

Drugs

Best Web sites

Description of the topic

Persons with Alzheimer's, families, and professional caregivers are often looking for good Internet resources. Identified here are Web sites on drugs therapies for Alzheimer's and related issues. While there may be some overlap, each site is unique and aimed at providing current, practical, and expert information.

Alzheimer's Association National Office.
Chicago, IL.

In addition to the indented resources, the following fact sheets related to specific areas of drug research can be downloaded at http://www.alz.org/alzheimers_disease_publications.asp: AN-1792 The Alzheimer Vaccine; CX516 (Ampalex); Hormone Replacement Therapy; Leteprinin Potassium (Neotrofin®); MKC-231; VP4896 (Leuprolide); Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDS); and Vitamin E.

Cholinesterase Inhibitors (fact sheet).

Cholinesterase inhibitors (Aricept™, Exelon™, Razadyne™, Cognex™) are one type of drug currently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat cognitive symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.

http://www.alz.org/documents/national/FS_cholinesteraseinhibtors.pdf

Health Claims for Drugs and Dietary Supplements (fact sheet).

http://www.alz.org/national/documents/FSTherapy_claims.pdf

Medications (fact sheet)

<http://www.alz.org/documents/national/FSMedications.pdf>

Memantine (fact sheet).

Memantine (Namenda™) is a drug approved in October 2003 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease for overall function.

<http://www.alz.org/documents/national/FSmemantine.pdf>

AARP (American Association of Retired Persons).

Washington, DC.

Should I Take Medicine to Treat Alzheimer's discusses the key points a person with Alzheimer's might consider when deciding to take medication.

<http://www.healthwise.net/aarp/Content/StdDocument.aspx?DOCHWID=ty7566&SECHWID=ty7566-Intro>.

Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center (ADEAR).
Bethesda, MD.

Alzheimer's Disease Medications Fact Sheet.

Drugs prescribed for mild to moderate and moderate to severe stages of the disease, dosage, side effects, drug interactions are covered.

<http://www.alzheimers.org/pubs/medications.htm>

Clinical Trials.

A database on clinical trials searchable by city, state, disease stage, drug, and more is provided here by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and National Institute on Aging.

<http://www.nia.nih.gov/Alzheimers/ResearchInformation/ClinicalTrials>

Alzheimer Research Forum.

Waltham, MA.

Drugs and Drug Therapies.

Includes FDA approved medications, other classes of medications, alternative treatments, and other approved over-the-counter medications.

<http://www.alzforum.org/dis/tre/drt/default.asp>

Alzbrain.org.

Tuscaloosa, AL.

A Short Practical Guide to Psychotropic Medications for Dementia Patients

<http://www.alzbrain.org/quicklinks/practguide.htm>

ClinicalTrials.gov.

Bethesda, MD.

Regularly updated information about federally and privately supported clinical research with human volunteers and much related to drug research. Provides information about a trial's purpose, who may participate, locations, and phone numbers and whether a trial is still recruiting.

<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct/gui>

Drugs.com.

Auckland, NZ

Search brand name drugs (Aricept, Razadyne/Reminyl, Exelon, and Namenda) for pictures of the FDA approved medications for Alzheimer's disease. Proceed to the Image Search by agreeing to the disclaimer terms.

http://www.drugs.com/image_search.html

Medicare: The Official U.S Government Site for People with Medicare.

Baltimore, MD.

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder.

Information about Medicare prescription drug plans, how they work, and how to enroll.

<http://www.medicare.gov/MPDPF/Public/Include/DataSection/Questions/MPDPFIntro.asp?version=default&browser=IE%7C7%7CWinXP&language=English&defaultstatus=0&pagelist=Home&ViewType=Public&PDPYear=2007&MAPDYear=2007&MPDPF%5FMPPF%5FIntegrate=N>

Merck Manual Home Edition.

Whitehouse Station, NJ.

Aging and Drugs explains the sensitivity older people may have to medicine, compliance issues, and drugs that increase risk.

<http://www.merck.com/mmhe/sec02/ch014/ch014a.html>

National Library of Medicine – MedlinePlus.

Bethesda, MD.

Drug Information.

Provides prescription and over-the-counter medication information.

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html>

RxList: The Internet Drug Index.

Rancho Sante Fe, CA.

A searchable database for identifying drugs, their side effects, interactions, imprint codes (unique identifications of the drug products) and more.

<http://rxlist.com>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Rockville, MD.

FDA Public Health Advisory. Deaths with Antipsychotics in Elderly Patients with Behavioral Disturbances.

Based on a review of seventeen clinical trials, the FDA has asked manufacturers of atypical antipsychotic drugs to include a Boxed Warning in their labeling describing the risk of death during treatment and noting that these drugs are not approved for persons with dementia.

<http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/advisory/antipsychotics.htm>

Atypical Antipsychotic Drugs Information.

Fact sheets on seven atypical antipsychotic drugs.

<http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/infopage/antipsychotics/default.htm>

USP: United States Pharmacopeia.

Rockville, MD.

This agency sets the public quality standards for all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, dietary supplements, and other healthcare products manufactured in the United States.

<http://www.usp.org>

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Best of the Best