A coherent database of reviews

- Prescrire's reviews include references to other reviews previously published in Prescrire in order to facilitate navigation within Prescrire's database.

Prescrire reviews are designed to constitute a coherent database and, as such, are interconnected. Many Prescrire reviews are updates or additions to previous analyses. In this context, references to our earlier articles are part of the database Prescrire makes available to its subscribers.

Prescrire is not a primary research journal, but rather publishes comprehensive reviews intended to provide continuing education and a solid database to serve subscribers' individual needs.

The reliability of Prescrire's reviews rests upon thorough preparation and literature search, and in-house quality controls carried out by Prescrire's Editorial Staff prior to publication. This approach is apparent in the bibliography provided at the end of each review: the literature search strategies are described in a concise but explicit manner; references are carefully chosen and are available to Prescrire subscribers, upon request, for a period of 5 years.

Prescrire's approach: perfecting knowledge and building a dynamically documented database

Prescrire's policy is that once a source article has been analysed and referenced in Prescrire, it is not listed as a reference in subsequent articles. Instead, it is referred to implicitly by referencing the Prescrire review in which it was first examined. The only exception to this rule is when the new review mentions a specific detail or item of information that was not previously examined in Prescrire. Note, however, that the earlier source materials are re-examined and taken into account during the drafting of new reviews.

Prescrire's database: accessible online to international Subscribers

The Prescrire in English website was launched in 2009, giving international subscribers access to the entire database of Prescrire's English-language articles, going back to the first issue of Prescrire International published in 1992.

The website was redesigned in 2010 and features a powerful search engine allowing users to display results by date, relevance, or media. Prescrire International is more timely thanks to its new monthly publishing schedule, while the database provides a solid background of previous Prescrire references. Full details available online at www.english.prescrire.org.

See the “About Prescrire” section of the Prescrire in English website at www.english.prescrire.org for more information on how Prescrire and Prescrire International reviews are produced.

Postage and handling charges are included in the quoted prices. Subscribers outside the European Union who are subject to value added tax (VAT) may pay the ex-tax cost: divide the full cost by 1.021. EU subscribers subject to VAT must provide us with their VAT code number.