

# User Guide

A comprehensive guide to  
getting started with *Best Practice Dx*

BMJ Evidence Centre

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## Introducing *Best Practice Dx*

Healthcare professionals need fast and easy access to reliable, up-to-date information when making diagnosis and treatment decisions. This is precisely what *Best Practice Dx* provides.

*Best Practice Dx* rethinks decision-support information with a step-by-step approach that is structured around the patient consultation, covering diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention. It fits information around real, diverse and evolving medical information needs to give users a second opinion in an instant.

This user guide has been designed to provide you with an overview of *Best Practice Dx* and guide you through the topic information and important features to ensure you get the most out of it.

Key to getting started is the *Best Practice Dx* search function. This guide includes details on how to browse *Best Practice Dx*, tips to help you optimize your search results, how results are ranked and enhanced search options.



# Getting started

## Getting started

Finding information in *Best Practice Dx* can be done by browsing in a variety of ways, or by full text searching. The browse list ('Show conditions') and search box ('Search *Best Practice Dx*') can be found at the top of any page, including the homepage, as illustrated.

*The 'Search Best Practice Dx' box allows you to conduct a free text search.*

*Click on 'Show conditions' to access the browse functionality.*

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Best Practice Dx website. At the top, there is a search bar labeled "Search all BMJ Products" and navigation links for "Clinical Evidence", "Patient Leaflets", and "Help". The main header features the "BestPractice" logo and the tagline "Your instant second opinion". Below this, there are links for "Free trial", "Sample content", "Video tour", "FAQ", "About Best Practice", and "Purchasing options". A prominent blue button labeled "Show conditions" is highlighted with a pink box and a callout line. To its right is a search box labeled "Search Best Practice" with a "Search All" button. Below the search area, there are sections for "What's new/updated?" listing conditions like Hypercholesterolaemia, Obesity in adults, and MRSA; "In the spotlight" with "Best Practice alerts"; and a "Diagnose Treat Manage Learn" navigation bar. The footer includes the "BMJ Evidence Centre" logo.

## Browse for a known condition

You can browse for a known condition by clicking on the 'Show conditions' link. This will present you with a number of options to find a specific known topic e.g. 'Acute atrial fibrillation'.

Browse all content alphabetically.

Browse by content type (assessments or overviews) or specialty categories.

Browse the topics available within each category.

The screenshot shows the BestPractice website interface. At the top, the logo 'BestPractice' is displayed with the tagline 'Your instant second opinion'. Below the logo are links for 'Free trial', 'Sample content', 'Video tour', 'FAQ', 'About Best Practice', and 'Purchasing options'. A search bar is present with the text 'Search Best Practice' and a 'Search All' button. A 'Show conditions' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of medical categories on the left and a list of conditions on the right. The categories include 'All conditions', 'Assessments', 'Overviews', 'Allergy and immunology', 'Cardiothoracic surgery', 'Cardiovascular disorders', 'Critical care medicine', 'Dermatology', 'Ear, nose and throat', 'Emergency medicine', 'Endocrinology and metabolic disorders', and 'Gastroenterology and hepatology'. The conditions listed include 'Acute abdomen in children', 'Acute angle-closure glaucoma', 'Acute appendicitis', 'Acute aspiration', 'Acute asthma exacerbation in children', 'Acute asthma exacerbations', 'Acute atrial fibrillation', 'Acute bacterial prostatitis', 'Acute beryllium disease', 'Acute bronchitis', and 'Acute cervical spine trauma'. The 'Acute atrial fibrillation' item is highlighted with a red box. Below the dropdown menu is a 'Close browser' button. At the bottom of the page, there are three sections: 'What's new/updated?' with links for 'Hypercholesterolaemia', 'Obesity in adults', and 'MRSA'; 'In the spotlight' with links for 'Pulmonary embolism', 'Maculopapular rash (Assessment of)', and 'ST-elevation myocardial infarction'; and 'Best Practice alerts' with a link to 'sign up for monthly Best Practice content updates'.

## Browse to diagnose a condition

If you want help diagnosing a patient presenting with a specific symptom or laboratory finding, then the 'Assessments' category is a useful place to start.

Open 'Assessments' in the category list to access the 'Evaluation of' topics.

