, Myxredlin, Nexterone, Zosyn, daptomycin for injection, vedolizumab, oral dapsone, ivacaftor and ivacaftor combination products, lenvatinib, sorafenib, pegcetacoplan, onasemnogene abeparovec-xioi.
- FDA recommends changes to labelling for transmucosal buprenorphine products indicated to treat opioid use disorder - [link](#)
- Understanding the Risks of Compounded Drugs - [link](#)

Health Canada – MedEffect Notice

- Health Product InfoWatch, [December 2024](#) including:
- Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists and the risk of suicide, self-harm, and suicidal/self-harm ideation - [link](#)

MIMS monthly updates

- Safety related changes: durvalumab ([Imfinzi](#)) in combination with pemetrexed and either cisplatin or carboplatin no longer has provisional approval for the first-line treatment of patients with unresectable malignant pleural mesothelioma with epithelioid histology

Specialist Pharmacy Services NHS UK

- Medication safety update: [December 2024](#)

TGA

- New interactive online learning module that supports health professionals in reporting adverse events associated with medicines and vaccines – worth 1 hour of CPD - with certificate - [link](#)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Medical Product Alert N°5/2024: Falsified IMFINZI (durvalumab) injection 500mg /10ml - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

American Journal of Emergency Medicine

- Metoprolol vs diltiazem for atrial fibrillation with rapid ventricular rate: Systematic review and meta-analysis of adverse events - [link](#)

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)

- Impact of prescribing vancomycin capsules vs liquid at discharge on readmissions for C. difficile infection - [link](#)
- Defining and describing the medication-use process within the ambulatory care setting - [link](#)
- Drug information question responses by a drug information center and by ChatGPT: Correspondence - [link](#)
- ASHP and ASHP Foundation Pharmacy Forecast 2025: Strategic Planning Guidance for Pharmacy Departments in Hospitals and Health Systems - [link](#)
- Effect of pharmacist care on clinical outcomes and therapy optimization in perioperative settings: A systematic review - [link](#)
- Evaluating the impact of an automated drug retrieval cabinet and robotic dispensing system in a large hospital central pharmacy - [link](#)
- Navigating the digital frontier: Tailoring patient education for Generation Alpha in health-system pharmacy practice - [link](#)

Annals of Emergency Medicine

- Effectiveness and Safety of Pharmacologic Therapies for Migraine in the Emergency Department: A Systematic Review and Bayesian Network Meta-analysis - [link](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

- Anticoagulation Among Patients Hospitalized for COVID-19: A Systematic Review and Prospective Meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Medical Reference Tools and Pharmaceutical Promotion: A History of Entanglement - [link](#)
- Efficacy and Safety of Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists for Weight Loss Among Adults Without Diabetes: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials - [link](#)
- Assessing the Risk for Falls in Older Adults After Initiating Gabapentin Versus Duloxetine - [link](#)
- Cardiovascular Safety and Fracture Prevention Effectiveness of Denosumab Versus Oral Bisphosphonates in Patients Receiving Dialysis: A Target Trial Emulation - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of Synchronous Postdischarge Contacts on Health Care Use and Patient Satisfaction: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)
- In the clinic: Management of Metabolic Dysfunction–Associated Steatotic Liver Disease - [link](#)

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- Evaluating the effect of making the indication field compulsory in electronic prescriptions: A pre-post study in a hospital prescribing system - [link](#)
- A systematic review and meta-analysis of interventions to delabel low-risk penicillin allergies with consideration for sex and gender - [link](#)
- Medication review interventions for adults living with advanced chronic kidney disease: A scoping review - [link](#)
- Strategies employed and experiences associated with the implementation of pharmaceutical services and interventions in geriatric wards: A scoping review - [link](#)
- Implementability of opioid deprescribing interventions at transitions of care: A scoping review - [link](#)
- Medication adherence—Everybody's problem but nobody's responsibility? - [link](#)
- Cancer drug applications to the EMA and the FDA: A comparison of new drugs and extension of indication in terms of approval decisions and time in review - [link](#)

