MedicinesComplete User Guide

MedicinesComplete.com

Medicines Complete

Contents

Introduction

MedicinesComplete makes it easy for health professionals to access trusted evidence-based guidance and medicines information to support confident decision making at the point of need.

This user guide explains how to access and navigate **MedicinesComplete**, as well as offering guidance on the use of specific publications.

For specific questions or assistance, we encourage you to use the contact details at the back of the guide.
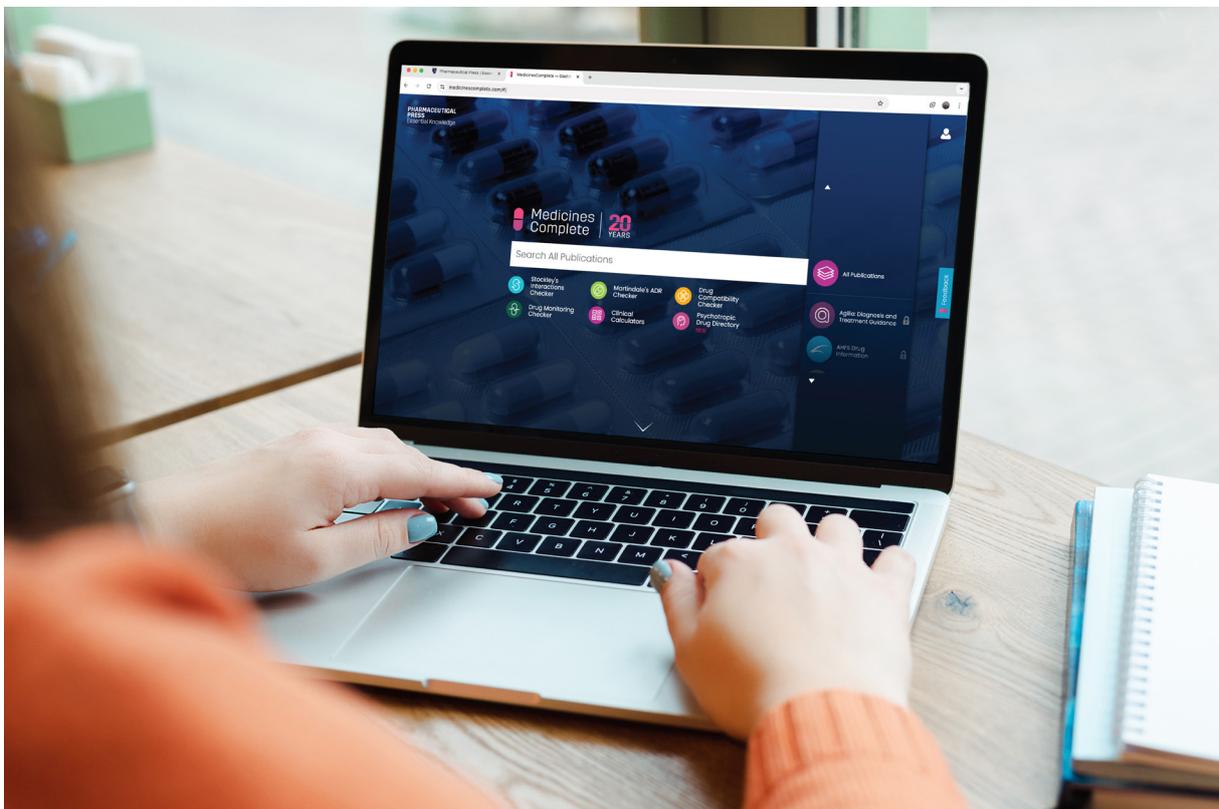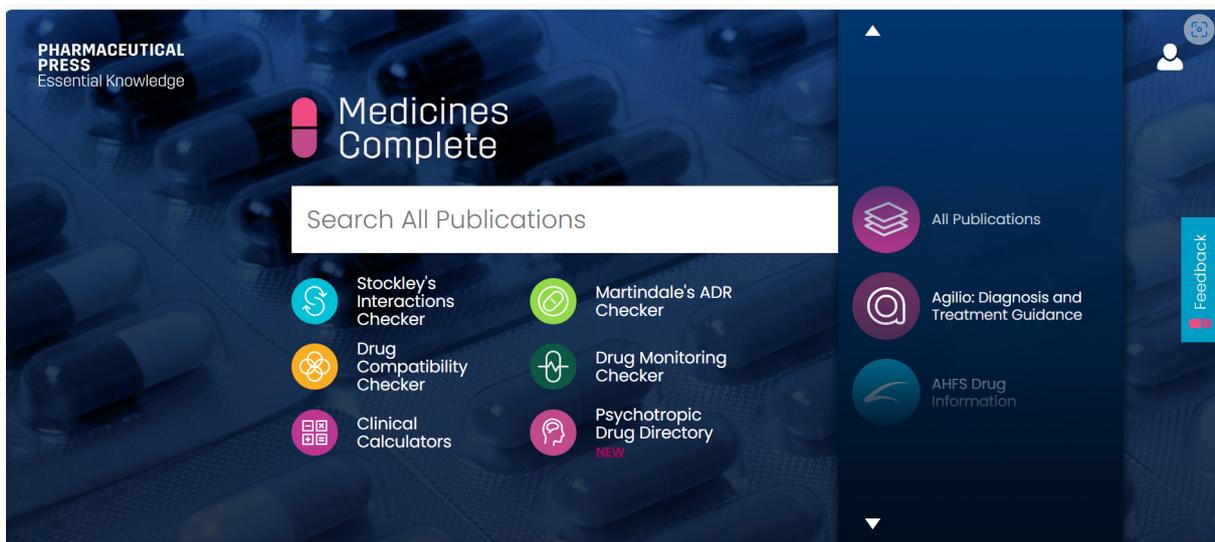
How to access MedicinesComplete

