MIMS
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Searching for one Drug Interaction

Certain combinations of medications can cause interactions of varying severity when taken together. In some cases, the interactions between medications are used positively as part of the patient's clinical treatment but drug interactions are often a potentially dangerous side-effect of prescribing medications.

Most users of MIMS digital products are aware that you can check for interactions between two or more drugs, but did you know you can simply check all interactions for a single drug? It couldn't be easier, simply enter the name of the drug you are interested in and select "Drug Interactions". By selecting a single medicine to check, the Drug Interactions function will display all known interactions. The Drug Interactions information will provide the clinician with independently researched, primary-literature based information as to whether a new drug will interact with the patient's existing medications. It will also provide guidance on what course of action might be needed in order to ensure safe administration of the new drug if interactions exist.

The following example uses screenshots from MIMS Online, however the ability to search and display all interactions applying to a single medication is also available in other MIMS digital products such as eMIMS, MIMS Mobile, MIMS Integrated and the popular mobile application iMIMS.

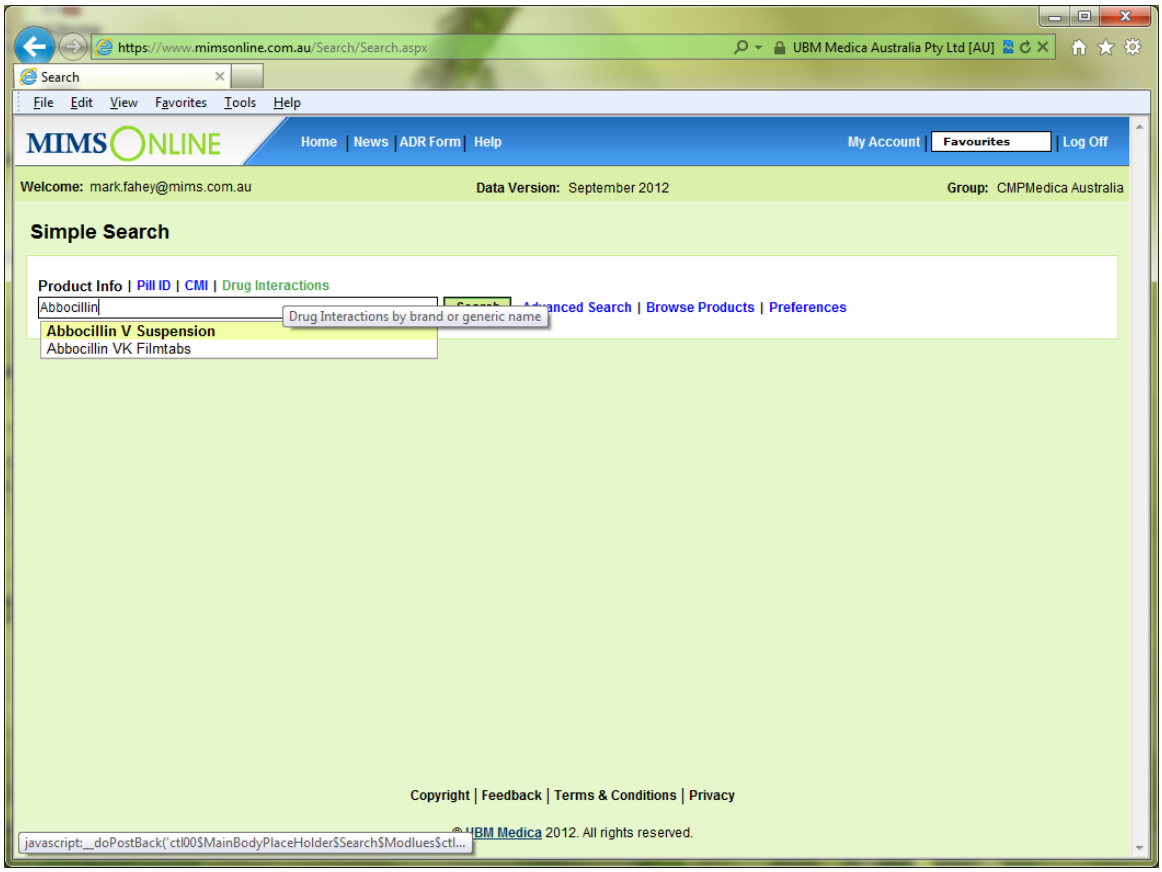

Figure 1 – Searching for all interactions on a single medication

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It is important to note that the MIMS Drug Interactions information is based on clinically documented, peer-reviewed evidence, not the interactions that are suggested as part of the drug's product information.

The MIMS data indicates the severity level of the interaction. MIMS identifies all interaction classes to which each molecule belongs and determines if there is an interaction. The software displays the interactions according to relevance, with the most severe interactions displayed at the top of the list. A short explanation of the interaction is displayed, and the user is able to view the full description if required.

In the following example, all interactions for Abbocillin V Suspension are being displayed.

