

## August 2018 First District Article

## A Hidden ADA membership benefit: The Next-Generation Clinical Information Resource: Dynamed Plus

Dynamed Plus is a dynamic evidence-based clinical reference tool created by physicians for healthcare providers to use at the "point of care". It contains clinically-organized summaries for more than 3,200 topics and guess what? The subscription is **FREE** to ADA members, a hidden gem as part of your membership benefits. You can find this on the ADA website home page under Member Center, then ADA Library & Archives. Most members are not aware of this benefit and many pay a yearly fee to subscribe to a similar online program such as Lexicomp. When you log onto Dynamed Plus for the first time, you can create an account. Your ADA membership is recognized as part of your registration and as a result, you will not be accessed a fee to use this tool! Here is some basic information about DynaMed Plus.

Users can search DynaMed Plus for a wide variety of information on specific diseases. DynaMed Plus will return any Topic Overviews, Conditions, Drugs, Labs, Images, and Calculators that are relevant to the searched disease. If users do not know what Disease to search for, one can search by Signs & Symptoms. For example: "shortness of breath" returns DynaMed Plus Topic Overviews (Dyspnea), Conditions (COPD), Drugs, Images, and Calculators to help diagnose the possible cause of the presented Sign or Symptom.

DynaMed Plus organizes its content into Topic Pages containing clinically relevant information in a standardized layout for ease of access & information retrieval. Topic pages are organized into the following 6 categories:

<u>Overview:</u> This topic page can contain an overview on a single topic (i.e. fluoride) or it can contain a list of topic pages for a broad topic area (i.e. Pediatrics).

<u>Condition:</u> contains information on conditions, syndromes, and diseases.

<u>Drug:</u> Drugs can be searched by name or condition specific medication can be found in the "Medication" sub-section under the Treatment sub-heading on the Condition page. Drug information on dosage, therapeutic use, cautions, comparative efficacy, approved and off-label indications, pharmacokinetics, clinical applications, and interactions of medications is provided.

<u>Lab:</u> Contains information on the lab's indications, sample collection, test methodology, and normal/abnormal reference ranges & results.

<u>Image:</u> All searches return any relevant Image results as thumbnails at the top of the page. DynaMed Plus has partnered with ACP to provide over 4,700 medical graphics and images. When searching DynaMed Plus, any images that are relevant to the search term are returned at the top of the page.

<u>Calculator</u>: All searches return any relevant calculators results, with their name and a basic version of the calculated formula, at the top of the Results page. With so many different calculators available in this program, you can bookmark the ones used most often.

Patient Education/Information can be found on Overview and Condition pages under the subheading "Patient Information". This section contains links and handouts, in English and Spanish, containing information on the condition, managing the condition, and medication/medical devices.

How is DynaMed Plus maintained and updated?

- <u>DynaMed Plus Editors</u> monitor the content of more than <u>500 medical journals and other</u> sources.
- In addition, practicing clinicians provide additional reviewing and editorial support as reviewers and contributors.
- The methodology used to identify, evaluate, and select the evidence used in DynaMed Plus summaries is outlined in their 7-Step Editorial Process.

New and improved user interface makes it easy to find answers quickly.

- Updated multiple times every day to ensure continual access to the most current evidence.
- Unbiased content means users can always trust recommendations.
- Bulleted format makes it easy to scan content and find answers quickly.
- Summaries and recommendations are included in 750 of the most popular topics.
- Easy access to thousands of graphics and images.
- Anywhere, anytime, on any device.
- Complimentary mobile app comes standard with every subscription.
- Relevant search results every time.

Experience why DynaMed Plus is the go-to resource for healthcare providers around the world. And if you need any assistance at all, contact the ADA Library & Archives. Also, remember to download the mobile app!!

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