There are three ways to log in to MedicinesComplete – via IP address, with a username and password, or via Shibboleth/OpenAthens. How you access MedicinesComplete will be decided by the person/persons responsible for your organisation's subscription to MedicinesComplete.

Via IP address

To access the platform via an IP address, go to **www.medicinescomplete.com**. Once logged in successfully, you will be taken to the MedicinesComplete homepage.

1. Enter **www.medicinescomplete.com** into your browser's address bar.
2. If your IP address is authorised, you will be given access to the MedicinesComplete homepage.

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Via username and password

To access MedicinesComplete via username and password, you must set your password the first time you log in. To do this, go to **www.medicinescomplete.com** and select the 'Reset password?' option in the login window.

Once you have completed the reset password process, log in to your account to be taken to the MedicinesComplete homepage.

1. Enter **www.medicinescomplete.com** into your browser's address bar and select 'Login'.
2. Select 'Reset password?' and enter your email address.
3. Retrieve the password reset code sent to your email inbox.
4. Enter the code on the login screen and confirm your new password.
5. Click on the 'Login' button.
6. In future you will need to provide your email address or username and password to log in via the MedicinesComplete homepage, unless you save these details to your browser.

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Via Shibboleth/OpenAthens

Log in by selecting 'Login via Shibboleth/OpenAthens'. Once successfully logged in, you will be taken to the MedicinesComplete homepage.

1. Enter www.medicinescomplete.com into your browser's address bar and select 'Login'.
2. Click on the 'Login via Shibboleth/ OpenAthens' option.
3. In the window that opens, select your organisation.
4. You will be redirected to the login page for your institution. Enter your credentials to gain access to MedicinesComplete.

