Patient- professional joint decision making

1. Does the system ensure patients receive the most clinically and cost-effective treatments and, if not, how can this be improved?
   Systems are in place to review this and general trust in this system is moderately high. Increased transparency of these decisions for patients and public would aid this trust.

2. Does the NHS in Scotland achieve the most value from the money spent on medicines and, if not, how can this be improved?
   Increased patient empowerment: improve joint decision making processes, provide clinicians the time and tools to do this routinely. Invest in workable patient decision aids and keep these up to date. This should also include no action and non medicine action options. This might require a different direction in research.

3. In what ways can the system be made more efficient?
   Educate patients about cost. Can this be displayed somewhere? Whole population education re cost and waste would be useful. Many patients do not value what they get at no cost to themselves. Also allow pharmacies to routinely substitute the cheapest available product.

4. How can the medicines budget be controlled while maintaining clinical and cost effectiveness?
   Starting point would be to have a realistic rather than a historic one to start with. Also have honest conversations with public about what NHS can afford.

I hope this is helpful.

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