

IC-168



# DIGITAL BOOK

The Medical Letter<sup>®</sup>



## **HANDBOOK OF ADVERSE DRUG INTERACTIONS**

*User's Manual*

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# Introduction to the HADI

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This handbook offers a quick guide to possible adverse effects of drug interactions, with brief recommendations for precautionary measures. References are given to original reports that provide more complete discussions of each interaction.

**This book**— lists adverse drug interactions, their mechanisms, and recommendations for clinical management. These listings are usually based on clinical reports.

Reports of interactions between more than two drugs are appearing in the medical literature with increasing frequency. Where these have been documented, they are noted as comments under interacting pairs of drugs. Interactions listed for groups of drugs (such as “cephalosporins” or “antidepressants, tricyclic”) may not have been reported for every drug in the group; known exceptions to the interaction are noted.

It is not possible to determine the frequency of most interactions. When an interaction is documented by one or two case reports rather than by clinical studies or reports in many patients, the year of each report is given as some indication of frequency.

**Omissions**—New adverse interactions are continually being reported; the absence of a listing in this digital book does not necessarily mean that drugs will not interact when given concurrently. **Drugs for which we have no documented interactions in people are usually not listed; interactions extrapolated from animal studies or interactions reported with related drugs, frequently mentioned in other sources, such as the manufacturer’s package insert, may therefore not be included here.**

Interactions between general anesthetics and drugs likely to be administered during surgery, such as autonomic drugs and

## Introduction to the HADI

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local anesthetics, are not included here. Interactions useful in therapy, such as increased plasma concentration of penicillin with concurrent use of probenecid, are also not included.

Common additive effects, such as occur with use of two antihypertensive agents or two central nervous system depressants, are generally not listed. Effects expected from the mechanism of a drug's action, such as that of potassium on digitalis glycosides or calcium on calcium-entry blockers, and useful antagonist effects, such as that between a poison and an antidote, are also not included. Most interactions of drugs with foods, beverages, or other nutrients are not listed, but foods interacting with monoamine oxidase inhibitors are included.

**Mechanisms of Interaction**—Genetic differences can affect drug metabolism and interactions. Drugs can interact by changing the metabolism of other drugs, either through inhibition or induction of any of several hepatic enzyme activities or through alterations in hepatic blood flow; by altering the binding of other drugs to plasma proteins or tissue receptors; by altering the distribution of drugs to active receptor sites; by delaying or enhancing excretion; or by causing additive or synergistic effects.

**Recommendations**—Monitoring is most important when one of the interacting drugs is stopped or started. Some experienced clinicians may prefer to monitor the patient's clinical status rather than follow serum concentrations of drugs. Concurrent use of drugs from the same group, e.g., aspirin and other NSAIDS, should be avoided.

# Overview of Operation

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## ► What this *HADI* Can Do

*The Medical Letter® Handbook of Adverse Drug Interactions* is a powerful reference. Using this digital book, you can. . .

- find brand name drugs, generic drugs, drug groups, and food groups,
- correct drug name misspellings,
- find foods that interact with MAO inhibitors,
- select up to 20 drugs and view a list of their interactions,
- select a single drug and view a list of the drugs with which it interacts,
- read descriptions and references about drug interactions, and
- look up drugs and words in related digital books.

Read this User's Manual to learn how.

## Overview of Operation

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### ► How this *HADI* Works

The *Handbook* is easy to use. Here are the basics:

**Highlight the HADI symbol and press **ENTER**.**

- **At the main drug list, type a drug name. Then press **ENTER**.** As you type, the drug name is highlighted.
- **Type another drug name. Press **ENTER**.** You see a message to *\*SHOW INTERACTIONS\**.
- **Press **ENTER**.** You see the interactions, if any, between the drugs.
- **Press **ENTER**.** You see a description of the interaction.
- **Press **CLEAR**.** You're ready to find other interactions.

### ✓ About the Screen Illustrations

Some screen illustrations in this User's Manual may vary slightly from what you see on screen. These variations do not mean that this digital book or your Digital Book System is malfunctioning.



# Installing the Digital Book

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Before you can use this digital book, you must install it. **Warning:** If you install a digital book while the Digital Book System is on, information that you entered in other currently installed digital books may be erased.

1. Turn the Digital Book System off.
2. Install the digital book into a slot on the back of the Digital Book System.

Align the tabs on the digital book with the notches in the slot. Make sure its metal contacts face down.

3. Press **ON/OFF**.
4. Turn the wheel on the side of the Digital Book System to adjust the screen contrast.
5. Press **CARD**.
6. Press  or  to highlight the HADI icon.





## Installing the Digital Book

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7. Press **ENTER**.



