HPCS User Guide

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What is the Healthcare Product Comparison System?

ECRI Institute's *Healthcare Product Comparison System (HPCS)* is an international online database of thousands of model specifications for more than 550 types of medical devices.

- It is an international purchasing guide for capital medical equipment and clinical laboratory instrumentation.
- Each Product Comparison report provides a technology overview followed by a side-by-side comparison chart listing the specifications of currently available models worldwide.
- Manufacturers supply all the specifications contained in *HPCS* comparison charts.
- No evaluations or judgments about the relative merits of brands or models are made.

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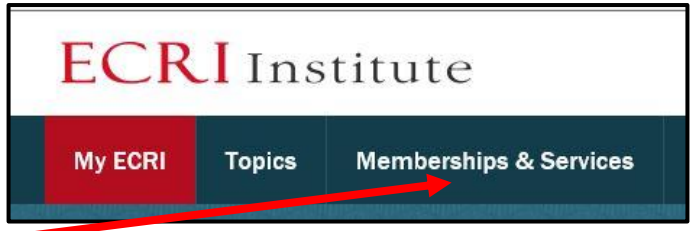
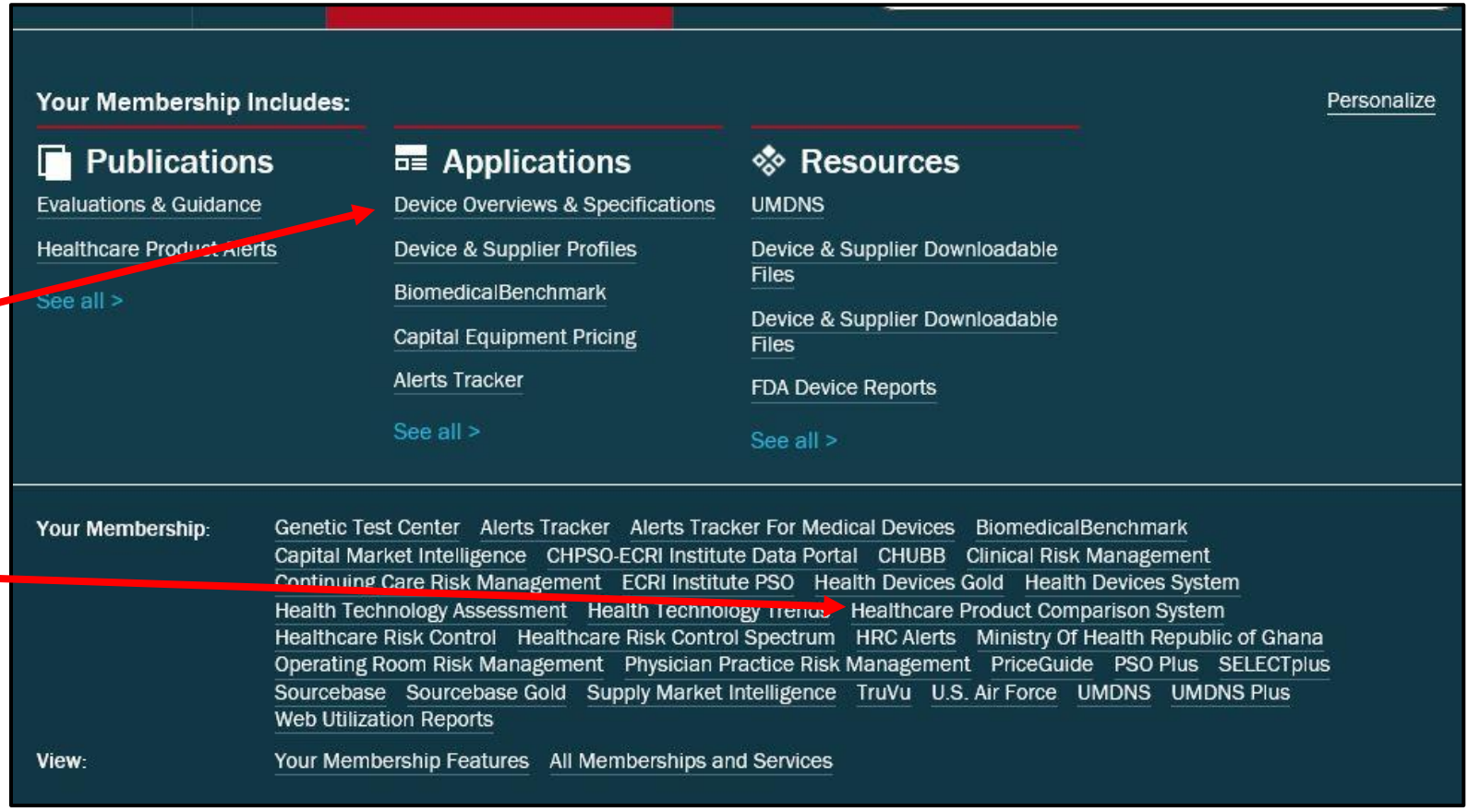
How do I find HPCS?

- Log in at www.ecri.org
- Click on **Memberships & Services** at the top of the page



This creates a drop-down menu showing your membership options. You can navigate to HPCS content by choosing either of these links:

- Device Overviews and Specifications under Applications (leads directly to Table of Contents page)
- Healthcare Product Comparison System under Your Membership



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The HPCS main page shows the most recently updated comparison reports.

To view the alphabetical table of contents (TOC), click on **Specification Comparison Charts** under Quick Links.

