

Therapeutics Today

A publication by the National Medicines Information Centre (NMIC)
September 2026



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Welcome to the September edition of Therapeutics Today. This month's issue will highlight information, including guidance and advice, recently published by various organisations. Readers are also reminded of previously published NMIC bulletins, which are available on our website www.nmic.ie.

We welcome any feedback or comments which can be provided using the feedback button below or by emailing the NMIC directly at nmic@stjames.ie.

Guidance and Advice

UK Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS)

The SPS are a team of pharmacy professionals and support staff commissioned by NHS England to provide advice and guidance on Medicines Optimisation. Recent publications that may be of interest include:



[Commonly used medicines associated with QT interval prolongation](#) - published 24th August 2026

[Managing medicines associated with QT interval prolongation](#) - last updated 24th August 2026

[Dealing with temperature excursions video](#) - published 27th August 2026

[SPS website](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)

Evidence-based recommendations for the NHS and wider health and social care sector, developed by independent committees, including professionals and lay members, and consulted on by stakeholders.



[Epilepsies in children, young people and adults – updated guidance \(NG217\)](#) - last updated 5th August 2026

[NICE Guidance](#)

European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

The European Society of Cardiology (ESC) is a membership-based organisation of cardiovascular healthcare professionals that promotes research, education, and evidence-based practice in cardiovascular care. They have recently published the following guidelines:



[2026 ESC Guidelines for the management of cardiovascular disease and chronic kidney disease](#) - published 28th August 2026

[2026 ESC Guidelines for the management of heart failure](#) - published 28th August 2026

[2026 ESC Guidelines on cardiac rehabilitation](#) - published 28th August 2026

[ESC guidelines](#)

All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG)

The All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) advises Welsh Government about the use, management and prescribing of medicines. The AWMSG have recently published several gabapentinoid resources to support healthcare professionals in the appropriate prescribing, review, and deprescribing of gabapentin and pregabalin (gabapentinoids) for chronic pain.



[All Wales gabapentinoid resources for chronic pain](#) - published May 2026

[Learn more](#)

HSE Antibiotic Prescribing

HSE Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control (AMRIC) Programme

AMRIC has recently published a position paper stating that Piperacillin–Tazobactam is not indicated for the treatment of Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP). This recommendation applies to doctors, nurses, and pharmacists working in any setting in Ireland where intravenous antimicrobials are prescribed or administered.



HSE AMRIC position statement: [Piperacillin-tazobactam is NOT indicated for treatment of community acquired pneumonia V 1.0](#) - published June 2026

[Antibiotic prescribing guidelines](#)

Medication Safety

Medication Safety Minute

Readers are reminded of the “Medication Safety Minute”, a collaborative project undertaken by two hospital consultants and the Medication Safety Facilitator (a pharmacist) in St James’s Hospital.



These bite-sized messages, which may also include short videos, are published every week and are available via X @[medsafetymin](#). Recent Medication Safety Minutes are linked directly below and include:

- [QT prolongation case study](#)
- [Hyperkalaemia management part 1](#)
- [Hyperkalaemia management part 2](#)

[Read more](#)

Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA)

The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) [website](#) contains the latest regulatory updates on medicines and information on [medicine shortages](#), as well as access to all currently approved product information (e.g., [Summary of Product Characteristics](#) [SmPCs]).



Direct Healthcare Professional Communication (DHPC)

The HPRA has recently published the following important safety information updates:

[Desogestrel and etonogestrel containing medicinal products: risk of meningioma and measures to minimise the risk](#) - published 6th August 2026

[Litfulo \(ritilecitinib\): Updated recommendations to minimise the risks of major adverse cardiovascular events, malignancy, venous thromboembolism, serious infections, and mortality](#) - published 10th August 2026

[Warfant 3mg Tablets, PA0073/139/002, patient level batch recall](#) - published 17th August 2026

[HPRA Safety Notices](#)

Irish Medication Safety Network (IMSN)

Established in 2007, the IMSN is a voluntary, independent group of hospital pharmacists with the principal aim of improving patient safety with regard to the use of medicines.



The [2026 All-Island Medication Safety Conference: Medication Safety Across Generations: Practice and Innovation Across the Island](#) will take place on Friday 27th November in the Belfast Metropolitan College.

[Register for the conference](#)

Signposting

Recently published articles that may be of interest can be found below:

- Lun R, et al. [Investigation and management of breakthrough ischemic stroke in anticoagulated patients with atrial fibrillation](#). *BMJ*. 2026;394:e084905.
- Bianconi M, et al. [Environmental impact of antidepressants: Is a new prescription framework possible?](#) *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*. 2026; 1-9. doi:10.1002/bcp.70724.
- Maslin K, et al. [Incretin-Based Medications in Women and Reproduction: A Systematic Scoping Review and Consensus Guidelines for Clinical Practice](#). *Obesity Reviews*. 2026;e70203.
- Rech MA, et al. [Diagnosis and management of acute hyperkalaemia](#). *BMJ*. 2026;394:e100287.

Did you find the September edition of Therapeutics Today informative?



Please share any suggestions/comments that you might have!

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