

## Medication Safety Series: MSS 22



# Prescribing Resources & Sources of Patient Information

- ❖ In addition to the wide range of Trust prescribing policies, procedures and guidelines there are a number of other resources easily accessible to prescribers within the Trust
- ❖ Prescribers should always ensure they are accessing the most up-to-date version of prescribing information
- ❖ Where a printed copy is required, patient information leaflets should be printed as needed rather than in batches to ensure patients receive the most up-to-date information

### PRESCRIBING RESOURCES – guidance & algorithms

[Trust intranet](#) → Policies, procedures & legislation → View by category → Pharmacy

[Trust intranet](#) → Services → Medicines and Pharmacy

#### Local Prescribing Formularies:

- ❖ Provide details of medicines and products approved for use in the Trust, and their RAG status, with links to relevant guidance
- ❖ Tees, Durham & Darlington Localities: <http://joint-formulary.tees.nhs.uk/>
- ❖ North Yorkshire & York Locality: <http://www.yorkandscarboroughformulary.nhs.uk/>

#### Maudsley (2018) Prescribing Guidelines in Psychiatry

- ❖ Available as an [e-book](#) from the Trust library (Athens log-in required)

**Credible Meds website** <https://www.crediblemeds.org/> - information on the QT prolongation effects of medicines

**MIMS Drug Shortages Tracker** - up to date information on drugs in short supply

### PRESCRIBING RESOURCES – individual drug information & monographs

**BNF, Children's BNF & e-BNF** <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>

- ❖ BNF app (updated monthly) can be downloaded to a smartphone via the app store (pre-loaded on Trust smartphones)
  - Prescribing information
  - Advice for patients/carers
  - Drug interactions can be checked using the "interaction checker"
- ❖ Some hard copies distributed annually (but allocation is now very limited)

**Electronic Medicines Compendium** <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/>

- ❖ Access to the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) for individual medicines and patient information leaflets (PILs)
- ❖ Patient information leaflets are linked to each available brand/product and are the same as the patient will receive with their dispensed medication

### PATIENT INFORMATION *(always record in patient record what information has been provided)*

**Choice and Medication Website** <https://www.choiceandmedication.org/tees-esk-and-wear-valleys>

Can be accessed by staff via a quick link from the Trust intranet home page and by patients via the Trust internet site, is regularly updated and includes:

- ❖ Information on specific drugs presented in a variety of printable, patient friendly formats including in a number of different languages
- ❖ Information on selecting medication for specific conditions including comparator "handy charts" and handy fact sheets covering a range of prescribing scenarios

**Medicines for Children** <https://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/> (provides useful information to support administration of medicines to children)

**BUMPs (Best use of medicines in pregnancy)** <https://www.medicinesinpregnancy.org/Medicine--pregnancy/> which has a range of patient information leaflets available.

**NHS Website** <https://www.nhs.uk/medicines/> Provides information for patients on an A-Z of medicines

### MEDICINES INFORMATION SERVICES

**Trust:** [teew.medicinesinformation@nhs.net](mailto:teew.medicinesinformation@nhs.net) **National:** <https://www.sps.nhs.uk>

**Poisoning (overdose):** 0344 892 0111 <https://www.toxbase.org> (registration required)

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