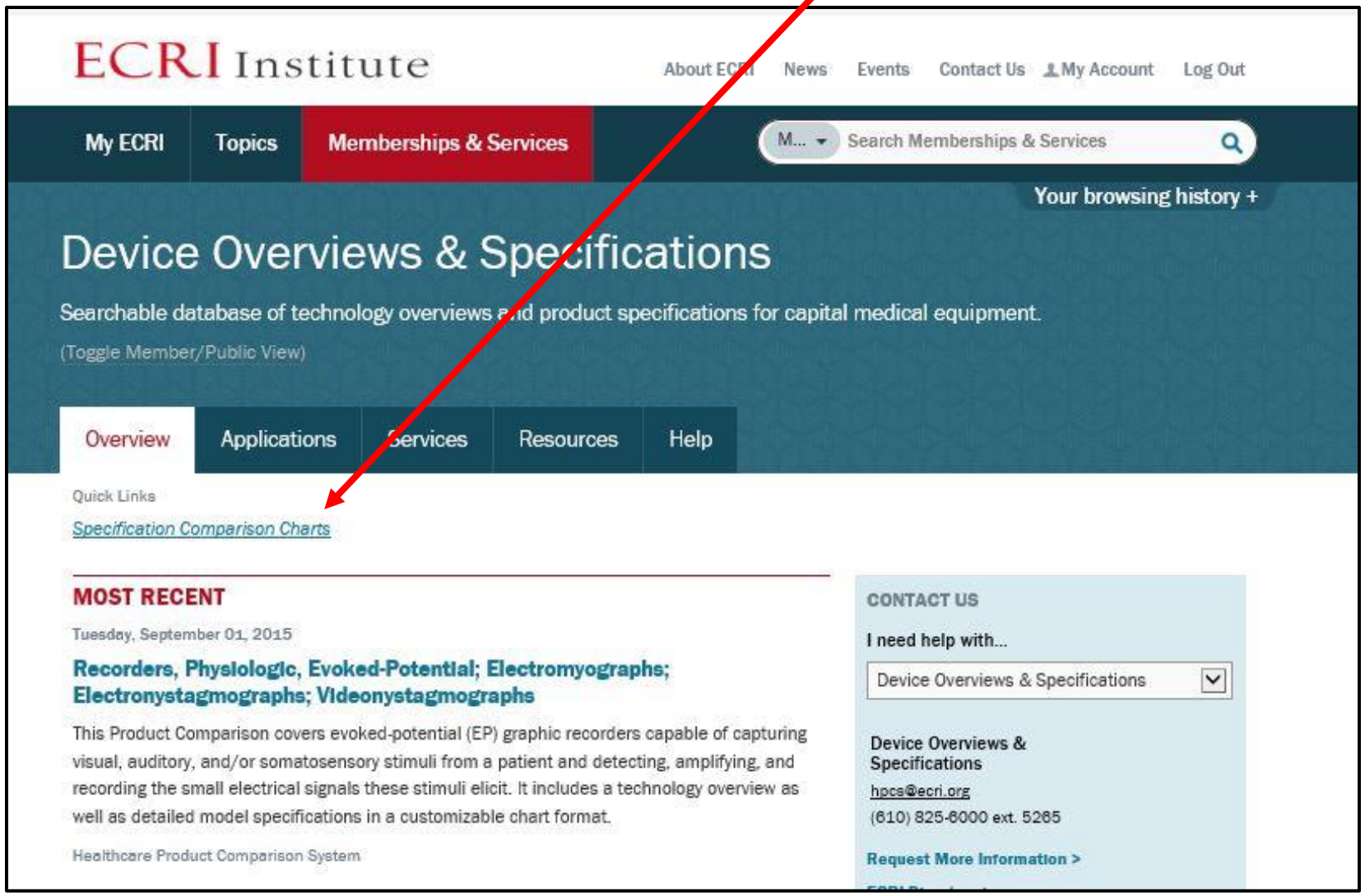

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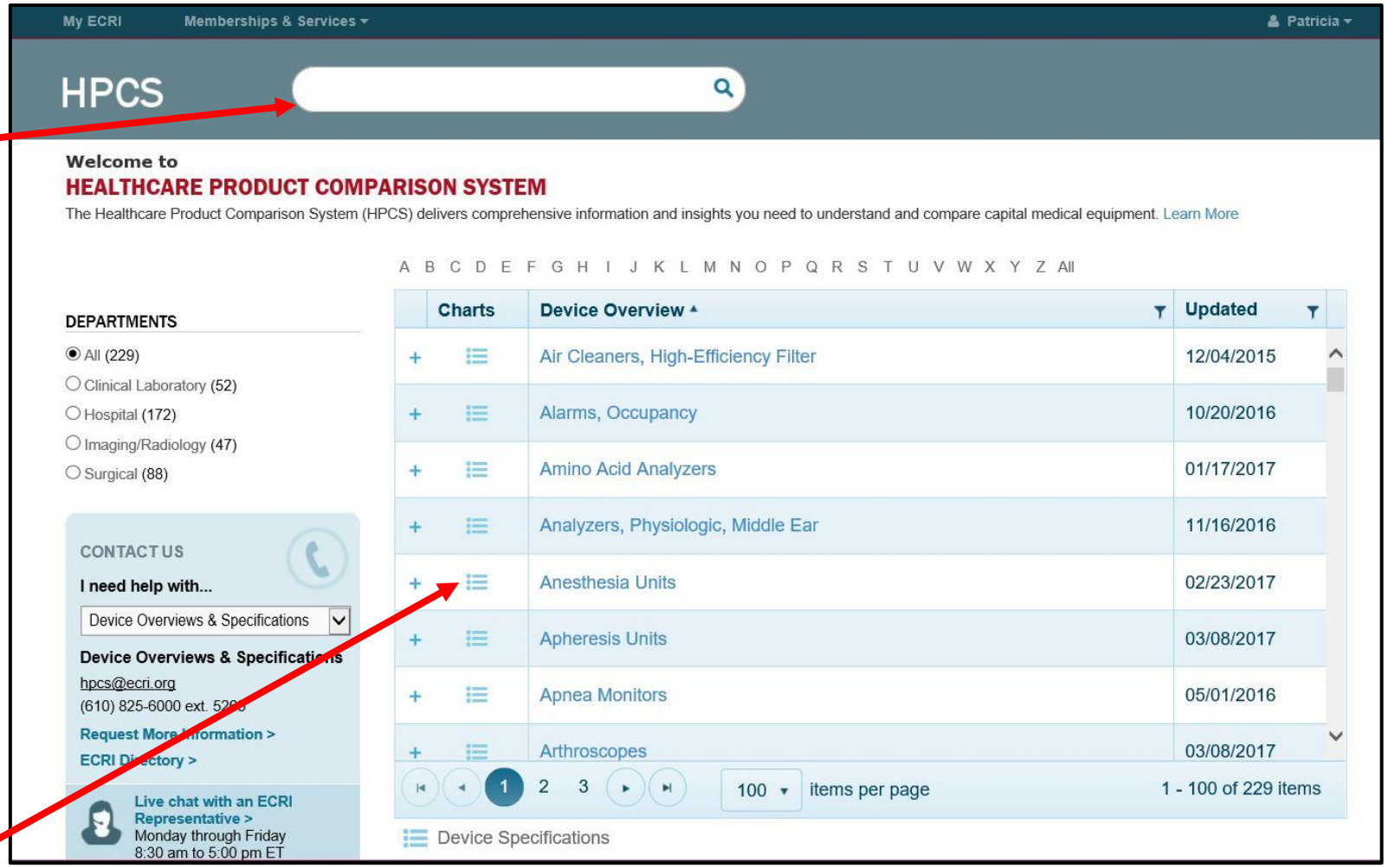
Table of Contents (TOC) page

- You can search text or products
- The table of contents can be bookmarked at this link: https://hpcs.ecri.org/
- Sorting options for the >225 reports include alphabetical order, department or specialty, and recently updated
- You can navigate directly to the charts using the icons in this column



