



Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders

Free downloads: <http://wiser.nlm.nih.gov>

WISER (Wireless Information System for *Emergency Responders*) is a mobile application designed to assist first responders in hazardous material incidents. Standalone versions are currently available for the **Microsoft Windows™**, **iOS**, and **Android** platforms. A connected version of WISER supports the **BlackBerry** platform and a web-based version (**WebWISER**) supports web browsers for PCs, PDAs, and other devices. Developed by the National Library of Medicine (NLM), **WISER** provides a wide range of information on hazardous substances, including chemical identification support, physical characteristics, and human health, containment, and suppression information. In addition to chemicals, **WISER** now includes radioisotopes and biological agents.

WISER: Information from Authoritative Sources

First responders in general, and HAZMAT units in particular, must make many decisions quickly in handling hazardous-materials incidents. They need accurate information about the hazardous substances, the emergency resources available, and the surrounding environmental conditions to save lives and minimize the impact on the environment and physical property. The **WISER** application extracts content from TOXNET's Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB), an authoritative, peer-reviewed information resource maintained by NLM.

Substance ID Support

A key feature of **WISER** is support for identifying unknown chemicals. **WISER** helps identify and validate an unknown chemical based on physical properties of the substance gathered by observation or sensors, signs/symptoms of victims of exposure, transportation placard/container, and more.

Features of WISER

- **Rapid access to the most important information** about a hazardous substance
- **Intuitive, simple, logical user interface** developed by working with experienced first responders
- **Comprehensive decision support**, including assistance in identification of an unknown chemical or chemical syndrome and guidance on the immediate actions necessary to save lives and protect the environment
- **GIS support** provides for isolation/protective distance overlays on a map of the incident
- **Access to NLM's Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB) and Chemical Hazards Medical Management (CHEMM) content**, which contains a wealth of detailed, peer-reviewed information on hazardous substances
- **User Profiles** enable users to specify the role they are currently playing at the scene of an incident: first responder, HAZMAT specialist, EMS specialist, hospital provider, or preparedness planner. The application interface is customized so that the information most relevant to the respective job can be quickly accessed.
- **Tools and reference materials**, including triage tools, radiological incident support, WMD response guidelines, and an electronic version of the **ERG 2012**
- **Mobile support**, providing first responders critical information where they need it, when they need it