

Re: Consultation document - National Clinical Guideline for the Appropriate Prescribing of Psychotropic Medication in People with Dementia

14.02.2019

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to you to seek your views on the draft **National Clinical Guideline for the Appropriate Prescribing of Psychotropic Medication in People with Dementia**, that is currently open for consultation.

The aim of the guideline is to make recommendations on the appropriate use of psychotropic medications (including antipsychotics, antidepressants, anticonvulsants, benzodiazepines, z type drugs, acetylcholinesterase inhibitors and memantine), for managing non-cognitive symptoms of dementia (also termed behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia; BPSD). Although some psychotropic medications have shown modest efficacy in the treatment of some BPSD, in many instances their use is not evidence based, and they are linked to significant adverse events, including a risk of death. The National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC) prioritised this guideline in October 2018.

The guideline is relevant to all people with dementia and in any setting (living in the community or in residential settings, including during episodes of admission to hospital).

The consultation period is from 14/02/2019 to 12/03/2019. We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have, not only in relation to content of the recommendations, but also the layout and ease of use of the document, and any comments you have on the implementation of the recommendations.

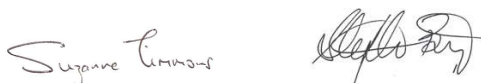
All comments received from organisations and individuals will be reviewed by the Guideline Development Group and used to inform the final guideline.

****Organisations should submit one collated response please****

Please submit your comments by completing the feedback form electronically and returning it by email to suzanne.timmons@hse.ie. The final date for submission of comments is **12/03/2019**.

Thank you for your assistance in this work.

Yours Sincerely,



Dr Suzanne Timmons and Prof. Stephen Byrne
Co-Chairs, Guideline Development Group