

## **Polymedication Check -a new reimbursed service for Swiss community pharmacies**

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Medication reviews can be performed on different levels, at different occasions, with different purposes and through different health care professionals. Accordingly different models have been developed and used. In "Room for Review"(1) four levels were described (ad hoc / prescription review / treatment review / clinical medication review). Later the concept of medicines use review (MUR) was developed; a service conducted by the community pharmacists with the patient and focusing on concordance and compliance but without clinical data from the medical history. MUR is one out of three different types of reviews (Prescription review / MUR / clinical medication review).

With this background the Swiss association of pharmacists negotiated with the national body of health insurances a new service called "polymedication check" which adds to the existing verification on prescriptions (both services being remunerated). They finally agreed on some principals and rules describing this new service. But, with respect to all existing levels and models of medication reviews the new polymedication check needed to be clearly defined. We were charged to develop this service in detail. We used two workshops with selected "experts" from Switzerland, a short pilot test with selected pharmacies and a final workshop together with the pilot pharmacists. In due times after 4 months we could end up with a concept, a documentation for this service, a short instruction and suggestions for implementation and follow up.

(1) NHS: A Guide to Medication Review, 2008:

[http://www.npci.org.uk/medicines\\_management/review/medireview/library/mr\\_library\\_agtmr08.php](http://www.npci.org.uk/medicines_management/review/medireview/library/mr_library_agtmr08.php) (accessed 23-09-09)