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The above mentioned participant in the PCNE WC 2013 wishes to submit following abstract for a poster or oral communication. If accepted and presented, the abstract will be published in the International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy. Please make sure the abstract is no longer than 350 words, excl. author-details.

Title
Validation of prescribing appropriateness criteria for older Australians using the RAND/UCLA appropriateness method

Author(s)
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Type of abstract
X Research   ☐ Practice development   ☐ Practice implementation

Aim of project/study
Many techniques have been proposed to identify and reduce dug related problems (DRPs), including comprehensive geriatric assessment and the use of prescribing appropriateness criteria. The aim of this study was to establish the face validity of published Australian prescribing appropriateness criteria.

Method
We used the RAND/UCLA appropriateness method, a two-round modified Delphi method, to assess the face validity of the 48 prescribing criteria. The first round involved the recruitment of a   multidisciplinary group of medication management experts (eg geriatricians, clinical pharmacologists and pharmacists, and representatives from evidence-based medicine organisations), to review, update and rate the prescribing criteria, via e-mail. The second round involved a face-to-face meeting of these experts to discuss the findings from round one. Specifically, the median ratings, on a 9-point scale, for all experts from round one were debated and re-rated as a group. Following round two, agreement was also assessed using the interpercentile range (IPR) and the IPR adjusted for symmetry (IPRAS) method.

Result(s)
Following the first round, there was agreement for the appropriateness of 31 and disagreement for 17 criteria. During the second round, 12 of the 31 criteria (for which there was agreement) were accepted with no change, 17 were modified and retained, and 2 were deleted. Of the 17 criteria for which there was disagreement (at round one), two were accepted with no change, 8 were modified and retained and 7 were deleted. Two new criteria were also added, resulting in a total of 41 validated criteria. Agreement was reached for all criteria after round two by both the median and IPR/IPRAS methods.

Conclusions
The RAND/UCLA appropriateness method was used to establish the face validity of Australian prescribing appropriateness criteria.

+++ NB: PhD students still pay the early bird fee for their abstract if their abstract is accepted ++++