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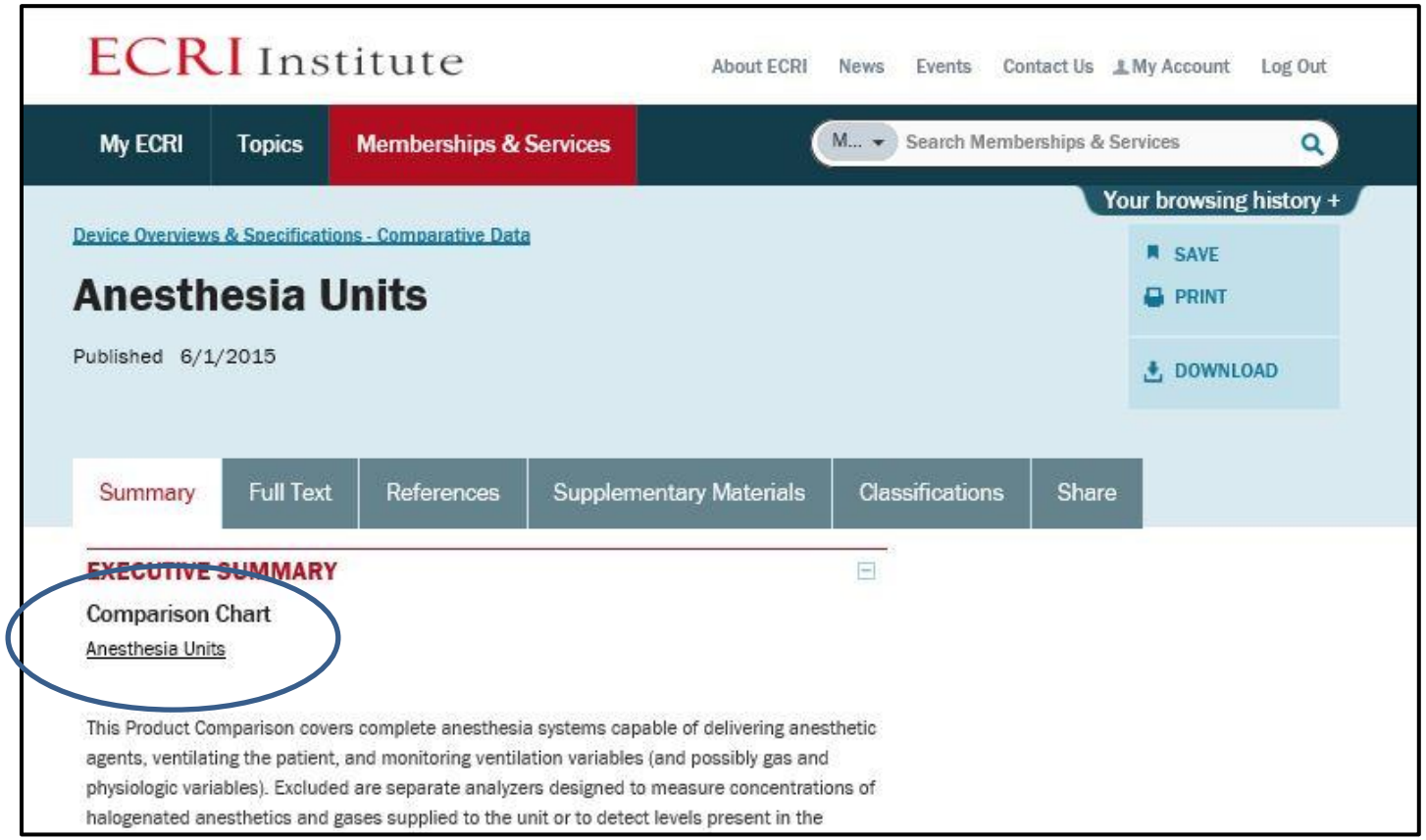
A comparison report's main page

- The default view is the text executive summary
- Every tab includes a link to the Comparison Chart with technical specifications
- Other tabs include the full text and references (report text bibliography)
- The text can be exported to create a PDF by clicking the download button



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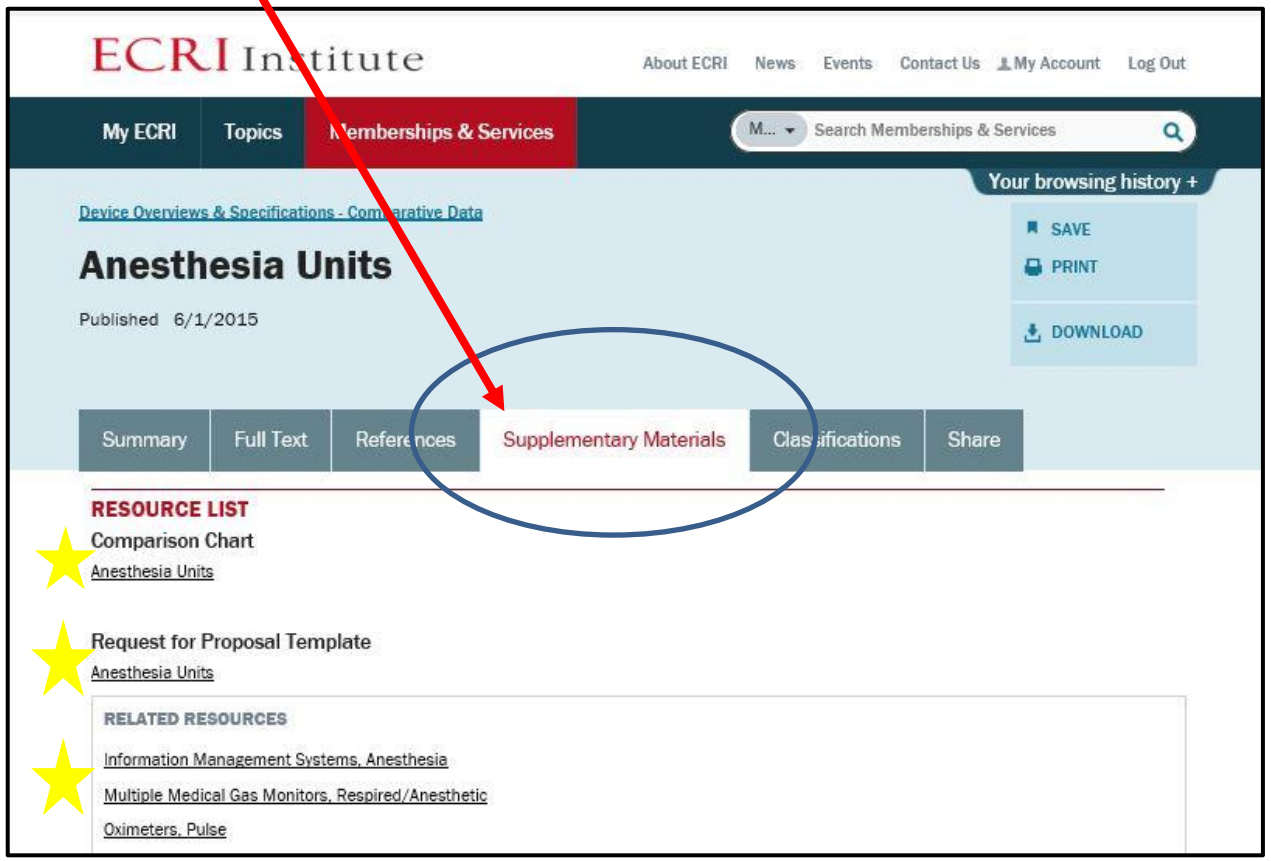
A report's full text includes:

