



Review of Antipsychotic Use in a Nursing Home Associated with Hospital Pharmacy

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

- Use of psychotropic drugs in the elderly has been increasing in recent years.
- Proper prescription and review of these medications are essential due to the risk of adverse effects, helping to minimize falls, cognitive decline, and increased mortality.
- This study analyzes the use of psychotropic drugs in a long-term care facility for elderly patients under the supervision of a second-level hospital pharmacy service.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

1. Review the prescription of antipsychotics, identifying the most commonly used drugs, their dosages, and associated diagnoses.
2. Identify drugs eligible for deprescription using the STOPP-START criteria.
3. Determine whether the use of these drugs is appropriate and justified in this patient group.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Observational, cross-sectional study, conducted in a nursing home with 128 patients in June 2024
- Data Collected: drug, dosage, and associated diagnosis

RESULTS

43.7% of patients (56) had prescribed antipsychotics

Quetiapine was the most common (42), with an average dose of 58 mg, followed by risperidone (24) aripiprazole (2), haloperidol (1), and paliperidone (1).

All prescriptions were justified based on associated diagnoses such as dementia, agitation, refractory insomnia, or behavioral disorders

Applying the **STOPP-START criteria**, **12 patients were identified as candidates for deprescription**, as they were taking combinations of quetiapine and risperidone, which could be simplified to a single drug

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

- The use of psychotropic drugs in the nursing home is appropriate and aligned with clinical guidelines
- The involvement of hospital pharmacy ensures responsible prescribing, with well-established review and deprescription protocols
- It is necessary to reassess antipsychotic combinations in some patients to reduce their use.