Go Local Selection Guidelines: Basics

Go Local sites link MedlinePlus users to health services in their local community and direct users of the Go Local site to MedlinePlus health topics. For example, users get medical information on diabetes from MedlinePlus and then link to a Go Local site for nearby health programs, services and providers. Go Local sites should collect services including: state and local health departments, medical centers and clinics, practitioners, libraries, local voluntary health agency chapters, and support groups. Go Local sites should not collect and index locally-created health information.

These guidelines can serve as a starting point for Go Local sites to develop their own guidelines.

Authority of source

- The sponsorship of the site is clear. The credentials or qualifications of the sponsors are provided.
- There is a way to contact the site.
- Sites for an individual health care provider must include credential information.
- If the site is commercial, it acknowledges any commercial interest or personal point of view.

Content

- Pages contain a created, revised, or update date.
- Links on the site are reliable and relevant.
- Information on the site is unique and not readily available elsewhere. The
 information is not redundant with information available from other sources
 already in the database.
- The site does not contain inaccurate, erroneous, misleading or dangerous medical information, claims, or allegations.
- Most information on the site is available at no charge.
- Registration, an account, or password is not required to access site information.

Audience

• Consumers or the general public is the intended audience of the site.

Local Relevance

 The site provides information about a local or regional organization, service or activity.