Select the topic associated with the predominant symptom or laboratory finding, e.g. for a patient with shortness of breath you would select 'Dyspnea (Evaluation of)'.

The screenshot shows the Best Practice website interface. At the top, the logo "BestPractice" is displayed with the tagline "Your instant second opinion". Below the logo, there are links for "Free trial", "Sample content", "Video tour", "FAQ", "About Best Practice", and "Purchasing options". A search bar is present with the text "Search Best Practice" and a "Search All" button. A dropdown menu titled "Show conditions" is open, showing a list of medical categories. The "Assessments" category is highlighted with a pink box. Below this, a list of assessment topics is shown, with "Dyspnoea (Assessment of)" highlighted by a pink box and a yellow tooltip. At the bottom of the page, there are sections for "What's new/updated?" (listing Hypercholesterolaemia, Obesity in adults, and MRSA), "Pulmonary embolism" (listing Maculopapular rash (Assessment of) and ST-elevation myocardial infarction), and "In the spotlight Best Practice alerts" (encouraging users to sign up for monthly updates).

## Browse for a group of conditions

*Best Practice Dx* also includes 'Overview' topics, providing brief information relating to a group of conditions and links to the individual conditions in *Best Practice Dx*.

Click on 'Overviews' in the category list to access the 'Overview' topics.

Select the relevant topic, e.g. 'Overview of acute coronary syndrome'.

The screenshot shows the Best Practice website interface. At the top, the logo 'BestPractice' is displayed with the tagline 'Your instant second opinion'. Below the logo are links for 'Free trial | Sample content | Video tour | FAQ | About Best Practice | Purchasing options'. The main navigation area includes a 'Show conditions' dropdown menu and a search bar labeled 'Search Best Practice' with a 'Search All' button. The left sidebar contains a list of medical categories, with 'Overviews' highlighted in a pink box. The right sidebar displays a list of overview topics, with 'Overview of acute coronary syndrome' highlighted in a pink box and a yellow tooltip showing the same text. At the bottom of the interface, there are sections for 'What's new/updated?' (listing Hypercholesterolaemia, Obesity in adults, and MRSA), 'In the spotlight' (listing Pulmonary embolism, Maculopapular rash (Assessment of), and ST-elevation myocardial infarction), and 'Best Practice alerts' (encouraging users to sign up for monthly updates).

# Searching

## Searching

To help you access the information you need quickly and easily, the *Best Practice Dx* search function includes a number of features that narrow down your search results and ensures that the most relevant results are returned.

It is recommended that you use a maximum of two predominant signs or symptoms in your search to return a full list of search results.

If you want to search for a specific phrase or a group of words in a specific order, include double quote marks ("" ) around your phrase e.g. "shortness of breath".

If you are searching for more than one term, symptom or sign, you can improve your search results by using the AND/OR/NOT function in your search. (Find out more about the AND/OR/NOT function on page 14).

*As you start typing, suggestions will automatically appear to help you find what you are looking for more quickly.*

*Refine your search by clicking on 'Search all' and selecting the specific content type, e.g. Condition, Diagnosis, Treatment, Evidence, Guidelines.*



*Click on the magnifying glass to search for all relevant content.*

## Search results for a known condition

Search results for a known condition, e.g. 'Pulmonary embolism', are ranked by relevance, and allow easy access directly to the content most relevant to you.

Refine the results by content type using the different tabs.

The actual condition is listed as well as any related topics.

The content type is clearly listed with the search results.

Direct links are available to different sections of topics to aid quick navigation.

**BestPractice** Show conditions Search Best Practice Search All

### Search results

Pulmonary embolism

Hint: Use the tabs to refine your search

All results (386) Conditions (15) Diagnosis (120) Treatment (70) Evidence (38) Drug Database (0) Guidelines (2)

Results 1 to 50 of 386 Save this search

Condition	<b>Pulmonary embolism</b> Highlights   Basics   Prevention   Diagnosis   Treatment   Follow Up   Resources
Assessment	<b>Assessment of pleuritis</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	<b>Assessment of haemoptysis</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	<b>Assessment of chest pain</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	<b>Assessment of dyspepsia</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	<b>Assessment of shock</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	<b>Assessment of respiratory alkalosis</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	<b>Assessment of postoperative fever</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources

## Search results for a diagnosis

Search results for a symptom, e.g. 'shortness of breath', are ranked by relevance, and allow quick and easy access to topics to help diagnose the cause ('Evaluation of dyspnea') and to conditions in which the symptom occurs e.g. 'Pneumothorax'.

