

## **CONTENTS**

[ABOUT THIS ISSUE](#)

[PDR® FAMILY OF REFERENCES](#)

## ABOUT THIS ISSUE

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## THE PDR FAMILY OF REFERENCES

Since its inception more than 50 years ago, Physicians' Desk Reference has grown from a single slim volume into an entire set of specialized reference works. PDR itself -- now over 3,300 pages long and the size of a phone book -- covers prescription drugs and serves as the core of the set. It is supplemented by "PDR for Nonprescription Drugs and Dietary Supplements" and "PDR for Ophthalmic Medicines," covering over-the-counter medications, supplements and herbs, and specialized ophthalmologicals, respectively. In addition, the "PDR Companion Guide" serves as a time-saving cross-reference to the three basic works, sparing users the chore of hunting through scores of underlying entries for references to a particular indication, contraindication, side effect, or interaction. The book also forms the basis for the automatic prescription-screening programs available in the PDR Electronic Library.

Other books in the growing set of PDR references include "PDR Medical Dictionary," with over 100,000 entries and a comprehensive guide to pharmaceutical names, the "PDR Nurse's Dictionary," a pocket-sized condensation of the medical dictionary, and the "PDR Nurse's Drug Handbook," a convenient portable drug reference boasting complete coverage of nursing implications. In addition, PDR now offers consumers a growing series of health care handbooks, including "The PDR Family Guide to Prescription Drugs," "The PDR Family Guide Encyclopedia of Medical Care," and "The PDR Family Guide to Over-the-Counter Medications" and our latest title, "The PDR Family Guide to Natural Medicines and Healing Therapies."

The PDR family of references also includes a steadily expanding set of electronic products. In addition to the "PDR Electronic Library" CD-ROM, there's the unique "Pocket PDR Plus Databank," a handheld electronic device that contains verbatim information on indications, contraindications, warnings, adverse reactions, dosage and administration, and how supplied for every prescription drug in PDR. This state-of-the-art reference can be updated with a data cartridge the size of a matchbook, and offers some of the same quick look-up facilities found in your CD-ROM, including global word search. PDR is also available for PDA devices, including PDR for Palm. And for those times when there's no PDR product handy, the complete PDR database of prescribing information is now available any time, anywhere, at [pdr.net](http://www.pdr.net) on the World Wide Web (<http://www.pdr.net>).

We are confident that somewhere within this battery of specialized drug references, there is one that will precisely meet your needs. For more information, or to order any of these products, please call toll-free 1-800-232-7379. Specific inquiries on PDR products may also be sent via Internet e-mail to [PDR@medec.com](mailto:PDR@medec.com).

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