Prescribing in the Elderly

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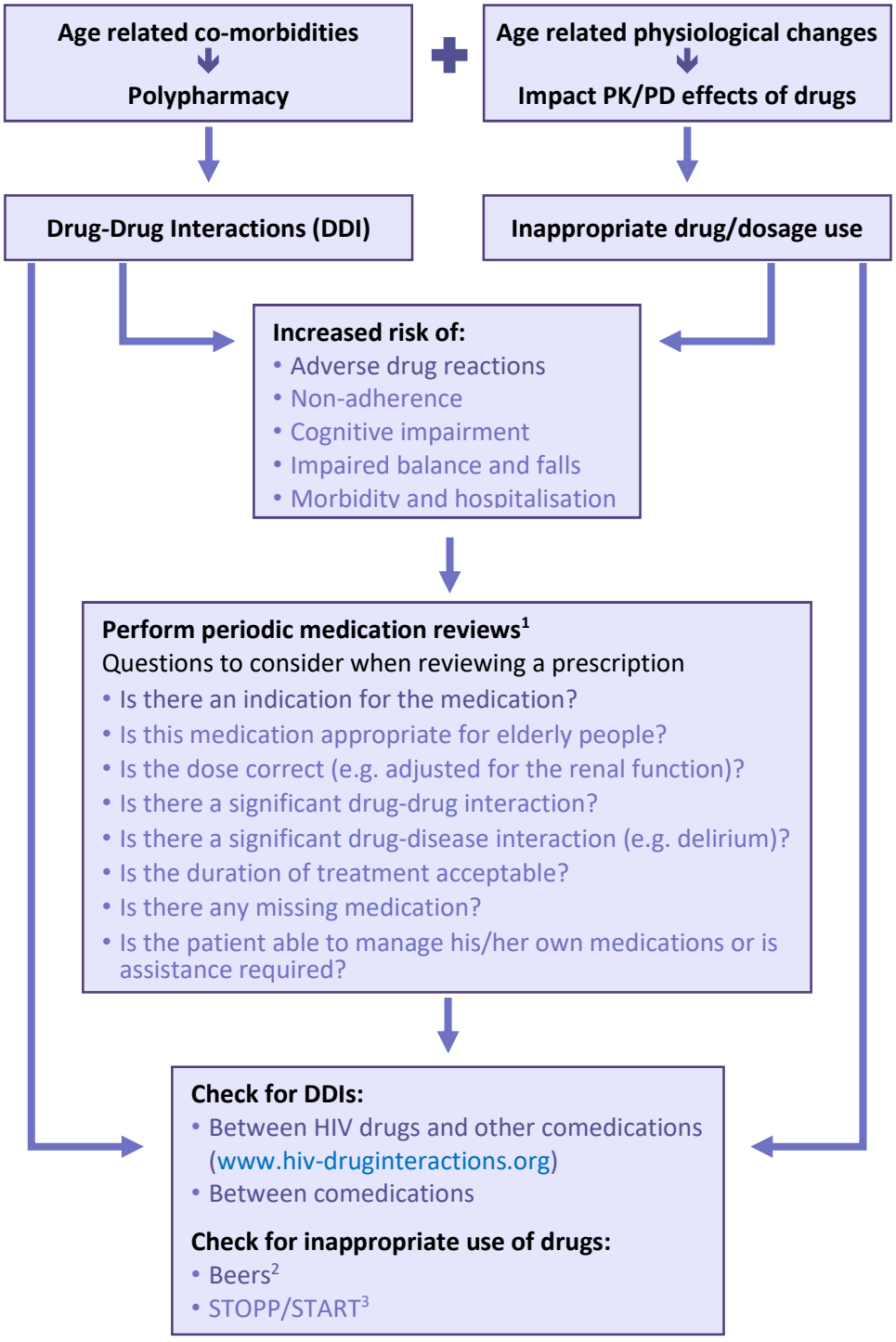

*The **Beers** and **STOPP** criteria are tools established by experts in geriatric pharmacotherapy to detect and reduce the burden of inappropriate prescribing in elderly. Inappropriate medicines include:*

- *Those which in elderly persons with certain diseases can lead to drug-disease interactions.*
- *Those associated with a higher risk of adverse drug reactions in the elderly.*
- *Those that predictably increase the risk of falls in the elderly.*
- *Those to be avoided in case of organ dysfunction.*

*The **START** criteria consist of evidence-based indicators of potential prescribing omission in elderly with specific medical conditions.*

References

1. Reconsidering medication appropriateness for patients late in life. Holmes HM et al. *Arch Intern Med*, 2006, 166(6): 605-9
2. American Geriatrics Society 2015 Updated Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults. American Geriatrics Society 2015 Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel. *J Am Geriatr Soc*, 2015, 63(11):2227-46
3. STOPP/START criteria for potentially inappropriate prescribing in older people: version 2. O'Mahony D et al. *Age Aging*, 2015, 44(2):213-8.

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