

MEMORANDUM

To: All Medical, Nursing and Pharmacy Staff

ISSUE

The Paediatric Pharmacopeia 13th Edition was published by the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne in 2002. Since first published there has been minimal updates to the hard copy version and this reference is now considered <u>out of date</u>.

BACKGROUND

- In 2013 the Australian Medicines Handbook published a Children's Dosing Companion (AMH CDC). The AMH CDC was developed at a national level with input from the major paediatric sites across Australia and was produced with the intention of providing a consistent medication dosing reference for paediatric patients across all Australian paediatric health sites.
- While the hard copy contains only a couple of hundred medications the online version is continually updated with plans to increase the number of medications by 50 each quarter.

CURRENT SITUATION

- There has been no formal recommendation on changing the preferred reference text from the Paediatric Pharmacopeia, however it is widely recognised as an out of date reference.
- This has led to an inconsistent approach and use of a primary reference for paediatric doses in CAHS.

ACTION

- The Paediatric pharmacopeia is no longer recommended as the primary reference text at CAHS
- The AMH CDC is now the preferred reference for paediatric doses and is available online through the CAHS library website
- For medications not yet updated in the AMH CDC the following references should be utilised (in order from top to bottom):
 - o PMH pharmacy and ChAMP documents (e.g. site specific references)
 - Australian Therapeutic Guidelines (where paediatric doses are available)
 - o Paediatric Pharmacopeia, BNF for Children
 - o Other

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Sign off:

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Signed <u>harl Sahn</u> Date <u>7/1/14</u>

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How to access the AMH Children's Dosing Companion on your smart phones (when you have internet access)

