

## Safe Prescribing Guideline: Full list of Clinical Questions

1. What are the risk factors (both patient and prescribing factors) for dependence on prescribed opioids, benzodiazepines, Z-drugs or gabapentinoids, or withdrawal symptoms associated with antidepressants?
2. What are the optimum prescribing strategies or interventions delivered alongside prescribing, to limit the risk of dependence or withdrawal symptoms?
3. What should be included in a review of prescribed medicines associated with dependence or withdrawal symptoms?
4. What is the optimal frequency of review of prescribed medicines associated with dependence or withdrawal symptoms?
5. What are the withdrawal symptoms associated with prescribed medicines?
6. What are the most clinically and cost effective pharmacological and non-pharmacological strategies, for example tapered withdrawal or education and support, for the safe withdrawal of prescribed medicines associated with dependence or withdrawal symptoms (opioids, benzodiazepines, z-drugs, gabapentinoids and anti-depressants)?
7. What information and support is needed by people who may develop dependence, or who have developed dependence or withdrawal symptoms and their families and carers