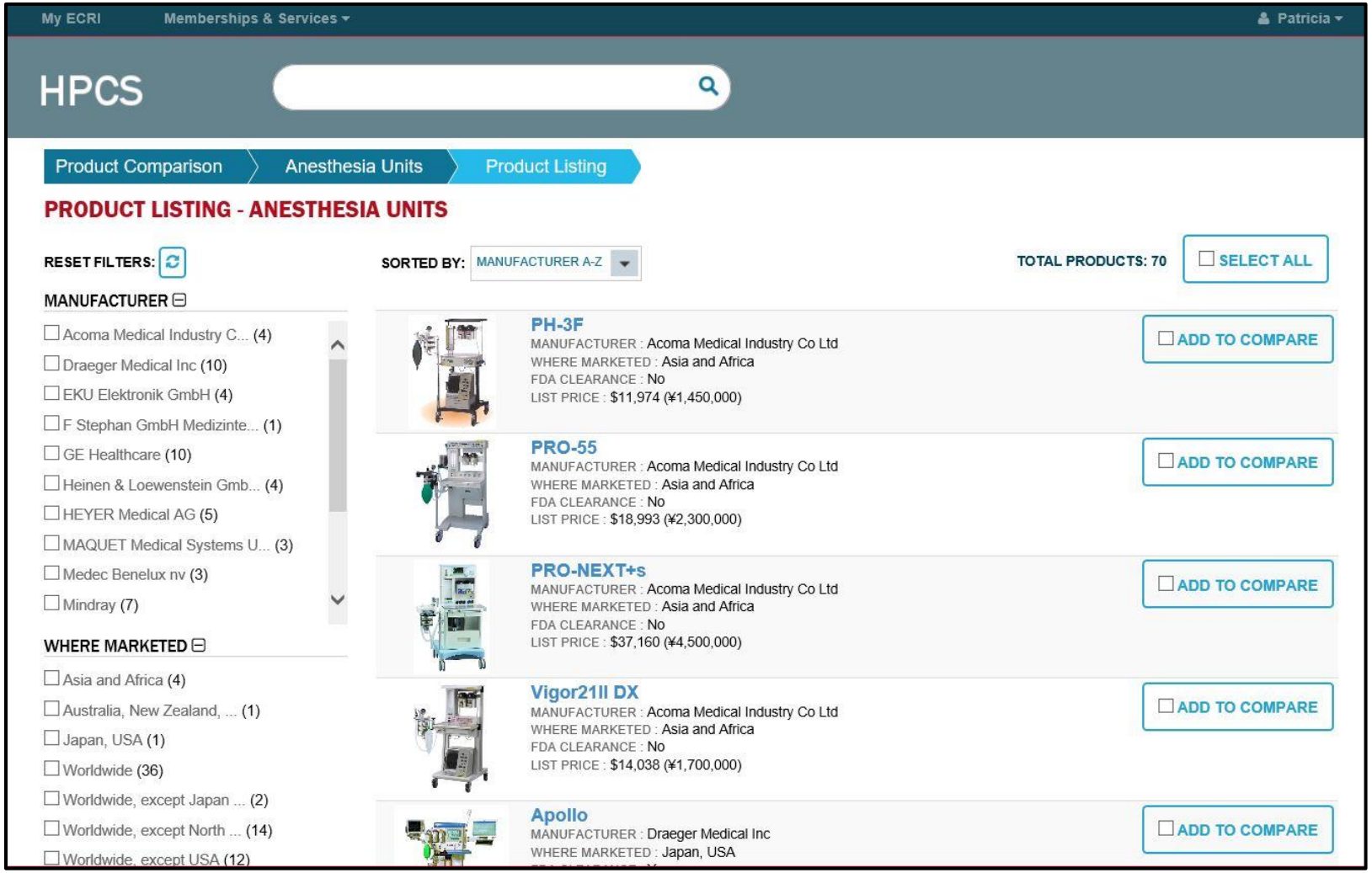
- A link to the comparison chart
- The scope of the Product Comparison
- The purpose of the device(s)
- The principles of operation of the device(s)
- Photos and figures
- Common reported problems and safety concerns
- Purchase considerations, which include:
  - Recommended technical specifications
  - Discussion of common costs and service options
- The stage of development of the device type(s)

The Supplementary Materials tab includes:

- The **Comparison Chart** link
- An RFP template pertaining to the device type
- Related Resources (e.g., Product Comparisons on related devices)



The **Comparison Chart** link directs you to the Product Listing page where a filterable list of vendors and their models can be viewed.



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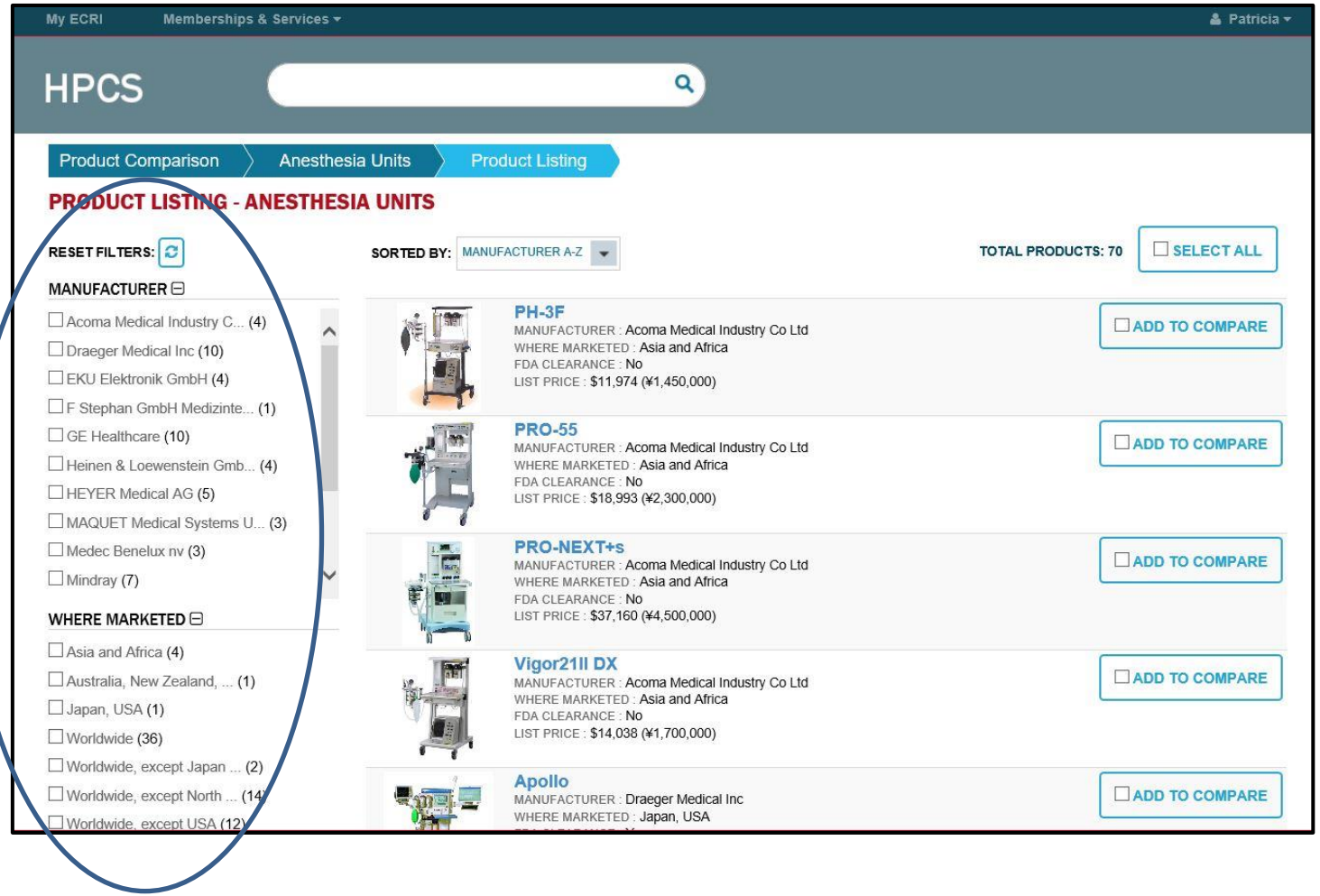
Features of this page:

- Filters to narrow the view by manufacturer, region marketed, list price, or status of FDA clearance
- Thumbnail images of the models
- The ability to go directly to a single-product (Product Detail) page by clicking on the product's name



