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# UpToDate Editorial Process

Providing clinicians with trusted, actionable  
information for improved patient outcomes

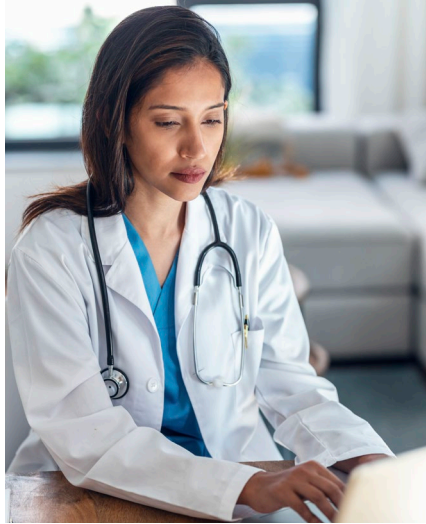


## Overview

There are thousands of topics in medicine, and each year, it's estimated that more than one million scholarly articles are written regarding new advancements. Even the brightest minds can't digest and retain all this data – especially when it is not in their specialty area.

In addition to the volume of information, there are also many grey areas in medicine, meaning some questions have unclear guidance that are rarely answered in literature. No singular clinician can know the best answers to these types of unclear questions.

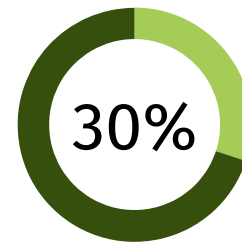
That's why clinical decision support (CDS) solutions are a go-to resource for clinicians – a collection of indispensable tools that puts the world of medicine at their fingertips. Driven by our mission to provide the best care everywhere, Wolters Kluwer Health and its affiliates offer the premiere CDS resources including industry leader, UpToDate®, which enables care teams to make informed decisions about patient care. UpToDate provides guidance to help clinicians answer and tackle challenging questions. Put simply, UpToDate provides the authoritative expert recommendations for many of the clinical questions that clinicians have.



The rigorous editorial process means clinicians can trust the quality of the recommendations when making important care decisions, knowing they're written by highly qualified and relevant authors. To provide transparency and actionable recommendations to our users, leveraging our deep team of clinician contributors who are some of the best practitioners in their field. Clinicians can quickly find answers to questions, with UpToDate citing relevant evidence and making specific, actionable

recommendations, even when the evidence isn't clear or requires interpretation by experts with deep experience in a particular area. Our editorial process is supported by evidence-based medicine (EBM) methodology.

UpToDate has been linked to improved care outcomes. Our analysis suggests that physicians have approximately 11 clinical questions a day and 60 percent of those questions go unanswered. UpToDate fills an important information gap and helps clinicians modify care decisions:



of UpToDate topic views lead to modified decisions and having answers to all clinical questions could change 5 to 8 patient management decisions each day.



*UpToDate is a widely used and trusted evidence-based CDS solution, utilized by **more than two million users at over 44,000 institutional sites in over 190 countries, with over 650 million topic views per year and 1.6 million queries per day.** UpToDate content is based on the latest medical literature and the knowledge and expertise of world-class physicians around the world.*



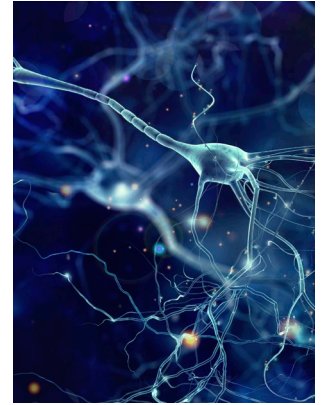
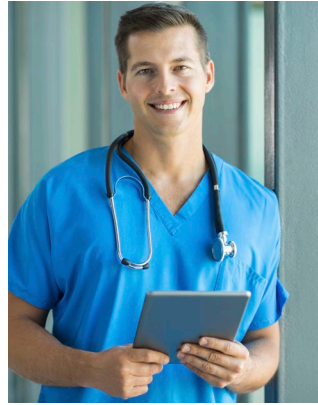
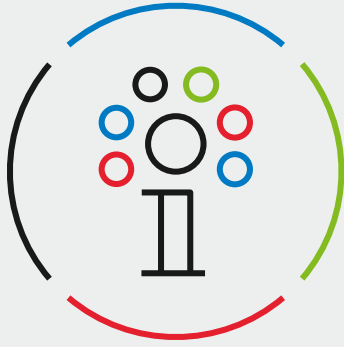
*Topics in UpToDate are updated to incorporate important new evidence-based information after publication, following our editorial process. **Content updates are integrated carefully after extensive peer review, with specific statements on how new findings should be applied clinically.***

## Our Editorial Process

UpToDate has a rigorous editorial process, which has been carefully and methodically developed to promote consistency and transparency. Some core benefits of our editorial process include:



- ✓ **Confidence in credibility of contributors** – UpToDate content is written and reviewed by more than 7,000 authors and section editors, including world-class physicians who choose to contribute to UpToDate to share their expertise and insights with peers in the medical community. In addition, our contributors are based all over the world, with over 1,100 based outside of the US.
- ✓ **Actionable, evidence-based recommendations** – UpToDate articles synthesize the best evidence available to include actionable decision support highlighted by over 500,000 literature links. UpToDate provides evidence that helps clinicians make the most appropriate decision for each patient.
- ✓ **Recommendations from physicians with specialized expertise** – Recommendations published on UpToDate are authored by a physician with relevant expertise on the topic. For example, articles on diabetes are written by an endocrinologist and articles on leukemia are written by a specialized hematologist.
- ✓ **Trusted content with internal and external feedback process** – All published content is comprehensively reviewed by our editorial team.
- ✓ **Transparency in authorship** – Our authors and editors are clearly identified, providing transparency about where the recommendation came from. We publish relevant biographical information at the top of topic pages along with authors' qualifications on a certain topic.
- ✓ **Dedicated team delivering consistent, unbiased, and high-quality content** – In addition to our physician authors and section editors, we also have a team of 50+ in-house physician editors, including specialists in their fields with clinical or academic experience. This enables them to monitor the medical literature and improve the quality of UpToDate's recommendations.
- ✓ **Continuous content updates and monitoring** – After content is published it continues to be reviewed and updated routinely so clinicians have access to the latest evidence-based information when treating patients. We monitor medical journals daily for new advancements and rely on user feedback to make sure our content helps clinicians answer critical questions.
- ✓ **Thorough and complete specialty areas** – UpToDate offers over 25 specialties covering over 10,000 topics in total that allows our content to help clinicians answer a critical mass of questions on a particular topic. We find that true depth in areas of specialty helps clinicians gain a more complete understanding and more effectively support their patients by applying comprehensive guidance in ways that maximize their patients' health.



In its rich 30-year history, UpToDate has grown to include over 25 different specialties, from dermatology to infectious disease to neurology and nearly everything in between. Within those specialties, **we cover over 10,000 different topics**, which are continually evaluated based on clinician and user feedback, new medical developments (i.e., COVID-19) and regular review from deputy editors, section editors and authors.

UpToDate conflict-of-interest policy requires in-house physician editors and external contributors to disclose any conflicts of interest on a rolling basis. Addressing any conflicts of interest is essential to the rigorous editorial process and maintaining the trust we've built with our users.

Underpinning the editorial process is our technology and security system. Our technology team built the UpToDate platform specifically for the end user: the clinician. This editorial approach enables us to provide robust, actionable information designed for clinicians to use at the point of care, further delivering on the mission to help provide the best care everywhere.