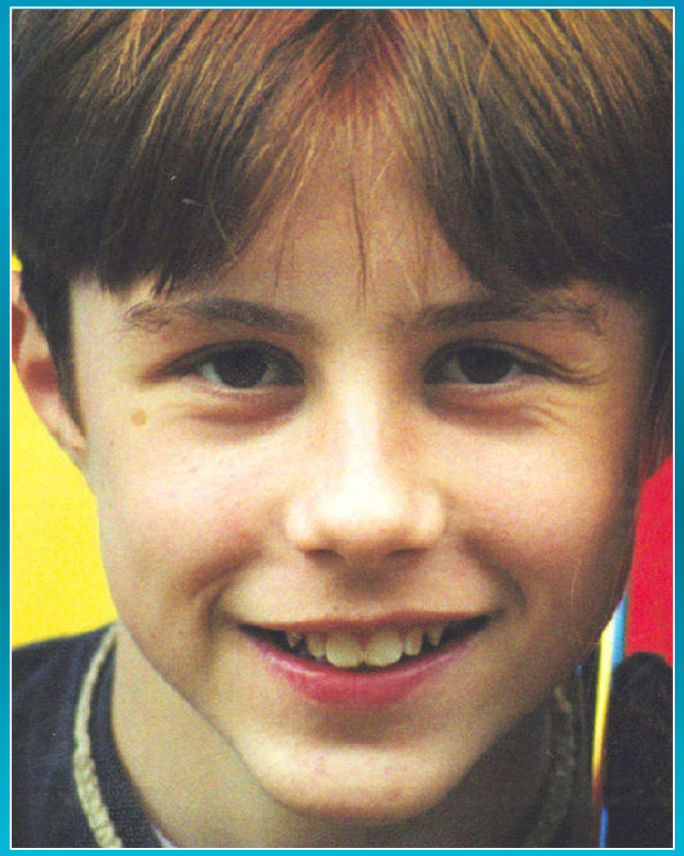


Patient Engagement in Medication Safety

Challenges and Opportunities

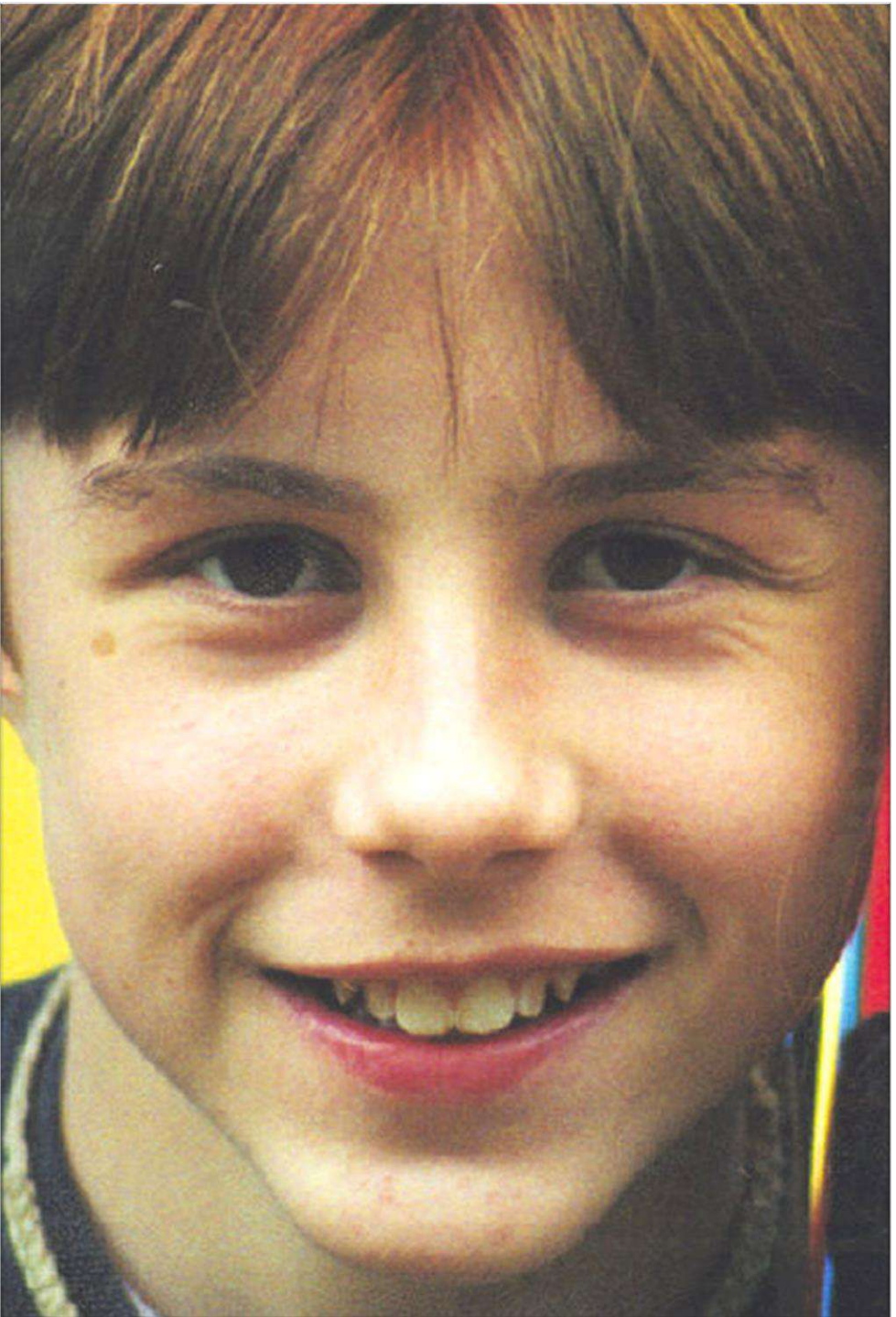
Helen Haskell
Mothers Against Medical Error
Consumers Advancing Patient Safety
WHO Patients for Patient Safety Advocate

