Your instant second opinion

Healthcare professionals need fast and easy access to reliable, relevant information when making diagnosis and treatment decisions. This is precisely what *BMJ Best Practice* provides. *BMJ Best Practice* provides decision support through a step-by-step approach that is structured around the patient consultation, covering diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention. It fits information around real, diverse and evolving medical information needs to give you a second opinion in an instant. This user guide has been designed to provide you with an overview of *BMJ Best Practice* and guide you through the topic information and important features to ensure you get the most out of your subscription.
At a glance

Breadth of content

- Information on thousands of diagnoses and diagnostic tests
- Seamless links to drug formularies for comprehensive drug information
- Over 4,000 diagnostic and treatment guidelines, including NICE guidelines
- Over 200 plain-language patient information leaflets to support treatment options
- Full reference links and over 3,500 colour images

Evidence into practice

- Referenced throughout, with links to research articles

Structured information

- Step-by-step information structure to anticipate clinical questions and provide quick answers
- Treatment information organised by patient type

Breadth of content

- The flexibility to change the language of the interface and navigation to over one of 16 local languages
- The ability to bookmark and annotate pages with personal notes and view notes added at an institutional level
- Regular alerts via RSS and email to stay informed of the latest product and content updates
Searching

Introduction
There are two main ways to find information within *BMJ Best Practice*, by browsing a list of topics by selecting ‘show conditions’ or by using the search box and entering a term. Key to getting started is the *BMJ Best Practice* search function. The next couple of pages include details on how to locate information, tips to help you optimise your search results, how results are ranked and enhanced search options.

The search box
To help you access the information you need quickly and easily, the *BMJ Best Practice* search function includes a number of features that narrow down your search results and ensure that the most relevant results are returned instantly. It is recommended that you use a maximum of two predominant signs or terms in your search to return a full comprehensive list of search results. If you want to search for a specific phrase or a group of words in a specific order, include double quote marks (“”) around your phrase e.g. “shortness of breath”. If you are searching for more than one term, symptom or sign, you can refine your search results by using the AND/OR/NOT function in your search.

1. As you start typing, suggestions will automatically appear to help you find what you are looking for
2. Click on the blue magnifying glass to search for all relevant content or click on the suggested search term in the drop down to go directly to the monograph
Refined searches

To refine your search there are three common search commands supported in BMJ Best Practice: AND, OR and NOT.

The search functionality uses the AND command as its default option when a phrase or series of words are entered. This will return results containing all of the words you have entered into your search query. You do not need to include the word AND between your search terms, as ‘and’ is automatically implied. If you want to return results containing just one of several terms you can use the OR command. It’s important that you use all caps when typing OR otherwise the search will not recognise your request. When you want to search for either one of multiple specific phrases don’t forget to include double quote marks (“”) around each phrase, e.g. “shortness of breath” OR “chest pain”. If you want to exclude certain terms from a search you can use the NOT command, e.g. to search for pain, but not exclude chest pain, type ‘pain NOT chest’.

3 Type ‘fever rash’ into the search bar and it will only present results that feature both terms

4 Typing ‘fever OR rash’ will return any page that has either of those terms. Pages with both terms are ranked higher up the page
Highlighting search results
When you click through from one of the search results, the highlighting tool emphasises all mentions of the search word in yellow on the relevant pages in the topic.

Search results for a known condition
Search results for a known condition e.g. ‘Pulmonary embolism’, are ranked by relevance, and allow easy access directly to the content more relevant to you.

Search results for a diagnosis
Search results for a symptom, e.g. ‘shortness of breath’, are ranked by relevance, and allow quick and easy access to topics to help diagnose the cause (‘Assessment of dyspnoea’) and to conditions in which the symptom occurs, e.g. ‘Pneumothorax’.

Search query expansion
Another feature is the search functionality is finding words from the stem of a word. This removes common suffixes, such as ‘-ise’, ‘-ing’, ‘-s’, ‘-es’ etc. So, a search for 'breathing’ will also find ‘breath’ and vice versa.

Refine the results by content type using the different tabs
The content type is clearly listed with the search results
The actual condition is listed as well as any related topics
Direct links are available to different sections of topics to aid quick navigation

A search for 'breathing’ will also find ‘breath’ and vice versa
MeSH synonyms
The BMJ Best Practice search engine uses MeSH synonyms to further enhance the search results. The search engine will also search for synonyms of the term entered. So, for example, if you search for ‘acetaminophen’ you will also see results for ‘paracetamol’ and vice versa. The synonym lists for each topic have been extended and enhanced based on user activity and are updated regularly.

Topic synonyms and related topics
When you search for a particular condition the search will also bring back any related ‘topic synonyms’. This allows you to find information on a condition which may be under an alternative name or topic.

The search results generated for the term ‘acetaminophen’, display both ‘paracetamol’ and ‘acetaminophen’

If you search for ‘shaken baby syndrome’ it also finds results for ‘child abuse’
Condition topics
Each topic contains information on the complete management (diagnosis and treatment) of a patient with this condition. It also includes background information, prevention and follow-up material.