Via referral link from a secure website

This option can be used to provide access to MedicinesComplete directly from your own internal system. These generic instructions should work for most, but it depends on how the code is embedded on your site. Follow these steps:

1. Decide where on your internal system you want to include the link to MedicinesComplete. Please ensure this is on a secure page which is not accessible to the public (behind your network or federated login).
2. Take a copy of the URL of the page (also known as the referrer URL) and send it to your Account Manager who will need to add this to your access methods.
3. Once added, go back to your internal system and add a link/button leading to MedicinesComplete in the following format:

   E.g. if the referrer URL is **https://mc.referrer.com**, then the URL you would enter in your system would be: **https://www.medicinescomplete.com/loginexplore?referrer_url=https://mc.referrer.com**

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Sign out and log in as a different user

It is important to always sign out once your session on MedicinesComplete has ended. You also need to sign out if you wish to access MedicinesComplete with a different user account. This is important if your organisational subscription is based on concurrency. Signing out will ensure a colleague is able to log in and access MedicinesComplete.
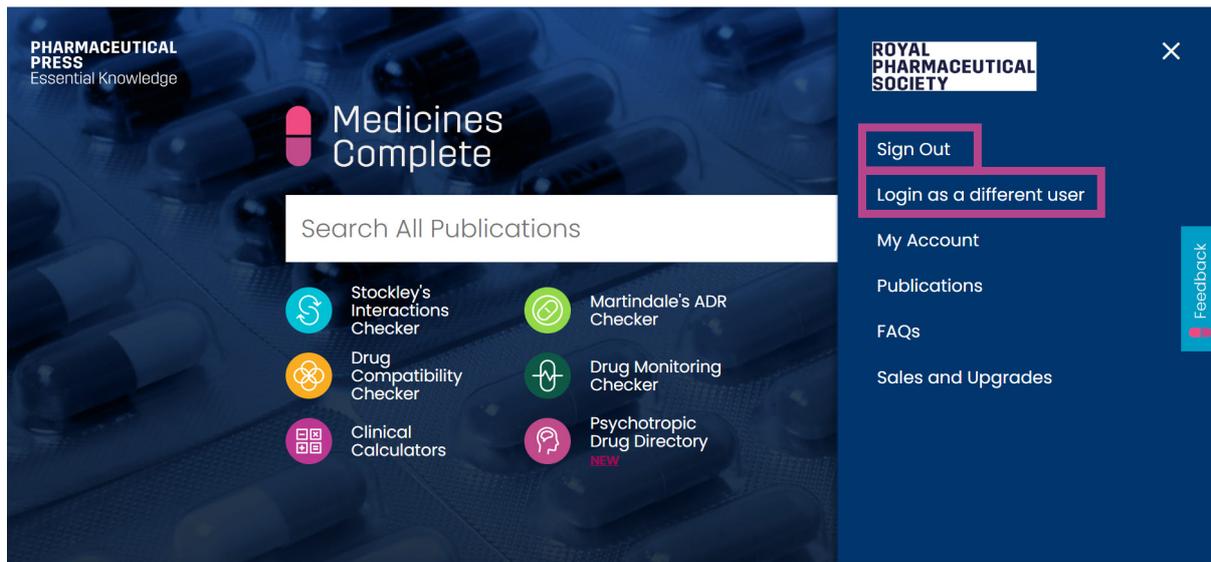
1. To end your session, click on the 'My account' icon and select 'Sign out' in the list.
2. To log in via a different account, select 'Login as a different user'. This will open the login screen where you can gain access via username/password or Shibboleth/OpenAthens.
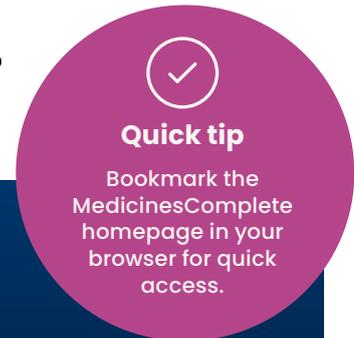
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How to navigate MedicinesComplete

Using the homepage

Once logged in to MedicinesComplete, the homepage is displayed, which features the search bar and a list of your subscribed publications.

Publications you are not subscribed to will also be visible but padlocked to denote no access.

