

Library Current Awareness Bulletin: Pharmacy – February 2020

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Articles can be accessed from the links provided. An OpenAthens account may be required to access some of the articles. [Register for OpenAthens](#) – use your Airedale email address when registering.



Alerts

Alerts and Recalls for Drugs and Medical Devices (GOV.UK)

[View the January and February Alerts](#)

[Letters and drug alerts sent to healthcare professionals in January 2020](#)

[Letters and drug alerts sent to healthcare professionals in December 2019](#)

Guidance and Reports

[2019/20 Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework \(CPCF\) national clinical audit: antimicrobial stewardship](#)
 NHS England and NHS Improvement

[NICE Guidance and Advice List – January and February Updates](#)
 The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

News

[BBC News articles on the pharmaceutical industry](#)

[Articles published by BBC News on the pharmaceutical industry are collected here.]

[Brexit: What's changing for pharmacies \(and what is not changing\) from 11.00pm 31 January](#)

National Pharmacy Association

Jan 2020

[Includes links to information, that may be useful to pharmacists, on the implications of Brexit and the transition period which continues to the end of 2020.]

[Displaying COVID -19 Posters – advice for pharmacy teams](#)

National Pharmacy Association

Feb 2020

[Public Health England (PHE) has published a set of posters to display in pharmacies to direct patients who think they could be infected with COVID-19]

[HEE Foundation Pharmacist Report now published](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Feb 2020

[Following the launch of the Foundation Pharmacist Framework, a research report has been published which makes recommendations that are evidence based, cost effective and meet the needs of the future workforce and patients.]

[Medicinal Cannabis – We talk to the BBC](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Feb 2020

[RPS Scotland Practice and Policy Lead Aileen Bryson featured on BBC Reporting Scotland on 5th February, as part of a news feature on medicinal cannabis. A two-minute video of the interview is available from the link above.]

[New guide explains what people can expect when visiting a pharmacy](#)

General Pharmaceutical Council

Dec 2019

[The guide summarises the standards that registered pharmacies and pharmacy professionals have to meet, and what these standards mean for people using pharmacies.]

[NPA backs NICE call for joint action to promote wellbeing](#)

National Pharmacy Association

Feb 2020

[Highlights the NPA's response to a consultation from NICE on a quality standard for community pharmacies (promoting health and wellbeing).]

[RPS welcomes NICE consultation on community pharmacy](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Feb 2020

[The RPS' response to the consultation from NICE on the promoting health and wellbeing quality standard for community pharmacies.]

[Wuhan Novel Coronavirus outbreak – NHS guidance issued](#)

National Pharmacy Association

Feb 2020

[Refers to the Chief Medical Officer alert issued by the Department of Health and Social Care for health professionals regarding the outbreak. This summary includes advice for pharmacy teams in England.]

Community Pharmacy

[A systematic review of the use of simulated patient methodology in pharmacy practice research from 2006 to 2016.](#)

Björnsdóttir, I. et al

The International Journal of Pharmacy Practice, vol. 28(1) pp. 13-25

Feb 2020

[The reviewers searched EMBASE and MEDLINE for papers reporting on the use of mystery shopping in pharmacy settings. A total of 148 papers from 52 countries were included. A wide range of terms described the method, and simulated patient was the most common (49 papers). Most studies were cross-sectional (124), and most investigated only community pharmacies (115). The most common aim was to evaluate some aspect of pharmacists' or other staff's advice and counselling (94).]

[Checking inhaler technique in the community pharmacy: predictors of critical errors](#)

Makhinova, T. et al

Pharmacy (Basel, Switzerland), vol. 8(1)

Jan 2020

[Fourth year pharmacy students on community practice placement (n = 53) identified 200 patients where at least one error was observed in 78% of participants when demonstrating inhaler technique. Prevalent errors of the users were associated with metered dose inhaler (MDI) (55.6%), Ellipta® (88.3%), and Discus® (86.7%) devices. Overall, the mean number of errors was 1.09. Possession of more than one inhaler, use of rescue inhaler, and poor control of asthma were found to be significant predictors of having at least one critical error.]

[Community pharmacy interventions for health promotion: effects on professional practice and health outcomes](#)

Steed, L. et al

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, 2019, Issue 12. No. CD011207

Dec 2019

[The review aimed to assess the effectiveness and safety of health-promotion interventions to change community pharmacy workers' professional practice and improve outcomes for users of community pharmacies. The reviewers searched MEDLINE, Embase, CENTRAL, six other databases and two trials registers to 6 February 2018. They also conducted reference checking, citation searches and contacted study authors to identify additional studies. 57 randomised trials, with 16,220 participants, were included.]

