

## **Help with primary care network Directed Enhanced Service medicine reviews: polypharmacy comparators**

The [NHS BSA Polypharmacy Prescribing Comparators](#) can help primary care networks (PCNs) with the [Structured Medication and Medicines Optimisation Service Specification](#).

Developed by a group of GPs and pharmacists in Wessex, working with Wessex AHSN and NHS BSA analysts, [the award-winning](#) comparators help practices and PCNs prioritise which of their patients may be at greatest risk of harm from problematic polypharmacy.

[The comparators](#) show practices and PCNs how many patients they have on eight or more, 10 or more, 15 or more, and 20 or more, medicines. They also identify patients taking a combination of medicines known to increase risk of harm. [Find out much more and watch a short video.](#)

## **Changes to the Human Medicines Regulations**

The Government response on changes to the Human Medicines Regulations to support the roll out of COVID-19 and flu vaccines [has been published](#).

Amendments are likely to be made to the Human Medicines Regulations, which:

- strengthen existing regulations allowing for the temporary licensing of medicines and vaccines on an exceptional basis, pending grant of a full licence;
- extends immunity from civil liability to companies producing the vaccine;
- allows a wider range of trained personnel to administer these vaccines;
- enables promotion of COVID-19 vaccine and treatments as part of national campaigns and provides some short-term exemptions to the need for a wholesaler dealers license to transfer vaccines under NHS or armed services authorised arrangements.