Quick tip

Bookmark the MedicinesComplete homepage in your browser for quick access.
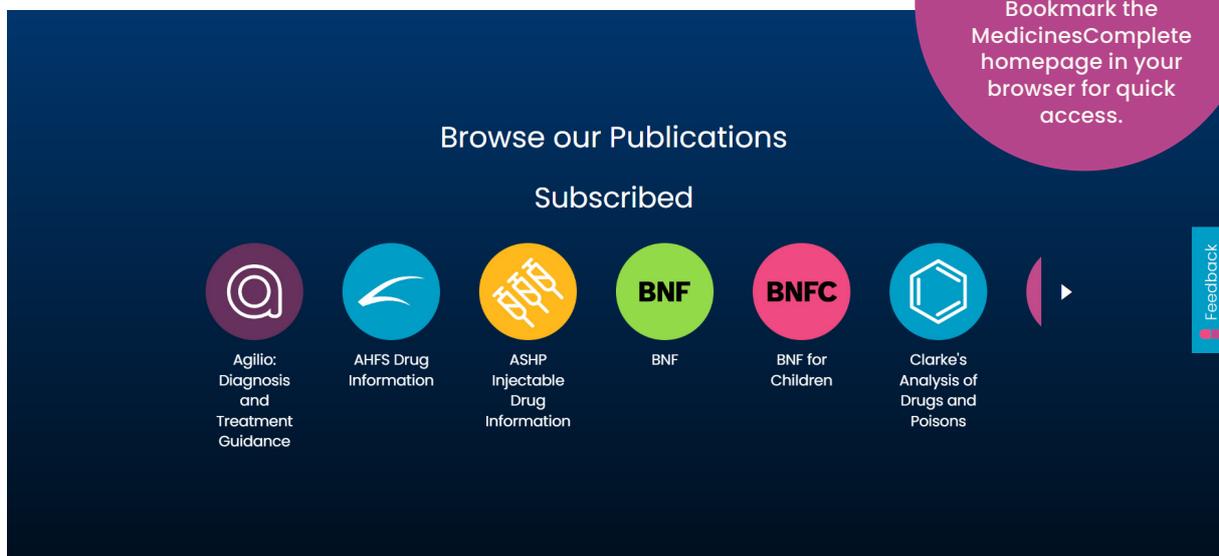
1. Search across all publications or choose an individual one from the publications list to the right of the search bar (pictured on page 9).
2. Click on the arrows to move up and down the list of publications.
3. Scroll down the homepage to the 'Browse our publications' section to access quick links to the homepage for each of your subscribed publications.
4. Scroll down to the bottom of the homepage to view the latest product updates/news, as well as to access user guides.

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Using the search bar

You can choose to search across all publications or in individual subscribed publications.

1. The search bar is located on the homepage as well as in the header of every page on MedicinesComplete.
2. Relevant search terms auto-complete when you type in the first three letters in the search bar.
3. Search for results from across all publications or select an individual publication.
4. Each search result details the publication, page title, and content type.
5. On select publications, use the left-hand panel to further refine your search by filtering by publication and type of content (drug, medicine, interaction, treatment summary, etc.).

A Stedman's Medical Dictionary Definition will appear at the top of the search results page when relevant. Click the banner to view guidance on pronunciation and synonyms.

Using advanced search

Spell checker for search results

When using the search bar you will notice an automated spell checker for search results.

Semantic searching

MedicinesComplete supports semantic searching by SNOMED CT concept term and dm+d virtual therapeutic moiety names.

1. Search for 'Coumarin anticoagulant'.
2. Results with titles including 'About anticoagulants', 'Coumarin derivatives', and 'Coumarin' are given.

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Searching by synonym

Synonyms will also be found when searching MedicinesComplete.

1. Search for 'Hypericum'.
2. See results with the title 'St John's Wort'.

Searching by chemical formulae

Another way to search is by chemical formulae. Search results show that 'KCl' is associated with 'Potassium chloride'.

Wildcard search

MedicinesComplete features wildcard search. For instance, entering 'Pregnan*' with an asterisk at the end will give results for 'Pregnant', 'Pregnancy', and 'Pregnane'.

