

Keeping Up With The Literature Guide

Developed and maintained by the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Critical Care Practice and Research Network (PRN)

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We are challenged as practitioners to develop strategies for keeping up with the ever-evolving practice guidelines and published literature to continuously practice evidence-based medicine. The purpose of this document is to share potential tips and tools available to assist in this endeavor.

Journal Alerts and Table of Contents (TOC):

- Most journals allow you to electronically subscribe (for free!) to TOC email alerts when a new issue is published (see **Table 1** for popular pharmacotherapy and critical care-related journals)
- Some journals also offer subscriptions to new article and published ahead of print email alerts when new content is published online
- [Critical Care Reviews](#) is a free service that curates a critical care-related electronic TOC from numerous journal sources with direct links for online article via journal website
 - Includes wide range of articles (clinical trials, observational studies, reviews, guidelines, etc)
 - Can subscribe for delivery of electronic TOC to email
- Tips and tricks:
 - TOC are a great place to skim article abstracts and then pull the full article through an institutional or personal journal subscription
 - Trainees should sign up with a personal/permanent email to avoid having to change subscription emails upon graduation
 - Consider limiting the quantity of alert subscriptions to avoid overwhelming and minimizing the quality of review
 - Delivery frequency and specific date/time can be customized for most journals, including daily, weekly, and monthly
 - Consider having all alerts delivered on the same day so review time can be planned accordingly

Mobile Applications:

- Read by QxMD (free)
 - Service allowing for browsing, searching, and storing literature
 - Algorithm provides a personalized feed of literature based on interest.
- VisualMed (free)
 - Great for quick visual abstracts for landmark trials
 - Has a section specific to critical care
- Journal Club Medicine (paid)
 - Internal medicine literature reviews at your fingertips

Professional Organizations:

- American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP)
 - Access to Pharmacotherapy and Journal of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy
 - Critical Care PRN membership: biannual literature update publication
- Society of Critical Care Medicine
 - Access to Critical Care Medicine and Critical Care Explorations
 - Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology (CPP) Section membership: monthly resident-led critical care journal clubs, monthly literature review publications
- Tips and tricks:
 - Look for similar literature review publications from other organizations you are part of
 - Consider signing up to assist with literature review publications which will encourage you to keep up with the literature yourself

Other Online Sources:

- Scholarly blogs
 - [EMCrit Blog](#)
 - [PulmCrit Blog](#)
 - [Internet Book of Critical Care](#)
- Podcasts
 - Excellent way to get information and commentary on hot topics in pharmacy and medicine
 - Most are available on various podcast platforms for mobile listening as well as website streaming
 - **Table 2** includes popular pharmacotherapy and critical care-related podcasts with brief descriptions of content
- Social media
 - Twitter is frequently used for this purpose (#TwitteRx, #CritPRN)
 - Follow medical journals, professional organizations (e.g., @ACCP) and associated accounts (e.g., @ACCPcritprn), or individual pharmacists or physicians who provide timely information
 - Twitter journal clubs are conducted by many pharmacy organizations, including ACCP Critical Care PRN and Neurocritical Care Society
- Google Scholar
 - Service for tracking and indexing your own research and scholarship publications
 - Allows for notifications of articles citing your own work
 - You can subscribe to individual authors to follow research from individuals in a specific field or content area
- PubMed
 - Can opt in to search update alerts via “my NCBI account”

Organizing Your Literature Files:

- Organizing your saved literature is just as important as reading new literature
- Cloud-based storage (Google Drive, DropBox, etc.) allows for viewing literature on mobile apps
- Hard drive-based storage may allow for more storage space
- Citation managers help organize literature for reading while allowing for easy citing when writing
 - Mendeley Reference Manager, Zotero, and Endnote are popular platforms
 - Most have browser plug-ins to allow for easy importation of references from the internet
 - All have Microsoft Word plug-ins to allow for citing while writing
- Tips and tricks:
 - Consider organizing by system (cardiovascular, pulmonary, etc.), topic/content area, or both
 - Develop a consistent naming convention for files (author last name, journal, year, etc.)
 - Zotero and Mendeley Reference Manager will generate alert emails with similar publications based on those you have saved to your various libraries
 - Many citation managers also allow you to join research networks and shared groups on topics of interest

****Always remember to critically evaluate anything you read from any of these sources.**** Find the method(s) that work best for you and continuously evaluate your approach to keeping up with the literature!

