

Epocrates Online Premium – User Tips & Tricks

Look Up Drug and Alternative Medicine Information

Epocrates Online Premium includes continually updated information on more than 3,300 drugs and 600 alternative (herbal) medicines. There are 3 easy ways to find a medication in the DRUGS tab:

- To look up a drug or an alternative medicine by name, start entering the name in the "Drug Lookup" box. A yellow box will appear showing drugs that match the letters you have entered. If you see a generic drug name with a triangle next to it, click on it to select a brand.
- To find a drug by class, select a drug class and sub-class to view a list of drugs in that category. For alternative medicines choose "Browse: Alt Meds."
- You can also click on a letter of the alphabet to view an alphabetical list of drugs/alt meds that begin with that letter.

Once you have found the drug you are looking for, click on its name or use the Enter button on your keyboard to go to the monograph. Click on a link under "Sections" for specific information or select "Entire Monograph."

If you see a term in blue font with a broken underline, such as [penicillins](#), you can mouse over it to view additional details such as interaction information or pregnancy code definition.


Access Peer-Reviewed Disease Information

Epocrates has partnered with the BMJ Group, publishers of the British Medical Journal, to provide evidence-based diagnosis and treatment information for hundreds of diseases.

- Within the DISEASES tab, look up a disease by its name, drill down by category, or browse alphabetically.
- On the Key Highlights screen, review a summary of critical information, or select a menu option at the top of the page for specific content.
- Much of the information in DISEASES can be expanded to provide additional details as needed; simply click on blue text or the triangle symbol, ▼ for details on a specific topic, or select "Show all detail" to expand all information on that page.
- For a complete guide to the icons and abbreviations used in the DISEASES section, which include evidence scores, links to relevant images, and more, click on "Symbols/FAQ" in the top right of your screen.

Check For Drug Interactions

As well as the Interactions section within each drug and alt med monograph, you can use the MultiCheck® feature to instantly check for interactions among up to 50 medications at a time.

1. Click on the MultiCheck tab, , and enter a drug or alt med where it says "Add a Drug". As soon as you have added two drugs to the list, MultiCheck will begin searching for potential interactions; if there are any interactions, details about the interaction will automatically appear under "MultiCheck Results."
2. As you add more drugs, the MultiCheck feature will continue to automatically check for interactions among all the drugs in your list.
3. To remove a drug from the list, click on the red cross next to the drug name. Click "Clear all" to start again.

View Pill Pictures and Identify a Pill

Full color pictures of medications are available within the "Pill Pictures" section of most monographs.

If you need to identify a pill, click on the PILL ID tab for a powerful tool that helps you identify an unknown medication. Select the pill's characteristics or imprint code and then click "Identify Pills" to search for any matches.

TIP: For the most effective search, enter as much information as possible.

Access Patient Medication Instructions in English or Spanish

Easy-to-understand Patient Education handouts are available within most drug monographs — click on "Patient Education." For a Spanish version click on "Show Spanish."

Check Healthplan Coverage

Only Epocrates gives you FREE access to hundreds of continually updated health plan and hospital formularies, as well as all Medicare Part D formularies! Use the formulary feature to reduce pharmacy callbacks and help patients save money on their prescriptions.

1. Click on the formulary drop-down in the DRUGS tab and select the last option: "[+] Add Formulary."
2. Select formularies by state and by type; you may select as many formularies as you like and you may edit your formulary list as often as you like.
3. After selecting formularies, select a formulary from the formulary drop-down.
If you are in a drug monograph, the status code for that formulary will appear at the top of the page, and you can click on it to view the insurance information. Click "View Alternatives" for a list for alternative treatments sorted by formulary status. Mouse over a code next to a drug to view the insurance information.
If you are viewing a list of drugs by class, the drugs in a category will be sorted by formulary status. Mouse over a code next to a drug to view the insurance information.



TIP: If a code is bolded, important prescribing information is available.

Find Calculators and Guidelines

Click on the MEDCALC tab for hundreds of medical equations, unit and dose conversions, decision trees, and more. Click "By specialty" to find tools most relevant to you.

Click on the TABLES tab for a wide variety of clinical tables and guidelines.

Print and Email Epocrates Information

Whenever you see the printer icon, , click on it to print information. Whenever you see the mail icon, , click on it to email information to up to 5 people with a personal note.

TIP: to print or email an entire drug or alternative medicine monograph, click on "Entire Monograph" and then print/email.