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Using the header

Use the header to quickly and efficiently navigate MedicinesComplete by using a range of intuitive navigation features.

Account icon

Search bar

Medicines Complete

Pregnan*

Point-of-need tools

MedicinesComplete logo

1. Access the search bar from the header of any page.
2. Search across all publications or within a specific publication by clicking on the publication icon and selecting your preference from the dropdown menu. Results are sorted so the pages that best match for your search are displayed first.
3. Point-of-need tools such as Stockley's Interactions Checker and Martindale's ADR Checker can be accessed directly via the icons to the right of the search bar.
4. View account options by selecting the account icon. This brings up a menu displaying 'My account', as well as 'Sign out' and 'Login as a different user' options.
5. Navigate back to the homepage from any page by clicking on the MedicinesComplete logo at the top left of the screen.

Using a content page

Use content pages to filter and navigate content across all publications.

1. Following your search, click on a search result to view its dedicated content page.
2. Use the 'Highlight search' toggle to identify all appearances of the search term within the content page.
3. On the content page of select publications, the left-hand panel allows you to quickly navigate to key subsections of content such as doses and side effects, and related content across all publications.
4. The date at the top of the page beneath the publication name indicates when any content from the publication was last updated.
5. Click the publication icon to browse the publication.

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Using the dosage card

In search results, view important dosage information by using the dosage card where available.

1. Dosing information available in British National Formulary (BNF), BNF for Children (BNFC), and Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference can be accessed quickly using the dosage card beneath the search bar.
2. For example, searching for 'Adalimumab' will display a dosage card at the top of the results page.
3. Click on the 'Expand' button to view dosage information.
4. Easily toggle between dosing information in BNF, BNFC, or Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference.
5. Any unsubscribed publications feature a padlock icon.
6. Click 'Read more' at the top of the dosage card to navigate to each of the specific publications, for instance, BNF.

The MedicinesComplete homepage features a range of clinical calculators to support your practice, including basic measurement calculations and calculators for biochemical parameters such as creatinine clearance.

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How to use MedicinesComplete publications

Introduction to publications

Each publication has a homepage that allows you to browse the different types of content. Many publications organise content with detailed monographs on the drug, excipient, or herb.

There is also a wealth of additional information specific to each publication, such as treatment summaries and subject matter guidance. A publication's page can be accessed from the MedicinesComplete homepage or via the shortcut icons at the top right of any search results page.

BNF   **British National Formulary**   **Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference**

BNFC   **BNF for Children**   **Martindale's ADR Checker**

Critical Illness   **Stockley's Drug Interactions**

Palliative Care Formulary   **Stockley's Interactions Checker**

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BNF **BNFC**

British National Formulary (BNF) and BNF for Children (BNFC)

The navigation across both **BNF** and **BNFC** is the same. This example focuses on searching for information about 'Abacavir' in **BNFC**. As mentioned in 'How to navigate MedicinesComplete', there are multiple ways to search for drug information. In this example, the 'Using the homepage' method is followed.

Quick tip

To return to the MedicinesComplete homepage at any time, click on the MedicinesComplete logo in the top left corner.

1. Scroll down the homepage to 'Browse our publications' and click on '**BNFC**'.
2. Click on 'Drugs' to view an A-Z of drugs. These can be filtered by drug name or drug class.
3. Click on 'Abacavir' to be taken to the drug monograph and use the subsections in the left-hand panel to navigate to the information required.
4. For instance, click on 'Allergy and cross-sensitivity' to view any relevant information.
5. Click on 'Related content' in the top left panel to bring up other references to 'Abacavir' in all publications.
6. To return to the **BNFC** page, click your browser 'Back' button.

Evidence grading

Note that recommendations in **BNF** and **BNFC** have been evidence graded to reflect the strength of the recommendation. This helps support clinical decision making. Use the 'Evidence grading' toggle at the top of the page to highlight evidence-graded recommendations within the content page. Hover your cursor over the evidence grading symbol 'M' to see the level of evidence. If you would like further information about this, you can click on the 'M' symbol to be taken to a separate page with details about the grading system used in **BNF** and **BNFC** publications.

