

Challenges of physical health in mental health

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Aims & Objectives

- Understand the challenges of physical health in mental health settings
- Prescribing for co-morbidities in physical and mental health
- Support SUs & carers understand the impact of medication on their physical health
- Work with service users to counteract side effects of medication
- Sharing good practice from CNWL

The link between Physical and Mental Health

Mortality Rate of Individuals with severe mental illness (SMI)

NHS
Central and
North West London
NHS Foundation Trust



People
with SMI
(e.g., Schizophrenia)

*die 10-15 years
prematurely, because of*



Lung
diseases



Heart
diseases



Vascular
diseases



Stroke

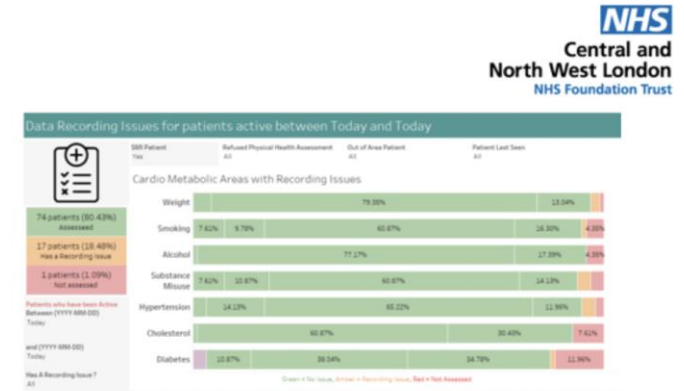


Wellbeing for life

- One of the greatest health inequality gaps in England
- SMI patients are not consistently being offered physical health assessments despite the higher risk of poor physical health

Mental Illness and Physical Health

- SMI patients die up to 20 years earlier than the general population
- Mainly due to cardiometabolic illness
- Multiple factors to explain this phenomenon
 - Smoking
 - Low levels of activity
 - Long term conditions
 - Medication side effects
 - Access to healthcare
- Inadequate interventions offered to SMI patients





At CNWL, improving the physical health of mental health patients is a top priority.

Pressure on the NHS: Physical Health in SMI

- Increased hospitalisation rate
- Increased use of outpatient services
- 45% increased healthcare costs for each person with mental illness
- £8-13 billion spent on long term conditions linked to poor mental health



Physical Illness in Severe Mental Health

Disease Category	Physical Disease with increased frequency
Bacterial Infections	Tuberculosis
Viral Diseases	HIV, Hep B/C
Neoplasms	Obesity related cancers
Musculoskeletal Disorders	Osteoporosis
Oral Health	Poor dental status
Respiratory	Impaired lung function, COPD
Urological	Sexual Dysfunction
 Cardiovascular	Stroke, MI, HTN, Vascular Diseases
 Metabolic	Obesity, Diabetes, Metabolic Syndrome, Hyperlipaemia

The Problems



The Lester Tool

- Physical Health Intervention Framework for SMI
- Enables effective physical health monitoring of patients experiencing SMI
- Many of the principles can be applied to other psychotropic medicines given to adults with long term mental disorders, e.g. mood stabilisers

Lester UK Adaptation | 2014 update

Positive Cardiometabolic Health Resource

An **intervention framework** for people experiencing **psychosis** and **schizophrenia**

Don't just SCREEN – INTERVENE
for all patients in the “red zone”

Lester UK Adaptation: Positive Cardiometabolic Health Resource
This Cardiometabolic Health Resource supports the recommendations relating to monitoring physical health in the NICE guidelines on psychosis and schizophrenia in adults (www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg178) and young people (www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg155). In addition it also supports the statement about assessing physical health in the NICE quality standard for psychosis and schizophrenia in adults (www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs80).
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, November 2015

This clinical resource supports the implementation of the physical health CQUIN <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/9-cquin-guid-2015-16.pdf> (page 13) which aims to improve collaborative and effective physical health monitoring of patients experiencing severe mental illness. It focusses on antipsychotic medication for adults, but many of the principles can be applied to other psychotropic medicines given to adults with long term mental disorders, e.g. mood stabilisers.

For all patients in the “red zone” (see center page spread): The general practitioner, psychiatrist and patient will work together to ensure appropriate monitoring and interventions are provided and communicated. The general practitioner will usually lead on supervising the provision of physical health interventions. The psychiatrist will usually lead on decisions to significantly change antipsychotic medication.

Download Lester UK Adaptation: www.rcpsych.ac.uk/quality/NAS/resources

Smoking

Lifestyle and
Life Skills

Body Mass
Index (BMI)
Weight

Blood
Pressure

Glucose Regulation
Assess by fasting blood glucose (FPG);
random blood glucose (RBG); HbA_{1c}

Blood Lipids

The Lester Tool

Smoking

Current smoker

Stop smoking

Lifestyle and Life Skills

Poor diet
AND/OR
Sedentary lifestyle

Improve quality of diet
Contain calorie intake
Daily exercise of 30 mins/day

Body Mass Index (BMI) Weight

BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²
(≥ 23 kg/m² if South Asian or Chinese)
AND/OR
Weight gain >5 kg over 3 month period

BMI 18.5-24.9 kg/m²
(18.5-22.9 kg/m² if South Asian or Chinese)

Blood Pressure

>140 mm Hg systolic
AND/OR
 >90 mm Hg diastolic

$<140/90$ mm Hg
($<130/80$ mm Hg for those with CVD or diabetes)

Glucose Regulation

Assess by fasting blood glucose (FPG); random blood glucose (RBG); HbA_{1c}

HbA_{1c} or Glucose threshold:
HbA_{1c} ≥ 42 mmol/mol ($\geq 6\%$)
AND/OR
FPG ≥ 5.5 mmol/l
OR
RPG ≥ 11.1 mmol/l

Prevent or delay onset of diabetes
HbA_{1c} <42 mmol/mol ($<6\%$)
FPG <5.5 mmol/l

