

Medication Overload: America's Other Drug Problem.

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Brownlee S; Garber J. Brookline, MA: Lown Institute; 2019.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/medication-overload-americas-other-drug-problem>

[Overprescribing](#) is a common problem that contributes to patient harm. This report examines financial, clinical, and societal trends of medication overuse and [inappropriate polypharmacy](#) in older Americans. A culture of prescribing, deficits in information and knowledge, and fragmented care contribute to the problem. The report provides interventions to improve the safety of prescribing, including developing [deprescribing guidelines](#), raising awareness among providers and patients about medication overload, and implementing team-based care models.