



February 2018

Greetings!

Here's a recap of recent blog posts and other news.

Do you think you or someone you love are on too many meds?

Did you know that reducing your medication burden may be the single best thing you can do to improve your quality of life?

Adverse drug events are now a leading cause of hospitalization, disability, and death, all at great human and financial cost. Seniors are particularly vulnerable, as aging affects our ability to process medications and our resistance to adverse effects. Seniors are likely to be on multiple medications for various chronic conditions, putting them most at risk. More than 40% of US adults age 65 and over take five or more prescription medications.

### **Introducing TaperMD**

[TaperMD](#) is a revolutionary solution to the problems of managing multiple medications in older adults. **Developed with McMaster University**, we built it to help patients, doctors, and pharmacists work as a team to address the serious problems of polypharmacy and drug side effects, and to fit in with normal consultation processes and flow. It is currently in clinical trials in Canada and Australia.

### **Call for Beta testers**

We are looking for Beta testers -- with an initial focus on North

America (but please apply if you are in another country so we can determine which markets to work with next): [TaperMD.com/beta-trial](https://TaperMD.com/beta-trial).

There are a limited number of Beta spots available. We hope to engage with testers in the following groups to improve TaperMD for each group:

1. Primary care physicians and nurse practitioners.
2. Geriatricians.
3. Pharmacists.
4. Hospitals.
5. Long-term care facilities.
6. Payers (government, insurance companies, corporations).
7. Pharmacy chains.
8. Patient advocate groups.

There will be a nominal fee to participate in the Beta test, plus fees for any customization or specialized training.

### **Download our Pause and Monitor white paper**

If you are a patient who is concerned about your medication burden, let your doctor know about TaperMD and the white paper, which can be downloaded at [TaperMD.com/learn-more](https://TaperMD.com/learn-more).

Thank you for your support.

Your feedback, as always, is greatly appreciated.



Dee Mangin, MD

PS. You can follow RxISK on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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## [Psychotropic Drug Dependence in Scotland: Petition PE01651](#)

Email from Marion Brown PE01651 - Prescribed drug dependence and withdrawal I wanted to let you know that our Scottish petition seems to be gathering a very remarkable and powerful collection of published 'evidence' of patient experiences especially - and from all over the world! The petitions clerks are being kept busy with 'processing' these [...]...»

## [Bladder and Bowel Problems After Antidepressants](#)

In addition to sexual problems such as post-SSRI sexual dysfunction (PSSD) and persistent genital arousal disorder (PGAD), a range of other urological problems linked to antidepressants are increasingly coming into view, and can sometimes be long-lasting after the drugs are stopped. They are likely to be significantly more common than is generally thought, and it's [...]...»



## David Healy's Blog

### [Quinism Foundation](#)

We have run previous posts on mefloquine (Lariam) - the The Strange History of Lariam and Lariam Hell and quinoline anti-microbial, as well as on a different group of anti-microbials - the fluoroquinolones - but a lot of their problems overlap. More to the point, those with Mefloquine problems have faced difficulties from Roche that [...]...»

### [Reds Under the Bed: the New McCarthyism](#)

Its an Irish custom to offer one for the road. Having finished the trilogy on Outsourcing Fascism, here's one for the road. A little over two years ago I wrote two posts - Little Red Riding Hood and Little Red Stethoscope that give me pleasure today - but also make me worry about [...]...»

## Celebrity Science

This is part three in a sequence of posts that began with Outsourcing Fascism and continued last week with Not Our Nomination. Our Nomination The RxISK nomination for the SAS JM Prize is Lisa Rosenbaum from the Brigham and Women's hospital in Boston. Dr Rosenbaum has courageously stood up for the mainstream of [...]...»

## Not the 2018 Sense about Science JM Prize Nominee

This post continues from Outsourcing Fascism. For more on James Coyne, see Rolf Harris to James Coyne. Coyne was the perfect candidate for a Sense about Science JM Prize until a few years ago. He was the first to wade in and rubbish anyone who might have thought there was something wrong with [...]...»

**R<sub>x</sub>isk**  
MAKING MEDICINES  
SAFER FOR ALL OF US

## Could it be my meds?

Free resources to help you assess the connection between a drug and a side effect.