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Stockley's Drug Interactions

If you type more than one drug into the search bar, this will automatically search for drug interactions. You can search by a single drug or by a drug group by name. In this example, we will focus on the drugs 'Apixaban' and 'Verapamil':

1. Enter 'Apixaban' and 'Verapamil' into 'Search all publications'. This will look for interactions between the two drugs.
2. Your search results will be listed. Select the publications dropdown menu to the right of your search term and select **Stockley's Drug Interactions**.
3. Note there are two options to choose from in the results: 'Specific interactions' results feature the exact term searched for and 'General interactions' results include related results for the term searched for.
4. To view an interactions monograph, click 'Activated factor...' under 'Specific interactions'. An interactions monograph contains a summary as well as detailed information on the clinical evidence, mechanism, and importance and management, as well as references (described below).
5. Use your browser 'Back' button to return to the search results page.

Medicines Complete

Apixaban Verapamil

Filter Results

Stockley's Drug Interactions
9 Results

Full Text

All Publications
274 Results

Agilio: Diagnosis and Treatment Guidance
13 Results

AHFS Drug Information
12 Results

Interactions results for "Apixaban", "Verapamil". Results **1 – 2** of 2, sorted with best match first.

Not found what you're looking for? Try another search using quotations around your terms, or use the Stockley's Interactions Checker.

Specific interactions
Activated factor X inhibitors + Calcium-channel blockers; Diltiazem or Verapamil
Interaction

General interactions
Activated factor X inhibitors; Apixaban + CYP3A4 and/or P-glycoprotein inhibitors
Interaction

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Interactions monographs

These are presented as follows:

Summary
Summary of the interaction in a blue box at the top of each monograph.

Clinical evidence
Supporting primary literature used to describe the evidence behind an interaction.

Mechanism
Interaction mechanisms explained based on the knowledge of our expert editorial team.

Importance and management
Clear, practical, and evidence-based recommendations on how to manage an interaction.

References
Every Stockley's Drug Interactions monograph is fully referenced here.

Subsections	Related Content
Clinical evidence	
Mechanism	
Importance and management	
References	

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Stockley's Interactions Checker

This point-of-need tool allows you to enter an unlimited number of drug names/drug groups in the search bar. This is useful for quickly identifying potential interactions in patients on many different medications. In this example, we will check for potential interactions between the substances 'Apixaban, 'Verapamil, 'Simvastatin' and 'Grapefruit':

1. Click the **Stockley's Interactions Checker** icon on the homepage below the search bar.
2. Note there are two different search filters: 'Drug interactions' and 'Food, drink and smoking interactions'. The latter offers checks on how these three key external factors may impact on drug interactions.
3. Using the 'Drug interactions' filter, begin to type out 'Apixaban', 'Verapamil', 'Simvastatin', and 'Grapefruit'. For each, select the word in the search results to confirm its inclusion in the search. Once complete, click on 'Search'.
4. Interactions are ordered and ranked by symbol.
5. Each box displays an interaction between two substances with an explanation of what can occur and what action to take. This also includes a quick visual representation of the evidence, action, and severity.
6. Click on the link at the bottom of each interaction box to go to **Stockley's Drug Interactions** for full information.

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Symbol guide

Red X: Avoid

Yellow exclamation mark: Take action; usually monitor or adjust dose.

Purple question mark: Something may happen; take care.

Green tick: No interaction or interaction is not clinically relevant.

Filter by warnings

🔄	**Show all warnings** 6 Results
✖	**A life-threatening or contraindicated combination** 1 Results
⚠	**Dosage adjustment or close monitoring is needed** 1 Results
?	**Give guidance about possible adverse effects and/or consider some monitoring** 2 Results
✓	**No interaction, or no interaction of clinical significance** 4 Results

Instant insight

Unlike **Stockley's Drug Interactions,** which provides information in an interaction monograph covering an entire group of drugs, all results in **Stockley's Interactions Checker** are for individual substances (for example a drug and a drug).

