

Open Access Sources of Medicines Information

This is a selection of open access resources which may help in providing a medicines information service. It is not comprehensive and the relevance of each will depend on local conditions. The list is intended to supplement rather than replace paid resources which are required to provide an adequate level of service.

Index

[Adverse effects](#)

Clinical guidelines ... see [Guidelines](#)

[Complementary and alternative medicine](#)

[Consumer eHealth assessment tools](#)

Consumer medicines information ... see [Product and consumer information](#)

[Drug bulletins](#)

[Guidelines](#)

Herbal medicine ... see [Complementary and alternative medicine](#)

[Interactions](#)

[Laboratory tests/Calculations](#)

[Libraries](#)

Medication errors ... see [Safety – medication errors](#)

Natural medicines ... see [Complementary and alternative medicine](#)

[Pharmacotherapy](#)

[Product and consumer information](#)

[Regulatory agencies](#) (licensing/approval of medicines)

[Safety – medication errors](#)

Adverse effects

MedEffect Canada	Includes access to Canada Vigilance Adverse Reaction Online Database: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/medeff
Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (UK)	Includes access to Drug Analysis Prints: www.mhra.gov.uk/index.htm
MedWatch (USA)	Food and Drug Administration: www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch
Pharmacovigilance Toolkit	WHO Pharmacovigilance Toolkit: www.pvtoolkit.org
Uppsala Monitoring Centre	WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring: www.who-umc.org
Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (USA)	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Food and Drug Administration: http://vaers.hhs.gov/index

Complementary and alternative medicine

FDA Dietary Supplements (USA)	Food and Drug Administration: www.fda.gov/Food/DietarySupplements
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (USA)	National Institutes of Health: nccam.nih.gov
Office of Dietary Supplements (USA)	National Institutes of Health: dietary-supplements.info.nih.gov

Consumer eHealth assessment tools

DISCERN Instrument	Quality criteria for consumer health information: www.discern.org.uk
MedlinePlus Handout	Guide to healthy web surfing: www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthywebsurfing.html
MedlinePlus Tutorial	Evaluating internet health information: www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/webeval/webeval.html

Drug bulletins

Australian Prescriber	Published by NPS: www.australianprescriber.com
RADAR (Australia)	New drug reviews (published by NPS [www.nps.org.au]): www.npsradar.org.au

Guidelines

Cochrane Collaboration	Cochrane Collaboration: www.cochrane.org Cochrane Library (full text reviews available in some countries): www.thecochranelibrary.com
Health Information Resources (NHS Evidence, UK)	www.library.nhs.uk
National Guideline Clearinghouse (USA)	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: www.guidelines.gov
National Institute for Clinical Studies (Australia)	Clinical Practice Guidelines Portal: www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au
National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE, UK)	Clinical guidance and quality standards: www.nice.org.uk

Infectious diseases

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USA)	Health promotion and prevention of disease and injury: www.cdc.gov
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Interactions

Cytochrome P450 Drug Interaction Table	Indiana University, USA: http://medicine.iupui.edu/clinpharm/ddis
Medscape Drug Interaction Checker (USA)	Medscape registration required: www.medscape.com/druginfo/druginterchecker
HIV drug interactions (UK)	University of Liverpool: www.hiv-druginteractions.org

Laboratory tests

MDCalc	md+calc: http://www.mdcalc.com/
RCPA Pathology Manual (Australia)	Royal College of Pathologists of Australia (SI units): www.rcpamannual.edu.au
UCSF – Laboratory and Pathology Medicine (USA)	University of California, San Francisco: http://pathology.ucsf.edu/index.html

Libraries

BioMed Central	Publisher of open access journals: www.biomedcentral.com
Directory of Open Access Journals	www.doaj.org
National Library of Medicine (USA)	www.nlm.nih.gov
PubMed	www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed (or www.pubmed.org)
PubMed Central	Archive of life science journals: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc
WHO	WHO publications: www.who.int/publications/en

Pharmacotherapy

Medscape Pharmacists	Registration required (free): www.medscape.com/pharmacists
National Prescribing Centre (UK)	www.npc.co.uk
NPS (Australia)	Previously 'National Prescribing Service': www.nps.org.au
WHO formularies	Model Formulary 2008; Model Formulary for Children 2010: www.who.int/selection_medicines/list/en

Product and consumer information

DailyMed (USA)	US product and consumer information: http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov
European Medicines Agency	www.ema.europa.eu/ema
Medicines Compendium (UK)	eMC (electronic Medicines Compendium) – UK product and consumer information: www.medicines.org.uk
MedlinePlus - Drug Information (USA)	Consumer drug information: www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation
Therapeutic Goods Administration (Australia)	www.tga.gov.au/hp/information-medicines-pi.htm

Regulatory agencies (licensing/approval of medicines)

European Medicines Agency	www.ema.europa.eu/ema
Food and Drug Administration (USA)	www.fda.gov
Therapeutic Goods Administration (Australia)	www.tga.gov.au

Safety – medication errors

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (USA)	www.ismp.org
MedWatch (USA)	Food and Drug Administration: www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch

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