Relevant 'Assessment' topics on a symptom or laboratory finding search term are listed.

The content type is clearly listed with the search results.

Direct inks are available to different sections of topics to aid quick navigation.

Refine the results by content type using the different tabs.

The screenshot shows the BestPractice search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'shortness of breath' and a 'Search All' button. Below the search bar, there are several tabs for refining results: 'All results (491)', 'Conditions (1)', 'Diagnosis (321)', 'Treatment (53)', 'Evidence (22)', 'Drug Database (0)', and 'Guidelines (0)'. The 'Diagnosis' tab is selected. The search results are displayed in a list format, with the first result being 'Assessment of dyspnoea'. This result is highlighted with a pink box and has a pink line pointing to the text 'Refine the results by content type using the different tabs.' Below the first result, there are several 'Treatment' results for 'Asthma in adults' and 'Iron deficiency anaemia'. Each result includes a 'Patient group' and a brief description. The text 'The content type is clearly listed with the search results.' has a pink line pointing to the 'Assessment' label on the left of the first result. The text 'Direct inks are available to different sections of topics to aid quick navigation.' has a pink line pointing to the navigation links (Overview, Emergencies, Diagnosis, Resources) under the first result.

## Stemming

Another feature of the *Best Practice Dx* search functionality is 'Stemming'. This removes common suffixes, such as '-ise', '-ing', '-s', '-es' etc. So, a search for 'bleeding' will also find 'bleed', and vice versa.

The results of a search for 'bleeding' display both:

'bleeding' and...

'bleed'

The screenshot shows the Best Practice Dx search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'bleeding' and a 'Search All' button. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'All results (2464)', 'Conditions (25)', 'Diagnosis (709)', 'Treatment (779)', 'Evidence (198)', 'Drug Database (0)', and 'Guidelines (35)'. The search results are displayed in a list format, with each result showing a category (Condition or Assessment), a title, and a list of links (Highlights, Basics, Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Follow Up, Resources). The first result is 'Dysfunctional uterine bleeding' (Condition), and the second is 'Assessment of upper GI bleed' (Assessment). Red boxes highlight these two results, and red lines connect them to the text 'bleeding' and 'bleed' on the left side of the slide.

Category	Title	Links
Condition	Dysfunctional uterine bleeding	Highlights   Basics   Prevention   Diagnosis   Treatment   Follow Up   Resources
Assessment	Assessment of upper GI bleed	Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	Assessment of lower gastrointestinal bleeding	Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Assessment	Assessment of vaginal bleeding	Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Condition	Haemorrhagic stroke	Highlights   Basics   Prevention   Diagnosis   Treatment   Follow Up   Resources
Condition	Haemorrhoids	Highlights   Basics   Prevention   Diagnosis   Treatment   Follow Up   Resources
Condition	Oesophageal varices	Highlights   Basics   Prevention   Diagnosis   Treatment   Follow Up   Resources
Assessment	Assessment of Hypotension	

## MESH synonyms

The *Best Practice Dx* search engine uses MESH synonyms to further enhance the search results. The search engine will also search for synonyms of the term entered. So, for example, if you search for 'acetaminophen' you will also see results for 'paracetamol' and vice versa.

The synonym lists for each topic have been extended and enhanced based on user feedback and are updated regularly.

*The search results generated for the term 'acetaminophen', display both 'paracetamol'...*

*and 'acetaminophen'*

The screenshot shows the Best Practice Dx search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with 'acetaminophen' entered and a 'Search All' button. Below the search bar, the results are categorized by type: All results (562), Conditions (4), Diagnosis (55), Treatment (352), Evidence (76), Drug Database (1), and Guidelines (2). The results list includes:

- Drug Database: **Paracetamol**
- Evidence: **Paracetamol (acetaminophen) poisoning > Clinical Evidence**
- Condition: **Paracetamol overdose** (highlighted with a pink box). Sub-items include Highlights, Basics, Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Follow Up, and Resources.
- Evidence: **Paracetamol poisoning > Clinical Evidence > Treating acute paracetamol poisoning**. Description: "... What are the effects of treatments for acute paracetamol poisoning? ..."
- Guideline: **Clinical policy: critical issues in the management of patients presenting to the emergency department with acetaminophen overdose** (highlighted with a pink box). Description: "... department with acetaminophen overdose American College of Emergency Physicians 2007 http ..."
- Evidence: **Sickle cell disease > Clinical Evidence > Sickle cell pain (drug treatments) > Paracetamol**. Description: "... of paracetamol (acetaminophen) on pain in people with sickle cell crisis. For GRADE evaluation of other ..."
- Prevention: **Acute liver failure > Prevention > Primary**. Description: "... As paracetamol (acetaminophen) hepatotoxicity is one of the leading causes of ALF, efforts ..."
- Treatment: **Otitis externa > Treatment > Details > pain management**. Description: **Patient group:** bacterial - malignant or necrotising. "... activities. Mild to moderate pain is usually controlled by acetaminophen alone or in combination ..."

## Topic synonyms and related topics

When you search for a particular condition the *Best Practice Dx* search engine will also bring back any related 'topic synonyms'. This allows you to find information on a condition which may be under an alternative name.

*Results will include the condition topic and any topics related to it. If you search for 'Shaken baby syndrome' it also finds results for 'Child abuse'.*

**BestPractice** Show conditions Search Best Practice Search All

### Search results

Shaken baby syndrome

Hint: Use the tabs to refine your search

All results (66) Conditions (3) Diagnosis (15) Treatment (17) Evidence (0) Drug Database (0) Guidelines (4)

Results 1 to 50 of 66 Save this search

Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Shaken baby syndrome</b> Highlights   Basics   Prevention   Diagnosis   Treatment   Follow Up   Resources
Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Child abuse</b> Highlights   Basics   Prevention   Diagnosis   Treatment   Follow Up   Resources
Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Assessment of short stature</b> Overview   Emergencies   Diagnosis   Resources
Treatment	Child abuse > Treatment > Details > <b>counselling</b> Patient group: - confirmed child abuse
Treatment	Child abuse > Treatment > Details > <b>management of injuries</b> Patient group: confirmed child abuse - physical child abuse
Prevention	Child abuse > Prevention > <b>Secondary</b>
Guideline	Multidisciplinary guidelines on the identification, investigation and management of suspected abusive head trauma
Prevention	Child abuse > Prevention > <b>Primary</b> ... agreement by parents not to shake their <b>baby</b> , have also shown some benefits. Public ...

# Enhanced search features

## AND/OR/NOT

To refine your search there are three other useful search commands supported in *Best Practice Dx*: AND, OR and NOT.

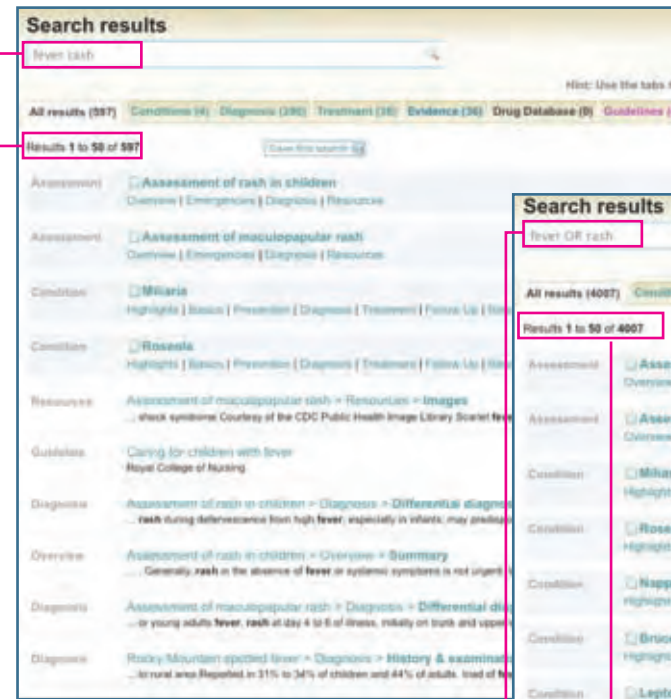
The *Best Practice Dx* search uses the AND command as its default option. This will return results containing all the words you have entered into your search. You do not need to include the word AND in between your search terms as 'and' is automatically implied.

