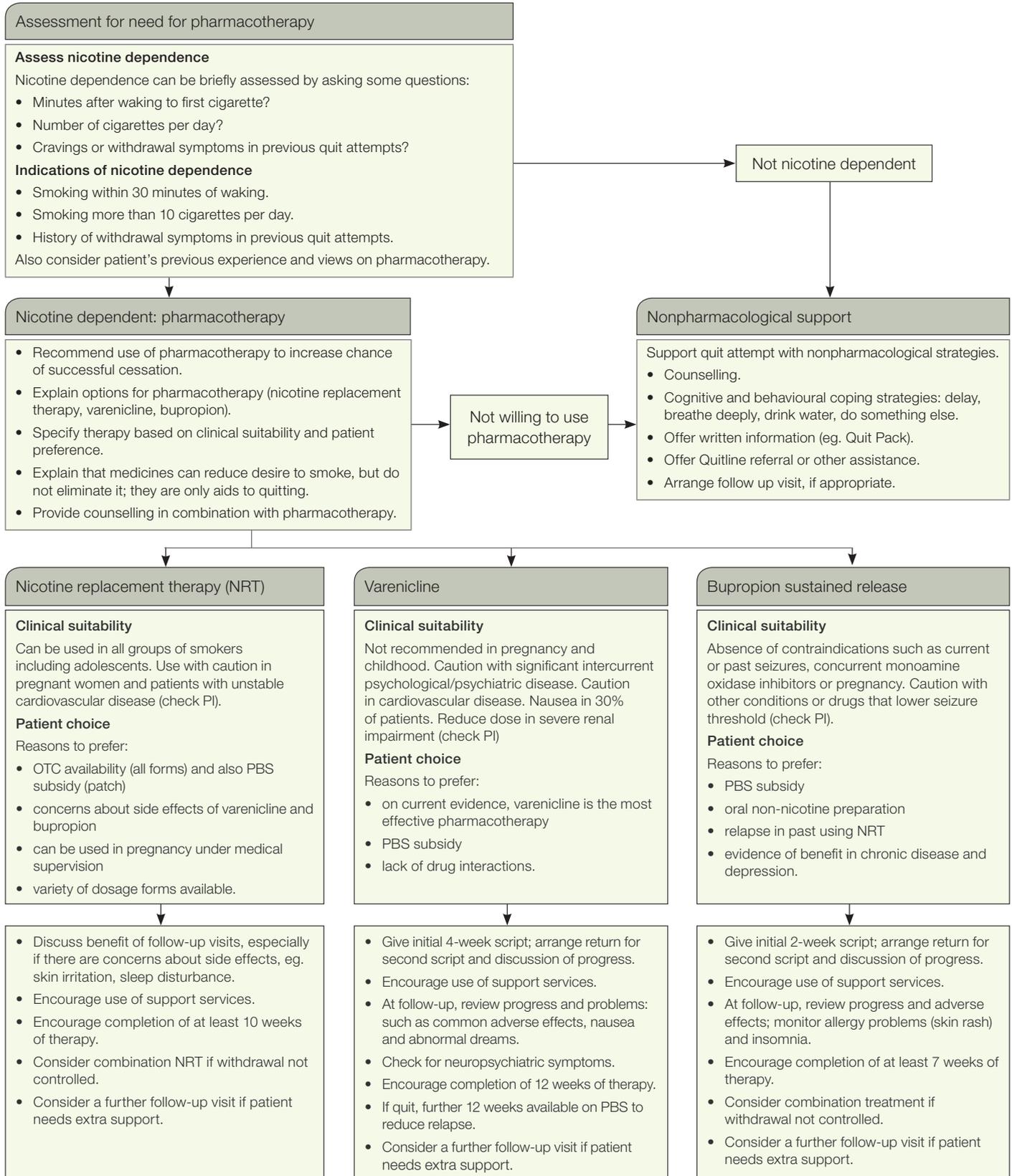




## Treatment algorithm



## Pharmacotherapy in special populations

Special group	Varenicline	Bupropion	Nicotine replacement therapy (NRT)
Pregnant and lactating women	ND	ND	√ <sup>a</sup>
Children and adolescents (12–18 years)	ND	ND	√
<b>People with smoking-related diseases</b>			
– Cardiovascular disease	√ <sup>b</sup>	√	√ <sup>c</sup>
– Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	√	√	√
– Diabetes	ND	ND	√ <sup>d</sup>
– Severe renal impairment	√ <sup>e</sup>	√ <sup>e</sup>	√
– Moderate to severe hepatic impairment	√	√ <sup>e</sup>	√
<b>People with mental illness</b>			
– Depression	√ <sup>f</sup>	√	√
– Schizophrenia	√ <sup>f</sup>	√	√
<b>People with substance use disorders</b>			
	√ <sup>g</sup>	√ <sup>g</sup>	√
<b>Contraindications</b>			
	Yes <sup>h</sup>	Yes <sup>h,i</sup>	Yes <sup>h</sup>

Note: Quitting smoking can alter the metabolism of a number of medications (see p 68, Appendix 3 in the Guide).

√: Suitable.

X: Not to be used.

ND: Lack of safety data.

<sup>a</sup> There is currently insufficient evidence to determine whether or not NRT is effective or safe when used in pregnancy for smoking cessation. Intermittent dosing products are preferable with monitoring by a suitably qualified health professional.

<sup>b</sup> Caution is advised in patients with cardiovascular disease. There is some concern about the possible increase in risk of cardiovascular events when varenicline is used. While a recent systematic review is reassuring (Prochaska et al BMJ 2012: 344:e2856 doi, May 2012), a more comprehensive FDA-instigated review is underway.

<sup>c</sup> Caution is advised for people in hospital for acute cardiovascular events such as myocardial infarction,

unstable or progressive angina, severe cardiac arrhythmias or acute-phase stroke. NRT can be used under medical supervision, where the clinician should balance risk of using nicotine replacement against risk of smoking.

<sup>d</sup> Closely monitor blood sugar levels as insulin or other medication requirements may change.

<sup>e</sup> Dosing adjustment required.

<sup>f</sup> Close follow-up required. Check for any unusual or serious changes in mood or behaviour at the 2-to 3-week follow-up visit and after treatment is completed. Careful monitoring for mood changes, depression, behaviour disturbance and suicidal thoughts is required.

<sup>g</sup> Caution with alcohol abuse.

<sup>h</sup> Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients.

<sup>i</sup> Contraindications – seizures, anorexia, bulimia, CNS tumours, MAOI treatment within 14 days.