

# DynaMed

Power by EBSCOhost

## What Is DynaMed?

*DynaMed* is a clinical reference tool created by a physician for physicians and other health care professionals for use primarily at the 'point-of-care'. With clinically-organized summaries for nearly 2,000 topics, *DynaMed* is the only evidence-based reference shown to answer most clinical questions during practice. Based on the results of a study published in *Annals of Family Medicine* (November/December 2005), not only did primary care clinicians answer more clinical questions with access to *DynaMed* than without *DynaMed*, but these clinicians also found more answers in *DynaMed* that changed clinical decisions.

*DynaMed* is updated daily and monitors the content of over 500 medical journals and systematic evidence review databases directly and indirectly by using many journal review services. Each publication is reviewed cover-to-cover, and each article is evaluated for clinical relevance and scientific validity. The new evidence is then integrated with existing content, and overall conclusions are changed as appropriate representing a synthesis of the best available evidence. Through this process of systematic literature surveillance, the best available evidence determines the content of *DynaMed*.

## Mission

*DynaMed*'s mission is to offer a resource which provides Maximal Usefulness and Maximal Collaboration.

**Maximal Usefulness** - *DynaMed* is designed to provide the most useful information at the point of care for health care professionals. Usefulness requires a balance of validity, relevance and convenience. The essence of *DynaMed* is balancing the available resources with each of these factors to create the most useful clinical resource possible

**Maximal Collaboration** - The best way to determine and improve the usefulness of a medical reference database is to ask and involve those who are using it. From its inception, *DynaMed* has remained committed to responding rapidly to user comments and concerns and to providing easy ways for users to provide feedback and interact with other members of the *DynaMed* Community.

## Easy Navigation

*DynaMed* provides clinically-practical navigation options for health care professionals to locate the best available evidence. Navigation features available to quickly find specific information in a given topic include:

### Browse Topics Alphabetically

The quickest way to locate a topic of interest, users simply browse an A-Z listing, or type to first few letters of the topic of interest to quickly jump to the appropriate item.

### Browse Topics by Category

For users who do not know the name of a specific topic, *DynaMed* offers the ability to search categorically. As such, users may focus on a specific area of medicine, and further drill down to locate the particular item of interest.

### Full Text Search

*DynaMed* allows for full text searching whereby users enter search terms. This searching supports Boolean operators and wildcards, and presents results ranked by relevance.

### Cross-Linking

In order to make navigation as intuitive as possible, *DynaMed* offers internal cross-links that can take the user to related topics with a single click (e.g. to view extensive information about anti-hypertensive medications when viewing hypertension, or to view related diseases listed in the differential diagnosis).

## Technical Specifications

### **DynaMed via the Web**

DynaMed can be accessed via the World Wide Web and allows users to search its content with any PC, Mac or networked workstation operating a Web browser. Minimum browser requirements are Netscape 7.x and higher, Firefox 1.0 and higher or Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.5 and higher. Please note that Macintosh users should use Safari 1.0.2, Netscape 7.x or Firefox 1.0.

### **PDA**

Now making it even easier to access the best available evidence at the point of care, DynaMed's evidence-based reference with nearly 2,000 clinical topic summaries is available in a PDA application for Palm OS and Microsoft Mobile devices

### **Install**

#### **Current DynaMed Customers**

To install the complete DynaMed reference to your PDA (you will need 17 MB available on your PDA hardware or a memory card for this download):

#### **1. Obtain a free DynaMed PDA serial number with one of the following methods:**

- a. If you are an individual subscriber to DynaMed, please e-mail [dynamedsupport@epnet.com](mailto:dynamedsupport@epnet.com) and request a serial number.
- b. If you are a member of an institution which subscribes to DynaMed, please speak to your librarian or administrator about getting access to DynaMed PDA.

If you are a librarian or administrator at a subscribing institution, and you wish to provide PDA access to your members, please e-mail [dynamedsupport@epnet.com](mailto:dynamedsupport@epnet.com) and specify how many serial numbers you will need.

