

Polypharmacy management: an under recognized public health issue



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Stimulating Innovation Management of Polypharmacy and Adherence in The Elderly

<http://www.simpathy.eu/> <https://twitter.com/simpathyproject>

- Inappropriate polypharmacy is a growing problem that increases the risk of adverse drug events, patient costs and non-adherence.
- A limited but diverse range of polypharmacy initiatives exist in the EU reflecting local culture, health priorities, and existing expertise.
- Further action by policy makers and clinicians is needed to implement programmes where none exist, and scale existing programmes.

Methods

- Mixed-method case studies of polypharmacy policies
- Desk review, key informant interviews and focus groups
- Data collection and analysis informed by Kotter change management and Normalization Process Theory

Programme Characteristics

Scope	Country	Setting
National	Scotland (UK)	IC PC
	Sweden	H IC PC
Regional	Catalonia (Spain)	H IC PC
	Germany	CP
	N. Ireland (UK)	IC
None	Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal	

H: hospital; IC: intermediate care; PC: primary care; CP: community pharmacy

Key Stakeholder Messages

