



Reasons for the rise in life expectancy

- Hygiene
- Food
- Exercise
- Health care

Mean drug use in 2010

- At the geriatric department: mean 10 medicines (spread 2-24)
- mean number of OTC's: 2 (0-6)
- What do we know about these medicines in the elderly? What is needed to know?

Needs for research of medicines in geriatrics

- 1. Appropriateness of existing medicines
- 2. Improvement of adherence
- 3. Prevention of adverse events
- 4. Improvement of undertreatment
- 5. Clinical relevant interactions
- 6. Appropriateness of dose (PK/PD)
- 7. Best ways of pharmacommunication
- 8. Appropriateness of new medicines
- 9. Effective education in gerontoparmacology

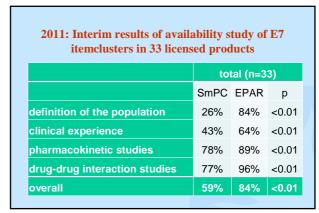
1. Appropriateness of existing medicines

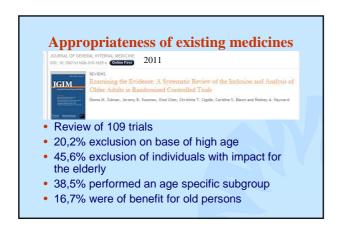
Number (percentages) of original research papers (n=1012) in all issues of *BMJ*, *Gut*, *Lancet*, and *Thorax* between 1 June 1996 and 1 June 1997, by category of study

Study	BMJ	Lancet	Thorax	Gut	Total
Specific to elderly people	11 (9)	6 (4)	0	1(1)	18 (4)
Excluding elderly people justifiably	10 (8)	14 (10)	7 (8)	6 (4)	37 (8)
Excluding elderly people unjustifiably	44 (35)	37 (27)	39 (45)	50 (35)	170 (35)
No age limit set	60 (48)	79 (58)	41 (47)	85 (60)	265 (54)
Total	125	136	87	142	490
	202	135	85	100	522

BMJ 1997;315:1059









Information about appropriateness of existing medicines: Ephor projects

- 1. Providing prescribers with available information
- 2. Providing tools for optimization of polypharmacy
- Providing a validated method to measure kidney function in frail elderly

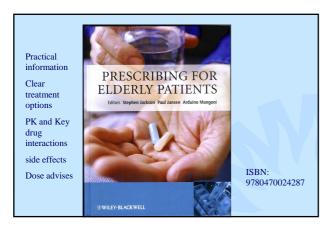
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Providing prescribers with information

- Checklist (23 items) for comparison of applicability of medicines within one group (1)
- Special indications in elderly patients, for example antipsychotics in delirium (often off-label)
- Huisman et al. Criteria for drug selection in frail elderly.
 Drugs and Aging, accepted for publication

NSAIDs: advice for relevant medicines Medicine Advice Remark Celecoxib Green Cardiovascular risk increases with higher dosages and in high-risk patients Diclofenac White Etoricoxib Green Cardiovascular risk increases with higher dosages and in high-risk patients Ibuprofen White Indometacine Orangs dizziness occurs frequent Meloxicam White Naproxen Orangs Long elimination half-life Piroxicam Orange High risk on gastro-intestinal adverse effects Sulindac White Nabumeton Orange Nausea occurs frequent



Providing tools for optimization of polypharmacy

- Several tools are available like the Beers list, the START en STOPP criteria, MAI etc.
- We developed the Polypharmacy Optimization Method (POM) (1): 6 steps
 - 1. What does a patient really uses (SHIM)
 - 2. Does the patient suffer adverse efects (SHIM)
 - 3. Is the patient undertreated (checklist)
 - 4. Is the patient overtreated (checklist)
 - 5. Are clinically relevant interactions present (pharmacist data)
 - 6. Is the dose and dosefrequency appropriate (pharmacist data)
- 1. Drenth-van Maanen et al. Drugs and Aging 2009; 26: 687-701.

2. What does the patient really takes. What about adherence?

- 85% with 1 medicine
- 75% with 2-3 medicines
- 65% with 4 or more medicines
- ..% with 16-20 medicines
- Especially bad adherence with use of antihypertensives en statines (40-70%)
- Ask your patient, but how?

Results in 100 patients of the Structured HIstory taking of Medication (SHIM)

- In 92% discrepancies
- Mean 3.7 ± 3.3
- Omission was the most common discrepancy
- 21% had (mild to moderate) discomfort because of the discrepancy

3. Prevention of adverse events

Hospital admissions related to adverse events

International studies:

200 admissions daily

Yeel 65-plussers onnodig in ziekenhuis'
Door medicijnen 200
opnames per dag

HARM study:

In the Netherlands 100 daily

Leendertse et al. Archives Int Med 2008; 63 (22): 2716-2724

The bad guys:

- Trombocytes aggregration inhibitors
- Coumarinederivatives
- NSAID's
- Psychopharmaca
- Antidiabetics
- Diuretics
- Glucocorticosteroïds
- Antibiotics

Leendertse et al. Archives Int Med 2008; 63 (22): 2716-2724

Risk factors for hospital admissions related to medicines

- Cognitive disorder (HR 11,9; 3,9-36,3)
- Polymorbidity (>5 HR 8,7; 3,1-24,1)
- Decreased renal function (HR 3,1; 1,9-5,20
- Not living at their own (HR 3,0;1,4-6,5)
- Polypharmacy (>5 HR 2,7; 1,8-3,9)
- Non adherence (HR 2,3; 1,4-3,8)

Leendertse et al. Archives Int Med 2008; 63 (22): 2716-2724

Results of POM

- Improvement of 39% of correct decisions
- decrease of 27% of potentially harmful decisions
- Next step: digital POM
- Co-operation of doctors and pharmacists



4. Undertreatment geriatric department

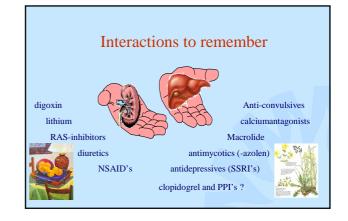
- No laxative while using opioids: 62%
- No betablocker after myocardial infarction: 60%
- No ACE-inhibitor for heart failure: 47%
- No coumarine for atrialfibrillation: 42%
- No treatment for osteoporosis: 29%
- No statine for hypercholesterolemia: 23%
- No stomach protection with NSAID's use: 21%

Kuijpers et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol 2008; 65:130-133.