Blood Lipids

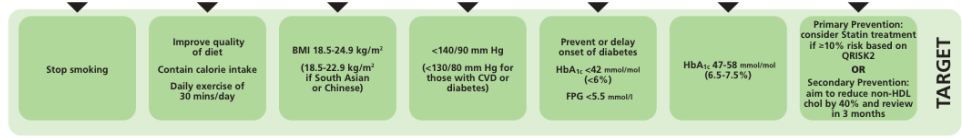
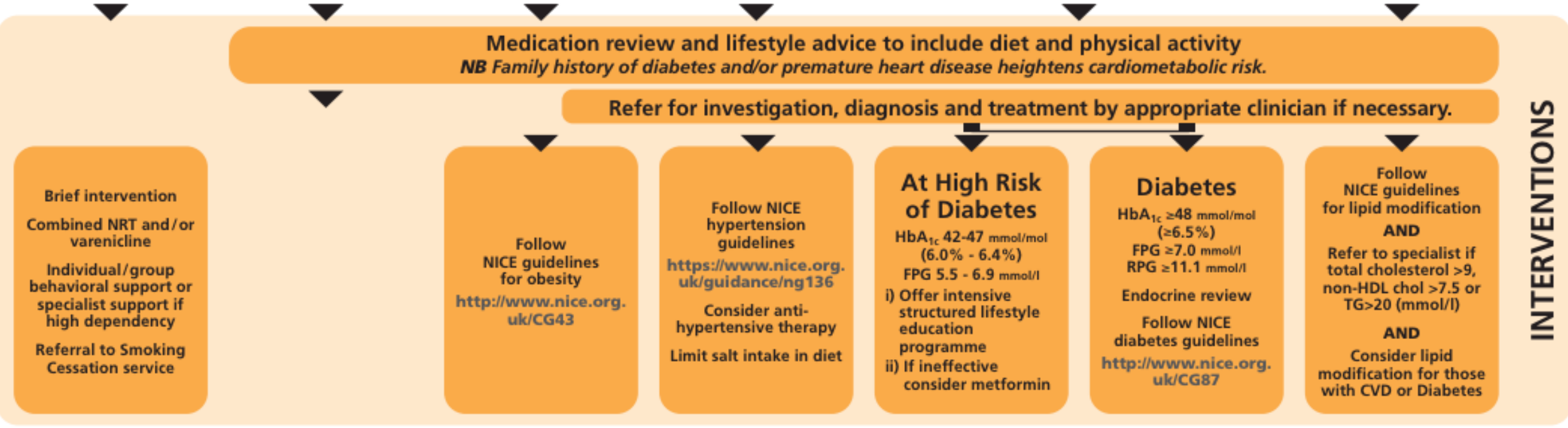
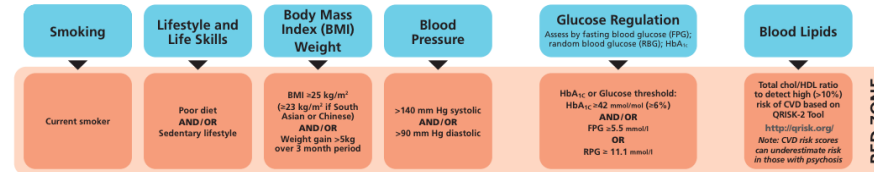
Total chol/HDL ratio to detect high ($>10\%$) risk of CVD based on QRISK-2 Tool
<http://qrisk.org/>
Note: CVD risk scores can underestimate risk in those with psychosis

Primary Prevention: consider Statin treatment if $\geq 10\%$ risk based on QRISK2
OR
Secondary Prevention: aim to reduce non-HDL chol by 40% and review in 3 months