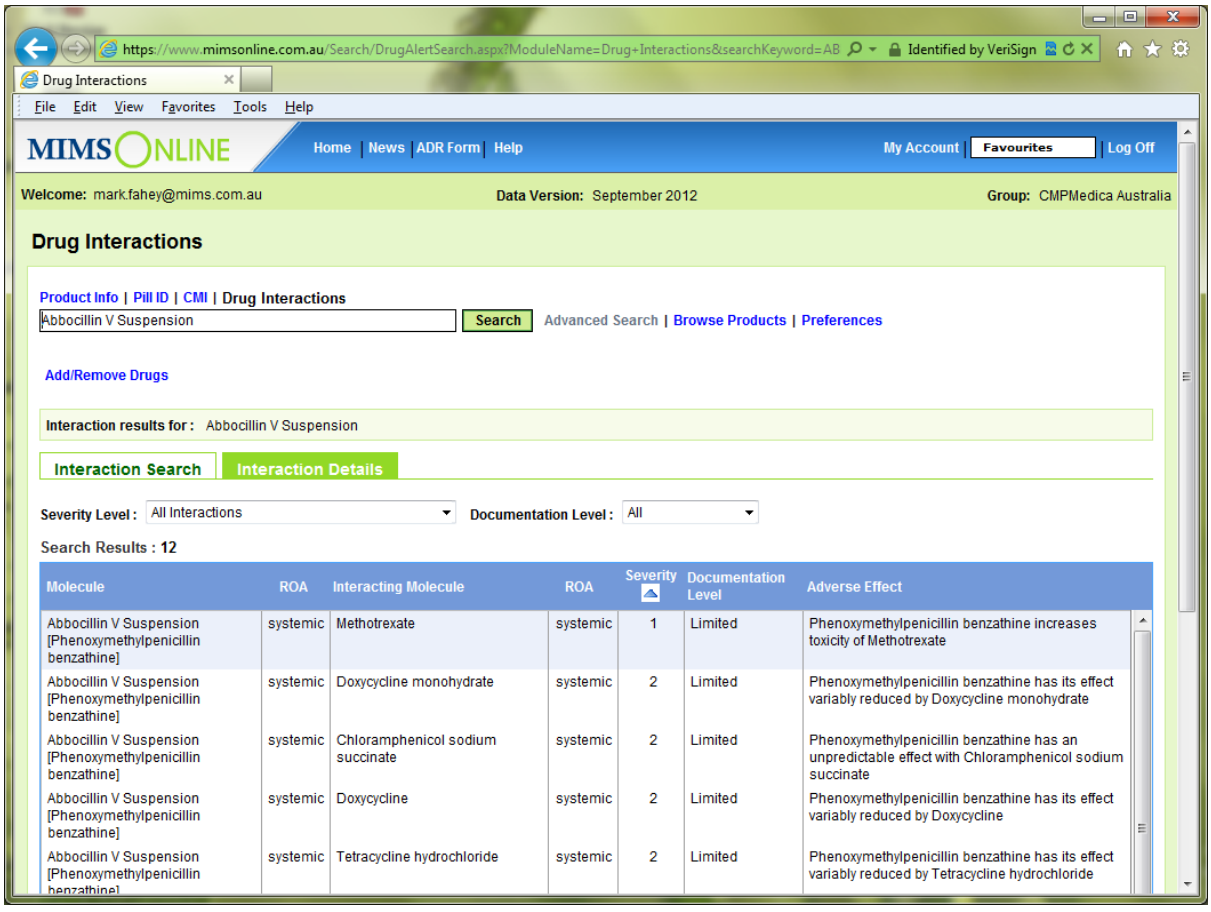

Figure 2 – Displaying all interactions on a single medication

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MIMS editors classify the active ingredients of each medication into an interaction class such that all constituents of the class are assumed to interact in the same way. If the interactions differ, the ingredients are separated into further classes. Some classes only contain one ingredient, although an ingredient can belong to multiple classes. The editors research, review and collate the information to be included in the database, and ensure that the information is accurate and up-to-date. To ensure optimum objectivity, data from product information, commercial or non-authoritative references is not used. Instead, the information is researched and reviewed using only international references and primary literature sources. A second editor proofreads all information before it is included in the database to ensure that the information is consistent and accurate.

By clicking on the "Interaction Details" tab, for any highlighted interaction, much greater detail is provided including:

- probable mechanism of action;
- actions to take; and
- references/citations for the interaction.

