



## Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Continues to Implement Lexicomp to Enhance Patient Care and Increase Efficiency

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Tom Nelson,  
PharmD, RPh,  
Pharmacy Clinical Coordinator

### **CLIENT PROFILE: Children's Hospital of Wisconsin**

A customer since 2002, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin (Children's) has evolved with Lexicomp® and taken advantage of new opportunities to improve patient care and increase workplace efficiency. Both are accomplished with the implementation of Lexicomp® Online™, the premier platform for point-of-care and in-depth drug information and clinical content, provided by Lexicomp.

The relationship between Lexicomp and Children's first began with printed reference materials such as the Pediatric 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. The only hospital-wide solution, Lexicomp Online provides pharmacists, physicians and nurses the opportunity to search up to 15 databases and up to 8 clinical support modules.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PEDIATRIC-SPECIFIC DRUG INFORMATION IS A MUST FOR CHILDREN'S CLINICIANS**

As a children's hospital, the clinicians at Children's rely on the comprehensive, up-to-date drug information Lexicomp 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 the information has to pertain to their patients. According to Tom Nelson, PharmD, RPh, Pharmacy Clinical Coordinator, "We are not looking for adult drug and dosing information. With Lexicomp, we have the ability to go right to the pediatric-specific drug information we need and not have to sort through adult dosing information."

The Pediatric & Neonatal Lexi-Drugs® database features comprehensive 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 750 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 order of the databases. "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.

The referenced pediatric content found within Lexicomp Online serves all clinicians from pharmacists and physicians to nurses and medical residents. "While many drug information providers offer good content," Nelson explained, "Lexicomp Online offers additional pediatric-specific content useful to our entire staff. It is hands-down more complete."

### LEXICOMP ASSISTS CHILDREN'S IN SATISFYING MEANINGFUL USE CRITERIA

In an effort to enhance patient care and medication safety, Children's utilizes Lexicomp patient education materials to provide parents and patients information about their medication, helping to satisfy qualifications of meaningful use for clinical decision support.

"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. He went on, "More importantly, the fact that Lexicomp offers these patient education materials in multiple languages expedites patient care."

Available in 19 languages, Lexicomp 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 Lexicomp clinical pharmacy staff and pharmacists, 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; thus, providing the clinicians at Children's the most up-to-date drug information.

In addition to covering over 1000 pediatric medications, Lexicomp patient education materials also include conditions and procedures 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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#### About Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin is the region's only independent health care system dedicated solely to the health and well-being of children. The hospital, with locations in Milwaukee and Neenah, Wis., is recognized as one of the leading pediatric health care centers in the United States and was named one of America's Best Children's Hospitals by U.S. News & World Report. Children's Hospital provides primary care, specialty care, urgent care, emergency care, community health services, foster and adoption services, child and family counseling, child advocacy services and family resource centers. In 2010, Children's Hospital invested more than \$105 million in the community to improve the health status of children through medical care, advocacy, education and pediatric medical research. Children's Hospital achieves its mission in part through donations from individuals, corporations and foundations and is proud to be a Children's Miracle Network Hospital. For more information, visit the website at [chw.org](http://chw.org).

