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1. Abstracts Structure: Abstracts with bulleted or numbered list, incomplete sentences, incorrect symbols, excessive use of jargon, nonstandard formatting and punctuation may be considered unsuitable for publication. Ensure that you follow the following formatting requirements, and complete evaluations and revisions prior to submission:

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INTRODUCTION, METHODS, RESULTS, CONCLUSIONS, KEYWORDS and DISCLOSURE.

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Abstract Sample Page

Safe withdrawal of anti-hypertensive medication in older people with dementia: a review of the literature

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Background: There is uncertainty about the value of anti-hypertensive therapy for individuals with dementia [1]. Any study examining the impact of withdrawing anti-hypertensives in people with dementia needs to be based on the best available evidence.

Methods: We undertook a mapping review (or 'review of reviews'); a comprehensive search strategy was applied to identify published reviews that reported upon anti-hypertensive withdrawal regimes in people aged 65 or older.

Results: 4/182 identified papers were eligible for inclusion; few involved people with dementia. The results suggest 20–40% of older people could successfully withdraw from anti-hypertensive therapy at up to one year. There was little evidence to guide withdrawal by individual drug class. Fortnightly reductions in medication were reported, and in most participants any return to hypertension was gradual. Serious adverse events were reported in 2.3% of participants at one year.

Conclusion: No evidence based withdrawal protocol was identified for use in an older adult population, in particular for those with dementia. Although there was evidence that 20–40% of people could safely withdraw anti-hypertensives. Any future withdrawal protocol should be underpinned by these findings but would need to be supplemented by national best practice guidance, such as NICE hypertension guidelines [2] or the British National Formulary [3], and would need to be rigorously tested for feasibility and safety.

Clinical Trial Registry: NCT01238757; <https://clinicaltrials.gov>.

Data Deposition: <https://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.3142327.v2>. S

Disclosure: JJGs employer received a grant from Pharmatown. The authors declared no competing interests.

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