If you want to return results containing just one of several terms you can use the OR command. It's important that you use all caps when typing OR otherwise the search will not recognise your request.

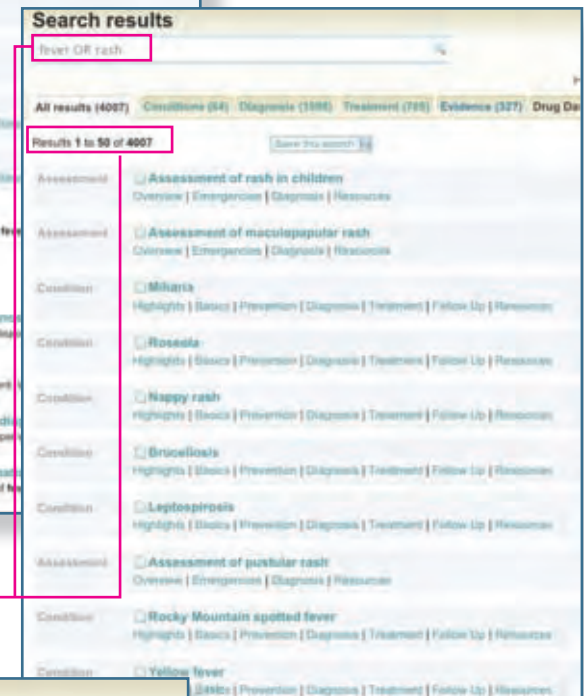
When you want to search for either one of multiple specific phrases don't forget to include double quote marks (") around each phrase, e.g. "shortness of breath" OR "chest pain".

If you want to exclude certain terms from a search you can use the NOT command. So to search for pain, but exclude chest pain, type 'pain NOT chest'.

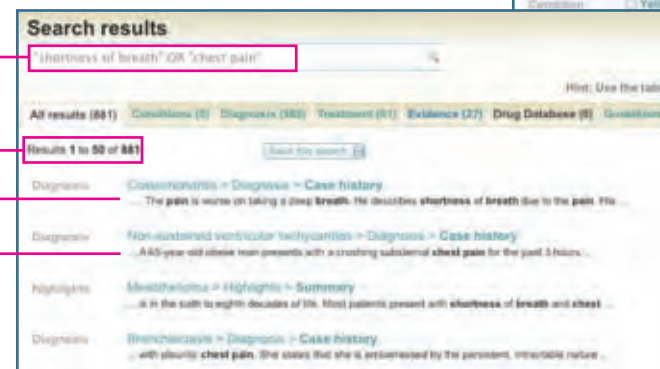
Type 'fever rash' into the Best Practice Dx search and it will only present results that feature both terms.



Typing 'fever OR rash' will return any page that has either of those terms. Pages with both terms will be ranked higher up the page.



Type "shortness of breath" OR "chest pain" will return any page that has either of those search phrases.



## Highlighting search results

When you click through from one of the search results, the highlighting tool emphasises all mentions of the search word in yellow on the relevant pages in the topic.

Having searched for blood, when you click on a result such as 'Evaluation of gross haematuria'...

The screenshot shows the BestPractice search interface. At the top, there's a search bar with 'blood' entered. Below it, a navigation bar shows 'All results (4653)', 'Conditions (19)', 'Diagnosis (1755)', 'Treatment (967)', 'Evidence (395)', 'Drug Database (0)', and 'Guidelines (63)'. A list of search results follows, including 'Hypercholesterolaemia', 'Assessment of hypercalcaemia', 'Meconium aspiration syndrome', 'Hypertriglyceridaemia', 'Iron deficiency anaemia', 'Assessment of gross haematuria', and 'Non-diabetic hypoglycaemia'. The 'Assessment of gross haematuria' result is highlighted with a pink box.

The screenshot shows the 'Assessment of gross haematuria' article. The 'Summary' section contains the text: 'Gross haematuria is urine that is visibly discoloured by blood or by blood clot. It may present as urine that is red to brown, or as frank blood. As little as 1 mL of blood can induce colour change in a litre of urine. By contrast, microscopic haematuria is not visible to inspection and is defined as three or more RBCs/HPFs on microscopic inspection.' The word 'blood' is highlighted in yellow. The 'Differential diagnosis' section lists various conditions like 'Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)', 'Urinary tract infection', etc.