British Journal of General Practice

- Effectiveness of safety-netting approaches for acutely ill children: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Fluoroquinolones: what do GPs need to know? - [link](#)
- Structured medication reviews: progress since 2020 and opportunities for improvement - [link](#)

British Journal of Psychiatry

- Cost-effectiveness of ten commonly used antipsychotics in first-episode schizophrenia in the UK: economic evaluation based on a de novo discrete event simulation model - [link](#)
- Effect of ketamine on anxiety: findings from the Ketamine for Adult Depression Study - [link](#)
- Antipsychotic continuation during pregnancy and risk of postpartum relapse in women with schizophrenia: nationwide register-based study - [link](#)

British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Comparative effectiveness and safety of single inhaler triple therapies for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: new user cohort study - [link](#)
- State of the Art Review: Nutritional Support in the ICU - [link](#)
- Fever of unknown origin - [link](#)
- Challenges associated with the development of “trial ready cohorts” for dementia prevention trials - [link](#)
- Time to nursing home admission and death in people with dementia: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of shared decision making strategies for stroke prevention among patients with atrial fibrillation: cluster randomized controlled trial - [link](#)
- Management of alcohol withdrawal syndromes in general hospital settings - [link](#)

BMJ Medicine

- Risk of dementia associated with anticholinergic drugs for overactive bladder in adults aged ≥55 years: nested case-control study - [link](#)

BMJ Open

- Assessing the knowledge, attitudes and practices of healthcare staff and students regarding disposal of unwanted medications: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Intrauterine metformin exposure and adiposity outcomes in children: a systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Safe Implementation of Treatments in Stroke: a study on intravenous thrombolysis in patients over 80 years of age with acute ischaemic stroke - [link](#)

BMJ Open Quality

- How often do parents administer medications to their children in hospital? A prospective direct observational study - [link](#)

BMJ Quality and Safety

- Editorial: Patient work self-managing medicines: a skilled job at the sharp end of care – [link](#)
- Assessing patient work system factors for medication management during transition of care among older adults: an observational study – [link](#)
- What do clinical practice guidelines say about deprescribing? A scoping review - [link](#)

Circulation

- Cardiovascular-Liver-Metabolic Health: Recommendations in Screening, Diagnosis, and Management of Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease in Cardiovascular Disease via Modified Delphi Approach - [link](#)

Cochrane

- Pre-emptive treatment for cytomegalovirus viraemia to prevent cytomegalovirus disease in solid organ transplant recipients - [link](#)
- Oral and intranasal aspirin desensitisation for non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)-exacerbated respiratory disease - [link](#)

Diabetes Care

- Glycemic Management and Individualized Diabetes Care in Dialysis Dependent Kidney Failure - [link](#)
- Limitations in Achieving Glycemic Targets From CGM Data and Persistence of Severe Hypoglycemia in Adults With Type 1 Diabetes Regardless of Insulin Delivery Method - [link](#)
- Time Below Range and Its Influence on Hypoglycemia Awareness and Severe Hypoglycemia: Insights From the Association of British Clinical Diabetologists Study - [link](#)
- Prescribing Trends of Antidiabetes Medications Near End-of-Life Among Adults With Type 2 Diabetes: A Cohort Study - [link](#)
- Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists and Sodium–Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitors and the Prevention of Cirrhosis Among Patients With Type 2 Diabetes - [link](#)

- One Size Does Not Fit All: Understanding Microdosing Semaglutide for Diabetes in Multidose Pens - [link](#)

Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism

- Effects of sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors in myocardial infarction patients: A systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Anti-diabetic effects of GLP-1 receptor agonists on obese and overweight patients across diabetes status, administration routes, treatment duration & baseline characteristics: A systematic review - [link](#)