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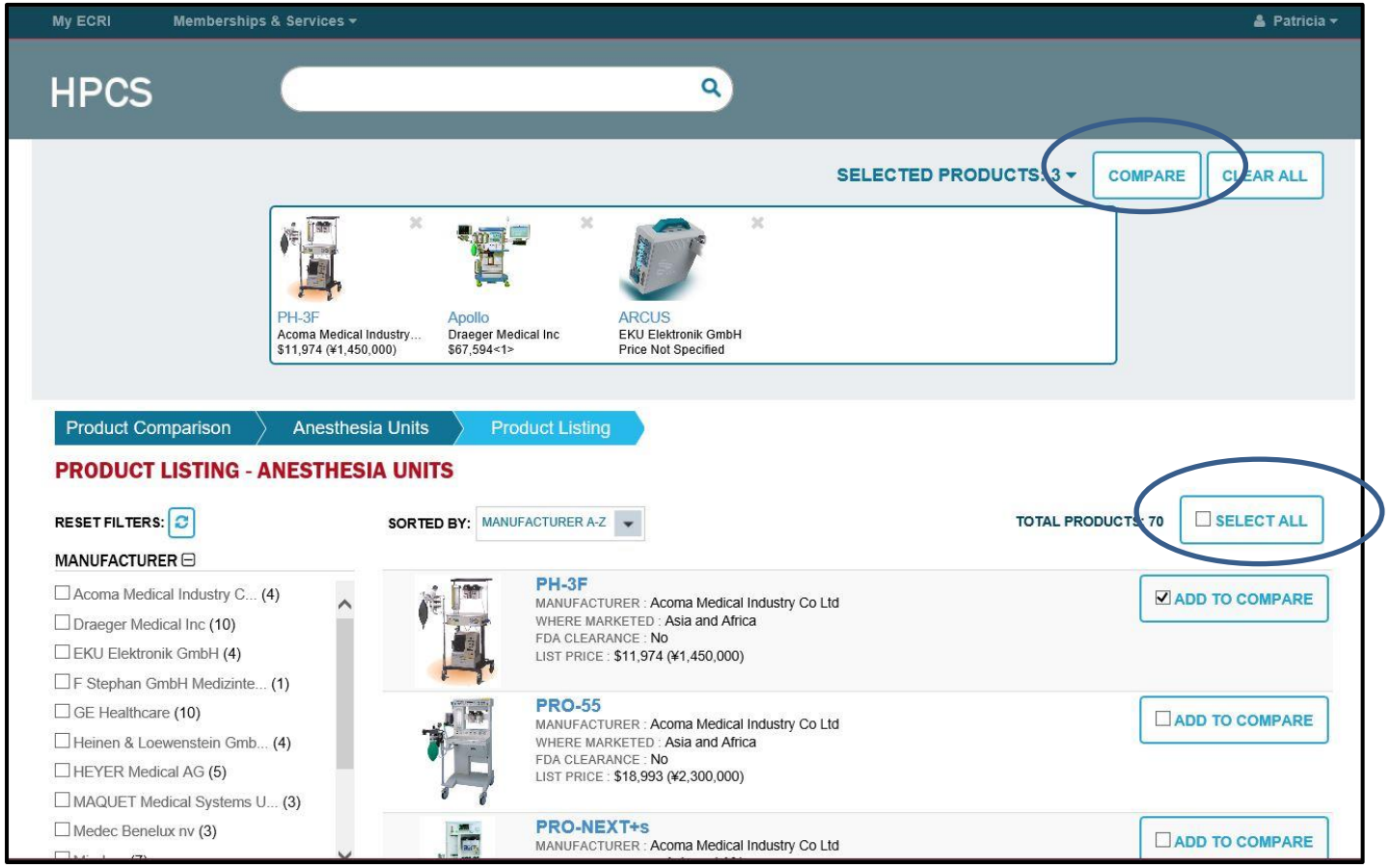
To view the comparison chart on our website:

- Click **SELECT ALL** checkbox at top of the page, then click **COMPARE**

  or

- Select the models individually by choosing **ADD TO COMPARE** for each (the choices then appearing in a box at the top of the page), then click **COMPARE**



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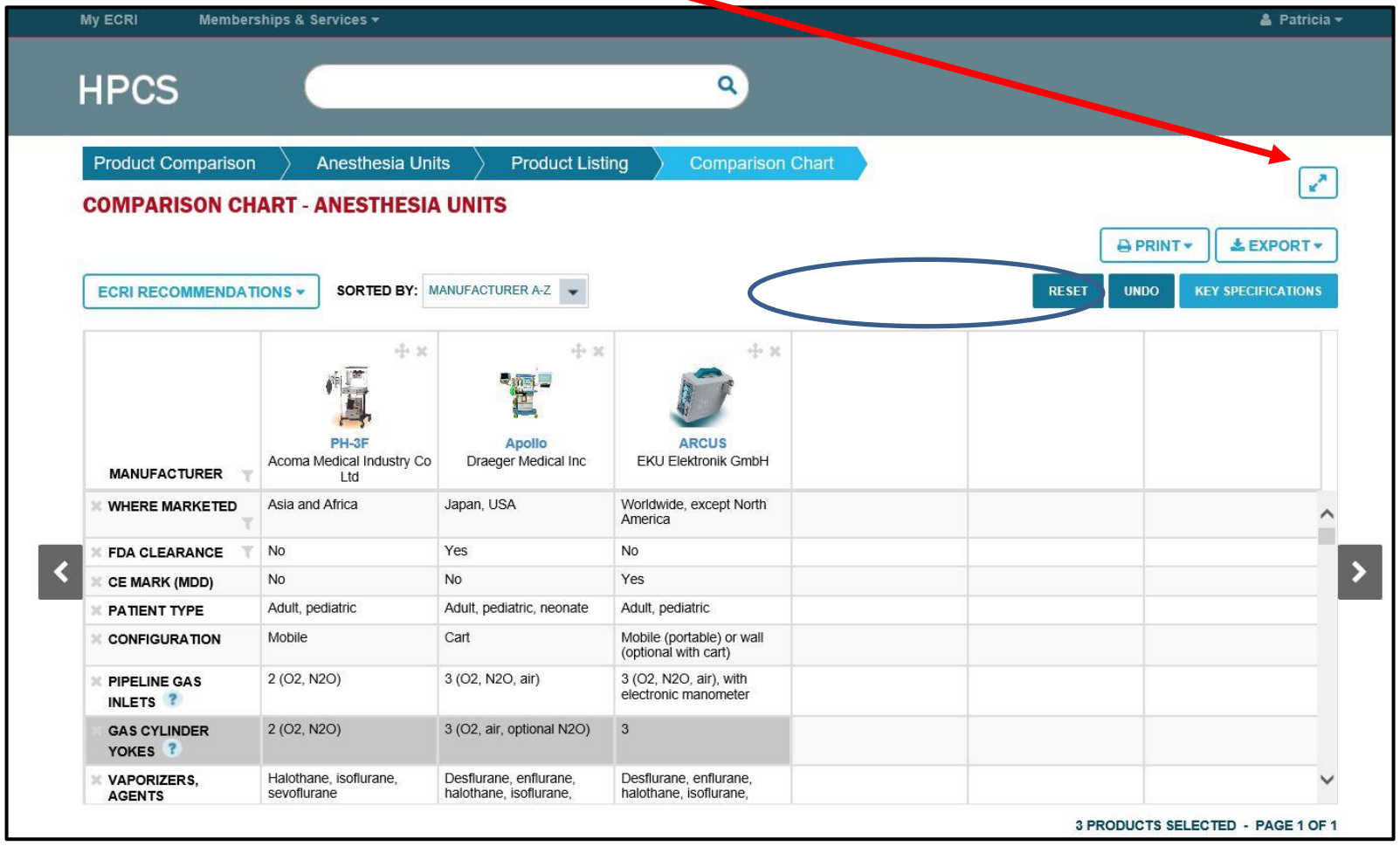
Your created comparison will look like this.

Clicking **PRINT** or **EXPORT** will create a PDF or spreadsheet. You can choose to print/export all of the models or only the selected models.