This is the main drug list, where you select drugs to find interactions.

### ✓ Resuming Where You Left Off

While using this digital book, you can turn off the Digital Book System at any time. When you turn the Digital Book System on again, the screen that you last viewed appears. Any drugs entered in your query list are saved, too.

### ✓ Clearing the Main Drug List

You can always return to the main drug list by pressing **CLEAR**. **Note:** When you do, the drugs in your query list are also cleared.

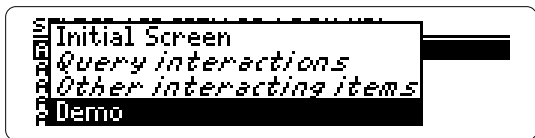
You can return to the previous screen without clearing your query list by pressing **BACK**.

# Viewing a Demonstration

---

Before you start using this digital book, you may want to view a brief demonstration of its features and functionality.

1. Press **MENU** at the main drug list.
2. Press **↓** to highlight *Demo*.



3. Press **ENTER** to start the demonstration.
4. Press **CLEAR** to stop the demonstration.

## ✓ Help is Always at Hand

You can view a help message at any screen (except during the demonstration) by pressing **HELP**. To read the help message, press **↓**. To exit it, press **BACK**.

## ✓ Auto-shutoff

If you forget to turn this digital book off, don't worry. It will automatically shut off in four minutes.

# Selecting Drugs

---

The main drug list contains brand and generic drugs, foods, as well as drug and food groups. You select an item from the main drug list by typing it, or scrolling to it, and then pressing **ENTER**. Usually you need to type only a few letters to highlight an item. Try this example.

## 1. Type **META** at the main drug list.



To go back a letter, press **BACK**.

## 2. Press **ENTER** to select the drug and add it to the query list.

## 3. To clear the query press **CLEAR**.

### ✓ Drug Selecting Tips








You do not need to type capital letters or punctuation. However, you can type numbers at the main drug list. **Note:** In this User's Manual, "drug" refers to any item on the main drug list.



## Selecting Drugs

---

### ✓ Using the Direction Keys

You can use these keys to move up and down the main drug list, the query list, and other lists.

To . . .	Press . . .
Scroll up and down	 or 
Page up and down	 or 
Zoom to the top or bottom of a list	 * +  or 

\* Hold  while pressing the other key, or press  and then the other key. The second method flashes a **G** at the bottom of the screen.

### ✓ Follow the Arrows

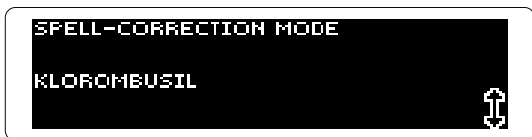
The flashing arrows at the bottom right of the screen indicate which direction keys you can press to move around the screen.

# Correcting Misspellings

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Don't worry if you misspell a word. The spell-correction mode automatically appears. Try this.

1. Type ***KLOROMBUSIL*** at the main drug list.



To exit spell-correction, press **BACK** repeatedly.

2. Press **ENTER**.



Spell correction is done automatically.

3. Press **↓** to highlight a drug, if needed.
4. Press **ENTER** to select the drug and add it to your query list.
5. To clear the query press **CLEAR**.

## Correcting Misspellings

---

### ✓ Finding Letters in Words

If you are not sure how to spell a word, type a question mark in place of each unknown letter or an asterisk in place of a series of unknown letters. Here are two examples.

- Type *PHEN?LBUT?ZONE* and press **ENTER**. The correct spelling, *PHENYLBUTAZONE*, appears.
- Type *CORTI\**. To type the asterisk, hold **SHIFT** and press **?\***. Then press **ENTER**. A list of drug and group names beginning with *CORTI* appears.

**Note:** You can type more than one question mark or asterisk in a word, and you can type both in the same word. However, it is not necessary to type two consecutive asterisks in one word.

# Finding Brands, Generics, Groups

---

By highlighting a drug name on the main drug list and pressing **(SPEC)**, you can see its generic or brand names and any drug or food groups to which it belongs. In this example, we'll find the brand names and drug group of penicillin G.

1. Type **PENICILLIN G** at the main drug list.

2. Press **(SPEC)**.

```
penicillin G
is a Drug
Brands:
MOREPENEM
Axicillin
```

3. Press **(↓)** repeatedly to view the brands.  
Or hold **(○)** and press **(↓)** to go to the bottom of the list.

```
Traxcillin
Tu-Cillin
Wycillin
Groups:
Penicillins
```



At the bottom of the list, notice that *penicillin G* belongs to the drug group, "penicillins."