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

- DTB select: Very small risk of stroke and MI associated with triptans - [link](#)
- DTB select: Longer-term outcomes after molnupiravir for COVID-19 - [link](#)
- DTB select: Safety update - EMA and FDA warn of liver problems with fezolinetant - [link](#)
- Ryego for treatment of uterine fibroids - [link](#)

EClinical Medicine

- Association between glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists use and change in alcohol consumption: a systematic review - [link](#)

European Heart Journal

- Cardiovascular safety of assisted reproductive technology: a meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Non-traditional risk factors for atrial fibrillation: epidemiology, mechanisms, and strategies - [link](#)
- Pregnancy in obese women and mechanisms of increased cardiovascular risk in offspring - [link](#)
- Coffee drinking timing and mortality in US adults - [link](#)
- Overweight, obesity, and cardiovascular disease in heterozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia: the EAS FH Studies Collaboration registry - [link](#)
- Exercise type and settings, quality of life, and mental health in coronary artery disease: a network meta-analysis - [link](#)

European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Comparison of sodium zirconium cyclosilicate and sodium polystyrene sulfonate in the treatment of acute hyperkalaemia - [link](#)
- Evaluation of the appropriateness of vancomycin therapeutic drug monitoring in the intensive care unit with a clinical pharmacy approach, a cross-sectional study - [link](#)
- Management of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia during extracorporeal membrane oxygenation support: a case of neutropenia caused by argatroban anticoagulation - [link](#)
- Over 40% of cancer patients use complementary and alternative medications while receiving anticancer treatment - [link](#)
- Hospital pharmacists in antimicrobial stewardship programmes: a call for harmonised action across Europe - [link](#)
- Drugs associated with tachyphylaxis: results from a retrospective pharmacovigilance study using disproportionality analysis - [link](#)
- Liver transplants from paracetamol overdose: is it time to rethink OTC availability? - [link](#)

Internal Medicine Journal

- Comparative study of management strategies for immune checkpoint inhibitor-induced inflammatory arthritis: rheumatologists versus oncologists - [link](#)

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

- Established and emerging roles for pharmacy in operating theatres: a scoping review - [link](#)
- A clinical decision support tool for improving venous thromboembolism risk assessment and thromboprophylaxis prescribing compliance within an electronic medication management system: a retrospective observational study - [link](#)
- Cost-effectiveness analysis of PD-L1 testing associated with pembrolizumab for first-line treatment of advanced non-small cell lung cancer in China - [link](#)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care

Advancing quality use of medicines in NSW public hospitals and the wider community since 1988
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An initiative of NSW clinical pharmacologists & pharmacists
ABN: 82 707 308 091

- Adverse medication reactions: raising a red flag locally, sharing lessons globally, and improving safety and quality in health care - [link](#)

JAMA

- Improving Patient Comprehension Through Explanatory Communication - [link](#)
- JAMA Patient Page: What Is Essential Tremor? - [link](#)
- Obesity and Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists - [link](#)
- Antibody Response to Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccination in Immunocompromised Persons - [link](#)
- Patient page: What Is Chagas Disease? - [link](#) ; What Is Community-Acquired Pneumonia? - [link](#) ; What Is Bird Flu? - [link](#)
- Dengue – [link](#) ; Diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease - [link](#) ; Chronic migraine in adults - [link](#)
- Oral Glucose-Lowering Agents vs Insulin for Gestational Diabetes: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Drug Prices Negotiated by Medicare vs US Net Prices and Prices in Other Countries - [link](#)
- Intra-Arterial Tenecteplase Following Endovascular Reperfusion for Large Vessel Occlusion Acute Ischemic Stroke: The POST-TNK Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Intra-Arterial Urokinase After Endovascular Reperfusion for Acute Ischemic Stroke: The POST-UK Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Harm Reduction Strategies for People Who Use Drugs - [link](#)