... the word 'blood' is highlighted in the information presented.

## Condition topics

Each topic contains information on the complete management (diagnosis and treatment) of a patient with this condition. It also includes background information, prevention and information on follow up.

Navigation within the topic is easy with a consistent, practical content menu. This menu provides a quick reference to the different sections as well as enabling fast access to the most relevant content.

The top navigation bar provides access to each section within the topic: Basics, Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Follow Up and Resources

Headings in grey indicate that there is no relevant content under that heading within this article.

Click through to the precise information within each section.

Highlights from the diagnosis and treatment sections are provided on the 'Overview' page.

**Acute atrial fibrillation**

Highlights	Basics	Prevention	Diagnosis	Treatment	Follow Up	Resources
Summary <b>Overview</b>	Definition Epidemiology Aetiology Pathophysiology Classification	Primary Screening Secondary	History & examination Tests Differential Step-by-step Criteria Guidelines Case history	Details Step-by-step Emerging Guidelines Evidence	Recommendations Complications Prognosis	References Images Online resources Patient leaflets Credits

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### History & exam

#### Key factors

- presence of risk factors
- irregular pulse rate

#### Other diagnostic factors

- palpitations
- dizziness
- dyspnoea
- hypotension
- elevated jugular venous pressure
- added heart sounds
- rales
- evidence of stroke

#### History & exam details

### Diagnostic tests

#### 1st tests to order

- ECG
- serum electrolytes
- cardiac biomarkers
- thyroid function tests
- CXR
- transoesophageal echocardiogram (TOE)

#### Tests to consider

- transthoracic echocardiogram
- electrophysiological study
- exercise stress tests

#### Diagnostic tests details

### Treatment details

#### Presumptive

##### haemodynamically unstable

- direct current (DC) cardioversion

##### Acute

##### haemodynamically stable with left atrial thrombus

- without heart failure**
  - rate control with beta-blockers and/or calcium-channel blockers (CCBs)
  - heparin + warfarin
  - cardioversion following 3 to 4 weeks of anticoagulation
- with heart failure**
  - rate control with digoxin or amiodarone
  - heparin + warfarin

# Condition topics

Diagnosis and treatment information is clear and easy to find. It is not necessary to scroll through pages of text – users can expand or hide detailed text as appropriate to their requirements.

Treatment guidelines appropriate to the condition are available from international and regional organisations.

Resources include references (with abstract and/or full text links), images and further online resources.

The screenshot shows the BestPractice website interface for 'Acute atrial fibrillation'. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Clinical Evidence', 'Patient Leaflets', and 'Help', along with a search bar and a language selector set to 'English'. The main navigation menu includes 'Show conditions', 'Search Best Practice', and 'Search All'. The content is organized into several columns: 'Highlights' (Summary, Overview), 'Basics' (Definition, Epidemiology, Aetiology, Pathophysiology, Classification), 'Prevention' (Primary, Screening, Secondary), 'Diagnosis' (History & examination, Tests, Differential, Step-by-step, Criteria, Guidelines, Case history), 'Treatment' (Details, Step-by-step, Emerging, Guidelines, Evidence), 'Follow Up' (Recommendations, Complications, Prognosis), and 'Resources' (References, Images, Online resources, Patient leaflets, Credits). Below the navigation is a utility bar with 'Add notes', 'Bookmark', 'Add to Learning plan', 'Share', 'Feedback', 'Print', and 'Email' options. The main content area is titled 'History & examination' and contains three main sections: 'Key diagnostic factors' with a 'show all' button, 'Other diagnostic factors' with a 'show all' button, and 'Risk factors' with a 'hide all' button. The 'Key diagnostic factors' section lists 'presence of risk factors (common)' and 'irregular pulse rate (common)'. The 'Other diagnostic factors' section lists 'palpitations (common)' and 'hypotension (common)'. The 'Risk factors' section is titled 'Strong' and lists 'increasing age', 'diabetes mellitus', and 'hypertension'. Annotations with pink boxes and lines highlight the 'show all' and 'hide all' buttons, the 'Guidelines' link in the Treatment column, and the 'References', 'Images', and 'Patient leaflets' links in the Resources column.