Table 1: Journals with TOC/Alert Subscription Links

Journal Name	TOC/Alert Subscription Link
Annals of Pharmacotherapy	https://journals.sagepub.com/connected/AOP#email-alert
Annals of Intensive Care	https://www.springeropen.com/login?journalId=13613&action=signup
American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine	https://www.atsjournals.org/toc/airccm/current
Annals of the American Thoracic Society	https://www.atsjournals.org/toc/annalsats/current
CHEST Journal <i>Subscription link at top right under "Connect" labeled "Alerts"</i>	https://journal.chestnet.org/
Critical Care	https://www.biomedcentral.com/login?journalId=13054&action=signup
Critical Care Medicine	https://journals.lww.com/ccmjournals/_layouts/15/1033/oaks.journals/subscriptionservices.aspx
Critical Care Explorations <i>Subscription link at top labeled "Get new issue alerts"</i>	https://journals.lww.com/ccejournals/pages/default.aspx
Critical Care Clinics <i>Subscription link at top right labeled "Register for eTOC alerts"</i>	https://www.criticalcare.theclinics.com/current
Current Opinion in Critical Care	https://journals.lww.com/co-criticalcare/pages/default.aspx
Intensive Care Medicine	https://www.springer.com/alerts-frontend/subscribe?journalNo=134
Journal of Critical Care <i>Subscription link at top left under "Articles & Issues"</i>	https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-critical-care
Journal of American College of Clinical Pharmacy <i>Subscription link on right labeled "Get Content alerts"</i>	https://accpjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/25749870
Journal of American Medical Association <i>Subscription link on right labeled "Get the latest from JAMA"</i>	https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama
Journal of Intensive Care Medicine	https://journals.sagepub.com/connected/IIC#email-alert
Journal of Intensive Care	https://www.springer.com/alerts-frontend/subscribe?journalNo=134
Lancet	https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/home
Lancet Respiratory Medicine	https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/home
Lancet Neurology	https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laneur/home
Neurocritical Care	https://www.springer.com/alerts-frontend/subscribe?journalNo=12028
New England Journal of Medicine	https://store.nejm.org/signup/nejm/register/alerts?promo=ONFLAA90&query=footer&utm_campaign=alerts20
Pharmacotherapy <i>Subscription link on right labeled "Get Content alerts"</i>	https://accpjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/18759114
Shock <i>Subscription link at top of page labeled "Get new issue alerts"</i>	https://journals.lww.com/shockjournal/pages/default.aspx

Table 2: Podcasts with Brief Descriptions

Podcast Name	Brief Description
Breathe Easy - ATSRx Podcast	Specific podcast sessions of the Breathe Easy podcast delivered by ATS Critical Care Pharmacy Workgroup
Breakpoints: The SIDP Podcast	Official podcast of the Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists covering a wide range of ID-related topics
Critical Care Scenarios Podcast	Case-based discussions focusing on critical care management of a specific disease state/condition
Internet Book of Critical Care (IBCC) Podcast	Episodes feature a summary of an individual chapter from the IBCC (see scholarly blogs section)
Pharmacy to Dose: The Critical Care Podcast	Episodes feature discussions on critical care topics with heavy pharmacotherapy focus as well as dedicated episodes for monthly literature reviews
Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) Podcast	Official podcast of SCCM covering a wide range of critical care topics
The Pharm So Hard Podcast: An Emergency Medicine and Hospital Pharmacy Podcast	Episodes feature discussions on common and hot-topic emergency medicine-related pharmacotherapy

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