Clinical Drug Information

Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin Enhances Patient Care and Increases Efficiency With Lexicomp® Online

CLIENT PROFILE: CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF WISCONSIN
Since 2002, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin (Children’s) has evolved with the development of Lexicomp® drug references from Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information and taken advantage of new opportunities to improve patient care and increase workplace efficiency. Both goals are accomplished with help from Lexicomp Online, the industry-leading platform for point-of-care and in-depth drug reference information and clinical content.

Children’s first used Lexicomp printed reference materials such as the Pediatric & Neonatal Dosage Handbook, the industry standard resource for pediatric and neonatal dosing. As technology advanced, Children’s moved to electronic references, and in 2008, made the move to Lexicomp Online for more complete, up to date content. A hospital-wide solution, Lexicomp Online provides pharmacists, physicians and nurses the opportunity to search up to 19 databases and up to 8 clinical support modules.

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EXTENSIVE PEDIATRIC-SPECIFIC DRUG INFORMATION IS A MUST
As a children’s hospital, the clinicians at Children’s trust extensive, up-to-date Lexicomp information provides when making treatment decisions at the point of care. In critical situations, it is imperative that the clinicians have fast access to information: The information has to be found easily, and it has to pertain to their patients. “We are not looking for adult drug and dosing information,” said Tom Nelson, PharmD, RPh, pharmacy clinical coordinator. “With Lexicomp Online, we have the ability to go right to the pediatric-specific drug information we need and not have to sort through adult dosing information.”

Lexicomp Online includes the Pediatric & Neonatal Lexi-Drugs database, which features a wealth of drug information designed to help clinicians make safer pediatric dosing decisions. It contains guidelines that have been researched and compiled by pediatric specialists and includes more than 1,000 pediatric-sensitive drug monographs with detailed dosing guidelines for neonates, infants and children.

The pediatric focus of this database plays such an important role in the daily activities of all clinicians at Children’s that the institution opted to further optimize the pediatric content by customizing the display order of the databases in Lexicomp Online, so that pediatric information is always seen first. “This setup is a remarkable feature and huge time-saver for our staff. It allows our clinicians more time to care for their patients and less time searching for information,” Nelson stated.
ASSISTANCE SATISFYING MEANINGFUL USE CRITERIA

In an effort to enhance patient care and medication safety, Children’s uses Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information patient education materials to provide parents and patients information about their medications and conditions, helping to satisfy qualifications of Meaningful Use for clinical decision support. The materials are easily accessible within Lexicomp Online.

“Meaningful Use criteria are positively impacting hospitals and health systems across the country. Teaching sheets are one good example of how Children’s is accomplishing Meaningful Use,” explained Nelson. “More importantly, the fact that Lexicomp offers access to these patient education materials in multiple languages expedites patient care.”

Available in 19 languages, patient education materials support the diverse patient population at Children’s and are concisely written at a 5th-to-7th-grade reading level. Written and extensively reviewed by the Clinical Drug Information pharmacy staff and a network of clinicians, medication patient education materials are derived from Lexicomp professional monographs and are updated based on surveillance of FDA standards, manufacturer product labeling updates, literature assessment and clinical practice guideline review.

In addition to covering over 1000 pediatric medications, Lexicomp Online patient education materials also include conditions, procedures, and more and allow clinicians at Children’s to create and print a personalized packet of leaflets covering all the topics necessary for educating patients and parents. This customization allows clinicians the flexibility to generate patient-specific notes to aid in comprehension and compliance.

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