

Article title: Prevalence and risk factors for psychotropic medication use in older adults in Australia: a nationwide, data linkage study

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Supplementary Table 1: Characteristics of variables used.

Variable	Source	Type	Value/Units
Age	PBS	Numeric	Year
Sex	PBS	Categorical	Female/Male
Medications	PBS	Nominal	Medication ATC codes
Registered marital status	2021 Census	Categorical	Married/Never married/Divorced/ Separated/Widowed or Unknown
Aboriginality	2021 Census	Categorical	Non-Indigenous/Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people/Unknown
Country of birth	2021 Census	Nominal	Australia/Overseas/Unknown
Language spoken at home	2021 Census	Nominal	English/Other/Unknown
Self-reported health condition*	2021 Census	Categorical	Yes/No/Unknown for each health conditions included in 2021 Census.
Level of highest educational attainment	2021 Census	Categorical	Years 9 and below/Years 10 and above/ Certificate I-IV and Diploma/Bachelor and above/Unknown
Remoteness [#]	2021 Census	Categorical	Major cities/Inner regional/Outer regional/Remote/very remote/Unknown
Needs assistance with core activities	2021 Census	Categorical	No/Yes/Unknown
Living condition	2021 Census	Categorical	Living alone in a private dwelling/Living with other people in a private dwelling/ Living in a non-private dwelling [^] /Other

Living status	2021 Census	Categorical	Occupied private dwelling/ Non-private dwelling
Area-level disadvantage quintiles ^{^^}	2021 Census	Continuous	Index scores, scores were then further categorized into 5 levels and analyzed as a categorical variable in the present study: Q1 (Most disadvantaged) to Q5 (Most advantaged)
*Selected health conditions include arthritis, asthma, cancer (including remission), diabetes (excluding gestational diabetes), dementia, heart disease (including heart attack or angina), kidney disease, lung condition (including COPD or emphysema), mental health condition (including depression or anxiety), and stroke.			
#Remoteness is based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia Plus - ARIA+ provided by ABS.			
^non-private dwellings are dwellings that provide communal accommodation, which includes a range of different categories, such as nursing home, public and private hospital, hotel, motel, bed and breakfast, prison, and immigration detention center.			
^^Socioeconomic is measured by the Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage, represented as area-level disadvantage quintiles.			

Supplementary table 2: Prevalence of medication use in 2021 (aged 65 years and over by the end of 2021)

Characteristics	Total population*	Age groups*						
		65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95+
	N = 3,850,281	N = 1,077,222	N = 1,003,699	N = 764,622	N = 508,549	N = 302,227	N = 147,827	N = 46,135
Any psychotropic use	1,654,896 (43%)	420,276 (39%)	405,213 (40%)	332,021 (43%)	237,464 (47%)	153,169 (51%)	79,919 (54%)	26,834 (58%)
Any antipsychotic use	102,150 (2.7%)	23,114 (2.1%)	20,891 (2.1%)	18,045 (2.4%)	15,774 (3.1%)	12,839 (4.2%)	8,358 (5.7%)	3,129 (6.8%)
Any antidepressant use	904,150 (23%)	235,373 (22%)	223,431 (22%)	181,050 (24%)	127,421 (25%)	82,213 (27%)	41,740 (28%)	12,922 (28%)
Any benzodiazepine use	460,160 (12%)	102,144 (9.5%)	109,086 (11%)	96,284 (13%)	71,990 (14%)	46,989 (16%)	25,120 (17%)	8,547 (19%)
Any opioid use	831,830 (22%)	206,257 (19%)	199,340 (20%)	164,896 (22%)	120,473 (24%)	80,108 (27%)	44,330 (30%)	16,426 (36%)

Any antiepileptic use	114,434 (3.0%)	28,829 (2.7%)	27,648 (2.8%)	22,967 (3.0%)	16,747 (3.3%)	10,719 (3.5%)	5,669 (3.8%)	1,855 (4.0%)
* n (%)								

Supplementary Table 3. Prevalence of each drug class in people with psychotropic polypharmacy.

People with psychotropic polypharmacy	Total	Age groups*						
	population*	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	Age 95+
	N =	N =	N =	N =	N =	N =	N =	N =
	323,586	72,742	73,373	63,929	49,779	35,458	20,878	7,427
Antidepressants	267,996 (83%)	61,552 (85%)	61,781 (84%)	53,222 (83%)	40,698 (82%)	28,754 (81%)	16,404 (79%)	5,585 (75%)
Opioids	209,729 (65%)	45,423 (62%)	46,303 (63%)	40,942 (64%)	32,817 (66%)	23,992 (68%)	14,709 (70%)	5,543 (75%)
Benzodiazepines and Z-drugs	139,005 (43%)	29,307 (40%)	31,345 (43%)	28,325 (44%)	21,983 (44%)	15,461 (44%)	9,217 (44%)	3,367 (45%)
Antipsychotics	57,847 (18%)	13,849 (19%)	12,499 (17%)	10,384 (16%)	8,610 (17%)	6,735 (19%)	4,266 (20%)	1,504 (20%)
Antiepileptics	49,455 (15%)	12,920 (18%)	11,992 (16%)	9,738 (15%)	7,024 (14%)	4,498 (13%)	2,517 (12%)	766 (10%)

