

CT PHARMACIST PRN LINK

Our First Issue

While everyone is spread throughout Connecticut, it is our hope to develop and foster a community pharmacist network.

A practice and research network or PRN provides a means for pharmacists with common practice and research interests to gather, in our case *virtually*, for professional interactions, networking, and idea and experience sharing.

We welcome you to our first newsletter! We hope this aids in developing our PRN and encouraging group discussion via email.

While the monthly issues will vary in content, they will contain useful and practice-based information regarding clinical questions, guideline and/or medication updates, motivational interviewing tips, success stories, and challenges.

We welcome your ongoing feedback and input!

Also, remember that Marissa is available as a resource to answer your patient-specific questions via phone or e-mail.

Clinical Question

Case: 85yo F with CKD (Scr 2.2; eGFR 22 ml/min) with no proteinuria and *not* prescribed an ACE-I or ARB. Is an ACE-I or ARB indicated?

Response: According to JNC8 and National Kidney Foundation guidelines, in patients ≥ 18 yo who have HTN and CKD, it is recommended to initiate treatment with an ACE-I or ARB. However, there is a lack of evidence to support the use of these medications in patients > 75 yo; treatment with one of these medications may still be effective in an older population, as well as a thiazide diuretic or a calcium channel blocker.

The recommendation for use of ACE-I or ARB in a patient that is 85 is not clearly recommended in any guideline. Use may be appropriate given that the patient can tolerate therapy, and that monitoring of certain parameters is regular.

OCTOBER 2016

Pharmacist Recognition

Ed Funaro, Jr., of Visels Pharmacy, received the 2016 Daniel C. Leone Award from the Connecticut Pharmacists Association. The award is given to a pharmacist who demonstrates a proactive unique approach to pharmacy practice.

Congratulations Ed!!

Noteworthy

Tom Buckley, Marissa Salvo, Mehul Dalal, Monica Jensen, and Luis Arroyo had their poster "Creating the Connecticut community pharmacy practice network through public-private partnerships" accepted for presentation in December at the 2016 ASHP Midyear Meeting in Las Vegas, NV.

Thank you all for your continued efforts in providing medication therapy management to our patients!

Please share recent accomplishments and noteworthy information with Marissa (marissa.salvo@uconn.edu).

Based on the patient's eGFR of 22 ml/min, she could be started on lisinopril 2.5 mg daily with close monitoring of serum potassium, kidney function, and blood pressure.

Additionally, her medical provider may have more information regarding the use (or previous use) of ACE-I or ARB in this patient, so it maybe worth inquiring for further clarification/justification.

Grant Update

Thank you for sending your patient information to Abby, Sarah, and Alex.

They worked throughout the summer inputting and analyzing provided data.

Here are some preliminary results to date:

- 59.8% of patients have achieved a blood pressure of < 140/90 mmHg.
 - This is an overall 48% improvement from the patients' initial encounter.
- 68% of patients have achieved an A1C < 9%.
 - This is an overall 13% improvement from the patients' initial encounter.

Congratulations on *all* your efforts in improving the care of our patients!

Please keep your data coming!

Research Team

Primary Investigators

Tom Buckley, RPh, MPH
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Pharmacy Students

Alex Kusher, Class of 2018

Sarah Leverett, Class of 2017

Abigail Zeiner, Class of 2017

Participating Pharmacists and Pharmacies

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