Searching Medical Device Alerts on the Health Devices Alerts Database

An online tutorial

October 2014
This tutorial will show you how to get the most out of the Health Devices Alerts (HDA) database, which contains thousands of medical device alerts records dating back to 1977.

Two different kinds of searching capabilities exist on the HDA website:

- Quick Search
- Advanced Search
To begin, go the HDA home page:
Scroll down the home page, you will see a “Quick Search” box:
With the “Quick Search” box, you can:

► Quickly search the entire HDA database

► To use, simply type your search term(s) into the box and click on the “Go” button or hit enter.

  ▪ You can enter a single search term to obtain all records containing that keyword.

  ▪ You can enter multiple search terms strung together with Boolean operators (e.g., and, or, and not) to narrow down your search.

  ▪ Search terms can be truncated with an asterisk to find records containing different forms of the term (e.g., plural words).

  ▪ Some examples of information you can enter include: manufacturer name, model name, type of device, and Accession No.
Sample “Quick Search”

► Go to the HDA home page.

► In the “Quick Search” box, type bedrail, and click the “Go” button.

► This search term should yield 72 records dating from November 5, 2013, to October 24, 1991.
Sample “Quick Search,” cont.

► To see if additional records about bedrails exist, you may have to revise your search strategy.

► In the “Quick Search” box, type bed* and rail*, and click the “Go” button.

► This search term should yield 21 records dating from June 5, 2014, to March 18, 1993.
Sample “Quick Search,” cont.

► Some results of the revised search may overlap with the first search, but you will most likely find additional records.

► You may have to try several different search strategies to find the information you are seeking.
For more advanced searching, click on the “Search/Report” link:
The “Search/Report” link will bring you to the Advanced Search screen:
In the Advanced Search screen, you can:

► Choose to search only Ongoing Actions, Completed Actions, Hazard Reports, Special Reports, Abstracts, or a combination of these (default is Ongoing and Completed Actions and Hazard and Special Reports)

► Choose reports published within the past several weeks

► Choose reports published within a certain date range

► Adjust the number of reports displayed per page (default is 30)
Sample “Advanced Search”

► In the search box on the Advanced Search screen, type *bedrail*.

► Deselect the “Special Report, Hazard Report, and Completed Actions” boxes, so that only “Ongoing Actions” is selected.

► Select Alerts within the last “ALL” weeks using the drop-down menu.

► Click on the “SEARCH” button.

► This search should yield 44 Ongoing Actions dating from November 5, 2013, to February 26, 2004.
The Search Results Screen

The Search Results screen will show you several different types of information, including:

- The number of records found
- The records’ Accession No., Alert Type, Priority, Headline/Source/Title, and Publication Date
The Search Results screen for the Sample “Advanced Search” will look like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acc No</th>
<th>Alert Type</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Headline</th>
<th>Pub Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A21169</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Sidhil—Innov8 Low Side Bedrails: Screws May Have Sharp Burrs</td>
<td>11/05/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A17617</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>&lt;span&gt;Philips—Model VM6 SurosSigns Patient Monitors #58: Bed Rail Hook May Not Be Properly Secured&lt;/span&gt;</td>
<td>03/06/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A16634</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Park House—Richmond Ultra Low Beds: Platform Tack-Welded Nuts May Be Cracked or Damaged</td>
<td>10/13/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A15852 01</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Harvest Healthcare—Telescopic Bedrails Used with Divan- and Hospital-Type Beds #58; Manufacturer Updates Installation Instructions</td>
<td>08/22/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A15852</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Harvest Healthcare—Telescopic Bedrails Used with Divan- and Hospital-Type Beds: Manufacturer Updates Installation Instructions</td>
<td>04/22/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A15449</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Not Prioritized</td>
<td>Hill-Rom—FlexiAir II and Flexicair MC3 Low Air Loss Therapy Rental Units #58; Will Be Withdrawn from Market</td>
<td>02/22/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A14131 01</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Park House—Atlantic Bedrails: Manufacturer Updates Installation Instructions</td>
<td>10/14/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A14131</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Park House—Atlantic Bedrails #58; Manufacturer Updates Installation Instructions</td>
<td>06/16/2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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To view a single record, click on that record’s Accession No.: 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acc No</th>
<th>Alert Type</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Headline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A21189</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Sichil—Innov8 Low Side Bedrails: Screws May Have Sharp Burrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A17617</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Philips—Model VM8 SureSigns Patient Monitors – Bedrail Hook May Not Be Properly Secured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A16834</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Park House—Richmond Ultra Low Beds Platform Tack-Welded Nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A15652</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Harvest Healthcare—Telescopic Bedrails Used with Divan- and Hospital-Type Beds – Manufacturer Updates Installation Instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A14134</td>
<td>Not Prioritized</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Hill-Rom—Flexicare II and Flexicair MC3 Low Air Loss Therapy Rental Units – Will Be Withdrawn from Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</table>
A full record will look like this:

