The Knowledge Network: Evidence summaries: DynaMed

# Presented by NES Knowledge Services team

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Welcome to our short video about the evidence summary product DynaMed. You can find DynaMed on The Knowledge Network by clicking the ‘explore evidence summaries’ button on the home page/

Here you will find more information about evidence summary products available through The Knowledge Network and links to mobile app versions. Click ‘Access DynaMed’.

Before we go on we should highlight that this resource does not replace local policy practice or clinical judgement. It is a tool to be used in conjunction with your clinical experience.

A little bit about DynaMed. It has been established for several years and is particularly useful if you are working with a complex case or you’re doing research as it can be quite detailed. DynaMed gives you the option to create a personal account which you need to download and use their mobile app. This also allows you to track your usage for CPD purposes.

You will be prompted to sign in with OpenAthens. this is what gets you free access. if you don’t have an account already you can set this up by signing in with your NHS Scotland email address and password.

If you already have an NHSS OpenAthens account click on the first option to connect your NHSScotland email address.

If you do not have an NHS Scotland email address and password you would need to use the OpenAthens section and enter your efs account login details .

This is what DynaMed looks like

A few things to highlight here:

You can search by specialty.

If there’s been any recent alerts you can explore them here.

There is a drug database and Micromedex is attached to this. There is also a drug interactions checker.

But most people when they’re looking for something will just type it into the search box.

We’re going to search for dementia

(video transcript: typing “dementia” in search box)

You will see that it auto suggests topics and if you choose one of those it will take you straight through to that topic.

If you don’t then it will take you to an index page - a list of search results. The tabs at the top will vary depending on what content is included in your search results. Here we see algorithms and images. it may also have a tab for videos if there are any in your search results. You can narrow the results for what you’re looking for from the options down the left hand side.

Click the chapter icon at top right of a result to go directly to one of the sub sections of the topic.

You will see they follow a similar structure whether it is a condition page, evaluation, or approach to the patient

As you can see we have different types of dementia in our search results, I am going to choose Alzheimer’s disease.

Click on the title to open the topic page

This is a typical view of what you will see for a particular topic. You’ll see that we start out with an overview and recommendation and you can follow the treatment path down the left-hand side as you scroll. It goes through the path of a summary page, general information, epidemiology, history and physical, taking you through to the management and prognosis and ending up with the guidelines, resources, where appropriate patient information and also references.

A little bit more about this page. In the Updates section you can see when it was last edited and by who and what edits took place.

Using the icons at top right you can choose to follow the page if you have a personal account for DynaMed. Then you will be notified if there are any edits.

You can choose the citation icon to get a citation.

You can print out the page.

You can also share the link.

A Useful tool is ‘Find on page’ down at the bottom left. This allows you to look for specific keywords within the topic.

If we type ‘genetics’ into the search box it will tell us this is mentioned eleven times and we can use the arrows to click through these.

Scroll down the topic headings on the left and find the section that you want.

Throughout the topic, it will tell you whether there is a ‘strong recommendation’ for a particular action based on the evidence.

References are also hyperlinked throughout, or you can find a full list in the References section at the end of the topic.

References may also be footnoted - hover over these to see full details. There may also be a summary of the study reference embedded within the topic.

Evidence is also regularly summarised in ‘Evidence synopsis’ such as this one for alcohol use.

In this section we see a ‘Clinician's practice point’ which provide guidance and opinion from DynaMed’s expert physician editors on what is perceived to be good clinical practice in the absence of robust evidence from clinical research studies.

DynaMed commentaries are included which provide information about the methodology or other significant technical aspects of the clinical studies that are critically appraised in the evidence summaries.

If we go into the Management - medication section, one of the things that you will see is DynaMed evidence levels embedded. if you click on this it will tell you what scale it was using to check the evidence. If there is no evidence level attached, DynaMed will express its own and will explain to you how strong the evidence is.

Much of the medication information is also embedded and if we open these in a new tab you will see that it takes you through to Micromedex to check dosage and information.

A quick mention of CPD tracking. You must register for a personal account for DynaMed to access this feature. Remember this is separate from your NHS Scotland OpenAthens which is all you need for free access to the content.

This feature can have a few different names depending on where you are working. You can earn CME/CPD/CE credits while using DynaMed. Claim earned credits and they will submit eligible credits for maintenance of certification for you.

That is the basic functionality of DynaMed. You can go to the DynaMed website and find out more in depth and other help. But the best thing you can do is go and have a look for a condition that you’re interested in and investigate further. We hope this has been helpful.

# Links mentioned (Further information)

[The Knowledge Network](https://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/)

[Explore evidence summaries](https://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/library-resources/evidence-summaries/)

[DynaMed](https://knowledge.idm.oclc.org/login?url=https://www.dynamed.com/?url=https://www.dynamed.com/)

[Knowledge Nuggets mailing list](https://mailchi.mp/nes/nuggets)

[Contact us](https://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/about/contact-us/)

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