



Produced by NHS Tayside Medicines Information Unit

## New Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) Website

### Overview:

**UKMi resources, including the Medicines Compliance Aid Database, Medicines Q&As, the Fridge Database and the Lactation Database have been transferred to the new SPS website.**

The Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) – Medicines Use and Safety (MUS), Procurement, Quality Assurance (QA), Technical Services and UKMi have launched a new website. Its aim is to be “The first stop for professional medicines advice” and it is available at: <http://www.sps.nhs.uk>.

This new website brings together the content of a number of historical SPS websites onto one platform. Visitors to all the relevant legacy sites will be redirected to the new SPS website.

All of the UKMi resources have been transferred to the new site with all the information in one place under the individual monograph heading.

**The information is now organised around the medicine as opposed to the old database ‘themes’. The best way to search the SPS website is therefore to use drug names. It is also best to register with the site and login each time the site is visited.**

### How to access information regarding medicines compliance aids

If, for example, you were looking for information on the suitability of a specific medicine for inclusion in a medicines compliance aid you would follow these steps:

- 1) Enter the name of the medicine you are looking for in the search box at the top of the page.
- 2) Click on the specific medicine that is retrieved on the list that is displayed (under ‘Medicines pages’).
- 3) Scroll down the page to the ‘Medicine Compliance Aid Stability’ information for that medicine.

### How to access Medicines Q&As

If you were looking for a Medicines Q&A regarding a particular medicine, then you would carry out the following:

Repeat steps 1 and 2 as described above and scroll down to the ‘Articles’ section. Any relevant Medicines Q&A will be listed.

**Note:** Medicines Q&As can still be searched using NICE Evidence and this is perhaps the preferred option if general search terms (such as drug classes) are to be used, as opposed to an individual medicine; to filter results in NICE Evidence, limit the ‘Source’ to ‘Specialist Pharmacy Service’.

### How to access fridge Stability information

If you were looking for stability information on a specific product that is normally stored in the fridge (e.g. chloramphenicol eye drops) but has been inadvertently exposed to a temperature excursion you would carry out the following:

Repeat steps 1 and 2 as described above and scroll down the page to ‘Refrigerated Storage’ information in the relevant monograph.

**Note:** There may be more than one brand of the same drug listed under the refrigerated storage section. Therefore users must ensure that information for the correct brand is used.

### How to access information regarding medicines in lactation

To find out if a medicine is compatible for use in breast feeding you would carry out the following:

Repeat steps 1 and 2 as described above and scroll down the page to the ‘Lactation Safety Information’ in the relevant monograph.

**Note:** Within this section there are links to further information, such as the evidence link (i.e. to LactMed) and the therapeutic group summary, which provides an overview on the use in lactation of that particular therapeutic group of medicines, and relevant Medicines Q & As. Clicking on the ‘therapeutic group summary’ link will also allow you to link through to other medicines in that therapeutic class to see the advice for similar agents. Clicking on any of the grey medicine names will take you back through a search page; select the medicine (blue font) again to go to the monograph for that agent.

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**Do you wish to write a Tayside Prescriber?**

**Do you already have a suitable topic for a Tayside Prescriber?**

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