

## MedicinesComplete Case Study No. 10

This case study demonstrates an integrated search across all the publications on MedicinesComplete. It considers the MedicinesComplete home page, use of the search box, search results display, selecting and displaying documents and returning to the home page.

Scenario: A pharmacist requires information on the use of kelp. A patient with hypothyroidism (and taking levothyroxine) is enquiring if it is safe to take kelp at the same time.

1. The MedicinesComplete home page shows the publications available. Clicking on the icon for each publication gives an overview of its contents.

The screenshot shows the MedicinesComplete website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser title is "MedicinesComplete: Drug and Healthcare Reference - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by The Royal Pharmaceutical Society". The address bar shows "http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/". The website features a search bar and a navigation menu with links for Home, Print, Help, Preferences, and Log in. The main content area includes a "Welcome to MedicinesComplete" message, a list of "Subscribed publications" with icons and titles, and a sidebar with "Welcome" and "New visitors" sections.

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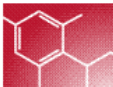







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MedicinesComplete provides online access to some of the world's leading drug and healthcare references.

Latest news: Handbook of Pharmaceutical Excipients completely updated and revised

You are logged in from **Pharmaceutical Press**.

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 BNF for children	 British National Formulary	 Clarke's Analysis of Drugs and Poisons	 Dietary Supplements	 Herbal Medicines
 Martindale: The Complete Drug	 MeReC Bulletins	 Pharmaceutical Excipients	 Stockley's Drug Interactions	 Stockley's Interaction Alerts

- Simply type a search term into the search box and click the search button (or press Enter). In this case study the term **kelp** will be used as the search term. The search is not case sensitive so it does not matter whether you enter your search in capitals or lower case letters.

MedicinesComplete: Drug and Healthcare Reference - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by The Royal Pharmaceutical Society

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### Welcome

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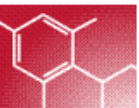







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Done Internet

3. The search results screen shows you the number of matches in individual publications. At the top of the screen this is indicated by the publication icons. To view the titles of the five most relevant documents from each publication scroll down the screen.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the MedicinesComplete website. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/search.htm?n=5&q=kelp&searchButton=Search>. The search term 'kelp' is entered in the search box. The page features a navigation menu with links for Home, Print, Help, Preferences, and Log in. A 'Welcome' sidebar contains links for About us, What's new?, Products, News, FAQ, Feedback, Contact us, Downloads, and Links. A 'New visitors' sidebar contains links for Prices, Trials, and Subscribe. A 'Subscribers' sidebar contains links for Log in and My account. The main content area is titled 'Site Search' and states: 'There are matches in 4 publications for kelp.' Below this, a purple bar labeled 'Subscribed publications' displays four icons representing different publications with their respective match counts: 90 matches, 2 matches, 1 match, and 1 match. A 'Publication matches' section highlights 'Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference' with 90 documents. Below this, the search results for 'Kelp B6 Cider Vinegar (Canada)' and 'Kelp Plus 3 (United Kingdom)' are visible. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows 'Done' and 'Internet'.

4. If you wish to display a document matched from any available publication then click on the document title. You may wish to do this from the selection of the five most relevant documents or from a list of all the search results for an individual publication. **Click on the Martindale publication icon to retrieve the search results from *Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference*.**

Site search for : MedicinesComplete - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by The Royal Pharmaceutical Society

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Address <http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/search.htm?n=5&q=kelp&searchButton=Search> Go Links


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**Publication matches**

 [Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference](#)  
There are 90 documents  
Results 1 - 5, sorted with best match first.