The desire to take medicine is perhaps the greatest feature which distinguishes man from animals.

-Sir William Osler

Patient Perspectives on Medication Harm

- Patients report errors as occurring most often at the prescription phase of the medication process.
- Minor drug reactions can cascade into catastrophic medical harm because they are not recognized as such.
- Inappropriate polypharmacy, including overuse of psychiatric drugs, is a serious problem.
- Overmedication of the elderly occurs in every part of the globe.
- Repeated adverse events from re-prescribing of the same drug are common.



Lessons from Lewis's case

- Anyone taking a high-risk medication is a high-risk patient.
- Patients can quickly become high-risk as their condition changes.
- Healthcare workers caring for specialized populations like children and the elderly need expertise in specialized dosing, symptoms, and vital signs.

Patient Engagement in Medication Safety

Some Problems
Overestimation of benefit; underestimation of risk
Belief that healthcare, especially medication, is too complicated to understand
Excessive deference to the authority of the physician
Fragmented healthcare system
Burden of care & overmedication

Patient Engagement in Medication Safety

Some Solutions

Shared decision-making

Demystification - information about medications, especially high-risk medications

Collaborative medication review; reducing medication burden

Mapping the medication journey

Reporting adverse events

https://www.who.int/initiatives/medication-without-harm

WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge – Medication Without Harm

Patient Stories

https://www.who.int/initiatives/medication-without-harm

Giving patients the tools to be part of the safety system

- Expert medication reviews, especially at care transitions
- Information on high-risk drugs
- Signs of drug reaction or overdose
- How to access medication information
- How to report an adverse drug reaction or medication incident

Medication Overload: America's Other Drug Problem

How the drive to prescribe is harming older adults

April 2019

LOWN INSTITUTE

lowninstitute.org

Issue Briefs

Implement Prescription Checkups

Raise Awa

Improve Informatic

Educate &

Reduce In Influence

The Increasing Prevalence of Polypharmacy

From 1994 to 2014, the proportion of older adults taking five or more drugs tripled, from 13.8 percent to 42.4 percent.

1994	2014
14% took 5 or more drugs	42% took 5 or more drugs
60% took 1 to 4 drugs	49% took 1 to 4 drugs
26% took no drugs	9% took no drugs

Deprescribing Network

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https://www.deprescribingnetwork.ca/

Please Bring ALL Your Medicines to Your Next Appointment

To keep you safe, we need to know about all the medicine you take from all your doctors.

Please make sure you bring (in the original container)...

- ☐ Prescription medicines.
- ☐ Medicines you buy without a prescription (like Tylenol® or cold medicine).
- ☐ Ointments or creams.
- ☐ Bottles of drops.
- ☐ Inhalers.
- ☐ Injections.
- ☐ Vitamins and herbal medicines.

