



Medication Safety Series: MSS 22

Prescribing Resources & Sources of Patient Information

choice and medication[®]
information for people who use services, carers and professionals

- ❖ In addition to the wide range of Trust prescribing policies, procedures and guidelines there are various other resources easily accessible to prescribers within the Trust.
- ❖ Prescribers should always ensure they are accessing the most up-to-date version of prescribing information.
- ❖ Where a printed copy is required, patient information leaflets should be printed as needed rather than in batches to ensure patients receive the most up-to-date information.

PRESCRIBING RESOURCES – guidance & algorithms

[Interactive Guide](#) or Trust intranet → [Services](#) → [Medicines and Pharmacy](#)

Local Prescribing Formularies:

- ❖ Provide details of medicines and products approved for use in the Trust, and their RAG status, with links to relevant guidance:
 - Tees, Durham & Darlington Localities: <https://www.northeastnorthcumbriaformulary.nhs.uk/default.asp>
 - North Yorkshire & York Locality: <https://www.northyorkshireandyorkformulary.nhs.uk/>

Maudsley (Current Edition) Prescribing Guidelines in Psychiatry

Available as an [e-book](#) from the Trust library (Athens log-in required)

Credible Meds website <https://www.crediblemeds.org/> (or download App) - information on the QT prolongation effects of medicines (registration required), linked to [MedSafetyScan](#) tool for QT risk assessment.

PRESCRIBING RESOURCES – individual drug information & monographs

BNF, Children’s BNF & e-BNF <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/> (hard copies no longer distributed)

- ❖ BNF app (updated monthly) can be downloaded to a smartphone via the app store (pre-loaded on Trust smartphones):
 - Prescribing information
 - Advice for patients/carers
 - Drug interactions can be checked using the “interaction checker”

Electronic Medicines Compendium <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/>

- ❖ Access to the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) for individual medicines and patient information leaflets (PILs); Patient information leaflets are specific to each available brand/product and are the same as the patient will receive with their dispensed medication.

PATIENT INFORMATION

(always record in the electronic patient record when & what information has been provided)

Choice and Medication Website <https://www.choiceandmedication.org/tees-esk-and-wear-valleys>

- Only licensed for access by TEWV staff (via a quick link from the Trust intranet home page) and patients under the care of TEWV or their carers (via the Trust internet site); regularly updated and includes:
 - Information on specific drugs presented in a variety of printable, patient friendly formats and a range of different languages. Cover “off-label” indications (unlike the manufacturers’ PILs)
 - Comparative information on medication for specific conditions - “handy charts” and “handy fact sheets” to support shared decision-making.

Medicines for Children <https://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/>

- Provides useful information to support administration of medicines to children.

BUMPs (Best use of medicines in pregnancy)

<https://www.medicinesinpregnancy.org/Medicine--pregnancy/>

- Offers a range of patient information leaflets on use of medicines in pregnancy.

NHS Website <https://www.nhs.uk/medicines/>

- Provides information for patients on an A-Z of medicines

MEDICINES INFORMATION SERVICES:

Trust: tewv.medicinesinformation@nhs.net (Tues-Fri 8.30am-1.00pm)

National: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk>

Poisoning (overdose): 0344 892 0111 <https://www.toxbase.org> (registration required)

Title	MSS22: Prescribing resources and sources of patient information v2
Approved by	Drug & Therapeutics Committee, 28 th March 2024
Review date	1 st April 2027