

## Medicines information resources for practice staff

### 1) Medicines Complete ([www.medicinescomplete.com](http://www.medicinescomplete.com))

Certain MedicinesComplete resources are available to GPs and practice staff. When Athens password activated you can log in from the MedicinesComplete home screen by clicking on the login button.

You can gain access by following these steps:

1. Register for an NHS OpenAthens account <https://openathens.nice.org.uk>
2. The registration form will prompt you to enter your organisation.

In this box, select **“GPs and practice staff”** for your area (e.g. GPs and practice staff in Northern England).

*Top tip: The pick-list should appear when you begin to type “gps and...”*

3. If you already have an existing OpenAthens account then you should contact your [local administrator](#) who should be able to help.

### Resources available via MedicinesComplete

#### *Drug administration via enteral feeding tubes*

This resource contains information on how to administer medicines via enteral feeding tubes including PEGS, RIGS and JEJ tubes. Including choice of formulation, alternatives and practical administration information. There also are general chapters about different types of tubes, legal issues around administering medicines via tubes, information on flushing and unblocking tubes.

#### *Drugs in Pregnancy and lactation*

This is not a first line resource for use however provides detailed use about medicines in pregnancy and lactation. For pregnancy enquiries practices can register for Toxbase – the UK Teratology Information Service (UKTIS) produces monographs on use of drugs in pregnancy. The UKTIS website provides the summaries of the Toxbase monographs on its website (<http://www.uktis.org/>). There are also a number of useful Medicines Q&As on the SPS website ([www.sps.nhs.uk](http://www.sps.nhs.uk)) about drugs in pregnancy. As well as leaflets for patients that can be used to aid discussions – these are available on the BUMPs website (<https://www.medicinesinpregnancy.org/>). For drugs in lactation, the SPS website has freely available information and UKDILAS has produced a guide to using the SPS website to find their information, at <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/ukdilas>.

#### *Palliative care formulary*

The PCF is a comprehensive resource for medicines in palliative care. The book is divided into drug monographs and general topics. Including dosing, compatibility for syringe drivers and practical information about drug administration.

#### *Stockley’s drug interactions*

This resource contains further information on managing drug-drug interactions. It also includes Stockleys Interactions checker, which provides concise monographs however, they should be used in conjunction with Stockleys drug interactions as they are not updated at the same time.

### *Stockley's Herbal Medicines Interactions*

This resource provides information on interactions of commonly used herbal medicines, dietary supplements and nutraceuticals with conventional medicines

### *Herbal Medicines*

This contains detailed information on the use of various herbal medicines and the evidence behind them. There is also a number of relevant Medicines Q&As on the SPS website.

#### 2) SPS website ([www.sps.nhs.uk](http://www.sps.nhs.uk))

The Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) website is run by the UKMi service. It has lots of information about medicines and can be easily searched for information. It also hosts the Drugs in Lactation Service monographs, the UKMi Fridge database about use of fridge line medicines which have been stored outside licensed conditions and the UKMi compliance aid database about suitability of medicines for compliance aids. There are Medicines Q&As on the therapeutic options for patients unable to swallow solid oral dosage forms, injections that can be administered enterally, covert administration of medicines, and considerations when crushing tablets or opening capsules in a care home setting.

#### 3) Medicines for Children ([www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk](http://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk))

This website provides access to useful leaflets for health professionals, parents and carers. There are leaflets on specific medicines and for general medicines advice. There are also useful leaflets giving practical advice on how to administer medicines, eye drops, ear drops and other forms, to children.

The website is maintained by the RCPCH (Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health), the NPPC (Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group) and the charity 'Wellform'.