

What is VIONE?

VIONE is a tool that organizes medications into five categories that guide clinicians to thoughtfully review and consider deprescribing medications that are unsafe, not needed, add more burden than benefit.

V

VITAL, life-saving medications; continue and adjust as needed (e.g., diabetes, heart disease).

I

IMPORTANT for quality of life; continue and consolidate where possible (e.g., pain, constipation)

O

OPTIONAL, no major difference whether continued or not; weigh benefits versus risks (e.g., vitamins, empiric, antibiotics)

N

NOT INDICATED/treatment complete; stop or taper off (e.g. benefits unclear; medication causes more harm than benefit due to observed side effects)

E

EVERY medication has a diagnosis and indication for use that is reassessed and justified



“I thought I was going to have to live the rest of my life in a horrible state! Every provider I went to see just added more and more medicines; but I felt worse with each additional pill! Then you guys came along and started stopping medications one by one, I felt stronger, my sleep was improved, my mental sharpness returned, and I feel so much healthier overall! I now feel better than I have in many years! You guys have given me my life back and new hope for what lies ahead! Thank you so much!”

—Veteran impacted by **VIONE**

For More information

Find more information on the **[VIONE VA Pulse Page](https://www.vapulse.net/groups/vione-an-innovative-deprescribing-approach-to-medication-management)**
<https://www.vapulse.net/groups/vione-an-innovative-deprescribing-approach-to-medication-management>

Please contact your facility VIONE champions or VAVIONE@va.gov for more information.



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



Medication Deprescribing Information for Clinicians and Pharmacists.

Central Arkansas

Veterans Healthcare Administration

Little Rock, Arkansas.



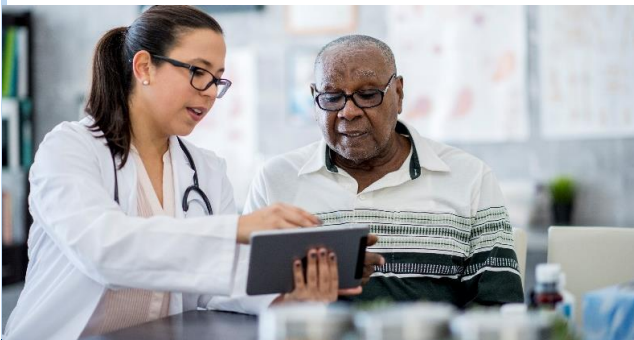
Polypharmacy Challenges

Simultaneous consumption of multiple medications (polypharmacy) is among the top 10 causes of death in the United States, and accounts for 10% or more of hospital admissions.

Patients transferred from acute to long-term care can routinely take more than 15 medications., some of which cause more harm than help them. VIONE is an innovative physician created tool for planned cessation (deprescribing) of medications that are unnecessary, ineffective and inappropriate.

The simultaneous use of multiple pharmaceuticals can lead to dangerous drug interactions and the more medications a person takes, the more likely he or she is taking Potentially Inappropriate Medications (PIM).

VIONE deprescribing approach helps to make shared decisions with patients and families about making medications work for them and not against them. It also helps to make sure that medications used are safe, simple and effective.



**SAFELY REVIEW
MEDICATIONS WITH VIONE**

Only take necessary medications

The VIONE tool helps to



**Decrease
Veterans'
Medications**



**Increase
Freedom and
Quality of Life**



**Decrease
Medication
Errors**



**Decrease Side
Effects from
Medications**



**Decrease Cost
of Medications**



**Decrease ER
and Hospital
Visits**

Veterans and VIONE

VIONE tool was created at Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System to improve patient safety by identifying, decreasing or discontinuing unnecessary, ineffective, and inappropriate medications. Some drugs are dangerous to stop abruptly, and some may need to be replaced with alternatives. It may also be important to continue a drug despite its side effects.

VIONE MEDICATION MANAGEMENT/DECISION MAKING TOOL (PROVIDER VIEW)

- **V**ital-Continue (life saving)
- **I**mportant- Continue/Consolidate
- **O**ptional- Weigh benefits versus risks
- **N**ot indicated/Treatment complete -Stop/Taper
- **E**very medication has an indication- Reassess/Justify

Per Patient Request
VIONE-Optional
VIONE-Dose Decrease
VIONE-No diagnosis
VIONE-Not indicated/Tx complete
VIONE-D/C Alternate Med Prescribed
VIONE-Patient reported no longer taking

Implementation of VIONE in CPRS: Providers and pharmacists select a reason when deprescribing.

The intent of VIONE approach is to encourage engagement of medical providers and patients to actively decrease medications that are not required, and may cause harm and even death.

The VIONE approach is not a substitute for careful clinical consideration, but rather enhances it by prompting attention to deprescribing unnecessary medications while encouraging non-pharmaceutical, whole health approaches. VIONE medication deprescribing approach improves patient safety and quality of life.