

**SMARTIE – COMPUTER-ASSISTED DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS AT THE POINT OF CARE**

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Computer Assisted Decision Support Tools (CADSTs) are a way to disseminate expert knowledge to the working clinician at the point of care. Their use greatly contributes to fostering best practice management strategies in today's healthcare systems. The goal of SMARTIE, a 5th Framework EU Project, is to offer a carefully selected comprehensive collection or "suite" of medical software decision tools (MedNotes™) ranging from clinical calculators up to the most advanced medical decision support tools.

Out of the thousands of decision support algorithms available from various sources, only a small fraction is suitable for converting into pieces of software suitable for distribution to practicing clinicians. SMARTIE has developed and implemented a thorough selection procedure to assess various aspects of published decision support algorithms in order to select those suitable for further processing.

Selected algorithms are converted into decision support tools (MedNotes™), available in several languages on several computer platforms: besides a standalone PC version, these platforms include PalmOS and WinCE, the most common palmtop systems, and WWW.

Several areas of clinical medicine have been selected for development of the initial SMARTIE MedNote suites: Gastroenterology, Endocrinology, Intensive Care, Emergency, Paediatrics and Laboratory Medicine. Algorithms from the fields of Neonatology, Paediatric Pulmonology, Paediatric Nephrology and Paediatric Gastroenterology have been selected for paediatrics MedNotes™.

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Further information about SMARTIE can be found at <http://www.smartie-ist.org>.