5. Clinical important Interactions There are many interactions However relevant interactions are countable on two hands

Interactions of medicines

- With food
- With drinks
- With smoking
- With herbals
- With other medicines
- With diseases





6. Appropriateness of dose: kidney function

- MDRD is widely used.
- Not validated in old frail patients.
- Utrecht patient oriented database (UPOD):
 MDRD 30-50 ml/min: 43% no dose adjustment
 MDRD <30 ml/min: 55% no dose adjustment

6. Appropriateness of dose

Kidney function in frail elderly: inulineclearance in 24 geriatric patients

	Based on serum creatinin			Based on c	ystatin C	Based on both	
	CG	MDRD	MDRD short	Burkhardt	Larsson	Levey	2-h urine clearance
Pearson Correlation	0.04	0.20	0.34	-0.12	-0.05	0.17	0.04
P-value	0.84	0.36	0.10	0.59	0.61	0.41	0.85
Mean difference (%)	7	-2	-5	-105	-5	2	-18
Range (%)	-120 - +105	-109 - +93	-102 - +93	-364 - +43	-147 - +98	-100 - +95	-145 - +11

What is needed

- Correct method to determine kidney function in frail elderly.
- Clinical rules to support prescribers (co-operation between pharmacists, clinical chemists, ICT and prescribers)

7. Pharmacommunication

- Medication stopped because of adverse effects are communicated poorly (1)
- 22% is documented by GPs
- 0% of pharmacist are informed
- 27% represcription of the drug within 6 month



1. Linden van der et al. Archives of Internal Medicine 2006;166:1666-1667.

More Ephor projects

- Electronic medication discharge letters are hand over to the patient and sent to GPs and pharmacists
- Individual Electronic Pharmacovigilance (IEP) is set up in EPD (Catherina Hospital Eindhoven)







Predict charter

- 1. Older people have the right to access evidence based treatments
- 2. Promoting the inclusion of older people in clinical trials and preventing discrimination
- Clinical trials should be made as practicle as possible for older people
- 4. Clinical trials should be safe as possible
- 5. Outcome measures should be relevant
- The values of older people participating in clinical trials should be respected

8. Appropriateness of new medicines again: ICH E7



ICH topic E7 Studies in Support of Special Populations: Geriatrics Questions and Answers

EMA: www.ema.europa.eu



 Introduction
 The Agency & Road May to 2013 takes into account the shanging environment in which the Agency will have to operate over the next four years, ensuring that its vision is consistent with, and correspondently to, strategic directions provided by the European Conventionion and
 Heads of Meditines agencies.

In particular, one of the different is the challenge stemming from demographic shanges, as regards population ageing. The Agency will undertake specific efforts to ensure that the meets of older precise are token into account in the development and evolutions of new modificate.
This shoursees details how the Agency interels coefficients to this shallenge in line with its logal role and responsibilities in the evaluation and supervision of medicines for the benefit public health.] Vision
 The key aspects of the European Heddines Agency (EHA) vision for geriatric medicines are to farther strengthen the protection and promotion of public health in the European Union,

to the with the BMA Mission Statement, ensuring that medicates used by gentatic patients, are of high quality, and accordinately generathed and evaluated, throughout

by geriatric patients are appropriately researched

Medicines used

Improvement of the availability of information

Whats coming up: **EMA** geriatric expert group

- Francesca Cerreta, EMA
- Manuel Haas, EMA
- J. Ankri, France
- G. Adalst, Iceland
- A. Cherub, Italy
- N. Marchionni, Italy
- Catherine Gaudy, EMA S. Morgan, UK
 - T. Pepersak, Belgium
 - M. Petrovic, Belgium
 - J. Serra, Spain
 - H. Wildiers, Belgium
 - P. Jansen, The Netherlands

Another Ephor Project

- Checklist for Information on Medicines appropriateness in Elderly (CHIME) is in development
- Based on items of ICH E7 and Dutch Checklist
- Delphi method (international multidisciplinary panel)



What is needed

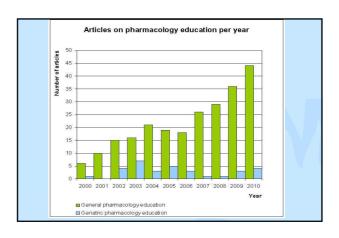
- Discussion what should be done in the preauthorization phase
- What should be done in the postauthorization phase
- Method to study the balans between safety (PSUR) and efficacy in older persons



9. Education



- too few education of pharmacology and pharmacotherapy
- education of gerontopharmacology is almost lacking in literature
- systematic review showed:
 - 7 articles for medicine students
 - 5 articles for pharmacy students
 - 1 article for postgraduate physicians
 - 2 articles for postgraduate pharmacists
 - 2 articles for nurses





Take home message

- There is much to improve in gerontopharmacology
 experts in the field are organizing themselves
 Doctors and pharmacists: do it together
- More and more elderly are waiting for us