

Anticholinergic burden - High quality e-learning courses from PrescQIPP



Anticholinergic drugs are prescribed for a wide range of conditions, including Parkinson's disease, overactive bladder, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, nausea and vomiting, depression and psychosis.

An increasing number of systematic reviews and meta-analyses report that drugs with anticholinergic effects are associated with an increased risk of cognitive impairment and all cause mortality in older people.

The learning from the course is supported by several videos from Lelly Oboh, consultant pharmacist for older people at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital and the NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service who talks about the practical application of each module to clinical practice.

Course content

- This e-learning course has five modules, three case studies and a final exam with a 70% pass mark.
- Once the course is passed a certificate of completion will be issued.

MODULE 1

The adverse effects of anticholinergic medicines

- The possible mechanism for these adverse effects
- Association with serious negative outcomes on older adults' health status

MODULE 2

Evidence for cognitive impairment with anticholinergic medicines

- The evidence base for cognitive impairment, dementia and mortality risk associated with anticholinergic medicines
- The risks of using medicines with a high anticholinergic burden in older adults

MODULE 3

The use of anticholinergic medicines in people with dementia

- NICE guideline NG97 'Dementia: assessment, management and support for people living with dementia and their carers'
- Recommendations in this guideline regarding the use of anticholinergic medicines

MODULE 4

Anticholinergic burden scales

- The different anticholinergic burden scales available
- How to use the Anticholinergic Cognitive Burden (ACB) scale to assess the ACB of an individual patient

MODULE 5

Reviewing the anticholinergic burden

- How a patient's anticholinergic burden can be reduced during a medication review
- The importance of this particularly in relation to people with dementia or those at risk of falls
- How the national anticholinergic burden prescribing comparators and safety indicators can be used to support medication reviews

Course access

This course is available for members of our medicines management team and GP practice staff in our commissioning area.

How to access the course

- If you do not already have an account, register on the [PrescQIPP e-learning platform](#). Please select the correct commissioning organisation when registering as this will ensure you're provided with the correct access and don't have to pay for the course.
- You will need an access code before you can access the course. Please email iscicb-el.adminmmt@nhs.net and on approval we will send you the required code
- When you have received the code proceed to Log into the [PrescQIPP e-learning platform](#)
- If you have any questions about the course, please contact help@prescqipp.info

Visit the [PrescQIPP website](#) to find out about other courses available.