[Does rural and urban community pharmacy practice differ? A narrative systematic review](#)

Howarth, H. D. et al

The International Journal of Pharmacy Practice, vol. 28(1) pp. 3-12

Feb 2020

[A narrative systematic review was conducted to examine the published international evidence comparing the nature of services provided from community pharmacies in both settings. A comprehensive literature search was undertaken across four databases. The key criterion for inclusion was a comparison of practice, excluding dispensing and associated counselling. The search yielded 3,830 titles, from which 17 publications met the inclusion criteria.]

[Effectiveness of pharmacist home visits for individuals at risk of medication-related problems: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials](#)

Abbott, R.A. et al

BMC Health Services Research, vol. 20(1)

Jan 2020

[Thirteen databases were searched from inception to December 2018. Forward and backward citation of included studies was also performed. Articles were screened for inclusion independently by two reviewers. Randomised controlled studies of home visits by pharmacists for individuals at risk of medication-related problems were eligible for inclusion. Twelve RCTs (reported in 15 articles), involving 3,410 participants, were included in the review.]

[Pharmacy-based management for depression in adults](#)

Brown, J.V.E. et al

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2019, Issue 12. No. CD013299

Dec 2019

[The reviewers searched the Cochrane Common Mental Disorders Controlled Trials Register (CCMD-CTR) to June 2016; the Cochrane Library (Issue 11, 2018); and Ovid MEDLINE, Embase, and PsycINFO to December 2018. They searched theses and dissertation databases and international trial registers for unpublished/ongoing trials. No restrictions were applied on date, language, or publication status. They included all RCTs and cluster-RCTs where a pharmacy-based intervention was compared with treatment as usual, waiting list, or an alternative intervention in the management of depression in adults over 16 years of age. Eligible studies had to report at least one of the following outcomes at any time point: depression symptom change, acceptability of the intervention, diagnosis of depression, non-adherence to medication, frequency of primary care appointments, quality of life, social functioning, or adverse events.]

[The community pharmacist: perceived barriers and patient-centered care communication](#)

Ilardo, M.L. and Speciale, A.

International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, vol. 17(2)

Jan 2020

[According to the authors, online pharmacies are increasingly gaining ground thanks to their ability to facilitate customer demand, but they are having a negative impact on patient-centred care due to the reduced face-to-face contact. This paper presents a narrative review of existing literature with the first aim of pinpointing the factors affecting pharmacy professional practice, and secondly, of how to improve patient-centred communication skills.]

Hospital Pharmacy

[Assessment of pharmacy-driven transitional interventions in hospitalized patients with psychiatric disorders](#)

Tillman, F. et al

Journal of the American Pharmacists Association, vol. 60(1) pp. 22-30

Jan-Feb 2020

[This study compares adult patients who received at least 1 pharmacy driven transition of care (TOC) intervention before discharge from a psychiatric unit between June 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018, with a historical control group that was discharged between June 1, 2016, and May 31, 2017. Interventions included discharge education on selected high-risk medications, medication barriers assessment, TOC notes to outpatient providers, postdischarge telecommunication, and bedside medication delivery.]

[Exploring the association of the discharge medicines review with patient hospital readmissions through national routine data linkage in Wales: a retrospective cohort study](#)

Mantzourani, E. et al

BMJ Open, vol. 10(2)

Feb 2020

[Information related to the patient's medication and hospital stay is provided to the community pharmacists on discharge from hospital, who undertake a two-part service involving medicines reconciliation and a medicine use review. To investigate the association of this discharge medicines review (DMR) service with hospital readmission, a data linking process was undertaken across six national databases. The setting for this retrospective cohort study was all hospitals and 703 community pharmacies across Wales. The cohort comprised 1,923 patients who were referred for a DMR over a 13-month period (February 2017–April 2018).]

[Medication-related harm in older adults following hospital discharge: development and validation of a prediction tool](#)

Parekh, N. et al

BMJ Quality & Safety, vol. 29(2) pp. 142-153

Feb 2020

[This was a multicentre, prospective cohort study which recruited older adults (≥65 years) discharged from five UK teaching hospitals between 2013 and 2015. Participants were followed up for 8 weeks in the community by senior

pharmacists to identify medication-related harm (adverse drug reactions, harm from non-adherence, harm from medication error). The objective was to develop and validate a tool to predict the risk of an older adult experiencing medication-related harm (MRH) requiring healthcare use following hospital discharge.]