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Martindale's ADR Checker

Martindale's ADR Checker provides the ability to search by an extensive number of drugs, search across a drug group, by adverse drug reaction, or by the body system of the reaction (such as cardiovascular system). In this example, we will search by drug:

1. Click on **Martindale's ADR Checker** on the homepage.
2. Type in 'Sertraline' in the search bar of **Martindale's ADR Checker** and select the name in the search results to confirm before clicking on 'Search'.
3. Results are summarised in a table ordered by the frequency of the reaction, showing the drug, adverse drug reaction, route, and a management summary.
4. Adverse drug reactions that are severe and may result in patient harm are identified with a red symbol and are displayed first regardless of their frequency.
5. For further details on the adverse drug reaction, click on the 'For further information' link in the result to view in-depth information in **Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference**.

Instant insight

The terms used to define adverse drug reactions have been standardised using a consistent terminology, which offers enhanced search functionality. For example, if you start typing 'Loose stools', the checker will auto-suggest the synonymous term 'Diarrhoea'.

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Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference

The drug monographs in **Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference** contain detailed international drug information covering nomenclature, uses, administration, precautions, and adverse effects. There are also links to preparations information comprising information for over 200,000 products available from over 21,000 manufacturers.

You can find the preparations listed within each individual drug monograph and search for them by a specific country. In this example, we will be searching for information on 'Esketamine':

1. Scroll down to **Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference** in the publications list and type in 'Esketamine' in the search bar.
2. Navigate to the drug monograph 'Esketamine hydrochloride' by clicking on the first result.
3. The 'Drug nomenclature' box contains synonyms, official names, molecular weight, international identifiers such as ATC and CAS, and more, as well as summaries from multi-territory pharmacopoeias where available.
4. Use the left-hand panel to view other subsections covering Uses and administration, Adverse effects and Precautions, Interactions, and Pharmacokinetics.
5. Click on 'Pharmacokinetics' to view a link to the 'Ketamine' monograph.
6. Click on 'Preparations' in the panel to view the brand names of products used in up to nearly 50 countries.
7. Select the country of your choice to view the products available in that country. The preparations database also includes products that have been discontinued or are no longer actively marketed. These preparations are identified using a symbol, if you select UK the symbol appears alongside 'Vesierra'.
8. Each preparation contains a list of active ingredients and links to the relevant drug monographs, as well as the manufacturer and licensed indications for use. This is particularly useful for identifying the ingredients of international branded products and selecting a suitable alternative for your patient.

Instant insight

Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference also includes disease treatment reviews that offer evidence-based summaries from a range of sources to act as comparative management advice.

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Palliative Care Formulary

Palliative Care Formulary provides unrivalled and expert drug information for health professionals when caring for adult patients facing progressive life-limiting diseases. It is primarily organised organised into drug monographs.

1. Scroll down to **Palliative Care Formulary** in the publications list, type 'Baclofen' in the search bar and click on 'Baclofen' in the results.
2. Use the left-hand panel to view key considerations for the drug monograph such as Indications, Dose and use, Undesirable effects, and more.
3. Click on the icon next to the **Palliative Care Formulary** title. This takes you to the **Palliative Care Formulary** homepage that features other useful resources including General topics, Routes of administration, and Appendices.
4. Click on 'Appendices' to view opioid dose conversion ratios and compatibility charts.
5. Press the back button and click on 'General topics' to view principles for prescribing in palliative care including prescribing for renal and hepatic impairment.
6. As part of your **Palliative Care Formulary** subscription, you also get access to PCF's Syringe Driver Database through **Drug Compatibility Checker**.
7. You may access [Drug Compatibility Checker here](#), or by using the link underneath the search bar on the MedicinesComplete homepage.

Instant insight

Drug Compatibility Checker is a unique tool, combining published data from **ASHP Injectable Drug Information** with clinical practice reports from PCF's Syringe Driver Database.