Clicking this square opens the chart in full screen view.



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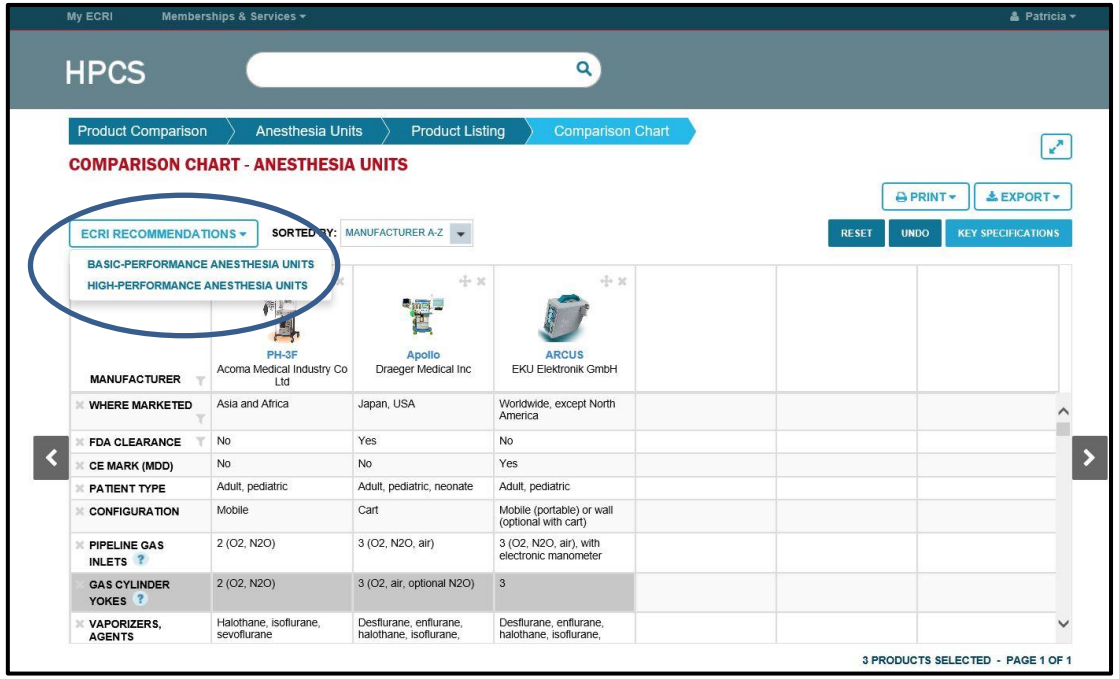
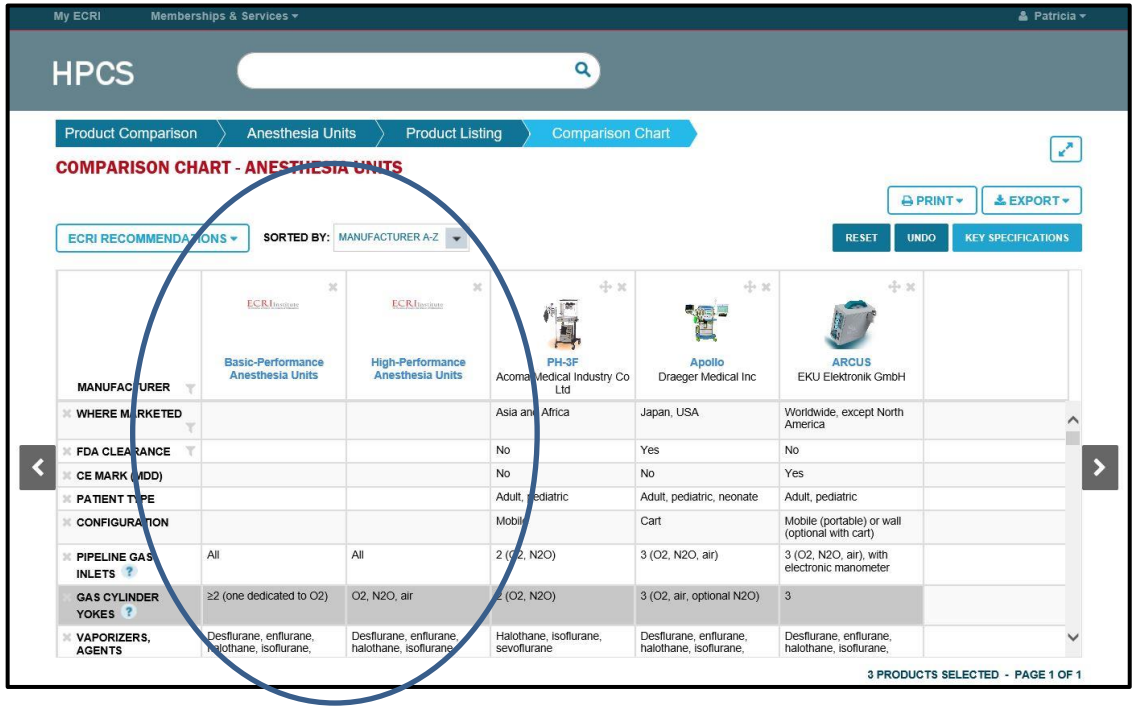
ECRI Institute's Recommended Specifications

- Can be added to the comparison via the Show ECRI Recommendations drop-down
- Recommendations may be available for various performance levels
- If you choose Print or Export after adding Recommendation columns, the PDF or Excel file will also include these columns





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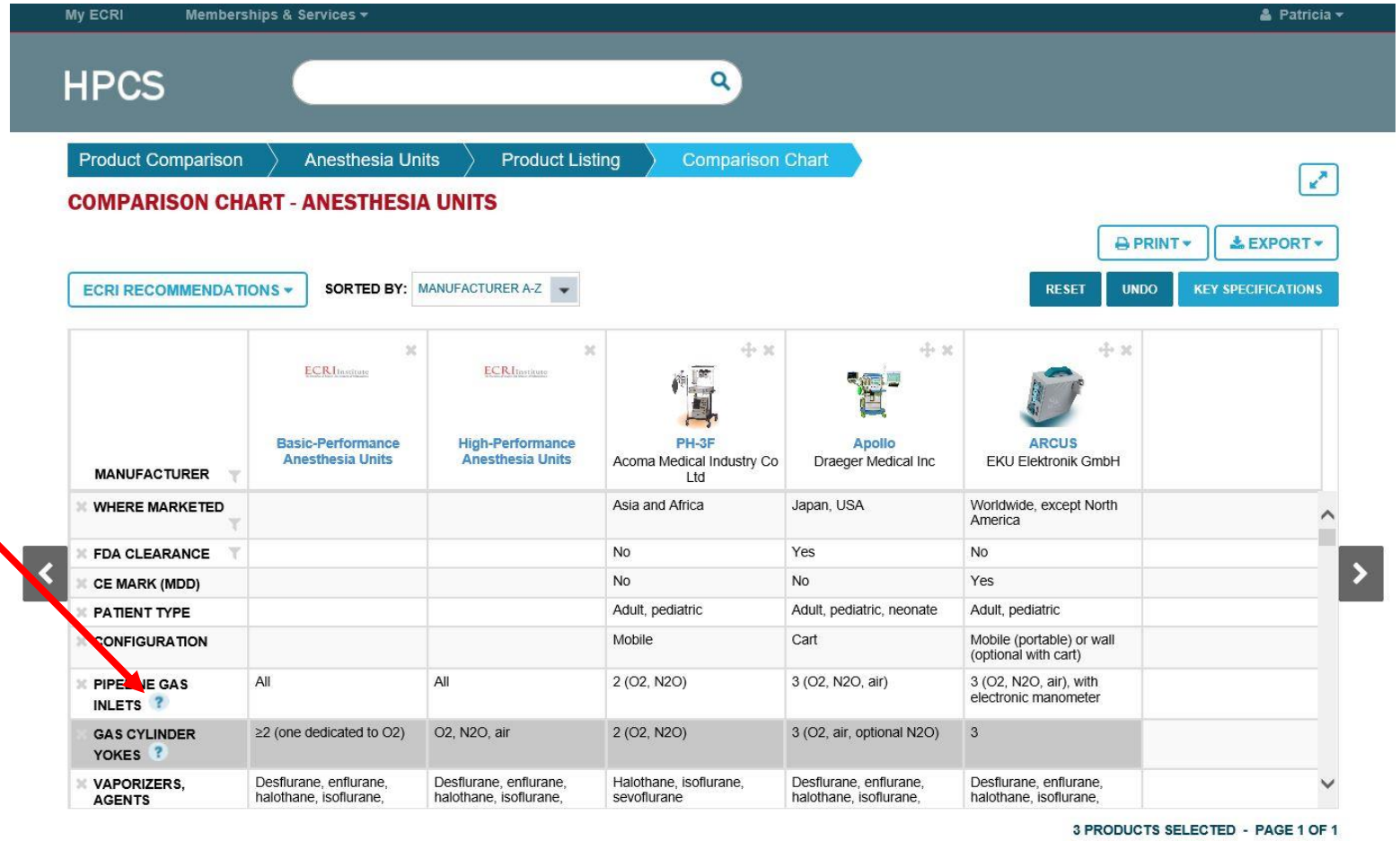
Additional features:

- Rows designated as key specifications are highlighted in gray; these can be toggled on and off by the Key Specifications button on the right-hand side
- Attributes with question marks contain definitions; hover over the attribute name to read them
- The X in the corner of a column removes the model from the comparison view; this can be undone using the Undo button at the right-hand side of the page



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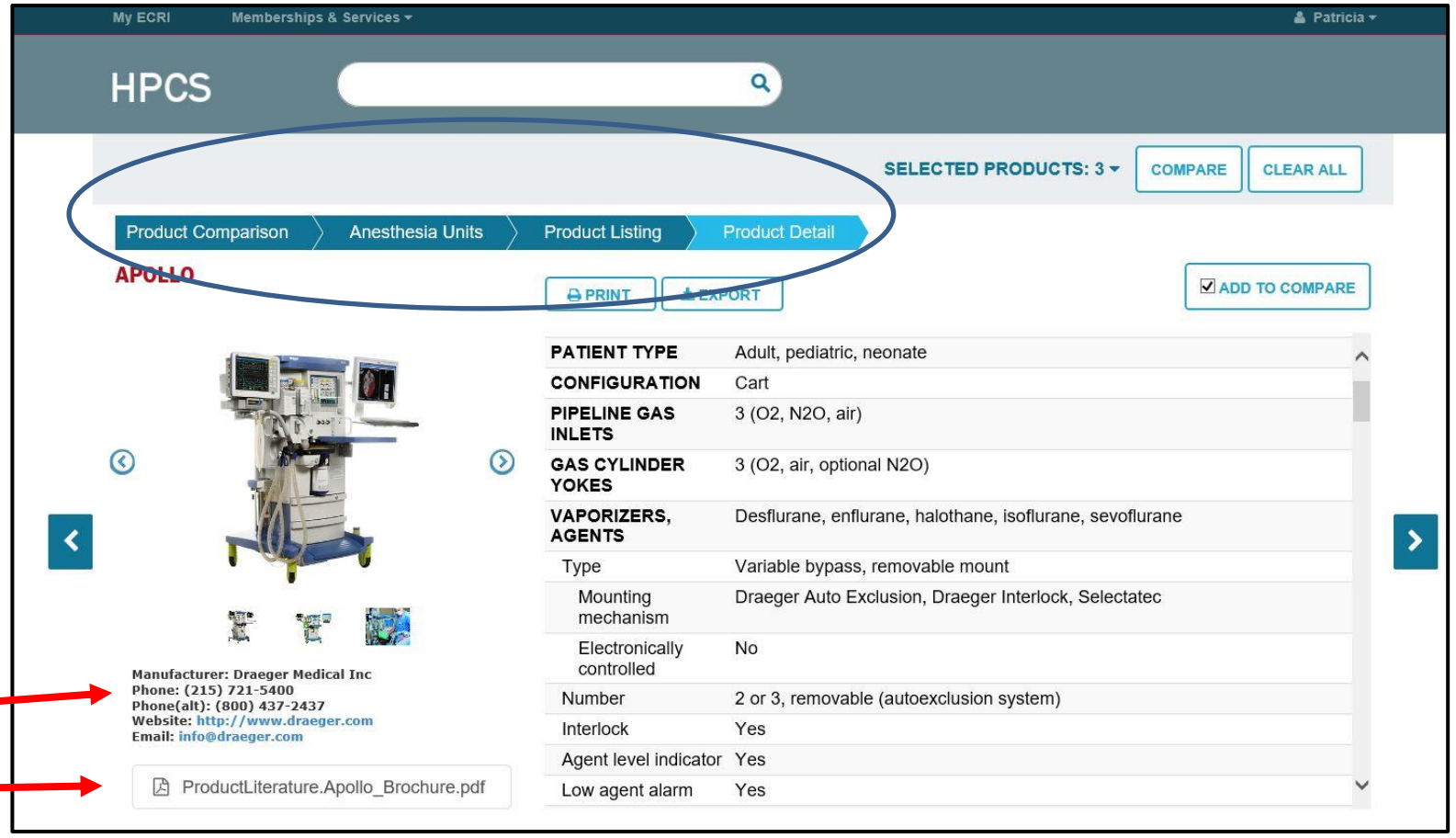
A Product Detail page can be accessed at any time by clicking on the model name.

- The breadcrumbs bar at the top will help you return to the Table of Contents, text, or Product Listing page

This page contains:

  - The specifications from the comparison chart
  - Basic manufacturer contact information
  - Additional images and/or product literature



