



Western Office
Gransha Park House
15 Gransha Park
Clooney Road
LONDONDERRY
BT47 6FN

Sent by email

To: Trust Chief Executives

For distribution to:
Medical Directors
Heads of Pharmacy & Medicines
Management
Director of Nursing
AHP Lead

Tel : 02895 361010
Fax : 02895 361166
Web Site : www.hscboard.hscni.net

Date: 14th May 2019

Dear Colleague

SAFE & EFFECTIVE USE OF MEDICINES FOR OVER ACTIVE BLADDER (OAB) / URINARY INCONTINENCE (UI)

HSCB is hosting a multidisciplinary workshop on Wednesday 12th June 1.30pm – 4.30pm in the Clonavaddy room, Glenavon hotel, Cookstown to discuss the safe and effective management of patients with Over Active Bladder / Urinary Incontinence and review how medicines for the treatment of this condition are prescribed. The purpose of this letter is to invite representatives from each of the Trusts to attend the workshop.

Background

Inappropriate polypharmacy increases the risk of preventable medicines related harm for patients, reduces beneficial health outcomes and increases waste for the Health Service. Polypharmacy is increasingly prevalent in people with multiple complex conditions; harm is preventable through medicines review, including deprescribing, as part of medicines optimisation.

Issues with medicines for OAB / UI

Antimuscarinics prescribed for OAB/UI contribute to the overall anticholinergic burden of a patient's medicine regimen. Common adverse effects associated with anticholinergic medicines include; increased risk of cognitive impairment, dementia, falls and mortality. Benefits from medication can be small so patients may be taking treatment with limited benefit and increased risk of adverse effects.

Despite on going work in this area of prescribing the trend has not significantly changed.

Workshop aims

- To review current prescribing data
- To consider what factors could be contributing to the current picture
- To summarise existing strategies available to support safe and cost-effective prescribing
- To explore what further actions are necessary in order to drive change

In order to ensure that we involve those most able to influence change, we would like to have multi-disciplinary representation from the five Health & Social Care Trusts at this workshop to include:

- Urology and Gynae consultants
- Community continence advisers
- Trust Nursing staff (urology clinical nurse specialists)
- Trust physiotherapists
- Trust MOOP pharmacists

To note, the following will also be invited to the meeting:

- Nursing Home pharmacists
- Lead practice based pharmacists
- GP representative
- HSCB Medical Adviser
- Public Health Agency medical and nursing representatives

Please confirm attendance of the representatives within your Trusts providing names and roles to Jemina McAuley Jemima.Mcauley@hscni.net by Friday 31st May 2019.

Yours sincerely



Mr Joe Brogan
Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy & Medicines Management