User Status: Viewed

Accession Number: A21189  Normal Priority  Published: Tuesday, November 5, 2013

Sidhil—Innov8 Low Side Bedrails: Screws May Have Sharp Burrs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Identifier:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Innov8 Low Side Bedrails used with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innov8 Low Beds:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Geographic Regions: Australia, Ireland, Israel, New Zealand, Oman, UAE, U.K.

Manufacturer(s): Sidhil Ltd [162292], Sidhil Business Park, HX2 9TN Homefield Halifax, England

Problem:
In an October 24, 2013, Urgent Field Safety Notice letter posted by the U.K. Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), Sidhil states that screws that secure the cross bars to the plastic knuckles of the above bed rails (see the image in the Urgent Field Safety Notice letter) may have a sharp burr, potentially resulting in injury to the user’s hand. Sidhil also states that it has received one report that an end user suffered a minor cut to his/her hand.
To view specific records, check the box next to the records, then click on the “View Selected” link:
To scroll through your selected records, click on “Next”:
To print your selected records, click on the “Print View Selected” link:

Note: To print all of the records, you can click on the “Select All” link before you click on the “Print View Selected” link.
A new window containing your selected records will open up; click the “PRINT” button to print your records. This is the window that will pop up if you only select one record:

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A21189 - Normal Priority Medical Device Alert
Medical Device
Ongoing Action
Updated: November 5, 2015
UMNs Terms:
• Beds (1564)
Suggested Distributions:
• Clinical/Biomedical
• Facilities Building
• Management
• Nursing
Geographic Regions:
• Australia
• Brazil
• China
• New Zealand
• Oman
• U.K.

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Sharp Burrs
Product Identifier:

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Sidhii—Innov8 Low Side Bedrails: Screws May Have Sharp Burrs
Product Information:

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Sidhii—Innov8 Low Side Bedrails: Screws May Have Sharp Burrs
Product Information:

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This is the window that will pop up if you select multiple records; it contains a table of contents listing the Accession No., Title, and Suggested Distribution of the articles you selected:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>A15852 01 - Harvest Healthcare—Telescopic Bedrails Used with Divan- and Hospital-Type Beds: Manufacturer Updates Installation Instructions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
To save your search, click the computer disc button:
To print your search, click the printer icon:
Additional Searching Tips:

► Generally, you should begin with a narrow search; if you do not find any records, remove search terms to broaden the search until you do find some records.

► You will find more records if you try several different search strings.
  
  ▪ For example, if you are trying to find records regarding an infusion pump delivering too much medication, you may want to try both *infusion and pump* and *overinfuse* and *infusion and pump* and *overdeliver*.

► You can also combine several searches into one—the above example can be combined into *infusion and pump* and (*overinfuse* or *overdeliver*)
For more information, contact the HDA group:

► By telephone at (610) 825-6000

► By e-mail at hda@ecri.org