Treating a patient with an acute gout attack

Learn how to determine the best treatment options for a patient suffering an acute gout attack using key resources and tools through MedicinesComplete.

Expert, evidence-based knowledge to support the best patient care

BNF

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Medicines Complete

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Jim, a 67-year-old male with a history of gout presents with a suspected acute gout attack. He explains he is currently taking aspirin and atorvastatin to manage his cardiovascular disease.

Jim is prescribed colchicine by his doctor. When he goes to pick up his prescription, the pharmacist decides to check if there are any interactions and adverse drug reactions with his current medications.

The pharmacist begins by checking the dosage card on MedicinesComplete to confirm the dose and assess its suitability for Jim.

The dosage card provides a detailed breakdown of each indication and dose for colchicine, including any adjustments that are required, for example due to drug interactions.

BNF

By selecting the icons at the top of the dosage card, it is possible to switch between the **British National Formulary (BNF)** and **Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference**.

PHARMACEUTICAL PRESS
Essential Knowledge

The pharmacist confirms the dose of colchicine for acute gout using the BNF.

Practical management advice with Stockley's Interactions Checker

As Jim is taking aspirin and atorvastatin for his cardiovascular disease, the pharmacist decides to check for interactions with his existing regimen and refers to Stockley's Interactions Checker, by selecting the icon at the top of the page.

> Click for the full monograph with detailed information on the interaction including practical management advice, in **Stockley's Drug Interactions**. For an overview, check the summary at the top of the page or scroll down for detailed information including 'clinical evidence', 'mechanism' and 'importance and management'. Each monograph is fully referenced.

Identify and prevent adverse drug reactions

To check for reported adverse drug reactions to colchicine and treatment management advice, the pharmacist selects Martindale's ADR Checker.

Martindale's ADR Checker enables search by multiple drugs, drug class, body system and ADR/s. The results are listed in order of frequency, those that carry risk of a severe adverse drug reaction are flagged with a red warning symbol and the frequency of a reported ADR occurring is highlighted. Further details on the mechanisms, causes, management and prevention of adverse drug reactions can be found in the ADR Profiles linked to.

To find out what other precautions should be taken alongside monitoring Jim for myopathy, the pharmacist clicks on the ADR Profile for agranulocytosis.

Common side effects of colchicine include abdominal pain, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting and Jim is also advised to report these side-effects.

The pharmacist reviews the list of additional rare severe side effects, including aplastic anaemia, bone marrow depression and thrombocytopenia, and advises Jim to seek immediate medical attention if he develops symptoms of infection such as fever, sore throat, mouth ulcers, or excessive tiredness.

Click for more information on presentation, causes and management using the ADR Profiles found in **Martindale's ADR Checker**.

The pharmacist also wants to check if his current medication aspirin could be causing the gout. After reviewing the ADR profile for Hyperuricemia and Gout, the pharmacist notes that low-dose aspirin use has been suggested to increase the risk of recurrent gout attacks. The pharmacist calls Jim's doctor to ask him to review the need for aspirin.

The pharmacist would like to understand more about the diagnosis, risk factors and management of gout and consults the health topic in Agilio: Diagnosis and Treatment Guidance.

> Information on the treatment and long-term management of gout can be found in the comprehensive summaries in **Agilio: Diagnosis and Treatment Guidance**.

Informs prescribing decisions

After seeing the evidence-based information, the pharmacist concludes she will dispense colchicine but with the caveat that Jim is monitored for adverse drug reactions, which are more likely as he is taking atorvastatin. The pharmacist asks the doctor to review the risks and benefits of aspirin as it may be causing recurrent gout.

Stockley's Drug Interactions

Stockley's Drug Interactions reliably supports health professionals decide the best course of action regarding drug interactions to deliver the best patient outcomes. Expertly authored, Stockley's Drug Interactions covers interactions between therapeutic drugs, proprietary medicines, herbal medicines, foodstuffs, drinks, pesticides, and drugs of abuse.

Stockley's Drug Interactions

Stockley's Interactions Checker supports health professionals safely manage the selection of drugs at the point of care. This essential tool provides a simple snapshot of the severity, description, and management guidance and links to the full record in Stockley's Drug Interactions if further detail is required.

Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference

Health and industry professionals globally rely on Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference for concise and specific detail to quickly understand the characteristics and clinical uses of drugs, herbals, and other pharmaceutical substances.

Martindale's ADR Checker

Martindale's ADR Checker provides concise clinical management advice with a severity flag system to support health professionals when managing patients with adverse drug reactions. Answers can be found quickly, summarised by frequency, age and route. Further detail is available through in-depth ADR Profiles in Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference.

British National Formulary

Practical and evidence based, BNF is the only drug formulary in the world that is both independent, and has rigorous, accredited content creation processes. An integral part of the UK's healthcare infrastructure and relied on by health professionals who prescribe, dispense, and administer medicines globally, BNF supports safe and effective decision-making at the point of care.

Agilio: Diagnosis and Treatment Guidance

Covering over 370 clinical topics for use in primary care, Agilio: Diagnosis and Treatment Guidance supports confident decision-making at the point of care. Referenced, with links to source evidence and covering over 1,200 clinical presentations or patient scenarios, this product supports you to assess symptoms, diagnose the disease and identify treatment options, including concise prescribing information.

Access this essential knowledge today

MedicinesComplete makes it easy for health professionals to access essential medicines information at the point of care. Providing trusted evidence-based knowledge for confident decision-making and effective patient care.

Find out more today

For information and to contact our team

go to **PharmaceuticalPress.com**

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