RED ZONE

TARGET

The Lester Tool

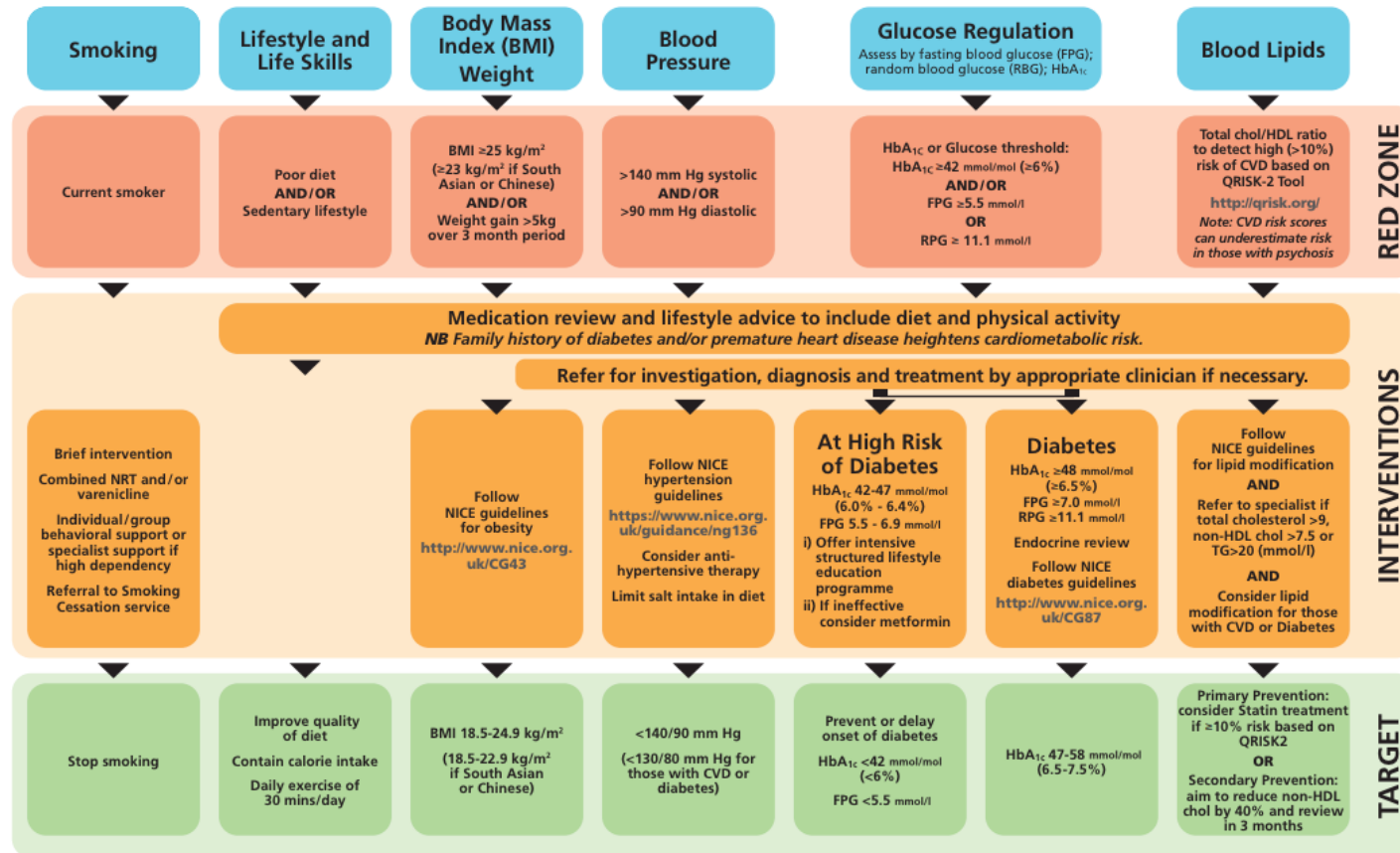


The Lester Tool

Lester UK Adaptation | 2014 update

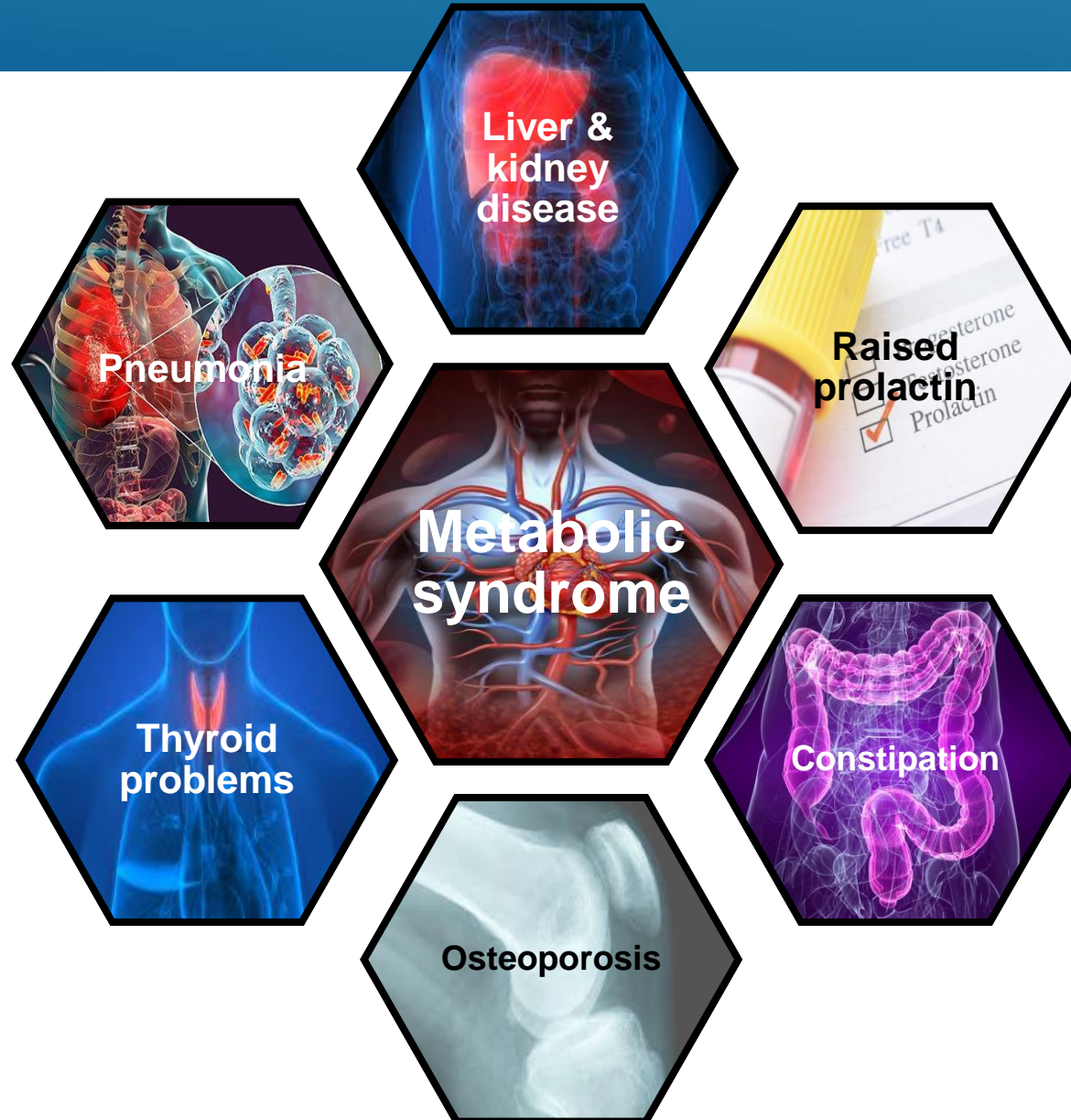
Positive Cardiometabolic Health Resource

An **intervention framework** for people experiencing **psychosis** and **schizophrenia**



FPG = Fasting Plasma Glucose | RPG = Random Plasma Glucose | BMI = Body Mass Index | Total Chol = Total Cholesterol | HDL = High Density Lipoprotein | TRIG = Triglycerides

Impact of psychotropics on physical health



Metabolic Syndrome

NCEP ATP III definition

At least 3 of the 5 following criteria must be met to diagnose a person with metabolic syndrome:

- Abdominal obesity: waist circumference of ≥ 102 cm in men and ≥ 88 cm in women
- Hypertriglyceridemia: ≥ 150 mg/dl (1.695 mmol/L)
- Low HDL-C: < 40 mg/dL (1.04 mmol/dL) in men and < 50 mg/dL (1.30 mmol/dL) in women
- High blood pressure (BP): $> 130/85$ mmHg
- High fasting glucose: > 110 mg/dl (6.1 mmol/L)

