

What is the problem?

29% of prescribing in the UK can be described as **potentially inappropriate**.

This equates to over **£1bn** of the £15.5bn prescribing budget

Increased NHS service use due to adverse drug reactions and preventable medication related hospitalisations.

What is deprescribing?

The systematic process of identifying and discontinuing drugs in instances in which existing or potential harms outweigh existing or potential benefits within the context of a patient's care goals, current level of functioning, life expectancy, values and preferences.

Despite the potential for harm and the costs associated with inappropriate prescribing, evidence indicates GPs **do not always discontinue** medication or taper doses.

Appropriate deprescribing

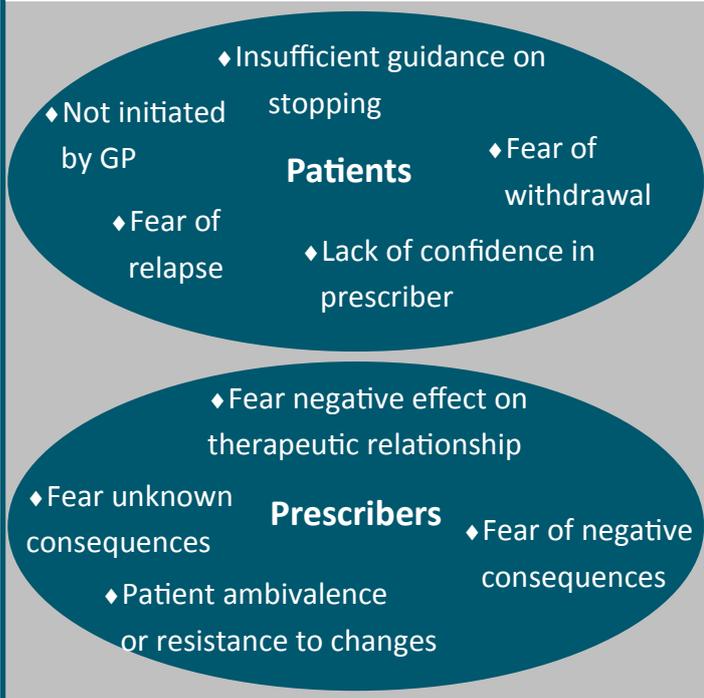
- ◆ Equally important as initiating medication
- ◆ Easy access for GPs to guidance during consultations
- ◆ Prescribing incentives/quality schemes should not counter the desire to deprescribe.

Opportunity for research

We are applying to the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) for funds to:

- ◆ Develop a deprescribing intervention (guidance) for primary care based on barriers and enablers
- ◆ Test effectiveness with over 2000 patients.

Patient and prescriber **barriers** to deprescribing



Patient and prescriber **enablers** to deprescribing

