Care Homes – Call to Action: A Compendium of NICE Resources

We hope the following information and links to resources to support the ['Call to Action for Care Homes'](#) will be useful to you.

NICE *guidelines* are evidence-based recommendations developed by independent committees, including professionals and lay members, and consulted on by stakeholders. They are regularly reviewed and updated.

NICE *endorsed resources* are submitted by Providers to support the implementation of NICE guidance. They are robustly assessed and regularly reviewed to ensure they continue to reflect NICE guidance following any revisions or updates.

➤ NICE guideline [Managing medicines in care homes (SC1)](#)

For Commissioners, Providers, Care Home staff, Health Care Professionals.

This guideline covers good practice for managing medicines in care homes. It aims to promote the safe and effective use of medicines in care homes by advising on processes for prescribing, handling, and administering medicines. It also recommends how care and services relating to medicines should be provided to people living in care homes.

Specific recommendations on developing policies for the safer use of medicines and the prescribing, ordering and dispensing of medicines are included.

- ❖ Updated to include information on reusing medicines during the COVID-19 pandemic in line with UK government guidance (section 8).

⚙ Resources

[Baseline assessment tool](#)

[Checklist for Care Homes medicines policy](#)

[Involving people in decisions](#)

[Webinar – giving medicines covertly](#)

[Webinar – managing medicines in care homes and the community](#)

[Quick guide – giving medicines covertly](#)

[Endorsed resources](#):

- Care home charter for medicines
- PrescQIPP e-learning modules for care home staff

[Shared learning examples](#)

➜ NICE guideline [Medicines optimisation: the safe and effective use of medicines to enable the best possible outcomes (NG5)](#)

This guideline covers safe and effective use of medicines in health and social care for people taking 1 or more medicines. It aims to ensure that medicines provide the greatest possible benefit to people by encouraging medicines reconciliation, medication review, and the use of patient decision aids.

Other relevant sections include recommendations on key systems and processes, for example, identifying, reporting, and learning from medicines-related patient safety incidents and medicines-related communication systems when patients move from one care setting to another.

⚙ Resources

[Baseline assessment tool](#)

[Endorsed resources](#):
- Pharmaceutical care plan
- Benzodiazepine & Z-Drug (BZRA) deprescribing algorithm
- Optimising medicines for adults with type 2 diabetes e-learning resource

[Shared learning examples](#)

➜ NICE guideline [Transition between inpatient hospital settings and community or care home settings for adults with social care needs (NG27)](#)

This guideline covers the transition between inpatient hospital settings and community or care homes for adults with social care needs. It aims to improve people's experience of admission to, and discharge from, hospital by better coordination of health and social care services.

The Care Quality Commission uses NICE guidelines as evidence to inform the inspection process.

⚙ Resources

[Implementation support](#)

[Improving how community and hospital-based staff work together to ensure coordinated, person-centred support](#)

[Quick guide: moving between hospital and home, including care homes – for registered managers of care homes and home care](#)

➡ **NICE guideline** [Multimorbidity: clinical assessment and management (NG56)](#)

This guideline covers optimising care for adults with multimorbidity (multiple long-term conditions) by reducing treatment burden (polypharmacy and multiple appointments) and unplanned care. It aims to improve quality of life by promoting shared decisions based on what is important to each person in terms of treatments, health priorities, lifestyle, and goals. The guideline sets out which people are most likely to benefit from an approach to care that takes account of multimorbidity, how they can be identified and what the care involves.

⚙ Resources

> [Database of treatment effects](#)
> [Database of treatment effects – user guide](#)
> [Baseline assessment tool](#)
> [NICE impact falls and fragility fractures report](#)

➡ **NICE guideline** [Care of dying adults in the last days of life (NG31)](#)

This guideline covers the clinical care of adults (18 years and over) who are dying during the last 2 to 3 days of life. It aims to improve end of life care for people in their last days of life by communicating respectfully and involving them, and the people important to them, in decisions and by maintaining their comfort and dignity. The guideline covers how to manage common symptoms without causing unacceptable side effects and maintain hydration in the last days of life.