JAMA Cardiology

- Aspirin and Hemocompatibility After LVAD Implantation in Patients with Atherosclerotic Vascular Disease: A Secondary Analysis From the ARIES-HM3 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Dermatology

- Seborrheic Dermatitis - [link](#)
- Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor–Induced Vitiligo-Like Depigmentation - [link](#)
- C-Reactive Protein and Response to Adalimumab in Patients with Hidradenitis Suppurativa: A Post Hoc Analysis of 2 Randomized Clinical Trials - [link](#)

JAMA Internal Medicine

- Doxycycline Postexposure Prophylaxis and Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infections Among Individuals Using HIV Preexposure Prophylaxis - [link](#)
- Doxycycline Postexposure Prophylaxis and Sexually Transmitted Infection Trends - [link](#)
- Antiviral Medications for Treatment of Non-severe Influenza: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- Smoking Cessation Interventions in the Lung Cancer Screening Setting: A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Network Open

- 2024 Update of the RECOVER-Adult Long COVID Research Index - [link](#)
- Risk of Intracranial Hemorrhage Associated with Direct Oral Anticoagulation vs Antiplatelet Therapy: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - [link](#)
- Chlorthalidone vs Hydrochlorothiazide and Kidney Outcomes in Patients with Hypertension: A Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Neurology

- Cardiovascular Safety of Anti-CGRP Monoclonal Antibodies in Older Adults or Adults with Disability With Migraine - [link](#)
- Five-Year Results with Patisiran for Hereditary Transthyretin Amyloidosis With Polyneuropathy: A Randomized Clinical Trial With Open-Label Extension - [link](#)

JAMA Oncology

- Transplant-Free Approach in Relapsed Hodgkin Lymphoma in Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults: A Nonrandomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

JAMA Psychiatry

- Brexpiprazole and Sertraline Combination Treatment in Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: A Phase 3 Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)
- Antipsychotic Drugs and Cognitive Function: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-Analysis - [link](#)

Journal of the American College of Cardiology

- Finerenone, Obesity, and Heart Failure With Mildly Reduced/Preserved Ejection Fraction: Prespecified Analysis of FINEARTS-HF - [link](#)

Journal of Clinical Oncology

- Adjuvant Dose-Dense Chemotherapy in Hormone Receptor–Positive Breast Cancer - [link](#)
- Treatment of Pleural Mesothelioma: ASCO Guideline Update - [link](#)

Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research (JPPR)

- Stability comparison of prasugrel tablets unit-dose packaged versus maintained in the manufacturer container over 90 days - [link](#)

Lancet

- Osteoarthritis - [link](#) ; Axial spondyloarthritis - [link](#)

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Is it time to revisit the recommendations for initiation of menopausal hormone therapy? - [link](#)
- Definition and diagnostic criteria of clinical obesity - [link](#)

Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

- Maintenance treatment with vedolizumab in paediatric inflammatory bowel disease (VEDOKIDS): 54-week outcomes of a multicentre, prospective, cohort study - [link](#)
- Ramadan intermittent fasting for patients with gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary diseases: practical guidance for health-care professionals - [link](#)
- Aspirin after completion of standard adjuvant therapy for colorectal cancer (ASCOLT): an international, multicentre, phase 3, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)

Lancet Haematology

- Position statement on the diagnosis and management of acute leukaemia and aggressive lymphomas in pregnancy - [link](#)

Lancet HIV

- Target product profile for cell-based and gene-based therapies to achieve a cure for HIV - [link](#)
- Effectiveness of bi-monthly long-acting injectable cabotegravir and rilpivirine as maintenance treatment for HIV-1 in the Netherlands: results from the Dutch ATHENA national observational cohort - [link](#)

Lancet Neurology

- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis caused by SOD1 variants: from genetic discovery to disease prevention - [link](#)

Lancet Oncology

- Pulmonary neuroendocrine neoplasms: the molecular landscape, therapeutic challenges, and diagnosis and management strategies - [link](#)