Click 'show all' / 'hide all' to reveal or hide all the information.

Click to reveal /hide further information on a specific heading.

## Assessment topics

*Best Practice Dx* contains a number of 'Evaluation of' topics that provide detailed guidance on the diagnosis of key clinical symptoms and the use of diagnostic tests and procedures.

The 'Differential diagnosis' section presents all the differentiating history, exam factors, and tests for each differential e.g. 'dyspnea'.

Additional tabs include: Overview, Emergencies, Diagnosis and Resources.

Sort 'Differential diagnosis' by frequency or category.

Click to expand and link through to additional information.

Search all BMJ Products

Clinical Evidence Patient Leaflets Help

BestPractice Show conditions

Search Best Practice Search All

English

Assessment of dyspnoea

Overview Emergencies Diagnosis Resources

Summary Urgent considerations Step-by-step Differential diagnosis References Images Online resources Patient leaflets Credits

Add notes Bookmark Add to Learning plan Share Feedback Print Email

Differential diagnosis

Sort by: common/uncommon or category

Common show all

- ▶ COPD
- ▶ Pulmonary tumours
- ▶ Infective pneumonitis (bacterial, viral, fungal, tuberculous)
- ▶ Non-infective pneumonitis (eosinophilic, radiation, aspiration, hypersensitivity pneumonitis)

see our comprehensive coverage of Hypersensitivity pneumonitis

History	Exam	1st test	Other tests
presents with fever, chills, cough (dry or productive), and dyspnoea; myalgias, pleuritic chest pain, and night sweats may be present; hx of radiation to chest 1 to 6 months before presentation in radiation pneumonitis; episodes of clouded consciousness.	crackles; wheeze and rhonchi less common; hypoxaemia and respiratory failure may be present in severe cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>CXR:</b> alveolar infiltrates <a href="#">More</a></li><li>• <b>CT chest:</b> patchy, nodular infiltrates <a href="#">More</a></li><li>• <b>bronchoalveolar lavage:</b> eosinophilia in eosinophilic pneumonitis <a href="#">More</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>bronchoscopic biopsy:</b> granulomata in hypersensitivity pneumonitis</li></ul>

## Overview topics

*Best Practice Dx* also contains a number of 'Overview' topics. These provide brief information regarding a group of conditions in *Best Practice Dx* and links to further information on the individual conditions.

Additional tabs include: *Introduction, Evidence, References, Images and Credits*

**Overview of acute coronary syndrome**

Introduction Conditions Evidence References Images Credits

Add notes Bookmark Add to Learning plan Share Feedback Print Email

### Introduction

Acute coronary syndrome (ACS) refers to acute myocardial ischaemia caused by atherosclerotic coronary disease and includes ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), non ST elevation MI (NSTEMI) and unstable angina (UA). These terms are used as a framework for guiding management.

STEMI patients should be considered for immediate reperfusion therapy by thrombolytic agents or percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI). NSTEMI patients have elevated cardiac enzymes without ST segment elevation on ECG. Patients with normal cardiac enzymes but abnormal ECGs have UA. Neither NSTEMI or UA patients benefit from immediate reperfusion. [1] [2]

### Background

Coronary heart disease is one of the most common causes of death worldwide and is the leading cause of death among men and women in the U.S. In 1990, ischaemic heart disease accounted

The 'Conditions' section allows you to link to each of the individual conditions.

**Overview of acute coronary syndrome**

Introduction **Conditions** Evidence References Images Credits

Add notes Bookmark Add to Learning plan Share Feedback Print Email

### Conditions show all

- ▶ Unstable angina
- ▶ Myocardial infarction, non ST elevation
- ▶ Myocardial infarction, ST elevation

Top

## Clinical Evidence

Statements on the treatment of disease in *Best Practice Dx* are backed up by the latest evidence from *Clinical Evidence*, one of the world's most respected and trusted sources of evaluated medical research.

Appropriate content from *Clinical Evidence* is incorporated directly into each *Best Practice Dx* topic, and clearly identified using evidence grades.

Clear summary of the current state of knowledge and effectiveness of treatment.

