How was the Ascension-wide Medication Reference Tool selected?
An Ascension workgroup, composed of 17 members, evaluated the top vendors in the industry for ease of use, accessibility, content and cost and recommended Lexicomp from Wolters Kluwer.

How does the Ascension-wide Medication Reference Tool align with strategy?
Consistent with Ascension’s Quadruple Aim of delivering high-quality care and better patient and provider experiences at a lower overall cost of care, this standard tool will:

- Provide clear, concise, consistent medication reference information throughout Ascension that will contribute to the overall quality of care we provide our patients.
- Offer ease of use that will enhance the provider experience.
- Eliminate redundancies through a single vendor contract and ensure best pricing.

Who is impacted by this initiative?
Pharmacists, nurses, physicians and other healthcare professionals working at Ascension acute care facilities who need medication reference information.

When will the tool be available?
The Ascension Medication Reference Tool, Lexicomp, is available effective immediately. Conversion by September 30, 2015, is recommended due to expiration of access to reference content access for Micromedex.

The following two ministries are exceptions, and are scheduled to deploy the new tool the same day their existing contracts terminate:

- Ministry Health Care, Jan 1, 2016
- Via Christi Health, April 1, 2016
Who has access to the Ascension-wide Medication Reference Tool?

The Ascension Medication Reference Tool is licensed for use at the majority of Ascension’s acute care facilities effective immediately under the Ascension master service agreement. The cost of this contract is included in the AIS software budget and allocated to each Health Ministry for all acute care hospitals. Lexicomp web access is available to all employed Ascension associates through Lexicomp Online when accessed from a network computer.

Can I access Lexicomp from a personal mobile device/tablet?

Yes, there is an application that can be downloaded onto mobile devices and tablets. An access code is required to activate the app once it is installed on a device. The access code can be accessed when logged into Lexicomp Online. As a security measure, new access codes will be provided on an annual basis.

What medication reference content is included from Lexicomp?

Through the new master agreement, all hospitals have access to medication reference content at the point of care including:

- Medication and medication allergy interactions
- Medication identification
- Medical calculations
- I.V. compatibility
- Patient Medication Education
- Poison and Toxicology reference

What patient education information is available?

Lexicomp provides a database that contains over 3,000 leaflets outlining conditions, procedures, discharge instructions, natural products and healthy living topics to assist in educating patients. Leaflets are available in English and Spanish. In addition, over 200 of the most frequently accessed leaflets are also available in 19 languages.

What online database resources are available to providers in the standard contract?

- Natural Products
- Lexi-Drugs
- Lexi-Drugs International
- Geriatric Lexi-Drugs
Ascension Medication Reference Tool FAQs

- Pharmacogenomics
- Drug Allergy and Idiosyncratic Reactions
- Infectious Diseases
- Lab Tests & Diagnostic Procedures
- Drug ID Module
- Lexi-Interact Module
- Lexi-Tox
- Lexi-Calc
- Lexi-Select
- Pregnancy and Lactation, In-Depth
- Patient Education – Pediatric Medication
- Patient Education – Adult Medication
- Patient Education Module
- Pediatric and Neonatal Lexi-Drugs
- King® Guide Trissel’sTM IV-Chek
- AHFS Essentials (Adult and Pediatric)
- AHFS DI (Adult and Pediatric)
- Drug Comparison Reviews
- Comparative Drug Tables
- EMR Integrated Patient Education
- Martindale
- Direct linking to Lexicomp from UpToDate and Pharmacy OneSource: Sentri7

Is UpToDate included in the standard contract?
UpToDate is not included in the standard contract and may be purchased by individual ministries for an additional fee.

How can this integrate with our EHR?
Web access will be the primary and most commonly used method, although there is high interest in making EHR integration available for all.

1. Eight Health Ministries using the Cerner EHR have integrated this content already. For these ministries, access to the tool will continue with no interruption and duplicate contracts and cost will be eliminated.
2. For all other Health Ministries, AIS will work with each EHR vendor to document effort and cost required for integration of the medication reference content in the tool, and will communicate with local business owners to prioritize this effort and plan accordingly.

**What training is available as I implement this initiative?**

Vendor provided instructor-led training will be available via web conference in addition to Lexicomp training videos that demonstrate navigation of the tool and access to the medication reference content available. Recorded training sessions and training videos will be available on Ascension’s myLearning system as well as through Lexicomp online. Helpful resources such as guides, job aids and videos are available on the Care Excellence myCommunities page (https://communities.myascensionhealth.org/cm/ce/MRT-PHARM/Pages/default.aspx) in addition to resources and videos available on Lexicomp’s Online: http://www.wolterskluwercdi.com/lexicomp-online/.

A training plan and schedule will be developed in coordination with each Health Ministry clinical learning coordinator to determine the best approach to meet the specific needs of each Health Ministry.