Deprescribing of Problematic Polypharmacy

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Message from the Guest Editor

The population of most countries in getting older and patients now commonly live with multimorbidity, which in turn is treated with increasing amounts of repeat prescriptions (polypharmacy). In addition, the increase in polypharmacy for older people is also fueled by the perceived need of prescribers to follow national guidance which encourage prescribing. Whilst prescribing may have benefits that outweigh risks, as patients become older and frailer it may be that some prescribing is no longer appropriate. As a consequence, health commissioners, practitioners and researchers are encouraging a focus on deprescribing of medicines that are no longer suitable, unlikely to provide benefit or are causing, or could cause, more harm than benefit.

Special Issue

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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