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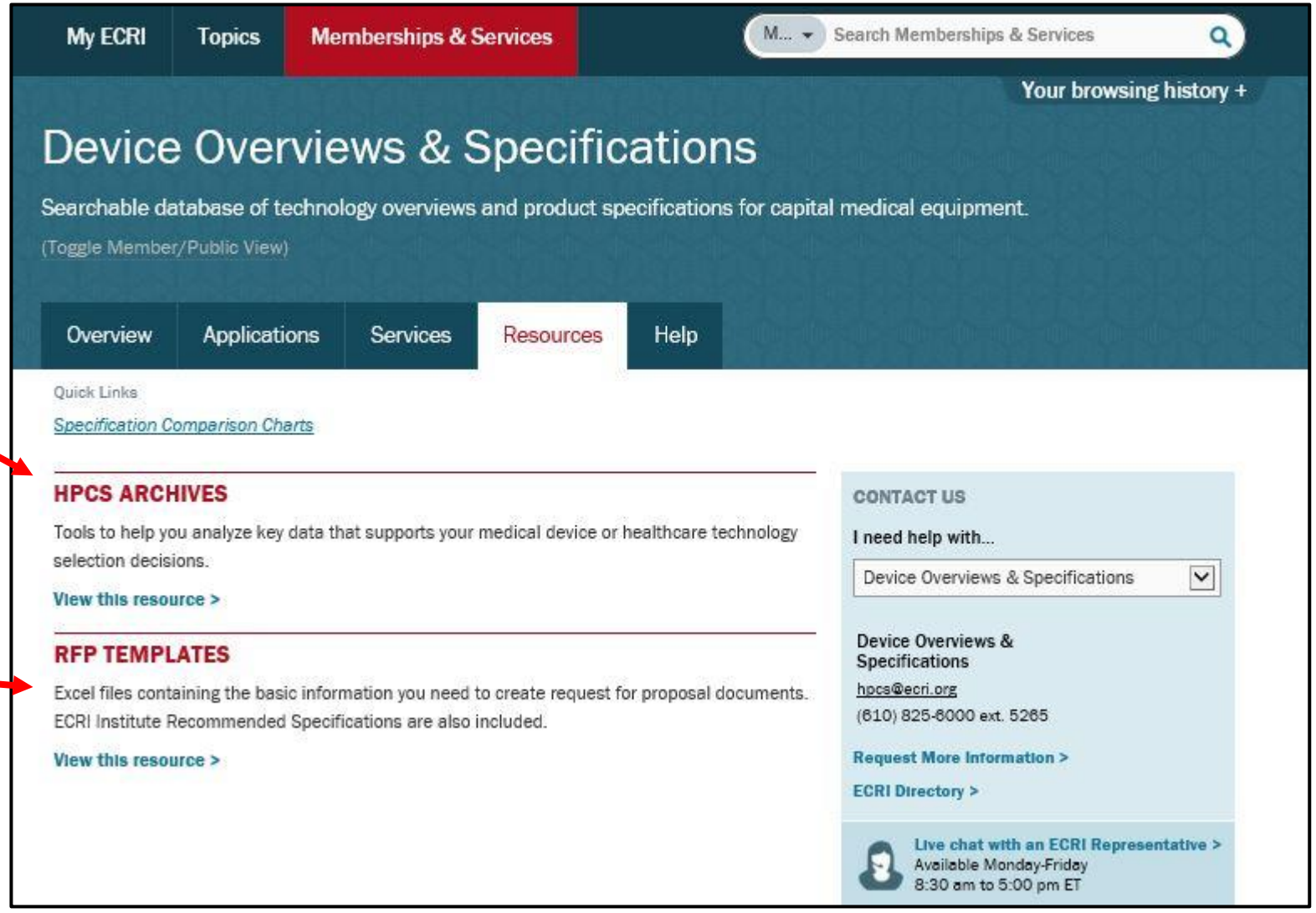
The Resources tab on the HPCS main page includes:

- Archives of past HPCS reports in PDF form
- Sample request for proposal (RFP) templates that include ECRI Institute's Recommended Specifications



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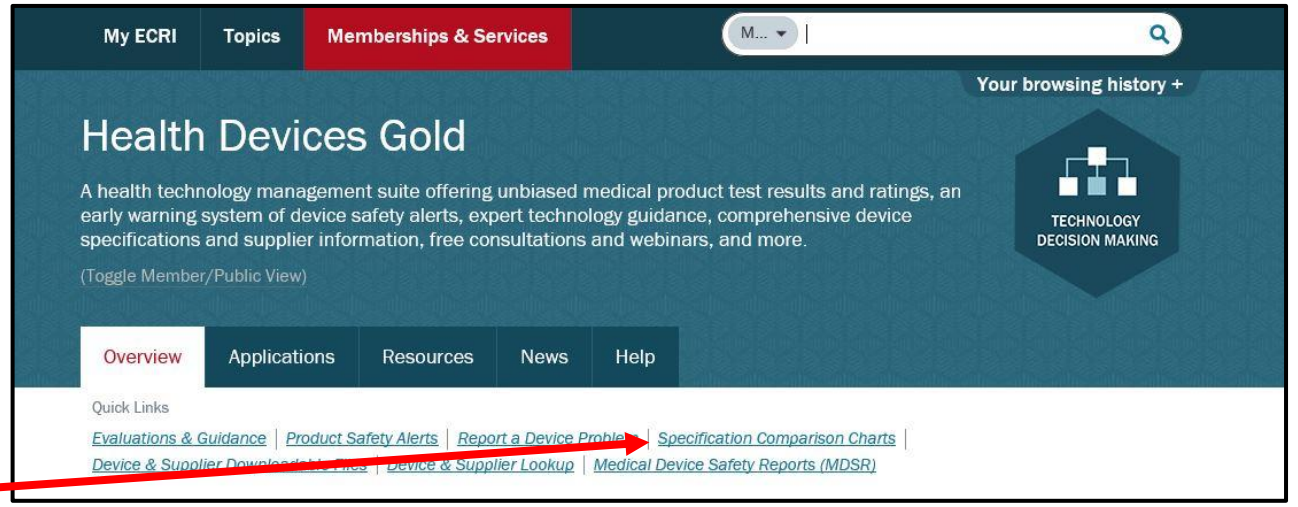
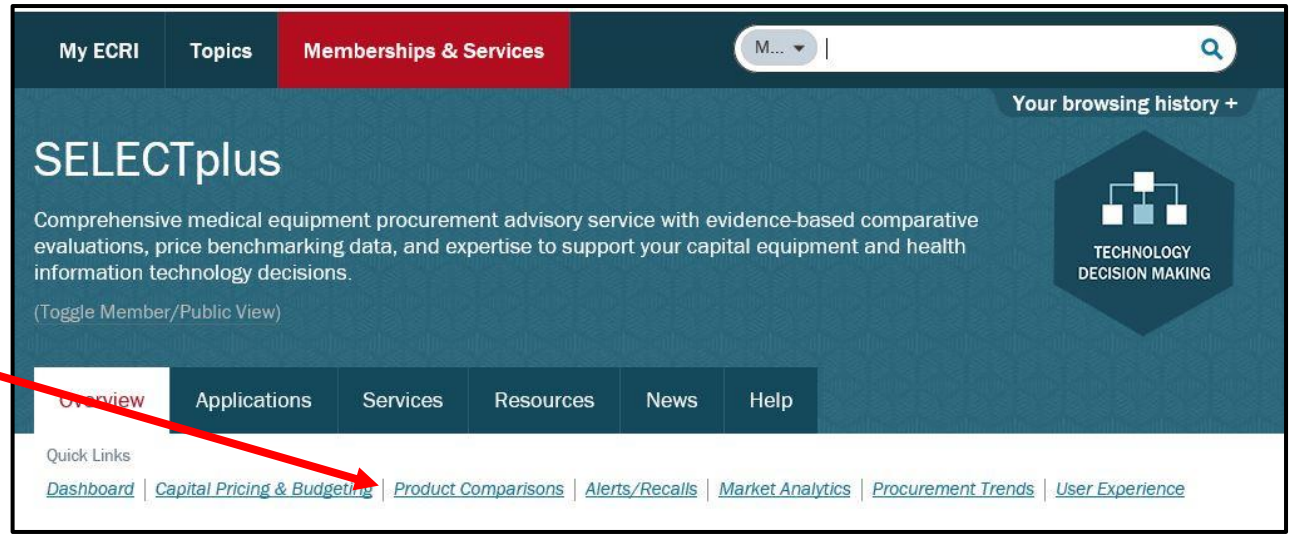
HPCS is included in Health Devices Gold and SELECTplus membership packages.

- To navigate from the Health Devices Gold main page, choose Specification Comparison Charts under Quick Links



- To navigate from the SelectPlus main page, choose Product Comparisons under Quick Links



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