It makes recommendations for medicines to manage specific conditions and for anticipatory prescribing.

⚙ Resources

> [Baseline assessment tool](#)
> [Shared learning examples](#)
> [Endorsed resources](#)
> Information for patients/carers:
> - [Help to stay comfortable](#)
> - [Taking the right medicines in the best way](#)
> - [Medicines prescribed in advance](#)

NICE guideline [Dementia: assessment, management and support for people living with dementia and their carers (NG97)](#)

This guideline covers diagnosing and managing dementia (including Alzheimer's disease). It aims to improve care by making recommendations on training staff and helping carers to support people living with dementia. Recommendations include:

- ❖ Pharmacological interventions for dementia
- ❖ Medicines that may cause cognitive impairment
- ❖ Managing non-cognitive symptoms

⚙ Resources

[A quick guide for people with dementia and their family and carers](#)
[Baseline assessment tool](#)

[Shared learning examples](#)

[Decision aid - Antipsychotic medicines for treating agitation, aggression and distress in people living with dementia](#)

[Decision aid - Enteral (tube) feeding for people living with severe dementia](#)

[Key Therapeutic Topics](#) (KTTs)

Medicines optimisation: Key therapeutic topics summarise the evidence-base on topics identified to support medicines optimisation but are not formal NICE guidance. The chosen topics provide potential opportunities for maintaining or improving quality and improving value from our use of medicines.

Relevant KTTs for people living in care homes include:

[Shared decision making (KTT23)](#)

[Multimorbidity and polypharmacy (KTT18)](#)

[Psychotropic medicines in people with learning disabilities whose behaviour challenges (KTT19)](#)

[Safer insulin prescribing (KTT20)](#)

[Medicines optimisation in chronic pain (KTT21)](#)

[Anticoagulants, including direct-acting oral anticoagulants (DOACs) (KTT16)](#)

[Acute kidney injury (AKI): use of medicines in people with or at increased risk of AKI (KTT17)](#)

[Laxatives (KTT1)](#)

[Antipsychotics in people living with dementia (KTT7)](#)

➤ [Antimicrobial prescribing guidelines](#)

Guidelines for an antimicrobial prescribing strategy for a range of conditions. Each includes a visual summary. The guidelines aim to optimise antibiotic use and reduce antibiotic resistance.

[Leg ulcer infection: antimicrobial prescribing (NG152)](#)

[Urinary tract infection (catheter-associated): antimicrobial prescribing (NG113)](#)

[Urinary tract infection (recurrent): antimicrobial prescribing (NG112)](#)

[Urinary tract infection (lower): antimicrobial prescribing (NG109)](#)

[Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (acute exacerbation): antimicrobial prescribing (NG114)](#)

➤ NICE guidelines [COVID- 19 rapid guidelines](#) [and rapid evidence summaries](#)

Guidelines and evidence summaries supporting the NHS and social care to respond quickly to the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic. These are continually under review and will be rapidly updated as new evidence emerges.

[COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing suspected or confirmed pneumonia in adults in the community (NG165)](#)

[COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing symptoms (including at the end of life) in the community (NG163)](#)

[COVID-19 rapid guideline: chronic kidney disease (NG176)](#)

[Community- based care of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) (NG168)](#)

[Acute use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for people with or at risk of COVID-19 (ES23)](#)

[Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEIs) or angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs) in people with or at risk of COVID-19 (ES24)](#)

[Long-term use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for people with or at risk of COVID-19 (ES25)](#)

NICE guideline [Antimicrobial stewardship: systems and processes for effective antimicrobial medicine use (NG15)](#)

This guideline covers the effective use of antimicrobials (including antibiotics) in children, young people and adults. It aims to change prescribing practice to help slow the emergence of antimicrobial resistance and ensure that antimicrobials remain an effective treatment for infection. See NG165 (above) for treatment of community-acquired pneumonia during COVID-19.

Resources

[Baseline assessment tool](#)

[Audit resource](#)

[Endorsed resources](#)

[Shared learning examples](#)