#### **2. When you receive your serial number**

download DynaMed PDA by clicking on the appropriate link for [Windows install for Palm](#) or [Windows install for Microsoft/PocketPC](#). Then choose "Save" instead of "Run/Open" to download the executable file to your disk. For Mac users, see instructions for [Macintosh install for Palm](#).

#### **3. Double-click the file you downloaded to begin installation.**

Proceed through the installation until you come to a screen which asks you for an email address and password. At this point you must register with Skyscape at <http://skyscape.com/dynamed/login>

#### **4. Switch back to the installer window and enter the username and password from the account you just created**

at [www.skyscape.com](http://www.skyscape.com). Click "Next". Enter your serial number. Click "Next". If you are given the option, choose "Next device that performs a HotSync operation". Click "Next". Then synchronize your PDA with your PC.

#### **5. To access DynaMed**

go to "Applications" on your PDA and open "DynaMed". DynaMed will be updated automatically whenever you synchronize your PDA with your computer.

### **Install**

#### **Free Trial**

To install DynaMed PDA and try 180 randomly selected topics as a free trial (you will need 17 MB available on your PDA hardware or a memory card for this download):

1. Download DynaMed PDA by clicking on the appropriate link for [Windows install for Palm](#) or [Windows install for Microsoft/PocketPC](#). Then choose "Save" instead of "Run/Open" to download the executable file to your disk. For Mac users, see instructions for [Macintosh install for Palm](#).
2. To begin installation, double-click the file you saved to your desktop. Proceed through the installation until you come to a screen which asks you to select an install type. Choose "Trial". Proceed with the install until the screen which asks you for an email and password. At this point you must register with Skyscape at <http://skyscape.com/dynamed/login>.
3. Switch to back the installer window and enter the username and password from the account you just created at [www.skyscape.com](http://www.skyscape.com). Click "Next". If you are given the option, choose "Next device that performs a HotSync operation". Click "Next". Then synchronize your PDA with your PC.
4. To access DynaMed, go to "Applications" on your PDA and open "DynaMed".



## FAQ

**Q.** Why should I choose *DynaMed* over other references as my point-of-care resource?

**A.** Designed by a physician for physicians, *DynaMed* is the only evidence-based point-of-care reference that is shown to answer most clinical questions during practice. Research supported by the National Science Foundation (a randomized controlled trial) found that with access to *DynaMed*, primary care clinicians answered more clinical questions than without access to *DynaMed*. More importantly, with *DynaMed*, primary care clinicians found more answers that **changed clinical decisions**. These findings were published in an article which appeared in *Annals of Family Medicine* (November/December 2005).

**Q.** Does *DynaMed* answer physicians' questions with better evidence than competing services?

**A.** According to findings published in *Annals of Family Medicine* (November/December 2005), the Level of Evidence for answers in *DynaMed* met or exceeded what could be found in a combination of commonly used point-of-care references 87% of the time. None of the other resources did as well.

**Q.** Why is *DynaMed* needed?

**A.** ■ According to the National Academy Press (2001), 44-98,000 American deaths per year occur due to preventable medical errors; medical errors are estimated to cost the U.S. \$17 to \$29 billion annually

■ Using the "best available evidence" for clinical decision-making improves health outcomes and reduces health care costs

■ Busy clinicians use "fast and easy" resources expected to answer most of their questions instead of resources designed to provide the **best current evidence**

■ Physicians need a resource where they can reliably answer most questions quickly and accurately (i.e., with the best available evidence)

**Q.** Who uses *DynaMed*?

**A.** *DynaMed* is used by Physicians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, Pharmacists, Physical Therapists, numerous other health care professionals, as well as Hospitals, Medical Schools, Residency Programs, Individual Physicians, Group Practitioners, other training programs, Medical Researchers, etc

**Q.** Is *DynaMed* available via PDA?

**A.** *DynaMed* is available in a PDA application for Palm OS and Microsoft Mobile devices.

## Technical Support

For technical support, email [dynamedsupport@epnet.com](mailto:dynamedsupport@epnet.com)

or call (800) 758-5995 (you will be routed through EBSCO Support).

DynaMed PDA - powered by Skyscape technology.