Pre-treatment monitoring

Psychosis and schizophrenia in adults: prevention and management



1.3.5 Choice of antipsychotic medication

1.3.5.1 The choice of antipsychotic medication should be made by the service user and healthcare professional together, taking into account the views of the carer if the service user agrees. Provide information and discuss the likely benefits and possible side effects of each drug, including:

- metabolic (including weight gain and diabetes)
- extrapyramidal (including akathisia, dyskinesia and dystonia)
- cardiovascular (including prolonging the QT interval)
- hormonal (including increasing plasma prolactin)
- other (including unpleasant subjective experiences). [2009; amended 2014]

1.3.6 How to use antipsychotic medication

1.3.6.1 Before starting antipsychotic medication, undertake and record the following baseline investigations:

- weight (plotted on a chart)
- waist circumference
- pulse and blood pressure
- fasting blood glucose, glycosylated haemoglobin (HbA_{1c}), blood lipid profile and prolactin levels
- assessment of any movement disorders
- assessment of nutritional status, diet and level of physical activity. [2014]

1.3.6.2 Before starting antipsychotic medication, offer the person with psychosis or schizophrenia an electrocardiogram (ECG) if:

- specified in the summary of product characteristics (SPC)
- a physical examination has identified specific cardiovascular risk (such as diagnosis of high blood pressure)

Bipolar disorder: assessment and management



Starting antipsychotic medication

1.10.5 Before starting antipsychotic medication, measure and record the person's:

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Page 34
of 51

Bipolar disorder: assessment and management (CG185)

- weight or BMI
- pulse
- blood pressure
- fasting blood glucose or HbA_{1c}
- blood lipid profile.

Adapted from [psychosis and schizophrenia in adults](#) (NICE clinical guideline 178).

1.10.6 Before starting antipsychotic medication, offer the person an electrocardiogram (ECG) if:

- it is specified in the drug's summary of product characteristics (SPC) or
- a physical examination has identified a specific cardiovascular risk (such as hypertension) or
- there is a family history of cardiovascular disease, a history of sudden collapse, or other cardiovascular risk factors such as cardiac arrhythmia or
- the person is being admitted as an inpatient.

Ongoing monitoring

Psychosis and schizophrenia in adults: prevention and management



1.3.6.4 Monitor and record the following regularly and systematically throughout treatment, but especially during titration:

- response to treatment, including changes in symptoms and behaviour
- side effects of treatment, taking into account overlap between certain side effects and clinical features of schizophrenia (for example, the overlap between akathisia and agitation or anxiety) and impact on functioning
- the emergence of movement disorders
- weight, weekly for the first 6 weeks, then at 12 weeks, at 1 year and then annually (plotted on a chart)
- waist circumference annually (plotted on a chart)
- pulse and blood pressure at 12 weeks, at 1 year and then annually

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Page 20 of 39

Psychosis and schizophrenia in adults: prevention and management (CG178)

- fasting blood glucose, HbA_{1c} and blood lipid levels at 12 weeks, at 1 year and then annually
- adherence
- overall physical health. [2014]

Bipolar disorder: assessment and management



1.2.12 Ensure that the physical health check for people with bipolar disorder, performed at least annually, includes:

- weight or BMI, diet, nutritional status and level of physical activity
- cardiovascular status, including pulse and blood pressure
- metabolic status, including fasting blood glucose, glycosylated haemoglobin (HbA_{1c}) and blood lipid profile
- liver function
- renal and thyroid function, and calcium levels, for people taking long-term lithium.

1.2.13 Identify people with bipolar disorder who have hypertension, have abnormal lipid levels, are obese or at risk of obesity, have diabetes or are at risk of diabetes (as indicated by abnormal blood glucose levels), or are physically inactive, at the earliest opportunity. Follow the [NICE guidelines on hypertension, lipid modification, prevention of cardiovascular disease, obesity, physical activity and preventing type 2 diabetes](#).

Assess & discuss risk factors: Weight gain

Weight Gain:

- Known side effect of antipsychotics, mood stabilisers & antidepressants
- Antipsychotic-naïve and FEP are more vulnerable to antipsychotic weight gain
- Weight gain is rapid during first few weeks
- Initial rapid weight gain is a strong indicator of long-term weight gain & obesity

Drug	Risk/extent of weight gain
Clozapine	High
Olanzapine	
Chlorpromazine	Moderate
Iloperidone	
Sertindole	
Quetiapine	
Risperidone	
Paliperidone	
Amisulpride	Low
Asenapine	
Brexpiprazole	
Aripiprazole	
Cariprazine	
Haloperidol	
Lurasidone	
Sulpiride	
Trifluoperazine	
Ziprasidone	

Assess & discuss risk factors: Diabetes

Diabetes:

- Greater risk in younger adults than in elderly
- FEP are prone
- Rapid weight gain & increase in triglycerides appear strong predictors



Degree of risk	Antipsychotic drug
High	Clozapine, olanzapine
Moderate	Quetiapine, risperidone, phenothiazines
Low	High-potency FGAs (e.g. haloperidol)
Minimal	Aripiprazole, amisulpride, brexpiprazole, cariprazine, asenapine, lurasidone, ziprasidone

Assess & discuss risk factors: Cardiac adverse effects

Cardiac adverse effects:

- Obesity, DM, dyslipidaemia, smoking, high alcohol intake, substance misuse, old age, ethnicity, eating disorders
- Qtc >500 msec
- Antipsychotics: rapid dose titration; high dose; >1 antipsychotic; clozapine (myocarditis)
- Antidepressants: tricyclics, venlafaxine, MAOIs



Shared decision making

*'The choice of antipsychotic medication should be made **by the service user and healthcare professional together**, taking into account the views of the carer if the service user agrees. **Provide information and discuss the likely benefits and possible side effects of each drug....'***

(NICE)

What do patients & carers want?

