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AMDA PARTNERS WITH CONSUMER REPORTS TO RELEASE RESOURCE ON CHOLESTEROL DRUGS FOR PEOPLE OVER 75

Columbia, MD – AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (AMDA), along with Consumer Reports, is proud to announce the release of a new, free consumer resource, “Cholesterol Drugs for People Over 75.” The resource, a two-page downloadable information sheet, explains, “Statins are drugs that lower your cholesterol. But if you are age 75 or older and you haven’t had symptoms of heart disease, statins may be a bad idea.” Reasons statins may be a bad idea for those over 75 are listed and explained, and include the risks and cost of statins, among others. Steps to help prevent heart disease are also included.

The consumer information sheet is part of AMDA’s involvement in the ABIM Foundation’s Choosing Wisely campaign. Last September, AMDA released a list of five tests or procedures in post-acute and long-term care that may be unnecessary and could even cause harm. The goal of the Choosing Wisely campaign is to encourage conversations between physicians, patients, and other health care stakeholders. Consumer Reports has joined the Choosing Wisely campaign to provide resources to help consumers and physicians engage in these important conversations. AMDA’s consumer information sheet is in reference to the Choosing Wisely list item “Don’t routinely prescribe lipid-lowering medications in individuals with a limited life expectancy.”

Consumer Reports works with 40 national and regional partners to help disseminate the content. To date, they have created over 100 consumer-friendly Choosing Wisely resources. AMDA’s resource will soon also be available in Spanish.

“This helpful consumer information sheet is available to anyone,” said AMDA Executive Director Christopher E. Laxton, CAE. “We encourage any health care provider who treats the elderly to make this resource known and easily accessible to their patients. We’re proud to partner with Consumer Reports to provide consumers with a tool to help with tough health care decisions, and we look forward to continuing to work with Consumer Reports to produce more consumer-friendly resources.”

View the full catalog of Choosing Wisely consumer tools on the Consumer Reports website here. View AMDA’s Choosing Wisely list and webpage here.

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AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine is the national professional association of medical directors, attending physicians, and other professionals practicing post-acute and long-term care medicine and committed to the continuous improvement of patient care. AMDA provides education, advocacy, information, and professional development to enable its members to deliver quality post-acute and long-term care.