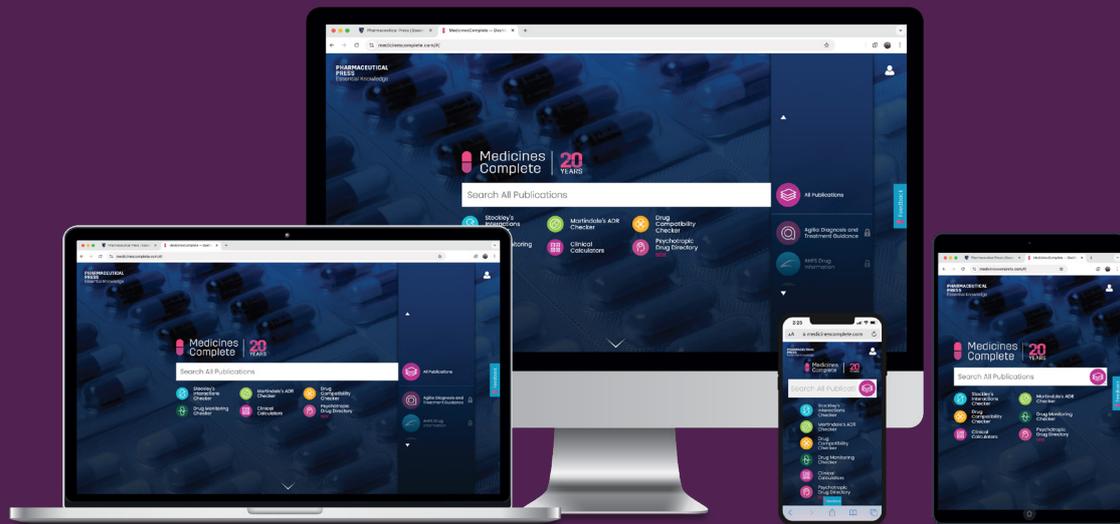




# Psychotropic Drug Directory for social workers



**MedicinesComplete.com**

Quick and easy access to drug interactions



**Psychotropic Drug Directory**

Available through





# Psychotropic Drug Directory

## What is Psychotropic Drug Directory (PDD)?

PDD supports the optimal and rational use of mental health medications, with the aim to improve the quality of life for people with mental health diagnoses. PDD includes a brief introduction to each mental health condition and the medication used in its treatment. It is then broken down in chapters on the choice of medication, medication interactions, the management of side effects, and medication used in patients with specialist needs.

## How do I navigate PDD?

The first chapter will introduce you to common diagnoses that you may encounter in your patient group. Each subsection starts with an introduction to the diagnosis which gives background information on symptoms, possible causes, and the role of medicines in symptom management. Often there will be supplementary information on non-medication management that may be of use to the patient.

The following chapters provide health professionals with information on selecting medication, considering drug interactions and how to manage side effects. There is a specialist chapter on how to manage the prescribing of psychotropics in complex areas e.g. in renal failure. There is also a chapter on drug induced psychiatric diagnosis; which describes where a prescribed psychotropic medication could be causing the symptoms e.g. agitation can be caused by aripiprazole.

The final chapters contain a list of psychotropic drugs and a list of abbreviations that are used throughout PDD.

## When should I use PDD?

PDD presents evidence-based information and links to individual papers such as case studies, reviews, and trial data. It provides health professionals with tools on how to safely prescribe or switch psychotropic medication, manage side effects, be aware of drug interactions, and manage psychotropic medication in complex areas.



PDD should be used as a first point of call for information on psychotropic medication. For example, should a patient describe side effects they are experiencing, the 'Management of Side-Effects' chapter can be consulted to see if the side effect is common to their medication. This can then be escalated to their prescriber for further management strategies.

If a patient is switching medication, the 'Selecting Drugs, Doses and Preparations' chapter can be used to find out information on what the patient can expect to happen (e.g. stopping one medication completely before starting another) and reassurance given to the patient that this is the correct course of action when changing medication.

To gain an overview of a particular diagnosis and the role of medication in its treatment, the 'Drug Treatment Option in Psychiatric Illness' is an excellent introduction to both common (e.g. depression) and uncommon (e.g. catatonia) diagnoses. Reading the introductory paragraphs will give you an insight on what the patient is experiencing and how medication will help manage their symptoms.

The information contained in PDD should not be used in isolation as each patient is unique and will have their own care plan in place which details their medication management.

## How do I get further information?

For further information, other publications can be accessed, and these links can be found at the start of each chapter subsection of PDD. See below for an example.

### 1.21 Psychosis and schizophrenia

Access other publications for further information:



## When to seek further advice?

PDD is designed for health professionals and advice should only be given to patients by those suitably trained to do so.

The decision to start, switch, or discontinue a medication should always take into account an individual patient's circumstances and should be discussed by the prescriber with the patient prior to any change being enacted.

Where side effects are experienced or a possible interaction exists, seek the advice of a doctor, pharmacist or suitably qualified healthcare professional.

Patients should not be advised to stop or adjust their medication without first consulting with their prescriber.



### IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

Please remember that Psychotropic Drug Directory is intended for use by health professionals. It should not be used to independently alter medications, provide clinical advice, or replace direct consultation with a qualified medical professional. Always refer individuals to their GP, pharmacist, or other relevant health professional for clinical guidance and medication management.



## Psychotropic Drug Directory

Authored by experts with extensive experience of mental health medications and referencing evidence-based studies, this essential knowledge helps multidisciplinary teams confidently manage clinical scenarios, including those where additional health needs and/or multiple diagnoses are present.

### Access this essential knowledge today

MedicinesComplete makes it easy for health professionals to access essential medicines information at the point of care. Providing trusted evidence-based knowledge for confident decision-making and effective patient care.

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