

IDIN Answers



IDIN Answers is a collection of previously answered drug information questions. This database currently includes over 1,100 questions with answers. Since the Iowa Drug Information Network (IDIN) began operation in 1996 every question that might be relevant to others has been added to this database. Other individuals and organizations benefit from the information that was gathered for the initial response. These questions & answers are periodically reviewed and updated in an attempt to provide current consultations on many topics of interest to clients.

IDIN Answers is available to all *IDIS*/Web users and to members of the Iowa Drug Information Network. To access *IDIN Answers*, *IDIN* or *IDIS* clients simply log into *IDIS*/Web in the usual way (<http://www.uiowa.edu/~idis/idisweb.htm>). Click the link to *IDIN Answers* in the column on the left side of the page. Then the user can search the database to find consultations of interest by one of many ways:

- You may browse through the list of questions by **date** of the most recent additions.
- All drug information questions in the database are assigned to one **primary category**. You may browse through the questions by category. For example you could select the category Formulary Reviews and browse through all of the formulary reviews.
- Searches can also be executed using valid drug, disease and/or *IDIS*/Web **descriptors**.
 - Enter a valid *IDIS* term (cross-reference terms in the *IDIS* database are also active) and press search.
 - Or click the button for the Drugs, Diseases or Descriptors Field to see which of those index terms have been used in this database. Select the term you want, click submit, and it will be transferred to the search screen. You can select more than one term in a field. The default Boolean operator is 'or', however you can edit that to 'and'.
 - If you use more than one field, the default Boolean operator between fields is 'and', but you can also change that operator.

After you execute your search, you will get a screen which displays a list of questions that have been indexed with the search terms you specified. You can click on any question and the question, answer and conclusion will be displayed. The author, date of the response, and the date of the most recent update will also be displayed. Lastly, the references used to provide the answer are displayed; those referenced articles that are in the *IDIS*/Web database will be linked directly to that article.

After you have finished with the *IDIN Answers* database click 'Logout' in the top right or the lower left banner to exit.

Please provide any feedback you have about the database to: idin@uiowa.edu

The logo for the Division of Drug Information Service (DDIS) features a stylized world map in the background. The letters 'DDIS' are prominently displayed in a large, gold, serif font. Below the map, the text 'Division of Drug Information Service' is written in a smaller, blue, serif font.

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DDIS
Division of Drug Information Service