Approximately 750,000 people in the UK live with dementia. It is estimated around 25 per cent of these people are currently being prescribed antipsychotic medication designed to treat conditions such as schizophrenia. In some cases antipsychotic drugs are the right treatment option but they are often prescribed inappropriately to people with dementia.

The use of antipsychotic medication can lead to serious side affects for people with dementia and so the government has made a commitment to reduce the inappropriate prescribing of antipsychotic medication.

The National Dementia and Antipsychotic Prescribing Audit collects information from GP practices on the prescribing of antipsychotic drugs for people with dementia.

The audit aims to establish a national picture of prescribing antipsychotic medication for people with dementia, to help identify where services can be improved.

To find out more, please read the accompanying leaflet or see the NHS Information Centre website: www.ic.nhs.uk/dementiaaudit

For information on antipsychotic medication for people with dementia please visit the Alzheimer’s Society website: www.alzheimers.org.uk/antipsychotics