4. Press **(ENTER)** to view the drugs in the group.


## Finding Brands, Generics, Groups



---

```
penicillins
is a Group
Brands:
Win-Cillin
Win-Cillin UK
```

5. Press  to scroll down.
6. Press  twice to go back to the main drug list.

### ✓ Finding MAO Inhibitor Interactions

When you highlight a food name on the main drug list, pressing  shows if that food interacts with MAO inhibitors. Try this example.

1. Type *AVOCADOS*.
2. Press . *MAO Inhibitor info* is highlighted.
3. Press . A description of avocados and MAO inhibitors appears.

(To read the cross-references (†), see “Viewing References.”)



# Finding Interactions

---

You can find adverse interactions by selecting drugs from the main drug list and then pressing **ENTER** at *\*SHOW INTERACTIONS\**. Here is where you can view a description of each interaction.

## ► Between Many Drugs

You can select up to 20 drugs at time to find interactions between. In this example, we'll find the interactions between alcohol and acetaminophen.

1. Select **ALCOHOL** from the main drug list.
2. Then select **CAFFEINE**.



You can add more drugs here, if you wish.

3. Press **ENTER** to view the interactions. Or press **MENU** and select *Query interactions*.



## Finding Interactions

---

4. Highlight the interaction you want to view, if needed.

**Note:** You can return to the main drug list now by pressing **BACK**.

5. Press **ENTER** to select the highlighted interaction.

Caffeine may further decrease  
reaction time (synergism or  
antagonism)† Variable response

This is an interaction description. The hand points to a comment or recommendation.

6. Press **↓** or **DN** to move down.

To . . .

View the drug names of  
the interaction description

Press . . .

**SPEC**

View the next or previous  
description, if any

**○** + **DN** or **UP**

Return to the interactions

**BACK**

7. Press **CLEAR** to clear the queries.

## Finding Interactions

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### ► For a Single Drug

You can select a single drug from the main drug list and quickly find the drugs with which it interacts. In this example, we'll find the interactions for heparin.

1. Type **HEPARIN** at the main drug list.
2. Press **(ENTER)**.
3. Press **(LIST)** to view your query list.

```
ITEMS IN YOUR QUERY: ['D' = DELETE]
HEPARIN
```

4. Press **(O)**, or press **(MENU)** and select *Other interacting items*.

```
YOUR QUERY INTERACTS WITH:
APROTININ & HEPARIN
CEPHALOSPORINS & HEPARIN
HEPARIN & HYPOGLYCEMICS, S
HEPARIN & NITROGLYCERIN
HEPARIN & NONSTEROIDAL ANT:
```

These are the interactions for *heparin*.

5. Press **(↓)** to highlight an interaction.
6. Press **(ENTER)** to view its description.

## Finding Interactions

---

### ✓ Using the Query List

Whenever you select a drug from the main drug list, it is saved in the query list. To view your queries, press **LIST**. Once at the query list, you can use these keys.

#### To . . .

#### Press . . .

Delete a highlighted item

**D**

View the interactions  
between all the items

**Q**

View all the interactions  
for a highlighted item

**O**

Go to the main drug list  
and *save* your queries

**A**

Go to main drug list  
and *clear* your queries

**CLEAR**



**Note:** Your queries are saved between sessions unless you reset the Digital Book System or remove its batteries.



**Note:** Press **BACK** to return to the query list each time after selecting one of the above options (except for **CLEAR**).

# Viewing References

---

Whenever you see a reference mark (†) in an interaction description, you can view its journal reference.

1. At an interaction description with a †, hold  and press  to highlight the first † showing on the screen.

To highlight the last † on the screen, hold  and press .

```
Increased anticoagulant effect  
(decreased metabolism)†††  
☐ Monitor prothrombin time; no  
interaction with phenprocoumon;†  
Case reports with nizatidine and
```

Notice that the † is highlighted.

2. Press  to view the reference.



```
BA Silver and WR Bell, Cimetidine  
potentiation of the  
hypoprothrombinemic effect of  
warfarin. Ann Intern Med, 90:348,  
1979 ↓
```

3. Hold  to scroll down.

## Viewing References




---

4. Hold  and press  repeatedly to view more references, if any.




To view a previous reference, hold  and press .

5. Press  to go back to the description.

### ✓ Viewing Complete Drug Names

Pressing  or  at an interaction list, an interaction description, or a reference displays the full names of the drugs involved in the interaction. Then press  to go back to previous screen.

### ✓ Viewing Next or Previous References

Once at a reference, you can view the next or previous reference, if any, in an interaction description by holding  and pressing  or .

# Sending Words to Other Books

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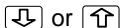
You can send drug names and other words from this digital book to other installed digital books. For example, you can look up a drug from this *Handbook* in *The Washington Manual* digital book.

