

Potentially Harmful Drug-Disease Interactions in the Elderly

Potentially Harmful Drugs—Rate 1

Description	Prescription					
Anticonvulsants	• Carbamazepine • Clobazam • Divalproex sodium • Ethosuximide	• Ethotoin • Ezogabine • Felbamate • Fosphenytoin	• Gabapentin • Lacosamide • Lamotrigine • Levetiracetam • Mephobarbital	• Methsuximide • Oxcarbazepine • Phenobarbital • Phenytoin • Pregabalin	• Primidone • Rufinamide • Tiagabine HCL • Topiramate • Valproate sodium	• Valproic acid • Vigabatrin • Zonisamide
Nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics	• Eszopiclone	• Zaleplon	• Zolpidem			
SSRIs	• Citalopram • Escitalopram	• Fluoxetine • Fluvoxamine	• Paroxetine • Sertraline			

Potentially Harmful Drugs—Rate 1 and Rate 2

Description	Prescription					
Antiemetics	• Prochlorperazine	• Promethazine				
Antipsychotics	• Aripiprazole • Asenapine • Chlorpromazine	• Clozapine • Fluphenazine • Haloperidol	• Iloperidone • Loxapine • Lurasidone	• Molindone • Olanzapine • Paliperidone	• Pimozide • Quetiapine • Risperidone • Perphenazine	• Thioridazine • Thiothixene • Ziprasidone • Trifluoperazine
Benzodiazepines	• Alprazolam • Chlordiazepoxide products	• Clonazepam • Clorazepate-Dipotassium	• Diazepam • Estazolam • Flurazepam HCL	• Lorazepam • Midazolam HCL • Oxazepam	• Quazepam • Temazepam • Triazolam	
Tricyclic antidepressants	• Amitriptyline • Amoxapine	• Clomipramine • Desipramine	• Doxepin (>6 mg) • Imipramine	• Nortriptyline • Protriptyline	• Trimipramine	

Prescriptions to Identify Members with Dementia

Description	Prescription		
Cholinesterase inhibitors	• Donepezil	• Galantamine	• Rivastigmine
Miscellaneous central nervous system agents	• Memantine		

Potentially Harmful Drugs—Rate 2

Description	Prescription					
H ₂ receptor antagonists	• Cimetidine	• Famotidine	• Nizatidine	• Ranitidine		
Nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics	• Zolpidem					
Anticholinergic agents, antihistamines	• Carbinoxamine • Chlorpheniramine	• Hydroxyzine products • Loratadine	• Brompheniramine • Cyproheptadine	• Dimenhydrinate • Diphenhydramine	• Meclizine • Clemastine	
Anticholinergic agents, antispasmodics	• Atropine products	• Homatropine • Belladonna alkaloids	• Hyoscyamine products	• Propantheline • Scopolamine	• Dicyclomine	
Anticholinergic agents, antimuscarinics (oral)	• Darifenacin • Fesoterodine	• Flavoxate • Oxybutynin	• Solifenacin • Tolterodine	• Trospium		
Anticholinergic agents, anti-Parkinson agents	• Benztropine	• Trihexyphenidyl				
Anticholinergic agents, skeletal muscle relaxants	• Tizanidine	• Carisoprodol	• Cyclobenzaprine	• Orphenadrine		

Cox-2 Selective NSAIDs and Nonaspirin NSAIDs

Description	Prescription					
Cox-2 Selective NSAIDs	• Celecoxib					
Nonaspirin NSAIDs	• Diclofenac potassium • Diclofenac sodium • Etodolac	• Flurbiprofen • Fenoprofen • Ibuprofen • Indomethacin	• Ketoprofen • Ketorolac • Meclofenamate	• Mefenamic acid • Meloxicam • Naproxen sodium	• Oxaprozin • Nabumetone • Naproxen	• Piroxicam • Sulindac • Tolmetin

The American Geriatrics Society 2015 Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel (2015). American Geriatrics Society 2015 Updated Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. DOI: 10.1111/jgs.13702. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jgs.13702/full>. Accessed March 08, 2016.

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Optima Health (2014). Pharmacy Policy # 26: Pharmacy Clinical/Operations Policy: Drug Utilization Management.

This list is promulgated by Optima Health as recommendations for clinical management using specific medications in the elderly. Clinical data in a particular case may necessitate or permit deviation from these recommendations. The list of High Risk Medications in the Elderly is institutionally endorsed and is not intended as a substitute for clinical judgement. Updated March 2016