Involved in decisions

A discussion about their medicines, not just a leaflet

Prevention

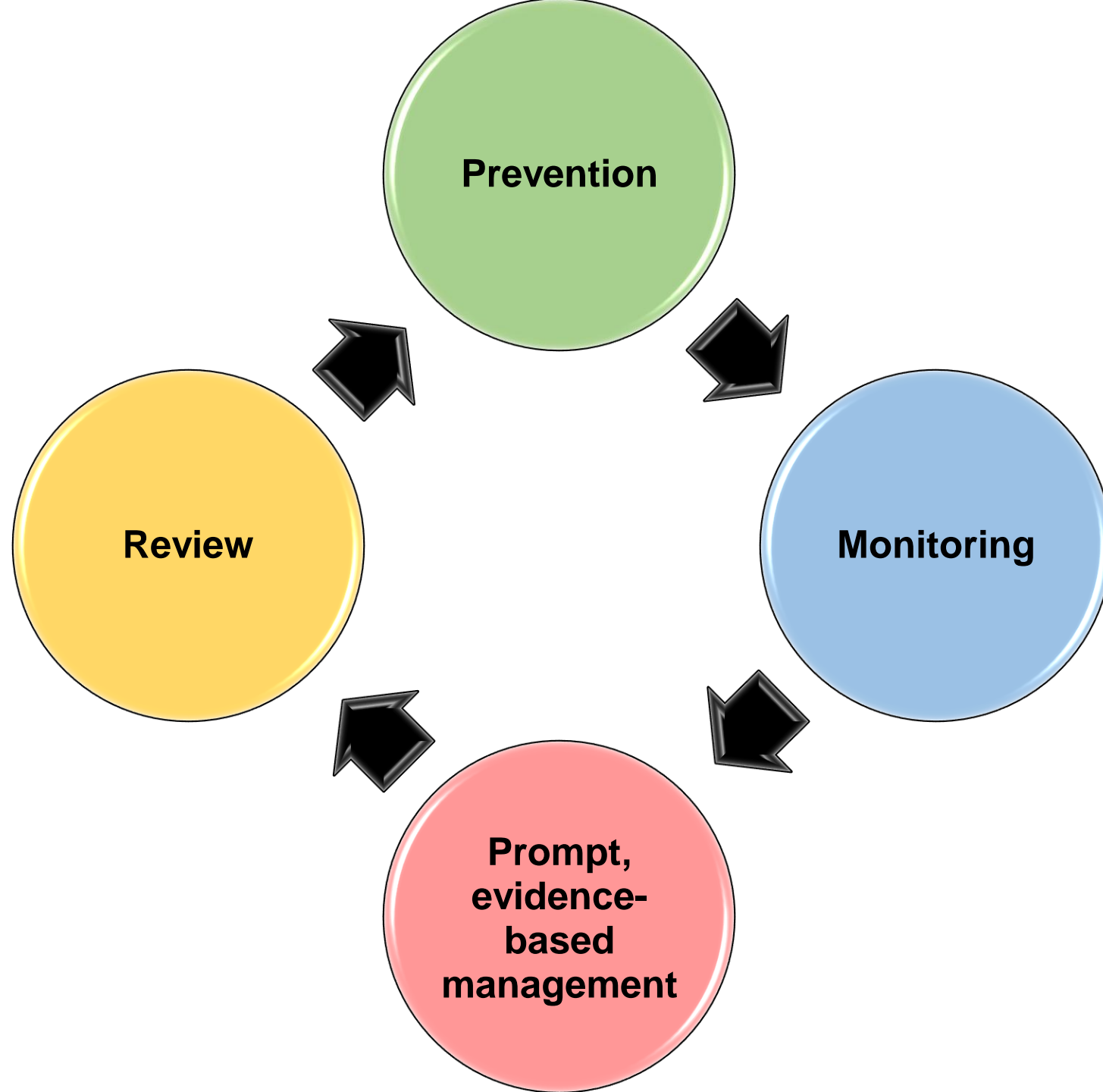
Care plans to include physical health

Advanced planning in case of relapse

Monitoring - what, when & where?

