How can health policy impact medication use in older adults?

Toni Coe, PharmD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy
College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

- Over half of community-dwelling older adults with Medicare prescription drug coverage take five or more concurrent medications (polypharmacy).
- In addition to polypharmacy, over one-third of older adults are prescribed a potentially inappropriate medication and are at high risk for medication-related problems, such as nonadherence, drug-drug interactions, or drug-disease interactions.
- This talk will examine policies and strategies to improve medication use quality in older adults across care settings and after transitions of care, such as Medicare Part D Medication Therapy Management and care transition programs including pharmacist-provided medication reviews.