

Guidelines on practice-specific issues – Guideline 1 (List of References)



Pharmacy
Board of
Australia

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1 References

Up-to-date works of reference are essential to the practice of pharmacy and must be readily accessible to pharmacists.

Guidelines

Pharmacists must be able to readily access contemporary works of professional reference in either conventional or electronic forms. The information is to be immediately available to the pharmacist during the clinical assessment, reviewing, dispensing and counselling processes.

The Board's website includes an up-to-date list of essential references.

The *Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary and Handbook* includes Internet addresses on a wide variety of subjects.

All Australian, State and Territory acts and regulations, and a number of additional references are accessible on the Internet.

In addition to accessing the references listed in these *Guidelines* during the clinical assessment, reviewing, dispensing and counselling processes, pharmacists should use additional references relevant to their area of practice. Consideration should also be given to accessing reference material which provides information in the Australian context. Pharmacists may also need to use more than one reference to ensure that all current and relevant information is accessed.

While it is the pharmacy owner's responsibility to provide the resources, it is the responsibility of the pharmacist to ensure prescribed references are readily available and accessed when required. As part of the premises approval process, State or Territory pharmacy premises authorities may prescribe particular references in addition to those shown on the Board's website.

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Guideline 1 References to be accessed by pharmacists

Current editions of the following references in the form of a published document (hard copy) or via electronic means, such as computer, must be readily accessible and should be accessed by pharmacists during the clinical assessment, reviewing, dispensing and counselling processes:

- a **the Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary and Handbook (APF)**
- b **the Australian Medicines Handbook**
- c **Therapeutic Guidelines Series (the complete set in hardcopy), eTG or equivalent**
- d **a source of current Australian Product Information and Consumer Medicine Information**
 - MIMS Annual with MIMS Abbreviated; or
 - e-MIMS; or
 - AusDI Advanced.
- e **a Drug Interactions reference (updated at least quarterly)**
 - AusDI Advanced; or
 - Drug Interaction Facts – Facts and Comparisons; or
 - Drug Interactions Analysis and Management, Hansten and Horn; or
 - eMIMS Drug Alert Interactions; or
 - Micromedex; or
 - Stockley's Drug Interactions online; or
 - Lexi-Interact Online.
- f **a current paediatric reference available from an Australian source (including a teaching hospital)**
- g **an evidence-based reference work on complementary and alternate medicines**
 - Herbs and Natural Supplements: An evidence based guide. Braun and Cohen; or
 - Herbal Medicines. Barnes, Anderson and Phillipson; or
 - e-MIMS; or
 - AusDI Advanced.

The following can be accessed electronically via websites:

- h **copies of the legislation controlling the practice of pharmacy:**
 - the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory

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- Drugs/Medicines and Poisons legislation for each jurisdiction
- Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP)
- The Australian Immunisation Handbook

i the Pharmacy Board of Australia Guidelines

j the Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy (Merck Sharp and Dohme)

Note: In addition to accessing the references listed in these Guidelines, during the clinical assessment, reviewing, dispensing and counselling processes, pharmacists should use additional references relevant to their area of practice. Consideration should also be given to accessing reference material which provides information in the Australian context. Pharmacists may also need to use more than one reference to ensure that all current and relevant information is accessed.

Review

These guidelines apply from 12 August 2010. The Board will review these guidelines at least every three years.

Last reviewed: 30 August 2011

