



Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Guidelines for Drug Monitoring in Elderly Residents of Long-Term Care Facilities

Online-only content for "Monitoring Medication Use in Older Adults," by Sheila L. Molony, PhD, RN, GNP-BC, in the *American Journal of Nursing*, January 2009, p. 68-78.

Drug	Monitoring needed
Acetaminophen (> 4 g/day)	Liver function
Aminoglycosides	Serum creatinine
Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	Potassium
Antidiabetic agents	Blood glucose
Antiepileptics, older	Drug level
Antipsychotics	Adverse extrapyramidal effects
Appetite stimulants	Weight, appetite
Digoxin	Serum creatinine
Diuretics	Potassium
Erythropoiesis stimulants	Blood pressure, iron, ferritin, complete blood count
Fibrates	Liver function, complete blood count
Iron	Iron, ferritin, complete blood count
Lithium	Drug level
Niacin	Blood glucose, liver function
Statins	Liver function
Theophylline	Drug level
Thyroid hormone replacement	Thyroid function
Warfarin	Prothrombin time, international normalized ratio

Adapted with permission from Aspinall S, et al. *Am J Geriatr Pharmacother* 2007;5(1):75-84.