

How to search for eligible patients in Medical Director

Examples of risk factors known to predispose people to adverse medication related events are:

- taking more than **12 doses** of medication per day;
- significant **changes** made to medication treatment regimen in the last **3 months**;
- medication with a **narrow therapeutic index** or medications requiring therapeutic monitoring;
- symptoms suggestive of an **adverse drug reaction**;
- **sub-optimal response** to treatment with medicines;
- suspected **non-compliance or inability to manage** medication related therapeutic devices;
- patients having **difficulty managing** their own medicines because of literacy or language difficulties, dexterity problems or **impaired sight, confusion/dementia or other cognitive difficulties**;
- patients attending a number of **different doctors**, both general practitioners and specialists; and
- **recent discharge from a facility** / hospital (in the last 4 weeks).
- currently taking **5 or more** regular medications;

HMR Database Searches in MD2 and MD3

Use the search utility to produce a list of patients matching a set of user defined criteria for patients who may be eligible for an HMR.

The search will be limited to the fields that are most accessible i.e. drugs with a **narrow therapeutic index**, **adverse drug reactions** (through allergies), **non-compliance or inability to manage** (via conditions that may contribute), **difficulty managing** (via conditions that may contribute) **impaired sight, confusion/dementia or other cognitive difficulties** (via conditions)

*A search for the other criteria i.e. 5 or more medication, 12 or more doses in a day etc... are not readily available to produce a list of patients. This criteria would have to be searched individually.

As you select your search criteria, a literal representation of the query is displayed in the lower panel of this window e.g. when no specific search criterion has been selected, the words "All Patients" is displayed.

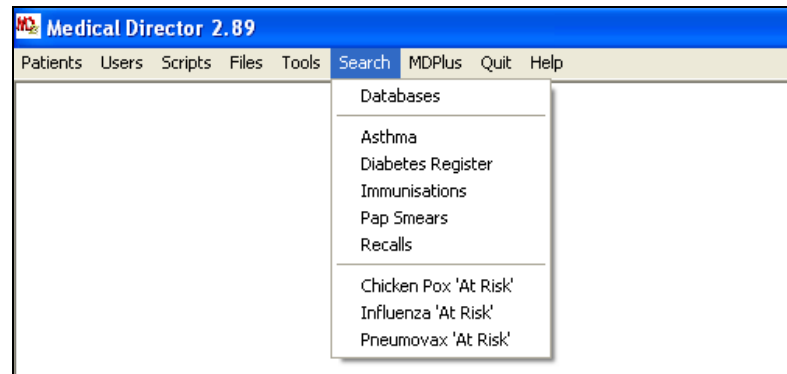
In **MD2** Main screen → Search → Databases

In **MD3** Main screen → Search → Patient

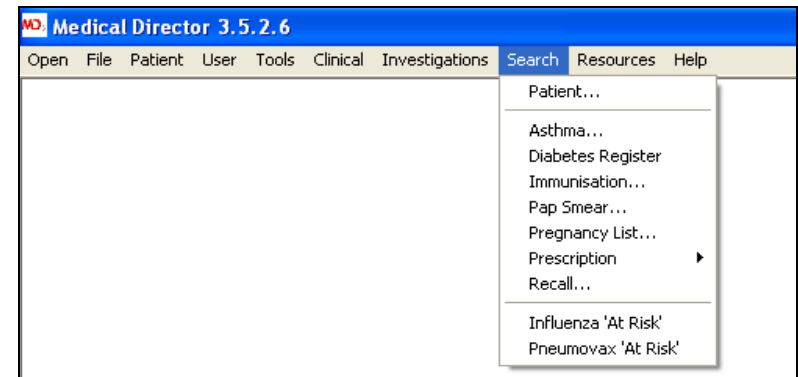
- In **MD3** - Select the "OR" check box to add a series of drugs taken by patients to the search criteria

Patient Database

MD2



MD3



<p>Patient eligibility for HMR</p>	<p>Set up a search specifically for the following criteria</p> <p>1. Drug /condition → currently taking drug from class i.e. identify a number of drugs that fit the criteria of <i>narrow therapeutic index</i> e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAO'S (monoamine oxidase inhibitors), • Oral hypoglycemics, Insulin, • Opiate narcotics, cardiac glycosides (Digoxin), • Antithrombotic or anticoagulant (Warfarin, Clopidogrel), • Antiarrhythmics (Amiodorone) <p>or</p> <p>2. Condition → Search coded conditions such as 'Vision abnormal', 'confusion', 'dementia', 'arthritis' and other conditions where cognition and or dexterity are affected e.g. Parkinson's, Multiple sclerosis, causing inability to manage.</p> <p>This may also identify patients who through compromised cognition are non-compliant</p> <p>3. Symptom → Search for reasons for inability to manage their medicines, eg confusion, vision problems</p>
<p>Saving Database Searches</p>	<p>To be able to save database searches, the staff member logged on requires "Top Level Access" as well as the "Allow data export" option selected.</p> <p>MD2 & MD3.6 and above → select save → give it a name → save</p> <p>MD3 (below 3.6) → searches cannot be saved</p>
<p>Retrieving Saved Searches</p>	<p>MD2 Main Screen → Search → Databases</p>

1. Close the Patient Search screen by clicking "Close"
2. Click File → Open → Save searches will appear or navigate to saved searches → Double click a file to open
3. To print the search → Click "Print" at the bottom of the screen

MD3 – cannot be performed

Mail Merging

There are a number of ways to use this list of patients including:

- adding a reminder to all patient files which the GP will see next time the patient presents
- printing the list and calling patients

To send a letter to the eligible patients recalling them for a HMR:

Click the Mail Merge button → a template window will pop up - select your chosen letter template.

Preview the letter before clicking Open as Open will send the letter straight to the printer

A copy of this letter will be saved under the Letters tab of the patient's file

Labels option can also be used to generate address postage labels for printing

