British Pharmacopoeia

a step-by-step guide
This guide will take you through finding full-text standards for UK medicinal products and pharmaceutical substances.

Background information about the British Pharmacopoeia is available on the Library web site at:

www.reading.ac.uk/library/databases

Getting started

1. Open your web browser.
2. Go to the Library's home page at www.reading.ac.uk/library
3. Click on the Databases a-z list link in the ‘E-resources’ section of the home page.
4. Use the A-Z list to find British Pharmacopoeia and connect to it
5. If you are off-campus you will be redirected to the E-resources login screen where you need to type in your University username and password and click on Login. If you are on-campus you will be taken straight to the British Pharmacopoeia homepage.
6. Click on Browse publications in the centre-left of the British Pharmacopoeia homepage
7. Click on the edition required.

Searching

You can use the search box to perform a quick search for standards by using keywords or phrases within the selected edition of British Pharmacopoeia.

Click [ ] to start your search.

Click on Advanced Search to conduct a more specific search.

You can choose whether to search the title or content of standards. You can also limit your search to British or European standards, as well as searching within a specific volume or section of the British Pharmacopoeia. If you wish to restrict your search in this way, select the relevant option from the drop-down menus before you start your search.

Click [Search] to start your search.
Search results

The search results are displayed as a list. There are coloured flags to the left of each result which refers to the work in which they were found:

- Blue flag with the European chaplet of stars: European Pharmacopoeia Monographs
- Red flag: British Pharmacopoeia Monographs
- Pale green flag: British Pharmacopoeia (Veterinary) Monographs
- Khaki flag: British Approved Names

Saving your results

You cannot save or export the articles and references on this database.

Printing

Click on a title to view the full text. You can then print the article by clicking on the links on the left-hand side of the page.
Search tips

Search operators
There are three basic search operators - these allow you to combine your search words in different ways to narrow or broaden your search. The operators are:

- **AND** - use to combine different concepts, e.g.
  sodium AND potassium

- **OR** - use to include synonyms in your search, e.g.
  illness OR disease

- **NOT** - use to exclude words from your search, e.g.
  halogen NOT halide

Always put the operators in capitals.

Searching for different word endings and alternative spellings
If you want to search for several related words in one go, use * to represent any number of letters either at the beginning or at the end of a word, e.g.

- *phosphate* will find diphosphate, monophosphate etc.
  - *beta* will find betamethasone, betadex etc.

Finishing your search
Click on the **Logout** button at the top of the screen

- *If you are using an IT Services machine remember to log out before leaving it*