

Use of High-Risk Medications in the Elderly (DAE)

High-Risk Medications

Description	Prescription		
Anticholinergics, first-generation antihistamines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brompheniramine • Carbinoxamine • Chlorpheniramine • Clemastine • Cyproheptadine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dexbrompheniramine • Dexchlorpheniramine • Diphenhydramine (oral) • Dimenhydrinate • Doxylamine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydroxyzine • Meclizine • Promethazine • Triprolidine
Anticholinergics, anti-Parkinson agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benztropine (oral) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trihexyphenidyl 	
Antispasmodics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atropine (exclude ophthalmic) • Belladonna alkaloids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clidinium-chlordiazepoxide • Hyoscyamine • Propantheline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scopolamine • Dicyclomine
Antithrombotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dipyridamole, oral short-acting (does not apply to the extended-release combination with aspirin) • Ticlopidine 		
Cardiovascular, alpha agonists, central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guanabenz 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guanfacine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methyldopa
Cardiovascular, other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disopyramide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nifedipine, immediate release 	
Central nervous system, antidepressants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amitriptyline • Clomipramine • Amoxapine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desipramine • Imipramine • Trimipramine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nortriptyline • Paroxetine • Protriptyline
Central nervous system, barbiturates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amobarbital • Butabarbital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Butalbital • Mephobarbital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pentobarbital • Phenobarbital • Secobarbital
Central nervous system, vasodilators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ergot mesylates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isoxsuprine 	
Central nervous system, other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meprobamate 		
Endocrine system, estrogens with or without progestins; include only oral and topical patch products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conjugated estrogen • Esterified estrogen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estradiol • Estropipate 	
Endocrine system, sulfonylureas, long-duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chlorpropamide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glyburide 	
Endocrine system, other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desiccated thyroid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Megestrol 	
Pain medications, skeletal muscle relaxants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carisoprodol • Chlorzoxazone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyclobenzaprine • Metaxalone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methocarbamol • Orphenadrine
Pain medications, other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indomethacin • Ketorolac, includes parenteral 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meperidine • Pentazocine 	

High-Risk Medications With Days Supply Criteria Medications

Description	Prescription	Days Supply Criteria
Anti-Infectives, other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nitrofurantoin • Nitrofurantoin macrocrystals • Nitrofurantoin macrocrystals-monohydrate 	>90 days
Nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eszopiclone • Zaleplon • Zolpidem 	>90 days

High-Risk Medications With Average Daily Dose Criteria Medications

Description	Prescription	Average Daily Dose Criteria
Alpha agonists, central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reserpine 	>0.1 mg/day
Cardiovascular, other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digoxin 	>0.125 mg/day
Tertiary TCAs (as single agent or as part of combination products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doxepin 	>6 mg/day

American Geriatrics Society 2015 Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel. American Geriatrics Society 2015 Updated Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults. J Am Geriatr Soc 2015, 63:2227-2246.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (2017). HEDIS 2018. Technical Specifications. Vol. 2 (pp. 256-257). Washington, D.C.