Regular reviews of their meds to include how to stop safely

Not to be reminded of 10-25 year shortened life expectancy

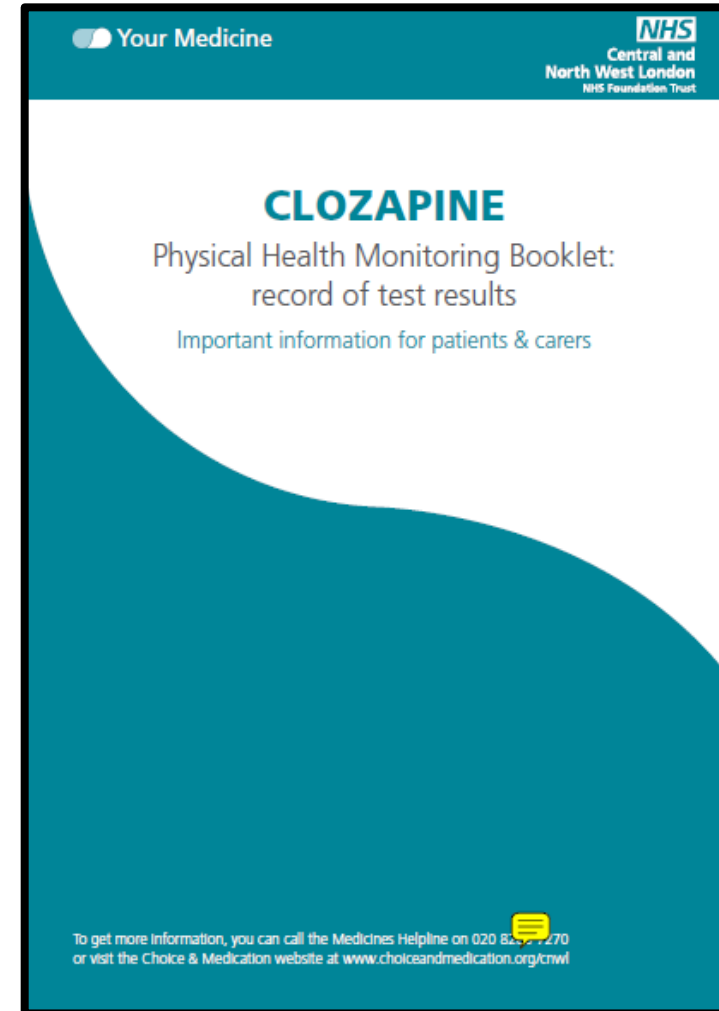
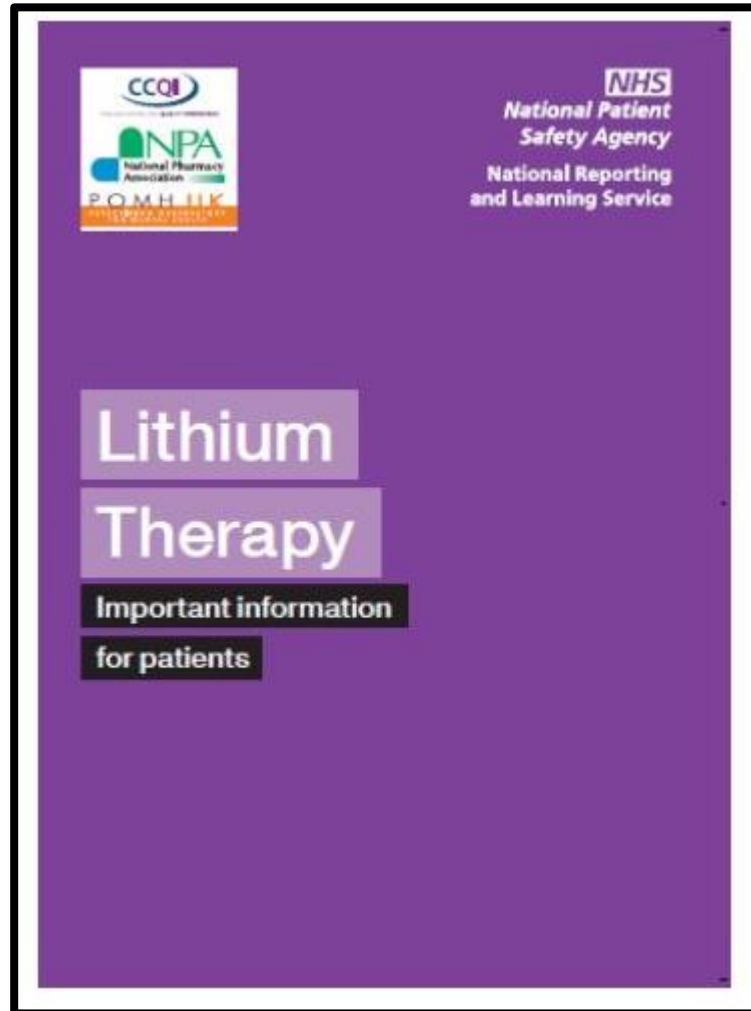


A handy chart to help you compare the medicines to help the symptoms of psychosis (page 3 of 3)

NHS Foundation Trust

Medicine	Available as	Usual dose	How long it takes to work	Some of the main side effects *					How to stop it
				Feeling sleepy	Stiff muscles	Weight gain	Dry mouth	Sexual problems	
Dopamine-serotonin receptor blockers									
These mainly block dopamine receptors, some serotonin receptors and many other receptors									
Chlorpromazine	Tablets, liquid	75-300mg a day	Some effect in a few days, then builds over 3-4 weeks	●●●	●●	●●	●●	●●●	Gently over months or years, see introduction.
Levomepromazine	Tablets, liquid	100-200mg a day		●●●	●●	●●●	●●	●●	
Pericyazine	Tablets, liquid	75-300mg a day		●●●	●	●●●	●●●	●●	
Trifluoperazine	Tablets, liquid	5-15mg a day		●	●●●	●●	●	●●●	
Zuclopenthixol	Tablets	10-25mg a day		●●	●●	●●●	●●	●●●	
	Long-acting injection (Clopixol®)	200-500mg every 2 weeks	Usually takes a week or so before it begins to work	●●	●●	●●●	●●	●●●	Blood levels slowly drop after the last dose. See introduction as well.
Flupentixol	Long-acting injection (Depixol®)	20-200mg every 2 weeks	Usually takes a week or so before it begins to work	●	●●	●●	●●	●●●	Gently over months or years, see introduction.
	Tablets	6-18mg a day	Some effect in a few days, then builds over 3-4 weeks	●	●●	●●	●●	●●●	
Perphenazine (imported)	Tablets	12-24mg a day		●●	●●●	●●●	●	●●●	
Dopamine receptor blockers (mainly just block dopamine receptors)									
Haloperidol	Long-acting injection (Haldol Decanoate®)	50-200mg every four weeks	Usually takes a week or so before it begins to work	●	●●●	●●	●	●●●	Blood levels slowly drop after the last dose. See introduction as well.
	Tablets, liquid	5-18mg a day							Gently over months or years, see introduction.
Amisulpride	Tablets, liquid	400-800mg a day	Some effect in a few days, then builds over 3-4 weeks	●	●●	●	●	●●●	Gently over months or years, see introduction.
Sulpiride	Tablets, liquid	400-1600mg a day		●	●●	●●	●	●●●	
Fluphenazine decanoate (Modectate) (discontinued but still available). Long-acting injection		25-100mg every two weeks	Usually takes a week or so before it begins to work	●	●●●	●	●●	●●●	Blood levels slowly drop after the last dose. See introduction as well.
Pipothiazine palmitate (Pipartil®) (discontinued but still available) Long-acting injection		25-100mg 2-4 weeks		●	●●	●●	●●	●●●	

Resources



Managing side effects

APPENDIX I: Glasgow Antipsychotic Side effect Scale (GASS)

Patient's hospital number/NHS number _____

Glasgow Antipsychotic Side-effect Scale (GASS)

Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: M / F

Please list current medication and total daily doses below:

This questionnaire is about how you have been recently. It is being used to determine if you are suffering from excessive side effects from your antipsychotic medication. Please place a tick in the column which best indicates the degree to which you have experienced the following side effects. Tick the end box if you found that the side effect distressed you. © 2007 Waddell & Taylor

Over the past week:

1. I felt sleepy during the day

2. I felt drugged or like a zombie

3. I felt dizzy when I stood up and/or have fainted

4. I have felt my heart beating irregularly or unusually fast

5. My muscles have been tense or jerky

	Never	Once	A few times	Everyday	Tick this box if distressing
1. I felt sleepy during the day					
2. I felt drugged or like a zombie					
3. I felt dizzy when I stood up and/or have fainted					
4. I have felt my heart beating irregularly or unusually fast					
5. My muscles have been tense or jerky					

APPENDIX G: Liverpool University Neuroleptic Side Effect Rating Scale (LUNSERS)

Questionnaire
The following scale is intended to be self-administered. Please indicate how much you have experienced each of the following symptoms in the last month by ticking a box for each of the 51 items.

