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Drug References on Library Web Site

The Drug Information link on the main library website will bring up a list of subscription and excellent free drug resources. These resources include a variety of types of information including monographs and articles, as well as tools to be used at the point of care, such as drug interaction checkers, dosage calculators, pill ID tools, and patient education handouts on drugs.

Off Campus Access to the Library Resources

If you click on a subscription resource from off-campus you will be prompted to log in to the remote access. You log in with your FSU-ID.

If you do not know your FSU UserID and Password, contact the regional campus ET staff: or the Medical Library

- Orlando: Claudin Pierre-Louis (407) 835-4103
- Pensacola: Chris Clark (850) 494-5939 x125
- Tallahassee: TBD (850) 645-1257
- Sarasota: Chip Orth (941) 316-8120 ext. 311
- Daytona: Bijan Fallahi (386) 252-0601
- Ft. Pierce: Marcus Colina (772) 464-0034 Ex:503

or on main campus, the Medical Library (850) 644-3883 for help.
Epocrates mobile — Drug Information

When you start Epocrates, there is a logo page with search box at the top. Tap the Drugs icon (Figure 1) The list of Drug Classes will come up with a Search Drugs box at the top. (Figure 2) Type in the first few letters of the drug you want to look up in the search box. (Figure 3) Pick the one you want from the list by tapping on it.

Let's look at Prozac. When the drug comes up, it shows you an index page of the sections of the monograph (Figure 4). Scroll down with your finger to find what you need (Figure 5). If you choose Manufacturing/Pricing, this is what you will see (Figure 6). Explore each of these categories and become familiar with the type of information to be found there.

Add To Favorites

When you see the symbol at left at the top of the screen, you can tap it to add the topic to your favorites, which can then be accessed from the Favorites icon (right).
Epocrates mobile—continued

Alt Meds and OTC — Epocrates also contains drug information on a limited number of Alternative Medicines and OTC medications. The Alt Meds and OTC meds are in the Drugs index with an icon that identifies them as OTC or ALT. (Figure 7) The categories for Alt Meds (Figure 8) and for OTC medications (Figure 9) are different from the prescription drug categories.

**Drug Monographs**

**Figure 7**

**Figure 8**

**Figure 9**

**Epocrates Dosage Calculator**

For pediatric and IV drug, Epocrates has a built-in dosage calculator. When a drug dosage is reported in mg/kg/d, there will be a link to a calculator below the indication. Tap the link, and the dosage calculator will come up. Enter the dose amount, patient’s weight and the frequency of dosing, then tap Results. If liquid is available, you can also complete the strength. The amount per dose pops up as you type in the amounts.
Drug Monographs

Epocrates ONLINE—Drug and Alt Med Information

Notice that Drugs and Alt Meds are combined. Under the Drugs tab, type the first few letters of the desired drug in the Search box. As you type, Epocrates narrows the list down until the drug you want appears. Click the drug you want. Sometimes, a pick-list of brands and generic forms appears for you to select from. Once the monograph appears on the drug you desire, the various sections of the monograph can be selected by a mouse click, including Adult Dosing, Pediatric dosing, Contraindications and so forth. Notice that dosages are presented by indication. Some off-label uses are also provided and indicated by an asterisk.

Alternative Meds
Type in the first few letters of the desired Alt Med, select the med from the list, then the monograph appears. The categories for Alt Meds are different from the ones for prescription drugs.
Facts and Comparisons web resource is a very rich source of drug, alternative medicine and OTC information used extensively by pharmacists. The monographs are very detailed. Under **Search**, type in the drug, alt med or OTC and hit Go. The Facts and Comparisons monograph pops up with a navigation pane at left.

The main F&C monograph contain nice tables that compare forms, adverse reactions, etc.

Select **Loop Diuretics**, which is the class monograph, to see the monograph for the class of drugs that includes this drug. These have nice comparison tables of all the drugs in this class.
PEPID Drug References

PEPID contains prescription drugs, alternative medicines, and over the counter medications in the CRC Platinum Suite section. Search for the drug you want to look up in the Search box and tap the term that comes up. The monograph is for the generic form of that drug. The Trade Names section contains a list of all the Brand names containing this medication.

The contents of PEPID’s monographs is somewhat more detailed than Epocrates’. One example of this is the lists of Adverse Reactions which contain the percentage of people reporting the reaction. There is no list of drug interactions. However, you are directed to the interaction tool. Tapping the link to the Interaction tool puts the current drug in the list of drugs in the tool. There is also overdose and cost information. The kinetics/dynamics section contains great deal of pharmacology information.

