

WELFORD CHART NOTES NEWSLETTER

Volume 28, No. 2



February, 2006

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INDICATIONS (pgs. 907-908, 912-915)

Medications have certain accepted reasons for which they should be prescribed, called *indications*. These reasons may include diagnoses that patients have (for example, hydrochlorothiazide is indicated to treat hypertension). Sometimes medications are prescribed in order to prevent a disease or state which the patient does not yet have (for example, vaccines or oral contraceptives).

The program comes with a list of Indications for each medication in the Vocabulary System, with a few exceptions (such as vaccines, vitamins, oral contraceptives, and over-the-counter products). These lists include both FDA-approved Indications and many off-label Indications. The Indications are listed as Diagnoses that are recognized by the Vocabulary System, so that the program can use this information to see if your patients have a recognized Diagnosis to justify the use of the medication. If the patient doesn't have a recognized Indication as one of his active Diagnoses, then you are warned of this fact. This warning helps to prevent sound-alike medication errors, where you mean to prescribe one drug but accidentally order a similar-sounding drug which has a different set of Indications.

Let's look up the Indications for a medication:

1. Press Libraries\Indications>List.
2. For **Drug Name**, type in CEREBYX and press <Tab> or **Look Up**.
3. Notice the list of diagnoses under **Indications**.
4. Choose an **Indication**, such as **cataplexy**.
5. Read the **Comment** at the bottom, telling you that the drug is FDA Approved for cataplexy, and reminding you not to confuse CEREBYX with CELEBREX or CELEXA.

Skipping and Unskipping Warnings

Suppose you never want to be reminded in the future if your patient is placed on CEREBYX.

1. Press **SKIP\ADD TO SKIP LIST**.
2. When asked if you are SURE you want to add it, say **Yes**.

(It is NOT recommended that you do this, since it defeats the purpose of Indication warnings, but you have the option of doing it if you wish).

Now, suppose you change your mind and want to resume being warned about CEREBYX Indications after all:

1. Press **SKIP\EDIT SKIP LIST**, or Libraries\Indications\Skip.
2. Highlight CEREBYX and press **DELETE**.
- 3.

Indication Warnings

Let's see how the program automatically warns you about Indications:

1. Press System\Medication Options.



