NOTE:

This is a newsletter. The links and information are up-to-date when published and are NOT updated after the published date.

RML DIRECTORS MEETING, MAY 2, 2003

Regional Medical Library (RML) directors and staff joined National Library of Medicine (NLM) staff for an "all-RML" meeting prior to the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. Approximately 70 staff members from the eight RMLs were present to hear an update from NLM, and to discuss future enhancements to DOCLINE, ILL costs, electronic journals, the National Training Center and Clearinghouse, and outreach evaluation collaboration. Following the general session, smaller breakout discussion groups gathered to consider issues in consumer health information, outreach and education, network services, and NN/LM planning.

Future of DOCLINE

Since December 2001, the DOCLINE Interface Review Team, comprised of NLM and RML staff members, has worked on the following goals: to identify and resolve user issues with DOCLINE; to improve ease of use; to eliminate inconsistencies; to increase user efficiency; to implement requested enhancements; and to integrate DOCLINE with other NLM systems, whenever feasible and desirable. The comprehensive interface review of DOCLINE has been completed, and a phased project plan has been developed to implement DOCUSER redesign, the Requests module redesign, SERHOLD redesign, and Loansome Doc redesign. The consensus at the RML Directors Meeting was that the plan for DOCLINE enhancement should be carried out as presented by the Interface Review Team. In addition, it was agreed that NLM's phased implementation of the ISO/ILL protocol should continue, due to the importance of the protocol for many of the large lending libraries in the NN/LM network. NLM staff will need to adjust the timeline for DOCLINE enhancements to accommodate the ISO/ILL protocol implementation.

ILL Questionnaire

A national survey on ILL costs was conducted between March 25 and April 9, 2003, with 866 responses from DOCLINE participants. The average number of items borrowed through DOCLINE was 1,520, and the average percentage of DOCLINE requests paid for was 37%. The average charge per request of DOCLINE borrow requests paid for was $9.98; the median as well as the mode charge was $11.00. (The ILL questionnaire also asked about FreeShare participation and satisfaction; those results are available on the Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library web site at:
http://nnlm.gov/psr/pres/ FreeShare to the Rescue!)

National Maximum ILL Charge

A number of NN/LM Resource Libraries across the country have reported that the national maximum charge of $11 for a filled DOCLINE request does not allow them to recover the costs of providing ILL service. The actual costs of providing ILL service can vary greatly from one library to another, reflecting differences due to factors such as volume of requests received and prevailing wage rates. Given these variations, it was decided that an NN/LM ILL cost study is not warranted. However, the data from the NN/LM ILL questionnaire, along with data that will be available from NN/LM Resource Libraries that are contributing to the Association of Research Libraries ILL study, will be useful in deciding an increase in the national maximum ILL charge. It was agreed that the national maximum charge will include electronic delivery; that is, an extra fee cannot be applied for electronic delivery, since it does not cause an interruption in workflow. Fax delivery may in many cases cause an interruption in workflow, and a surcharge is allowable for fax transmission.

Electronic Journals

Cost and access issues surrounding electronic journals continue to be concerns in planning and maintaining NN/LM network services. License agreements that restrict copying for ILLs to libraries or for unaffiliated health professionals are a particular concern. At least one major library has been able to negotiate licensing language that allows copying for requests related to a clinical emergency. RMLs and Resource Libraries that are part of larger systems may find it difficult to influence the content of system-wide licensing agreements. While some license agreements have language limiting disclosure of the pricing terms of the agreement, there was a question as to whether such a non-disclosure clause would be binding in the case of state and public institutions. NLM is studying approaches to improving access and visibility of open access publications; one idea is to have DOCLINE return a message when a request is transmitted for an article that is freely available in electronic form. (Currently, NLM notifies the requesting library when a DOCLINE request is received for an item that can be obtained directly at no cost.)

National Training Center and Clearinghouse (NTCC)

Public health and environmental workers are attending the NTCC courses in growing numbers; these participants are interested in learning about MeSH, as well as about the search interfaces. The number of course materials linked in the Educational Clearinghouse Database– http://nnlm.gov/train/ –is increasing and the RMLs and the NTCC will be doing additional promotion to raise awareness of this resource and to encourage additional entries. The NTCC expects to announce shortly the schedule for advanced training from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), with a course designed specifically for information specialists who provide support to users of NCBI's molecular biology services. The Training Center and Clearinghouse is also planning to test a simultaneous videocast of a PubMed course later this year.