On the App, the subsections list pull out from the left by tapping the top left of the screen. The list of subsections also scrolls. However, the monograph is one long screen which can also be scrolled.

All doses are hyperlinked to a dosage calculator.

EPID includes an IV Compatibility Tool and a Pill Identifier Tool.
Dynamed Plus Drug Monographs

Dynamed Plus contains the Micromedex drug monographs as well as their own which are evidence-based reviews of the literature, with levels of evidence provided. These are linked to disease content, so that when you encounter a drug in a disease topic, it will link to the monograph on that drug. The level of detail in each monograph is comparable to that in Facts and Comparisons including nice comparison tables. References are linked to Pubmed where the FSU button will take you to the original article.

Dynamed Plus is available either online or in a mobile app. The website is mobile friendly when viewed on a smartphone.
Natural Medicines

Natural Medicines brings the evidence for or against the effectiveness of alternative and complementary therapies. In addition to monographs on many more natural medicines than any of our other resources, they provide excellent ways of approaching these therapies. There is a drug interaction tool which will break down OTC and alt meds into their components, then run the interaction with prescription medicines. Figure 1 demonstrates the interaction between Aspirin and Airborne run on the iPhone Natural Medicines App.

The Effectiveness Checker allows you to look up a disease or condition; then tells you the level of effectiveness of the various natural products and alternative therapies available for the disease or condition in question. Such as Depression in Figure 2.

**Figure 1**

**Effectiveness Checker**

**Figure 2**

**Likely Effective**

**Lithium**

Depression

Taking lithium orally appears to be effective in some patients with major depression (15).

**SAMe**

Depression

Taking SAMe orally significantly improves symptoms of major depression. Several clinical studies show that taking SAMe is more effective than placebo and appears to be as effective as tricyclic antidepressants in trials lasting up to 42 days (2082,2083,5189,5190,5192,5195,5196,5231,9108,9109) (17490,20217,20218,20222,20223,20226,20467). However, some of these studies are limited by small numbers of patients, inconsistent diagnostic criteria, short treatment periods, and potentially flawed study designs (3562,5189,5231,9108).

**Under Databases** are excellent monographs on Food, Herbs & Supplements, Health & Wellness, Sports Medicine, Comparative Effectiveness, Manufacturers, Commercial Products and Medical Conditions. These are new additions to the resource after the merger with another popular natural medicines database.

Under CE/CME Center, the Clinical Management Series provides practical evidence-based recommendations for OTC or alt meds in chart format on various conditions.
Other Drug Databases

The very popular Lexidrug database can be found in Access Medicine. You can look for a drug by typing the name in the search box or click on the Drugs tab at the top of the web interface that will take you to an alphabet listing of the drugs, which is the fastest and easiest way to pull up a monograph.

The search box searches all the Access Medicine resources, including books, images, cases, etc. After searching for a drug, you must select Drugs on the results list to find the drug monograph.

There are no drug tools like an interaction checker or dosage calculator in Access Medicine.

Figures 1 and 2 demonstrates the steps necessary in locating the drug monograph for furosemide after searching.
Epocrates Formulary Tool
Both the Web and mobile versions of Epocrates have the formulary information available. Use the drop down list on the web version to select your patient’s health plan, if it is available.

For the mobile version, you must select the formularies you want to download into the app to limit memory use. Go to www.epocrates.com and click on My Account. Select Edit Formularies, then sync your device.

Codes Vary by Insurer
1 = Tier 1, Low copay
2 = Tier 2, intermediate copay
GP = Generic Preferred; brands not covered or higher copay
NC = Not covered

Alternatives are linked to their respective monographs.

Medscape contains Formularies that have a better selection of Insurance Companies than Epocrates.
Drug Interaction Tools
Epocrates ONLINE—Drug Interaction Tool

The Drug Interaction Tool in Epocrates ONLINE is called MultiCheck and is found by tapping on the Interaction Check tab. Basically, you select each drug and Add to List all drugs that you want to check. MultiCheck shows you the interactions as you add drugs. Under MultiCheck Results, all interactions found will be listed with a description of the nature of the interaction in the box at right of the drug list.