**Kelp B6 Cider Vinegar (Canada)**  
Contents > Preparations > By country > Canada > K

**Kelp Plus 3 (United Kingdom)**  
Contents > Preparations > By country > United Kingdom > K

**Phytoslim (United Kingdom)**  
Contents > Preparations > By country > United Kingdom > P


**KLB6 (United States)**  
Contents > Preparations > By country > United States > K

**Lecifar-K (Mexico)**  
Contents > Preparations > By country > Mexico > L

 [Herbal Medicines](#)  
There are 2 documents

**Fucus**  
Monographs > F

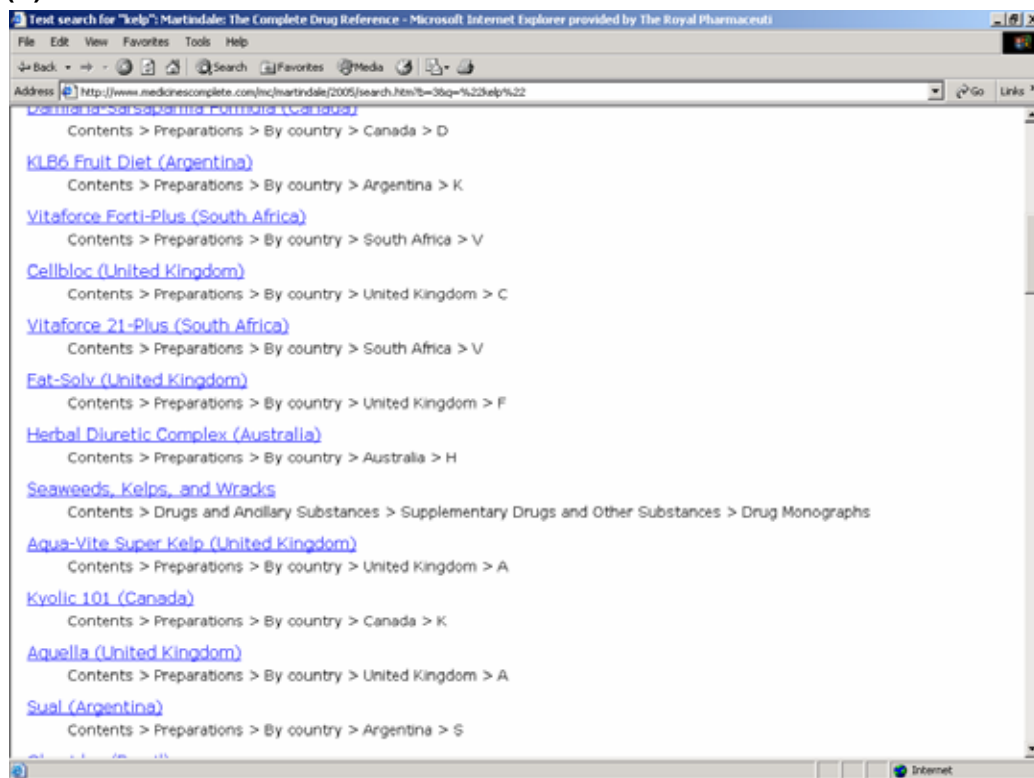
**Mistletoe**  
Monographs > M

 [Stockley's Drug Interactions](#)

Done Internet

5. Scroll down to page 2 of the results and click on **Seaweeds, kelps and wracks** to display the document (A), which gives the following results (B).

(A)



(B)



6. The Back button can be used to go back to the search results screen.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window with the title "Site search for : MedicinesComplete - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by The Royal Pharmaceutical Society". The address bar contains the URL "http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/search.htm?n=5&q=kelp&searchButton=Search". The website header includes the MedicinesComplete logo and a search bar with the text "kelp" and a "Search" button. A navigation menu contains links for Home, Print, Help, Preferences, and Log in.

The main content area is titled "Site Search" and displays the text "There are matches in 4 publications for kelp." Below this, a purple bar highlights "Subscribed publications". Four icons represent different publications with their respective match counts: 90 matches (Martindale), 2 matches (Kelp B6 Cider Vinegar), 1 match (Kelp Plus 3), and 1 match (Kelp Plus 3).

The "Publication matches" section shows the first result: "Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference" with a sub-header "There are 90 documents" and "Results 1 - 5, sorted with best match first." Below this, the first two search results are listed: "Kelp B6 Cider Vinegar (Canada)" with a breadcrumb trail "Contents > Preparations > By country > Canada > K" and "Kelp Plus 3 (United Kingdom)".

The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Internet".


7. The document from *Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference* on kelp has been displayed. Relevant information from the publications *Dietary Supplements* and *Herbal Medicines* can also be viewed. All three publications contain information that would alert us to potential problems on using this product in a patient with hypothyroidism.

Fucus: Herbal Medicines - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by The Royal Pharmaceutical Society

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Address [http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/herbals/2005/hrb0066.htm?q=%22kelp%22#\\_hit](http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/herbals/2005/hrb0066.htm?q=%22kelp%22#_hit) Go Links

 **Herbal Medicines**  Search

Home Contents Advanced search Print Help

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## Fucus

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### Species (Family)

*Fucus vesiculosus* L. and other *Fucus* species (Fucaceae)

### Synonym(s)

Black Tang, Bladderwrack, **Kelp**, Kelpware, Rockweed, Seawrack

Brown seaweeds refer to species of *Fucus*, *Ascophyllum*, *Laminaria* and *Macrocystis*. **Kelps** refer to species of *Laminaria* and *Macrocystis*, although **kelp** is often used in reference to species of *Fucus*.

### Part(s) Used

Thallus (whole plant)

### Pharmacopoeial and Other Monographs

BHC 1992([G6](#))

BHP 1996([G9](#))

Internet

**Kelp: Dietary Supplements** - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by The Royal Pharmaceutical Society

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Address [http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/diet/2005/M0043.htm?q=%22kelp%22#\\_hit](http://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/diet/2005/M0043.htm?q=%22kelp%22#_hit) Go Links >>

# Dietary Supplements

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## Kelp

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### Description

**Kelp** is a long-stemmed seaweed, derived from various species (e.g. *Fucus*, *Laminaria*) of brown algae, known as preparation of dried seaweed of various species.

### Constituents

**Kelp** is a source of several minerals and trace elements, especially iodine.

### Possible uses

**Kelp** is claimed to be a slimming aid (some herbal products containing **kelp** are licensed in the UK for this purpose). Its main use is as a source of iodine.

### Precautions/contraindications

**Kelp** should be avoided in patients with thyroid disease, unless recommended by a doctor. It may be contaminated with toxic trace elements (e.g. antimony, arsenic, lead, strontium).

### Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Done Internet

- From any screen you can return to the MedicinesComplete home page by clicking on the **Home icon** on the top bar. When in the Search Results display, the MedicinesComplete icon is at the top left corner of the screen and you can click on this to return to the MedicinesComplete home page. If you are in an individual publication then the publication icon is at the top left corner of the screen – if you click on this you return to the individual publication interface.