1 in 9 *emergency department admissions are related to an* **adverse drug event.**

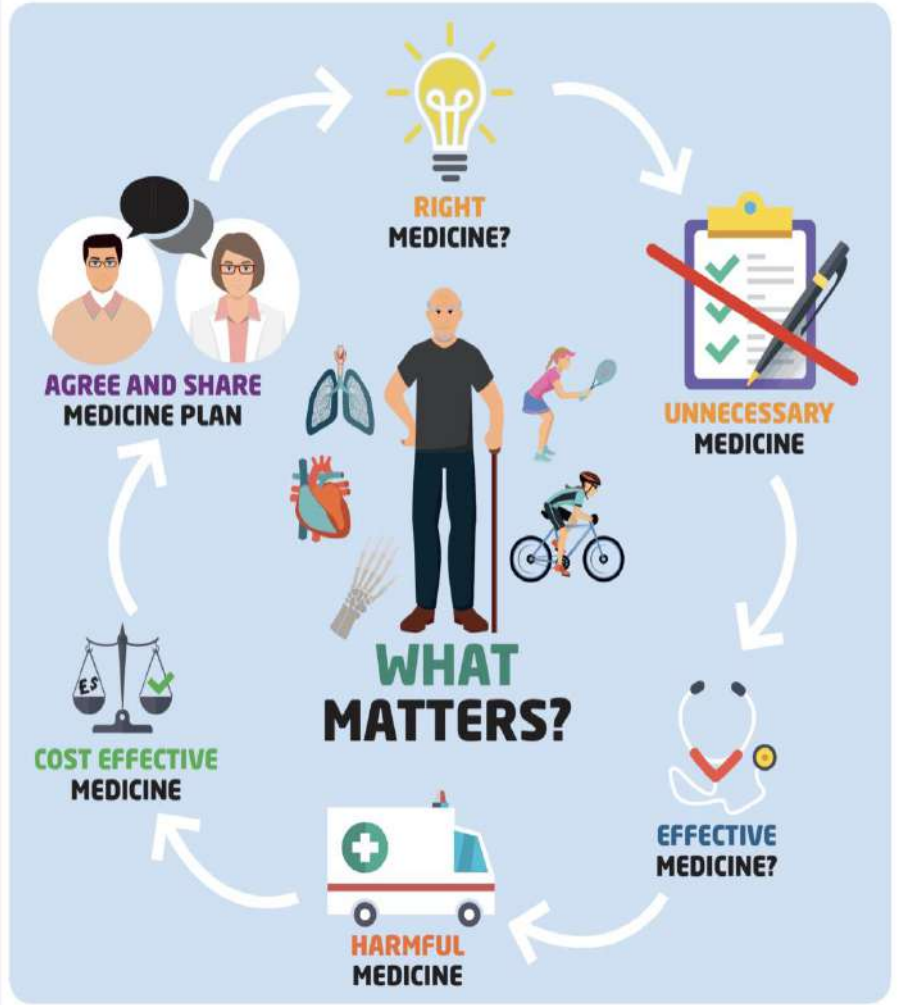
Your care team will go over them with you and your family to...

- Make sure you are taking your medicines in the best way for you.
- Make sure all your medicines work well together.
- See if you can take fewer medicines.
- Answer your questions.

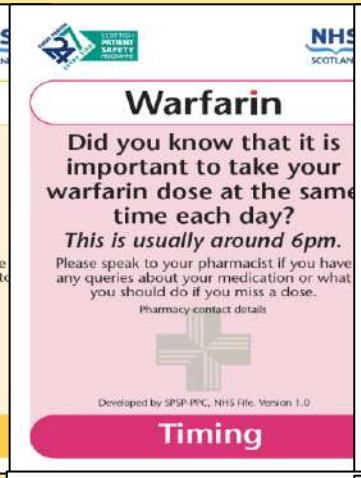
https://www.ahrq.gov/patient-safety/reports/engage.html

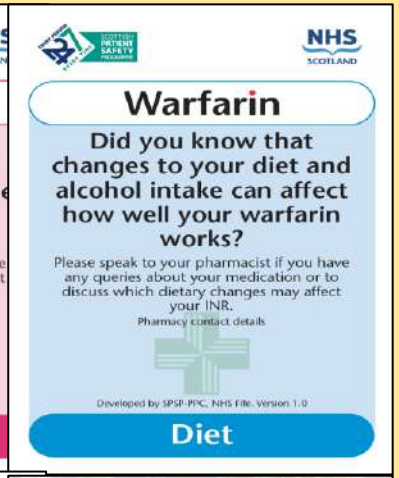
AHRQ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

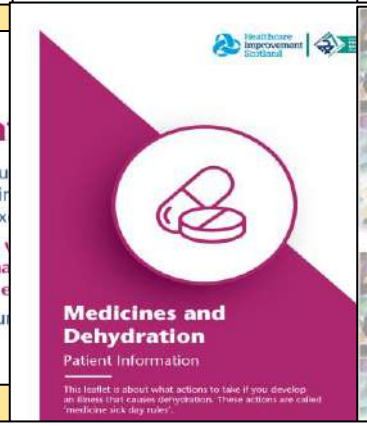
THE SIMPATHY PROJECT https://www.isimpathy.eu/