Navigation within the topic is easy with a consistent, practical content menu. This menu provides a quick reference to the different sections as well as enabling fast access to the most relevant content to you.

12 Treatment guidelines appropriate to the condition are available from international and regional organisations.
13 Resources include references (with abstract and/or full text links), images, related content and further online resources.

14 Additional tabs include: Overview, Emergencies, Diagnosis and Resources.
Assessment topics

BMJ Best Practice contains a number of ‘Assessment of’ topics that provide detailed guidance on the diagnosis of key clinical symptoms and the use of diagnostic tests and procedures.

The ‘Differential diagnosis’ section presents all the differentiating history, exam factors, and tests for each differential e.g. ‘dyspnoea’.

Overview topics

BMJ Best Practice also contains a number of ‘Overview’ topics. These provide brief information summaries regarding a group of conditions and links to further information on the individual conditions.

Sort ‘Differential diagnosis’ by frequency or category

Additional tabs include: Overview, Emergencies, Diagnosis and Resources

‘The ‘conditions’ section allows you to link to each of the individual conditions
Integrated evidence

Discover the power of evidence

Statements on the treatment of disease in *BMJ Best Practice* are backed up by the latest evidence from BMJ Clinical Evidence, one of the world’s most respected and trusted sources of evaluated medical research.

Appropriate content from BMJ Clinical Evidence is incorporated directly into each *BMJ Best Practice* topic, and clearly identified using evidence grades.

- **Summary**
  - Clear summary of the current state of knowledge and effectiveness of treatment
  - Related systematic reviews: Questions
    - Diabetes: foot ulcers and amputations
    - Diabetes: glycemic control in type 1

- **Type 1 diabetes**
  - Treatment
  - Follow Up
  - Summary

- **Other related conditions**
  - Overview of diabetes
  - Diabetic cardiovascular disease
  - Diabetic nephropathy
  - Diabetic neuropathy

BMJ Clinical Evidence is incorporated into relevant topics.
View related content from other BMJ products

BMJ Best Practice is your single destination for treatment and diagnosis information, to further enhance your search you can now locate other BMJ related content on the topic.

You can view detailed relevant content from:

- BMJ Learning
- BMJ Clinical Evidence
- Best Health
- The BMJ
- Related BMJ journals

Step-by-step guide

1. You can select any of the listed items for instant access (level of access will depend on your subscription status - to discover more about your current subscriptions please contact your internal administrator or contact the BMJ customer services team on support@bmj.com)

2. Save specific content to your BMJ Portfolio, simply click on the content checkboxes you wish to save and select the blue "Add checked items to BMJ Portfolio'.

3. Save the entire portal page, by selecting the 'Add to BMJ Portfolio' button. When you access the page at a later date, the portal page will refresh and display the most current relevant items.
Benefits of ‘My BMJ Best Practice’
A ‘My BMJ Best Practice’ account allows you to:

- Access the site from home or on your mobile device
- Save searches and bookmark pages
- Share links with others
- Access local and institutional guidelines applicable to you

How to create a ‘My BMJ Best Practice’ account
To benefit from the personalisation features in BMJ Best Practice, you need to sign up for a ‘My BMJ Best Practice’ account (or use an existing sign-in for other BMJ products). Click on the ‘My BMJ Best Practice’ while you are within your organisation. Register for your own personal account by entering your details. If you do not have an account set up for any other BMJ products or services you will be prompted to complete the registration process and provide information to support your use of the product.
Search in your local language

BMJ Best Practice navigation and search functionality is now available in over 60 languages, allowing you to pre-select your local or preferred search language options via your 'My BMJ Best Practice' preferences. By logging in via your 'My BMJ Best Practice' account you will be able to save your search in its respective search language.

Choosing a drug database

Your subscription may include access to multiple drug databases. When referring to a formulary for medicines information, you can choose which of the available databases to consult, or set a default database to use.
Access *BMJ Best Practice* on the go

*BMJ Best Practice* has been designed to adapt and resize for an optimal viewing experience across all mobile devices.

Remote access at no extra cost

All personal and institutional subscriptions include remote access to *BMJ Best Practice* at no extra charge. Simply create a ‘My *BMJ Best Practice*’ account and follow the instructions (pg. 13).

Download the app for even faster access

All personal and institutional subscriptions include remote access to *BMJ Best Practice* at no extra charge. Simply create a ‘My *BMJ Best Practice*’ account and follow the instructions (pg. 13).
Stay connected

Sign up to a 'My BMJ Best Practice' account (pg. 13) to receive monthly email alerts highlighting the most recent and updated topics, along with helpful hints and tips.

Follow-us on Facebook, join our community of users to discuss topics, get involved in our weekly quizzes and find out where our expert trainers will be next.

www.facebook.com/BMJBestPractice

If you would like to reach us please email support@bmj.com.