The dot before a drug means that there are multiple drugs to choose from in that category. Clicking on that drug name will expand the choices.
Drug Interaction Tool in Epocrates iPhone

The Drug Interaction Tool in Epocrates is found by tapping on the Interaction Check icon. The purpose of this tool is to look to see if any of the drugs your patient is taking interact adversely. You should check to see if the drug you are considering prescribing interacts with any of the drugs the patient is on. When you start this tool, it opens the view in Figure 1. Tap the + sign to start adding drugs. One by one you will select and add each drug in the patient’s medications list. Then you will run MultiCheck. Here are the steps:

1. Find a drug on the patient’s medications list (Figure 2) and tap on it to start your list (Figure 3).
2. Tap the + again. Continue adding drugs including the prescription you are considering and any Alternative Meds that patient is taking.
3. When all are there, (Figure 4) tap interactions found>. You can choose to look at the interactions by drug or All Interactions shown in Figure 5.
4. Tap on each interaction to read an explanation of the interaction with recommendations. (Figure 6) Tap the Back button < to go back and add more drugs to your preexisting list. Click the little e to return to
Drug Interaction Tool in Facts & Comparisons

Facts and Comparisons Drug interaction tool provides a very detailed description of any resulting interactions including the significance, onset, severity, and level of evidence of the interaction. The tool is accessed from the top left of the main page. You can include patient information including problems list, any drug allergies, age, gender, pregnancy, lactation, and smoking status.

Drug-food and drug alcohol interactions are provided unsolicited.

Type in patient’s drugs, food and herbals and click Add

Check list, add more if information about the

Click on Interaction to see monograph
Facts & Comparisons
Drug I.D.

Pick Drug I.D., type in the imprint, shape and color. Click Go>> and then try different pills from your results. Pictures are provided.
Pill Identifiers

**Epocrates Web Site**
Select the Pill Identifier Tab and enter what ever information you have. Pictures are provided.

**Epocrates iPhone**
Select the Pill ID icon and enter the information you have. Pictures are also provided.

Tap the drug name to go to the monograph on that drug.

Pick shape, color, etc. If imprint readable, type it in and click Identify Pills

Scroll through results until you find your pill. Click name to go to monograph.
Infectious Disease Treatment Selector

**Epocrates ID Tool (Mobile Only)**

The icon for the *Infectious Disease* Tool (ID) in Epocrates can be found on the main screen. This is a guide to antibiotics for specific microbes and diseases. When you start the ID tool you see a list of systems. (Figure 1)

You can answer a clinical question on the best antibiotic for an infection by looking up the condition. Type in the condition and pick from the list. (Figure 2)

Recommendations are provided empirically, then specifically for each known microbe. There is also additional information provided on the condition.

**Empiric.** (Figure 3) Using community acquired pneumonia, see the empiric recommended antibiotic.

**Specific.** (Figure 4) Under specific are the recommendations for each microbe, if you have culture results.

**Info.** (Figure 5) Notes on the disease and treatment are under Info.
Johns Hopkins ABX Guide

Available in uCentral both online and on the mobile devices is the highly respected Johns Hopkins ABX guide. This gold standard antibiotics guide allows you to look up a microorganism, an antimicrobial drug, or a condition.

uCentral has one of the best and easiest to use interface of all of the electronic medical databases. Because we subscribe to many of their references, this resource is enhanced by its links to all others including the Washington Manual, 5 Minute Clinical Consult, and Harriet Lane.

At left is an example of a diagnosis of pelvic inflammatory disease.

Compare this with the monograph on candida albicans above and the monograph at right on the antimicrobial amphotericin B.
Immunization Tools on the Web and Mobile

Epocrates
Mobile and Web
Under the Tables tab are a number of useful items. These include Normal Vital Signs, ACLS and PALS, Normal Adult Lab Values, and recommended Adult, Pediatric and Travel.

Essential Evidence Plus Web and Mobile
On the web site, search for immunizations in the NGC Guidelines. The immunization guidelines will all be linked from that page. Essential Evidence + is currently available for smartphones via a mobile formatted webpage at eeplus.mobi/m.
Immunization Tools on the Web and Mobile

STFM Shots Web Site and CDC Vaccine Schedule App

The Society of Teachers in Family Medicine’s Group on Immunization Education has developed a wonderful resource that can be used on the web or mobile device called Shots found at http://www.immunizationed.org/

Adult, Childhood, Medical and Catch-up schedules are provided with links to a wealth of information about each immunization including high-risk indications, adverse reactions, contraindications, and administration information. There are even pictures of the conditions against which you are immunizing.

Shots Web Interface. Follow the link to Shots from the library Drug References web page.

CDC Vaccine Schedule App

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a free app which is easy to use. By tapping the vaccine you will get vaccination information. Below is the detail on the Varicella immunization. You can see that there is information concerning the administration and catch-up for this vaccine.