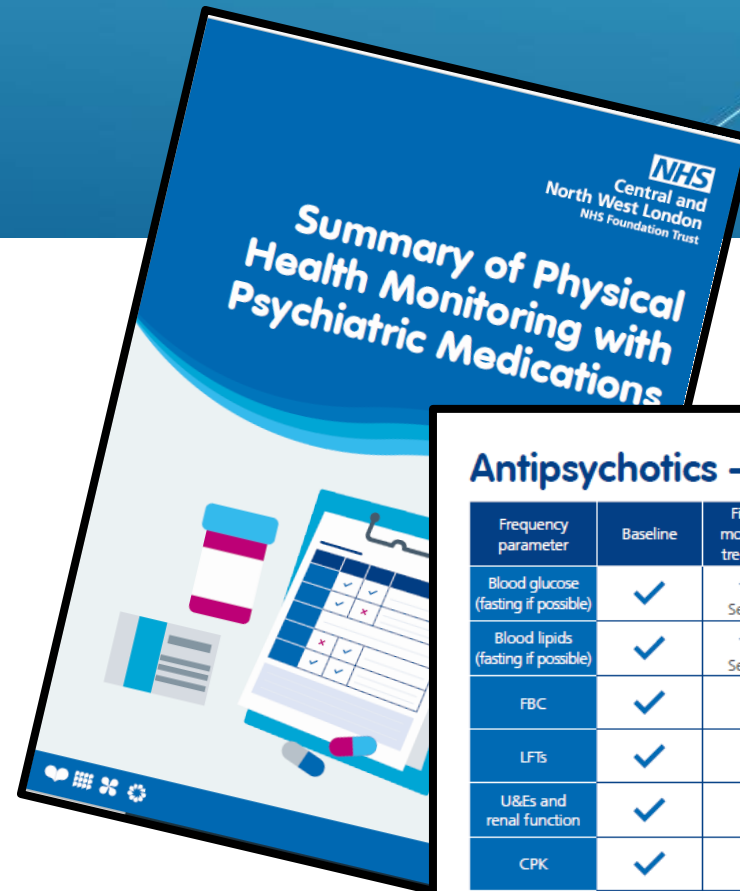
Name: _____ Date: _____ Male/Female _____

1. Rash
2. Difficulty staying awake during the day
3. Runny nose
4. Increased dreaming

	Not at all	Very little	A little	Quite a lot	Very much
1. Rash					
2. Difficulty staying awake during the day					
3. Runny nose					
4. Increased dreaming					

Sharing Good Practice

- Trust Physical Health Strategy
- PH nurses on each ward
- PH Consultant Lead
- Coproduction
- Implemented Point of care testing & physical health monitoring within clozapine clinics
- Developed physical health monitoring booklets
- Data analytics tool Tableau®
- Hand held devices



Antipsychotics – typical and atypical

Frequency parameter	Baseline	First six months of treatment	Annual check-up	Comments
Blood glucose (fasting if possible)	✓	✓ See text	✓	Increase frequency if evidence of elevated levels.
Blood lipids (fasting if possible)	✓	✓ See text	✓	Increase frequency if evidence of elevated levels.
FBC	✓	✗	✓	Repeat FBC if there are signs and symptoms of a blood dyscrasia.
LFTs	✓	✗	✓	Repeat LFTs if there are signs of liver toxicity.
U&Es and renal function	✓	✗	✓	
CPK	✓	✗	✗	Repeat if there are signs and symptoms of NMS.
TFIS	Baseline and annual check-up only required for patients with BPAD and six monthly for rapid-cycling BPAD. Quetiapine is associated with small (clinically insignificant) decreases in thyroid hormones so annual monitoring may be advisable.			
Prolactin	✓	Consider repeating level six – 12 months after initiation. Amisulpride, Risperidone and the Typical Antipsychotics are associated with hyperprolactinaemia. Repeat if there are signs of raised prolactin – refer to 'CNWL Hyperprolactinaemia Guideline'.		
ECG	✓	Where possible offer all patients an annual ECG, especially where other risk factors exist. Baseline ECG for all patients especially if there are specific CV risk factors e.g. high BP. During therapy the need for ECG monitoring should be assessed on an individual patient basis.		
BP and pulse	✓	See comments	✓	Monitor BP during titration if there are risk factors for postural hypotension for example, in older adults.
Weight and BMI	✓	✓ See text	✓	
Smoking status	✓	✓	✓	
Side effects	✓	✓	✓	

Thanks for listening!
Any questions?



Breakout Session

Patient X is a 26-year-old Caucasian male who suffers from Paranoid Schizophrenia since 2019. Following a hospital admission, Patient X was stabilised on **Olanzapine 20mg OD** with good effect and discharged back to the community. He has been stable on the medication and has not required further hospital admissions. He is compliant with his psychotropic medication and engages well with his community mental health team.

You are seeing Patient X in your outpatient clinic. You are aware that NHS England recommends that patients suffering from serious mental illnesses should be offered a comprehensive cardiometabolic risk screen to prevent premature mortality.

What investigations would you request to complete a comprehensive cardiometabolic screen for Patient X?

