



June/July 2025 | Issue 6

Welcome to the June/July edition of Therapeutics Today.

This 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 hope you enjoy our new look and we welcome any feedback or comments which can be emailed directly to 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:

[Choosing an antidepressant for people with coronary heart disease](#) - last updated 29th April 2025

[Choosing a prokinetic medicine for impaired gastrointestinal motility](#) - published 23rd May 2025

[Considerations for using medicines following bariatric surgery](#) - last updated 30th May 2025

[Preventing harm from incorrect vinca alkaloid administration](#) - published 13th June 2025

[Choosing between oral vancomycin options](#) - last updated 18th June 2025

[Managing interactions with direct oral anticoagulants \(DOACs\)](#) - last updated 20th June 2025

[Safe handling of monoclonal antibodies](#) - last updated 27th June 2025

[Managing interactions with methotrexate](#) - last updated 30th June 2025

[Learn more](#)



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.

[Abortion care](#) Clinical guideline [NG140] - last updated 27th May 2025

[Headaches in over 12s: diagnosis and management](#) Clinical guideline [CG150] - last updated 3rd June 2025

[Caesarean birth](#) Clinical guideline [NG192] - last updated 10th June 2025

[Dapagliflozin for treating chronic kidney disease](#) Technology appraisal guidance [TA1075] - published 2nd July 2025

[Learn more](#)

HSE Antibiotic Prescribing

As readers are aware, the HSE antibiotic prescribing [website](#) is a very useful evidence-based antimicrobial information resource.



For attention of doctors, nurses and pharmacists providing a service to long term care facilities (LTCFs):

A new [position statement](#) has been issued by HSE AMRIC outlining that **ceftriaxone should NOT form part of routine antimicrobial prescribing practice in LTCFs**. Ceftriaxone has high potential for generating antimicrobial resistance and is a high-risk antibiotic for causing *Clostridioides difficile* infection. If ceftriaxone is being considered, it should be discussed with a clinical microbiologist or infectious diseases physician.

[Learn more](#)

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:

[Statin interaction](#)

[Hyperkalaemia treatment: risk of an unintended consequence](#)

[Antibiotics and a CNS-related adverse effect](#)

[Evaluation of history of penicillin allergy](#)

[Learn 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]).

Drug Safety Newsletter

The 119th edition of the HPRA Drug Safety Newsletter includes important updates to support the safe and appropriate use of the following medicines:

- Finasteride and dutasteride: Outcome of EU review regarding risk of suicidal ideation
- Bilastine oral formulations: New warning on the risk of QT prolongation/Torsade de pointes
- Azathioprine: Update to warning on hepatotoxicity and monitoring
- Mesalazine: New warning regarding the risk of idiopathic intracranial hypertension



[Read more](#)

Other News



Menopause: achieving an equilibrium
On demand 7 July to 7 October 2025

BMS 34th Annual Scientific Conference

The face-to-face conference is SOLD OUT, however an on demand package will be available from 7th July to 7th October 2025. It will be hosted on the CrowdComms platform where delegates will have the opportunity to access recorded videos of sessions, with lecture slides and an electronic Delegate Handbook within a delegate pack. The on demand conference package carries 12 CPD credits.

[Learn more](#)



Neonatal & Paediatric Pharmacists Group (NPPG)

The UK NPPG has recently published a position statement which has been endorsed by the UK Royal Pharmaceutical Society on [Labelling of Dispensed Oral Medicines for Children](#) (June 2025).

[Learn more](#)

Signposting



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

Noden S, et al. [A guide for primary care clinicians managing ADHD medication side effects](#). *British Journal of General Practice* 2025; 75 (755): 285-286.doi: 10.3399/bjgp25X742653.

Leaver L. [Medical management of ADHD in adults: part 1](#). *Drug Ther Bull.* 2025 Apr 28;63(5):74-80. doi: 10.1136/dtb.2024.000019. PMID: 40294969.

Leaver L. [Medical management of ADHD in adults: part 2](#). *Drug Ther Bull.* 2025 Jun 3;63(6):85-93. doi: 10.1136/dtb.2025.000019. PMID: 40461172.

Sammaritano L.R., et al. 2024 [American College of Rheumatology \(ACR\) Guideline for the Screening, Treatment, and Management of Lupus Nephritis](#). *Arthritis Rheumatol* 2025. doi:10.1002/acr.25528.

Khan NF., et al. [Long-term nitrofurantoin use: risks and alternatives in general practice](#). *British Journal of General Practice*. 2025 Jun 27;75(756):334-5.

How useful was this email?



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