



Methotrexate

A novel approach to safer use of
toxic medication

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Quality improvement award

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Methotrexate;

We can do better

- Background
- Method
- Outcomes
- ALERT card

11,000 patients on Methotrexate
4 times more adverse incidents vs UK¹





Methotrexate; We can do better

Multi practice audit

“Compliance with 2012 IMB guidelines”

- Prescribing 0% ----- 65%
- Blood tests 21%-----95%
- Immunosuppression 0%-----94%
- “Pop up alerts” 7%-----30%
- Flu Vaccine 63%-----85%

Excessive blood testing curtailed !!



Ask yourself one question:
“ Do I feel lucky?”



Clint Eastwood “Dirty Harry” 1971



Methotrexate; We can do better

- Multi-practice audit
- 169 GPs
- Secondary care (24 consultants)
- 100 pharmacists
- Patient survey *“It explains everything”*
- I.T. “Smart use existing I.T.”
- Pharma
- IMB



ALERT

This patient is currently on
IMMUNO SUPPRESSING
DRUG TREATMENT.

If you feel unwell, or have a fever, sore throat, easy bruising, bleeding, mouth ulcers, shivering see a doctor **urgently** & request an urgent blood test.

Consider **NEUTROPENIC SEPSIS**
(See overleaf for details)