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PHARMACEUTICAL PRESS
Essential Knowledge

Critical Illness

The layout of **Critical Illness** is concise and accessible, making it easy to use for those needing to access knowledge at the point-of-need. In this example, we will focus on the drug 'Meropenem':

1. Scroll down to **Critical Illness** in the publications list, type 'Meropenem' in the search bar.
2. Within a **Critical Illness** monograph, subsections in the left-hand panel include Indications in critical illness, Administration, Dose adjustments, Pharmacology, Pharmacokinetics, and Important considerations for the critically ill.
3. The Dose adjustments section provides specific information to guide the dosing of patients in intensive care, such as those with acute kidney injury or receiving extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation.
4. The Pharmacokinetics section offers specific information on recognising the changes in parameters that occur during critical illness, such as volume of distribution compared to general medical patients.
5. Further detailed information can be found in the expanded rationale section, which provides clinical commentary and references back to the primary literature. It is located beneath Indications in critical illness.
6. Click on 'Important considerations for the critically ill' in the panel, which details interactions, side effects, and any other important considerations related to the drug's administration.
7. Links are provided to other **MedicinesComplete** publications for information and to external sources for further research where available.

Instant insight

Information in **Critical Illness** is fully referenced. However, where recommendations are based on the clinical practice and consensus opinion of our expert editorial board, evidence grading is highlighted in the content as 'Expert opinion'.
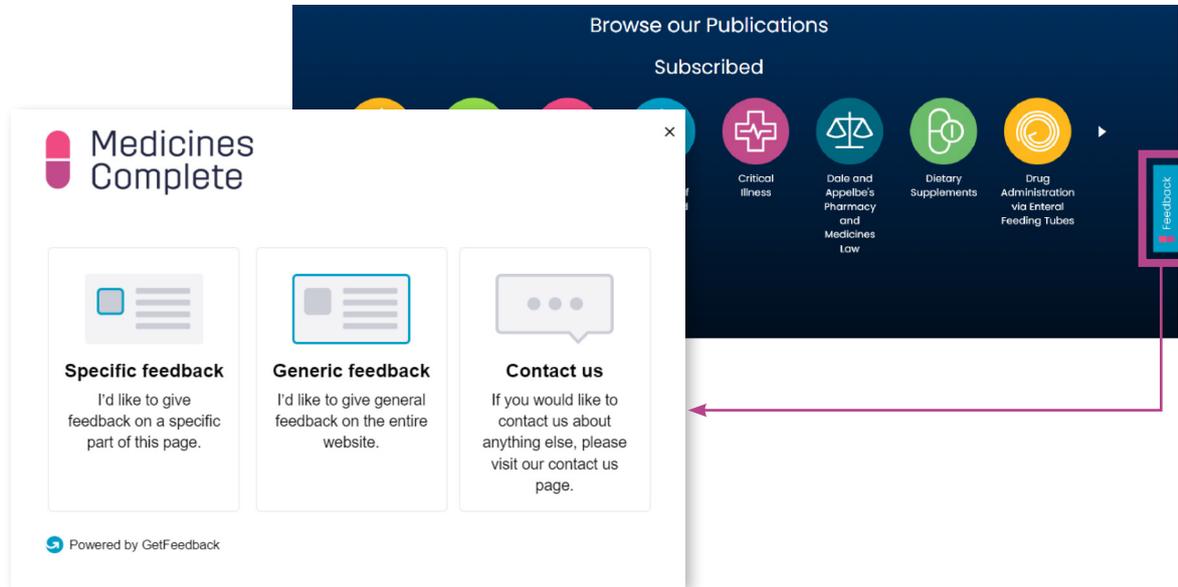

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How to leave feedback

Use the button on the right side of MedicinesComplete pages to submit feedback.

How to contact us

For support and general enquiries

Got a question or need help? Check our FAQs or get in touch.

Browse our training materials, user guides and more on PharmaceuticalPress.com

For information and to contact our team

go to **PharmaceuticalPress.com**

Medicines Complete