Breakout Session

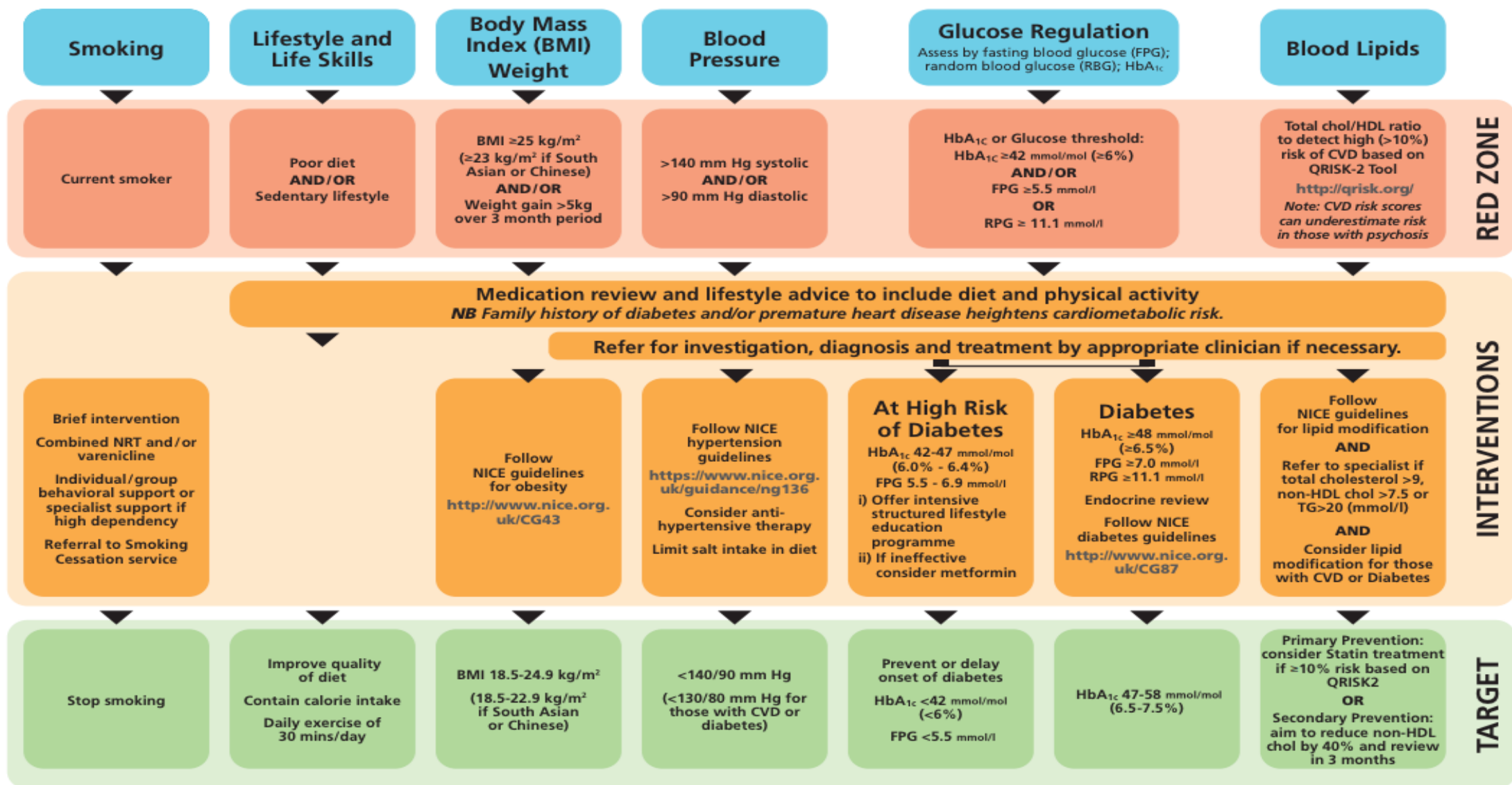
The results of patient X's cardiometabolic screen are as follows :

BMI	27.0
Blood Pressure	145/96
HbA1c	51
Blood Cholesterol	Within normal limits
Smoking Status	Smokes 15 cigarettes a day
QRisk 3	3.3%

- 1. Using the Lester Tool (next slide) as a guide, what interventions could you offer to Patient X to improve his cardiometabolic health?**
- 2. What does a QRisk3 of 3.3% imply?**

Positive Cardiometabolic Health Resource

An **intervention framework** for people experiencing **psychosis** and **schizophrenia**



About you

Age (25-84): Sex: Male FemaleEthnicity:

UK postcode: leave blank if unknown

Postcode:

Clinical information

Smoking status: Diabetes status: Angina or heart attack in a 1st degree relative < 60? Chronic kidney disease (stage 3, 4 or 5)? Atrial fibrillation? On blood pressure treatment? Do you have migraines? Rheumatoid arthritis? Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)?

Severe mental illness?

(this includes schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and moderate/severe depression) On atypical antipsychotic medication? Are you on regular steroid tablets? A diagnosis of or treatment for erectile dysfunction?

Leave blank if unknown

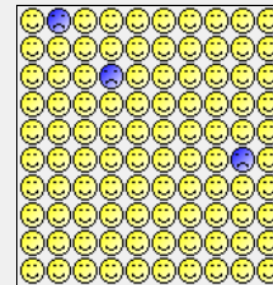
Cholesterol/HDL ratio: Systolic blood pressure (mmHg): Standard deviation of at least two most recent systolic blood pressure readings (mmHg): Body mass index:

Your results

Your risk of having a heart attack or stroke within the next 10 years is:

3.3%

In other words, in a crowd of 100 people with the same risk factors as you, 3 are likely to have a heart attack or stroke within the next 10 years.



**Risk of
a heart attack or stroke**

Your score has been calculated using estimated data, as some information was left blank.

Your body mass index was estimated as 28.3 kg/m².

How does your 10-year score compare?

Your score

Your 10-year QRISK [®] 3 score	3.3%
The score of a healthy person with the same age, sex, and ethnicity*	0.1%
Relative risk**	30.7
Your QRISK [®] 3 Healthy Heart Age***	49

* This is the score of a healthy person of your age, sex and ethnic group, i.e. with no adverse clinical indicators and a cholesterol ratio of 4.0, a stable systolic blood pressure of 125, and BMI of 25.

** Your relative risk is your risk divided by the healthy person's risk.

*** Your QRISK[®]3 Healthy Heart Age is the age at which a healthy person of your sex and ethnicity has your 10-year QRISK[®]3 score.