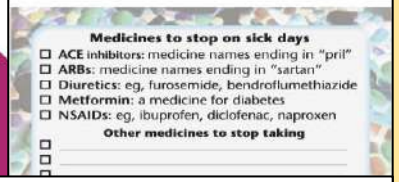


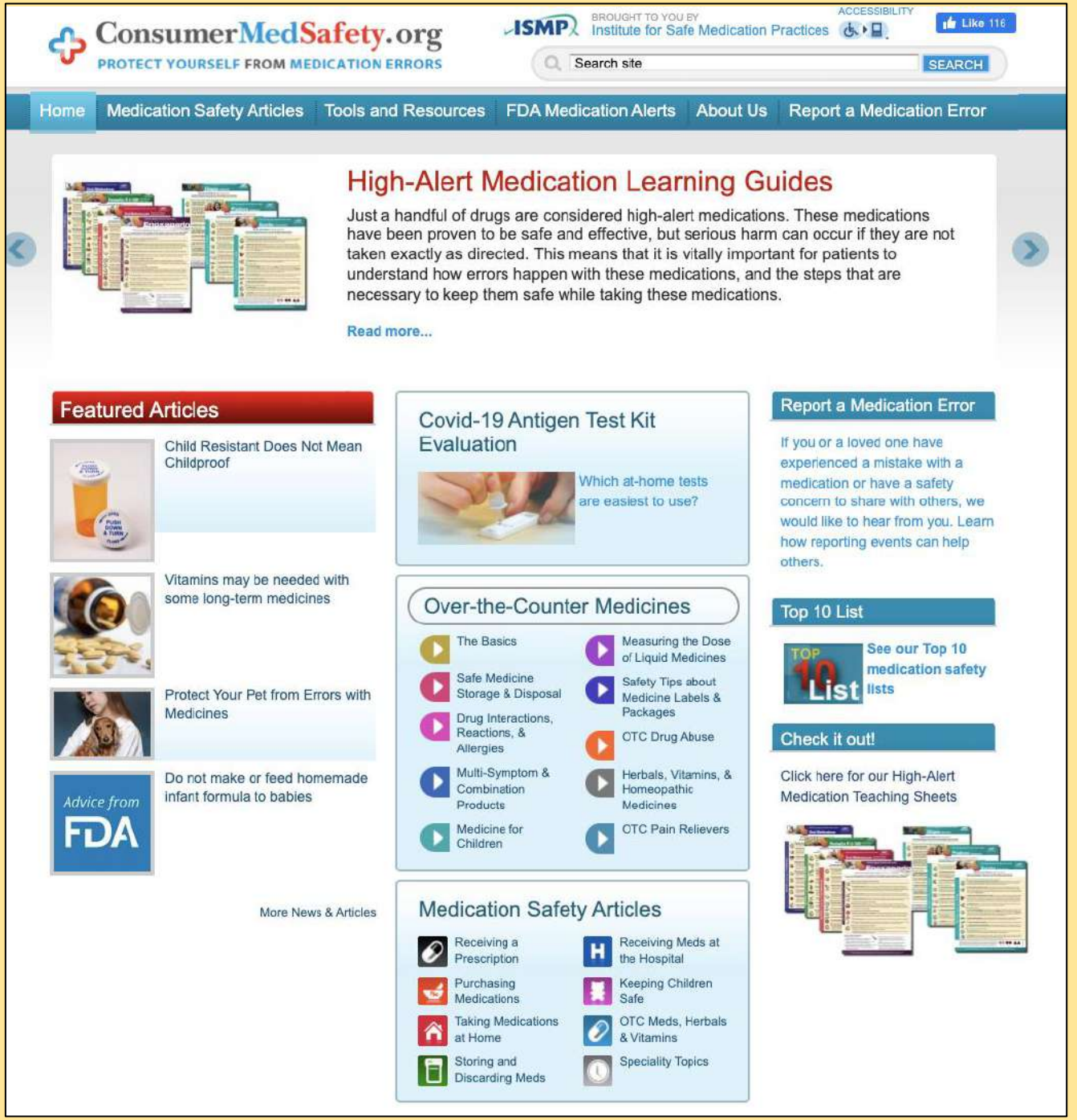
ihub.scot Pharmacy in primary care/resources











https://www.who-umc.org/global-pharmacovigilance/pharmacovigilance-communications/taketell/

Uppsala Monitoring Centre

Getting Patients Involved in Medicines Safety

A Social Movement - Barriers

- Low uptake of materials
- Limited funding for public awareness
- Mindset that prizes innovation over safety
- Barrage of pharmaceutical advertising to both prescribers and the public
- Fear of discouraging people from taking needed medications

A Social Movement