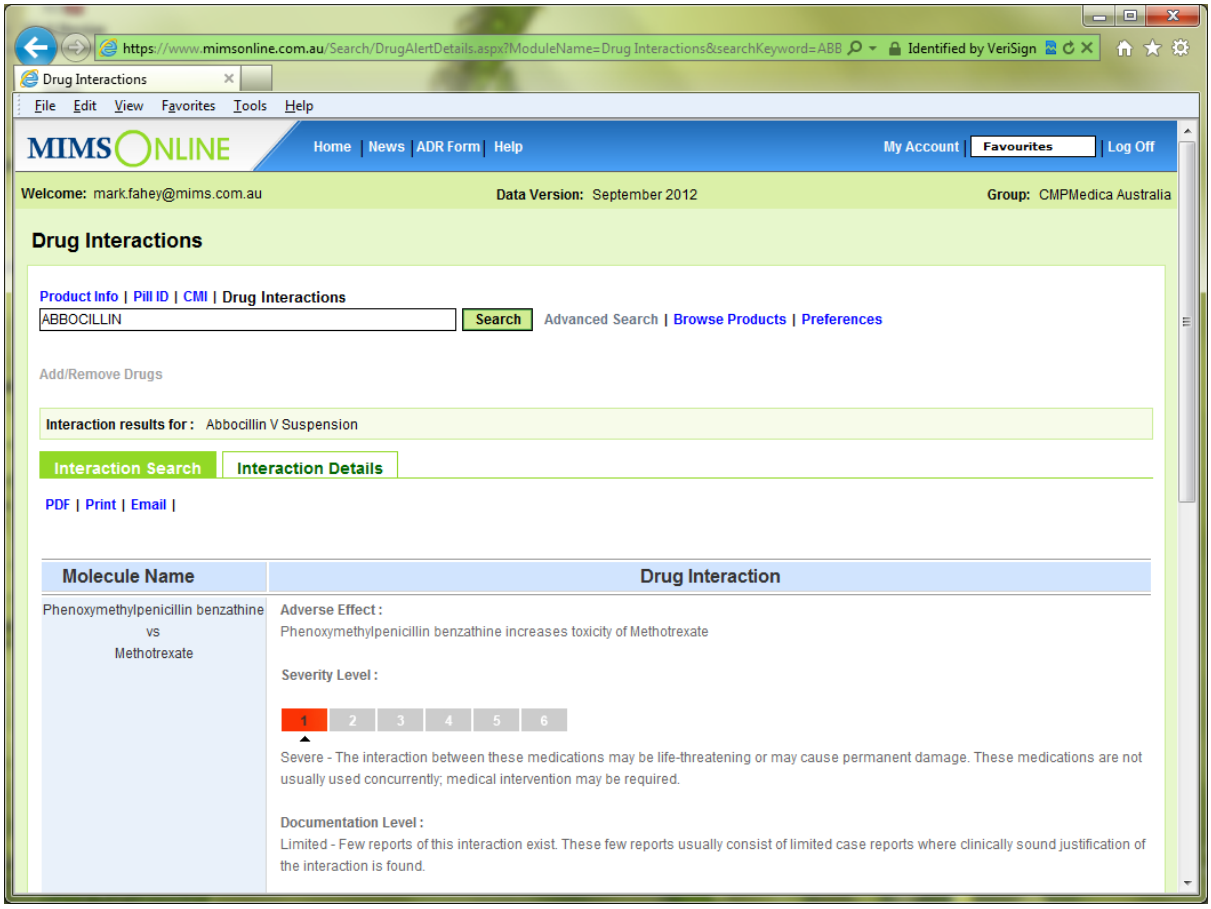

Figure 3 – Displaying severe interaction detail on a single medication

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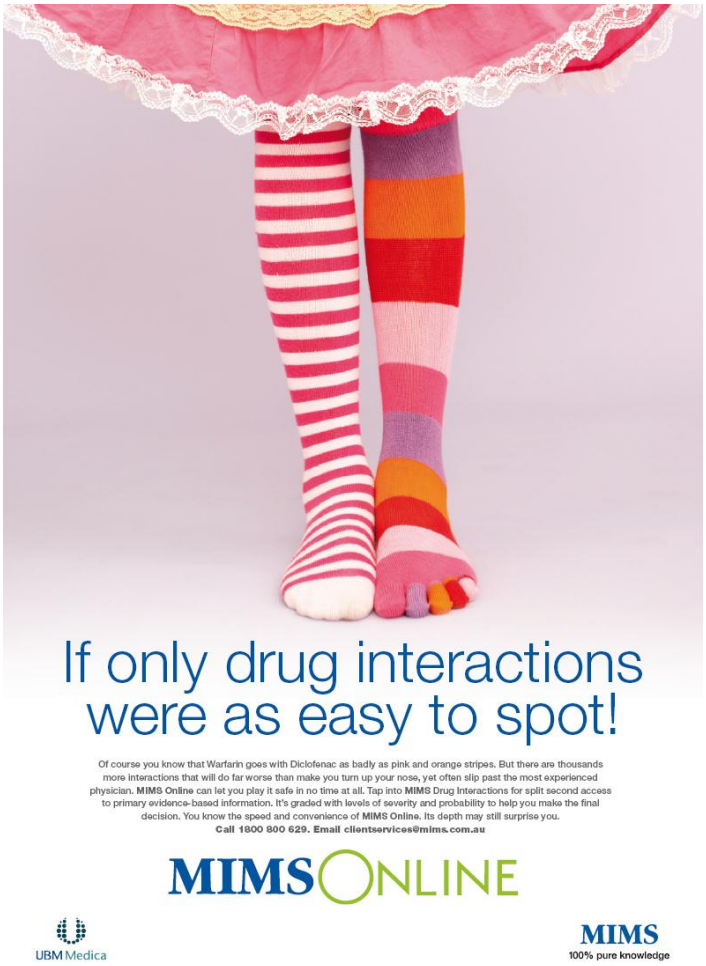
Independent of the manufacturer's product information, MIMS references the most current international primary and tertiary literature on potential drug to drug interactions. The extensive database of drug interactions is constantly reviewed and updated, and is an integrated element of all MIMS digital products.

If you would like further information or training on how to use the drug interaction checker contact us at data@mims.com.au

We also have some great posters that you could put around your organisation to remind staff to check interactions. These are FREE – if you would like some email Caryn at Caryn.Lind@mims.com.au



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