



Clinical Drug Information

Global Drug Information Resources Help Medical Center Achieve Efficiency and Related Goals

CLIENT PROFILE:

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (IMC), JEDDAH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

While it took 12 years of extensive planning to create the state-of-the-art International Medical Center (IMC) in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia,

one thing was clear from the start. The IMC team knew a key component to achieving its goals of holistic healing, high ethical standards, and being on the cutting edge of medical innovation was an advanced drug information solution.

“The IMC’s vision is to pioneer a unique approach

of healing the body, mind, and soul by applying the best global healthcare standards and pursuing divine ethics,” explains Dr. Desouky F. Fayed, MS, PharmD, the director of pharmaceutical care at IMC. “One of those inevitable healthcare standards is providing a reliable drug information resource to the healthcare providers. Having information that is continuously updated, concise, and easy-to-access and -navigate right at the fingertip of each and every healthcare provider in the hospital was our target from the first day of IMC operation.”

The IMC selected Lexicomp® Online, the flagship hospital drug reference offering from Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information, as its solution to support its medication therapy decisions at the point of care and medication order review.

Lexicomp Online is “one of the best global drug information resources,” Dr. Fayed says. “This resource has added value to our process of delivering patient care at the highest standards.”

Beyond the basics

The IMC introduced Lexicomp Online for pharmacy use on a limited basis “to make sure every single medication order could be reviewed against an evidence-based drug information resource,” Dr. Fayed says.

As the number of services offered and professionals employed by the hospital increased, so did the demand for drug information. The IMC expanded its subscription to make Lexicomp Online available on every computer terminal hospital-wide to its entire staff of pharmacists, physicians and nurses.

“The broad collection of databases enables users to quickly locate information on a wide range of topics,” says critical care clinical pharmacist Dr. Inas S. Ibrahim, PharmD. She cites the convenience of having multiple drug information databases available in one

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interface through a single search, including the Lexicomp proprietary multinational database, which “enables the search for international brand names we commonly encounter during our practice.” The staff also takes advantage of specialty databases focused on off-label drug uses, pharmacogenomics, lab tests and diagnostic procedures, toxicology, and more.

Creating a custom formulary

In 2013, after five years of using Lexicomp Online to inform medication decisions throughout the hospital, the IMC “decided to go one extra mile to synchronize the flow of updated information published in Lexicomp Online together with IMC-approved formulary medications,” Dr. Fayed explains.

Through its Referential Monograph Customization service, Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information works with institutions to create their own easily searchable online formulary databases and then integrates those hospital-specific policies and drug lists with trusted Lexicomp drug information.

“Having electronic, institution-wide access to the hospital formulary for all healthcare providers at IMC was a paradigm shift,” says Dr. Fayed. “IMC clinicians have always relied on IMC-developed guidelines. These were formerly published as appendices to the printed IMC Formulary. Now clinicians find it really useful to have them all incorporated with the online version of IMC formulary within Lexicomp Online. It is time-saving to have all you need at a button press!”

Custom databases combine the evidence-based clinical data of Lexicomp Online with institution-specific information on drug availability and regulations. The IMC is able to update its own policies, guidelines, and formulary availability data using the Lexicomp Information Management System, or LIMS, a software program Dr. Ibrahim describes as “user-friendly.”

LIMS has “made the process of updating the formulary by the administrators an incredibly smooth experience, both time- and effort-wise,” she says. “The updates are performed daily or whenever needed with minimized monograph review time, eliminating any outdated information instantly.”

Using LIMS, the IMC has been able to select special fields to be displayed in its customized drug monographs, such as Saudi Arabia Brand Names, Prescribing Privileges, Drug Specific Identifiers, IMC Guidelines, and IMC Pregnancy Category.

Dr. Fayed notes that the next planned step for the IMC is to make its custom database available to clinicians wherever and whenever they need it through Lexicomp Mobile Apps. “With the smartphone mobile version, the IMC formulary as well as the full (collection of) Lexicomp Online databases shall be accessible to all healthcare providers on-the-go,” he says.

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Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information is the provider of a medication decision support solution including both drug reference information you can look up at the point of care AND drug data that integrates seamlessly into healthcare systems to power medication-related screening and alerts. We are one content provider, operating under a singular vision to develop complementary and clinically relevant information across our Lexicomp®, Medi-Span®, and Facts & Comparisons® applications.

The International Medical Center (IMC) is a multi-disciplinary hospital located in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities that enable it to rank among the best healthcare providers in the region, the IMC features more than 150 U.S.-, Canadian- and European-certified physicians in more than 30 specialties, including orthopedics, cardiology, oncology, women's health and children's health.

The IMC was inaugurated in 2006 by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz and the late Crown Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz after more than 12 years of extensive planning. Its mission is to be the ultimate trusted healthcare institute in the region through creating a patient-centered environment and focusing on a holistic approach to medicine and caring for the patient's body, mind and soul.


<http://beta.imc.med.sa/imc/en>



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