Link through to the detailed Clinical Evidence article on benefits and harms of treatment options.

Clinical Evidence incorporated

The screenshot shows the Best Practice Dx interface for 'Type 1 diabetes'. The 'Clinical Evidence' tab is active, and a 'Clinical Evidence' box is highlighted in the top right. Below the navigation menu, there are tabs for 'Related systematic reviews: Questions' and 'Intervention Table'. The 'Intervention Table' displays a table with evidence grades and descriptions of laser treatments for diabetic retinopathy.

Evidence Grade	Description
Beneficial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Peripheral retinal laser photocoagulation in people with preproliferative (<i>moderate/severe non-proliferative</i>) retinopathy and maculopathy</li><li>Peripheral retinal laser photocoagulation in people with proliferative retinopathy</li><li>Photocoagulation in people with clinically significant macular oedema</li></ul>
Likely to be beneficial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grid photocoagulation to zones of retinal thickening in people with diffuse maculopathy</li></ul>
Unknown effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Peripheral retinal laser photocoagulation in people with treatment-resistant macular oedema</li></ul>

## Personalize Best Practice Dx

Best Practice Dx contains additional features which allow you to enhance and personalize the content to fit your local requirements.

With a 'My Best Practice Dx' account set up you can save searches and bookmark favorite topics.

Annotate pages with personal notes.

Local guidelines and links can be incorporated by your institution.

Headings and navigation available in 17 different languages.

The screenshot displays the Best Practice Dx website interface for the topic 'Asthma in adults'. The page is organized into several sections: Highlights, Basics, Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Follow Up, and Resources. The 'Treatment' section is highlighted, showing options for Details, Step-by-step, Emerging, Guidelines, and Evidence. A 'Bookmarked' button is visible below the main content area. A 'Notes' section is present, containing a text box with the note 'Asthma clinic every Wednesday afternoon contact Nurse Adams ext:4762' and 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons. A language dropdown menu is open on the right side, showing 17 different languages including English, español, français, italiano, 中文 (中國), Türkçe, 日本語, ไทย, norsk, Deutsch, العربية, 中文 (台灣), 한국어, português, and ελληνικά. The page also features a search bar at the top and navigation links for Clinical Evidence, Patient Leaflets, and Help.

## Creating a My Best Practice Dx account

To benefit from the personalization features in *Best Practice Dx* you need to sign up for a 'My Best Practice Dx' account (or use an existing BMJ Group account).

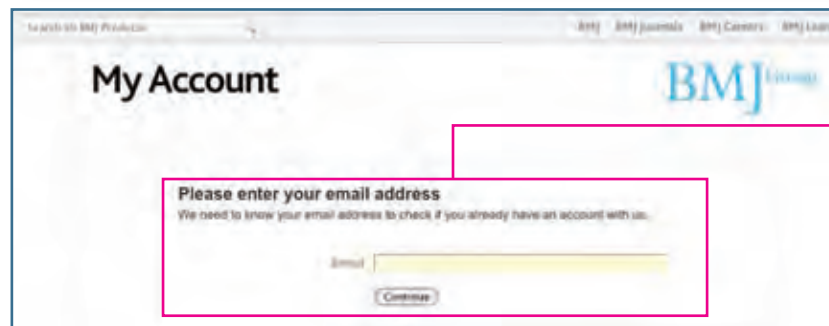
This will also allow you to access *Best Practice Dx* from home.



1. Click on 'My Best Practice Dx' while you are within your organization.




2. Register for your own personal account.



3. Enter your email address. If you do not have a BMJ account set up for any other BMJ products or services you will be prompted to complete the registration form.





Screen shots in this User Guide are of *Best Practice*, the version of *Best Practice Dx* used in the rest of the world, including the United Kingdom. Because of this you may notice slight differences between the text and the screen shots or between screen shots in the User Guide and *Best Practice Dx* on your computer.

*Best Practice Dx* is brought to you by the BMJ Evidence Centre – a division of the BMJ Group that is working to provide healthcare professionals with innovative new products and tools that make evidence useful in practice.

w: [evidencecentre.bmj.com](http://evidencecentre.bmj.com)  
e: [support@bmjgroup.com](mailto:support@bmjgroup.com)  
t: +44 (0) 20 7383 6270

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