[Physicians' acceptance of pharmacists' interventions in daily hospital practice](#)

Zaal, R. et al

International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy

Feb 2020

[This was a retrospective case-control study concerning adult patients admitted to a university hospital in the Netherlands. Pharmacists' interventions, based on alerts for drug-drug interactions and drug dosing in patients with renal impairment, recorded between January 2012 and June 2013 that were communicated over the telephone were included. The aim was to determine the physicians' acceptance rate of pharmacists' interventions proposed over the telephone in daily hospital practice and to identify factors associated with acceptance.]

[Prevalence, nature and predictors of omitted medication doses in mental health hospitals: a multi-centre study.](#)

Keers, R.N. et al

PloS one, vol. 15(2)

Feb 2020

[This study aimed to determine the prevalence, nature and predictors of omitted medication doses affecting hospital inpatients in two English National Health Service (NHS) mental health trusts. Over 6 data collection days, trained pharmacy teams screened inpatient prescription charts for scheduled and omitted medication doses within 27 adult and elderly wards across 9 psychiatric hospitals. In total, 18,664 scheduled medication doses were screened for 444 inpatients and 2,717 omissions were identified.]

[The current role and perceived benefits and barriers of secondary care pharmacists facilitating patient participation in Clinical Trials of Investigational Medicinal Products \(CTIMPs\) conducted within the NHS: A cross-sectional survey.](#)

Watson, M. et al

Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice, vol. 26(1) pp. 142-148

Feb 2020

[This research aimed to investigate the perceived benefits and barriers of secondary care pharmacists being involved in CTIMPs, their current role, and the perceived benefits and barriers of developing their role in facilitating patient participation for CTIMPs (e.g. by identifying or recruiting potential participants).]

[The oncology pharmacist as part of the palliative treatment team](#)

Crul, M. and Oosterhof, P.

The International Journal of Pharmacy Practice, vol. 28(1) pp. 92-96

Feb 2020

[Two pharmacists, one hospital pharmacist and one pharmacist trained as a community pharmacist, were incorporated in the palliative care team at OLVG hospital in Amsterdam. The objective of this study was to evaluate their contribution to the palliative team. During 13 months, the two pharmacists participated in all regular patient reviews and rounds and were available for individual consultation by all members of the palliative team on a daily basis. Each intervention (consults at request or during the patient rounds) was logged and categorised.]

[The role of the clinical pharmacist in an Irish university teaching hospital: A mixed-methods study](#)

Ronan, S. et al

Pharmacy (Basel, Switzerland), vol. 8(1)

Jan 2020

[This mixed methods study assessed the impact of medication review (MR) in terms of (i) potential clinical harm, (ii) cost avoidance and (iii) the views of nursing staff on the role of the pharmacist. The setting was a 192-bed, voluntary, acute hospital, in the Munster region of Ireland. **Study I:** The pharmacist provided MR to patients conventionally once a week. Any interventions were then assessed for potential clinical harm and to calculate cost avoidance. **Study II:** Semi-structured interviews, guided by a topic guide were completed with 12 nurses (11 female). Thematic analysis was used to code the main themes. The main outcome measure was to estimate the cost, cost avoidance, and the net cost benefit ratio of MR provided by pharmacists.]

Collaboration/Transitional Care

[A developmental evaluation of an intraprofessional Pharmacy Communication Partnership \(PROMPT\) to improve transitions in care from hospital to community: a mixed-methods study](#)

Guilcher, S.J.T. et al

BMC Health Services Research, vol. 20(1)

Feb 2020

[The Pharmacy Communication Partnership (PROMPT) intervention facilitates medication management by optimizing information sharing between pharmacists across care settings. This developmental evaluation sought to assess the feasibility and acceptability of implementing the PROMPT intervention, and to explore how contextual factors influenced its implementation.]

[Implementation and evaluation of a standardized Non-Vitamin K Oral Anticoagulant \(NOAC\) patient safety alert card across the Northern Region of England](#)

Thomas, H., and Smyth, L.

Journal of Primary Care & Community Health, vol. 11

Jan-Dec 2020

[The North of England Strategic Clinical Network (NESCN) card was developed with input from all the key stakeholders, including cardiology, stroke, haematology, acute medicine, primary care, and patient groups. It was launched in 2015 across the Northern region, which includes over 3 million people. It was distributed to general practitioners (GPs), primary and secondary care pharmacists. Patient and clinical staff feedback regarding the card showed that the alert card was widely embedded within practice across the region and patient feedback was good.]


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