## 1. Highlight a word in this *Handbook*.

To . . .

Press . . .

Highlight a drug  
or item in a list



Highlight a word  
in a description

**ENTER** and then  
the arrow keys

Turn off highlight  
in a description

**BACK**

2. Hold **○** and press **CARD**.

3. Highlight the icon of the digital book  
to which you want to send the word.

4. Press **ENTER**.

To look up the word, follow the instructions for that book. In many cases, you simply press **ENTER**. To return to the *Handbook*, press **CARD**, highlight its icon and then press **ENTER**.

# Digital Book System®

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## Resetting the Digital Book System

To reset the Digital Book System, hold **CLEAR** while pressing **ON/OFF**. Or press the recessed reset button on the back of the Digital Book System. (Read its Basic Operating Guide for details.)

**Warning:** Resetting the Digital Book System may permanently erase information, such as notes, that you have entered in the installed digital books.

**Note:** If the keyboard fails to respond or the screen performs erratically, you can press **CLEAR** and then press **ON/OFF** rather than resetting the Digital Book System. If nothing happens, then reset.

## Protecting and Cleaning

- Do not touch the metal contacts on the back of digital books or the rubber contacts on the Digital Book System with statically charged objects. Statically charged objects may erase information that you entered in the digital books.
- Do not put excessive weight on digital books or the Digital Book System, or expose them to extreme or prolonged heat, cold, or other adverse conditions.
- To clean digital books, apply isopropyl alcohol with a cotton swab. To clean the Digital Book System, apply a mild household cleaner with a soft cloth.  
*Caution:* Spraying liquids directly on digital books or the Digital Book System may damage them.



### Replacing the Batteries

The DBS-1 and DBS-2 use four 3-volt, CR2032 lithium batteries. The DBS-2D uses four 1.5-volt, AA batteries.

1. **Have new batteries ready.**
2. **Turn the Digital Book System off.**
3. **Slide the battery cover off the back.**
4. **Remove all the old batteries.**
5. **Place new batteries in the cavities, with the +’s oriented correctly. (In the DBS-1 and DBS-2, the +’s should face up.)**
6. **Replace the battery cover.**

#### ✓ **Battery Precautions**

When you replace batteries, follow these precautions to avoid erasing information on your installed digital books.

- Replace the batteries before they lose power.
- Once batteries have been removed, install new ones within two minutes.
- Do not mix old and new batteries.
- Never remove batteries with the unit on.

# Limited Warranty (U.S. only)

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# Product Specifications

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## **Model IC-168**

- Data: More than 1,320 interactions; over 2,900 references; 3,420 brand, drug, food, and group names; and MAO inhibitor/food reactions.
- Alphanumeric searching.
- A user query list holding up to 20 drug names.
- Spelling correction.
- Context-sensitive help messages.
- size: 2-1/4" x 1-1/4" x 1/4".
- weight: 0.3 oz.

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




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U.S. Patent 4,490, 811; 4,830,618; 5,113,340;  
5,218,536; 5,396,606. DES 348,439; DES 349,281.  
European Patent 0 136 379.  
Patents Pending.  
ISBN 1-56712-366-X















# Key Guide

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## Function Keys

-  Clears your queries and returns to the main drug list.
-  Shows menus.
-  No effect.
-  No effect.
-  Shows the current query list.
-  Shows brands, generics, and groups.
-  Exits the digital book.

## Gold Key Combinations

-  +  -  Types numbers.
-  +  Sends a word to another book.
-  +  or  Zooms to the start or end of a list, section, description, or reference.
-  +  or  Shows the next or previous description or reference.
-  +  or  Highlights a reference mark (+) in a description.

## Key Guide

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### Direction Keys



Move the highlight left or right.



Scroll through lists and text,  
or move the highlight up or down.



Page up or down.

### MatchMaker™ Key



At lists, shows the full menu item; at the main drug list, types a ? to stand for an unknown letter.



+



At the main drug list, types an \* to find a series of letters in a word.

### Query List Keys

*These functions apply only when in the query list.*



Shows the main drug list.



Deletes a highlighted item.



Shows interactions for a highlighted item.



Shows the interactions between all the items.

## Key Guide

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### Other Keys

**A** - **Z**

Type letters.

**BACK**

Erases a letter, backs up, deletes an entry, or turns off the highlight in interaction descriptions.

**ENTER**

Enters a request. In descriptions, highlights a word.

**HELP**

Shows a help message.

**ON/OFF**

Turns unit on or off.

**,** **-**   **;** **:**

Types punctuation.

**SHIFT**

Shifts keys.

**SPACE**

Types a space.

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FCR -28508-00  
P/N 7201747

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