Lancet Psychiatry

- Comparative efficacy and acceptability of pharmacological, psychological, and neurostimulatory interventions for ADHD in adults: a systematic review and component network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- The global epidemiology and health burden of the autism spectrum: findings from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 - [link](#)
- Evaluating ADHD medication trial representativeness: a Swedish population-based study comparing hypothetically trial-eligible and trial-ineligible individuals - [link](#)

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Lancet Public Health

- The public health risks of counterfeit pills - [link](#)

Lancet Regional Health (Europe)

- Humoral and cellular responses to a fifth bivalent SARS-CoV-2 vaccine dose in patients with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases on tumour necrosis factor inhibitors: a prospective cohort study - [link](#)
- Bipolar disorders: an update on critical aspects - [link](#)
- Comparative effectiveness of different therapies for *Clostridioides difficile* infection in adults: a systematic review and network meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials - [link](#)

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

- Burden of RSV infections among young children in primary care: a prospective cohort study in five European countries (2021–23) - [link](#)

Lancet Rheumatology

- Cardiovascular events in patients with gout initiating urate-lowering therapy with or without colchicine for flare prophylaxis: a retrospective new-user cohort study using linked primary care, hospitalisation, and mortality data - [link](#)

Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal

- Pharmacist-Mediated Deprescribing in Long-Term Care Facilities: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

Medical Journal of Australia

- Updated recommendations for warfarin reversal in the setting of four-factor prothrombin complex concentrate - [link](#)

Neurology

- Early Improvements with Atogepant for the Preventive Treatment of Migraine: Results From 3 Randomized Phase 3 Trials - [link](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

- Levofloxacin for the Prevention of Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis in Vietnam - [link](#)
- Levofloxacin Preventive Treatment in Children Exposed to MDR Tuberculosis - [link](#)
- Nonsurgical Management of Chronic Venous Insufficiency - [link](#)
- Cervical Cancer – [link](#) ; Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction - [link](#)

Pharmacotherapy

- Characterization of lamotrigine disposition changes during and after pregnancy in women with epilepsy - [link](#)

Prescribe International [January 2025](#) includes:

- The WHO urges governments to stand up to health-harming corporations - [link](#)
- RSVPreF3/AS01E vaccine (Arexvy^o) in the prevention of RSV infections from 60 years of age
- Valoctocogene roxaparvovec (Roctavian^o) in haemophilia A?
- Neuroleptics in patients with dementia: serious adverse effects
- Dupilumab in severe asthma in children: helpful and without risk of infections or cancer?

Thorax

- Effects of azithromycin in severe eosinophilic asthma with concomitant monoclonal antibody treatment - [link](#)
- Corticosteroid therapy for treating acute exacerbation of interstitial lung diseases: a systematic review - [link](#)
- Inhaled corticosteroids and major cardiovascular events in people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - [link](#)

- Association between vitamin D status at 3 years and eosinophilic asthma in 6-year-old children with a history of severe bronchiolitis - [link](#)

WEBINARS & PODCASTS

Australian Prescriber Podcasts

- [Episode 179](#) – Therapeutic vapes for smoking cessation and nicotine dependence

Purple Pen Podcast

- [PPP 170](#) - Emerging Treatments for Fungal Infections

UPCOMING EVENTS

AHHA

- Value at end of life: driving the outcomes that matter in palliative care, online 27 February 2025 12:30 pm AEDT – [register](#)

- Mental Health Access & Quality in Emergency Departments, April 8, 2025 09:00 AEST – [register](#)

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

- 2025 Congress: Partnering to advance VBHC in Australia, 1-2 May 2025, Melbourne - [register](#)

Australian Digital Health Agency and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

- Connect. Care. Confidence Summit on Clinical Governance in Digital Health, online 18 February 2025 10.00 to 16:00 AEDT - [register](#)