Outreach Evaluation

In the current contract year (Year 3), each RML will implement regional projects related to two national plans for outreach, one plan focusing on outreach to the public health workforce and the second plan on outreach to public libraries. The plans were developed as a collaborative effort among the RMLs and NLM; we will announce the web address

of these plans as soon as they become available. The national plans are documented in the form of logic models, which outline objectives, activities, milestones, and outcomes. Logic models have been used increasingly as a tool by non-profit organizations to demonstrate the effectiveness of their program activities by initiating and completing outcome-oriented evaluation of projects.

With thanks to Elaine Graham, Associate Director, NN/LM Pacific Southwest Region, who so capably put together this report.

LinkOut-SERHOLD Interface: Linking PubMed to Print Journal Holdings

by Susan Barnes, Resource Sharing Coordinator
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LinkOut for Libraries, which has connected PubMed users to the full text of their libraries' e-journals for more than two years, has a new interface to SERHOLD. With the LinkOut-SERHOLD interface, any DOCLINE library can now point to its print journal collection from PubMed references. The LinkOut-SERHOLD interface displays library icons within PubMed's Abstract and Citation formats, alerting PubMed users to the references that they can find in their own libraries.

Madeleine Taylor considers LinkOut to be a very useful tool for libraries. Ms. Taylor, librarian at St. Joseph's Hospital & Medical Center in Paterson, New Jersey, says, "I really like the fact that I can use LinkOut to limit my searches to our library's collection. NLM's adding SERHOLD records to LinkOut really enhances the service." SERHOLD records are journal holdings records that medical libraries maintain in the DOCLINE interlibrary loan system. This inclusion of SERHOLD adds

information about libraries' print holdings to the LinkOut for Libraries service. SERHOLD provides an excellent complement to the information about electronic journals that libraries maintain in the LinkOut Holdings Submission Utility. [Most libraries omit their e-journal holdings from SERHOLD because there are numerous restrictions on the use of electronic content to fill ILL requests. That is why both SERHOLD and the Holdings Submission Utility are used by LinkOut for Libraries.]

Libraries that already provide links to their e-journals via PubMed's LinkOut for Libraries can simply log in to the LinkOut Utility, click on "LinkOut-SERHOLD," and register by entering LIBID, a brief description of the print collection's location (e.g. "Anytown Hospital Library"), and URL for the library's icon.

Libraries that do not yet participate in LinkOut for Libraries should send an email to lib-reg@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov providing contact name, library name, phone number, email, and street address. They will be provided with user name and password, and can then log in to the LinkOut Utility and register for the LinkOut-SERHOLD Interface.

Ms. Taylor encourages her colleagues to try LinkOut-SERHOLD. "I think that once people see how simply it can be set up, and how it can be used, they will register." LinkOut will make it possible to "have direct full-text links, show patrons what journals are available to them because of your library, limit your searches to your local collection, and publicize your library by providing your own icons to display."

The "Library LinkOut Survival Guide" at http://nnlm.gov/libinfo/ejournals/linkout/ provides more details, and staff at the National Network of Libraries of Medicine's regional offices can provide information and assistance (1-800-338-7657 from within the United States). A listing of current participants is available at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/journals/active_libraries.html.

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VISIT THE NLM THEATER AT 2003 ALA ANNUAL MEETING IN TORONTO

The National Library of Medicine will host daily demonstrations on MEDLINEplus, PubMed and ToxTown in the NLM Theater (Booth #4220). And…making a debut this year are the following theater presentations: MEDLINEplus en español and two informational sessions, "Opportunities for Public Libraries" and "NLM Exhibitions: Educational Resources." Be sure to stop by the NLM booth for the schedule.

While the NLM Theater is hosting "standing room only" demonstrations, the NLM booth will have staff available to assist you with your questions. Also, Rhonda J. Allard, the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region Consumer Health Information Coordinator, will be staffing the booth, so please stop by to meet her. Rhonda's schedule is Saturday, Sunday and Monday (June 21, 22, 23) from 9:00 am-1:00 pm. If you would like to meet with Rhonda while in Toronto, perhaps to discuss training for your library or other health information needs, contact her at 212-822-7353 or rallard@nyam.org.

UPDATING PATRON INFORMATION IN LOANSOME DOC

Currently, it is not possible for libraries to delete Loansome Doc patron records in DOCLINE. Librarians can, however, "unauthorize" patron records that are duplicates, outdated, or if the user does not qualify for service. Deselecting a patron's authorization prevents the user from being able to send LD orders to the library.

To remove a patron's authorization, go to the LD icon in DOCLINE. When the patron record is displayed, click on the patron's name to bring up the update information screen. In the box after "authorized patron," delete the check mark and then click on "Update" at the bottom of the screen.

LD patron records (name, address, phone, email) cannot be edited by the library–only by the patron. The original idea was that the record belonged to the patron, not the library. NLM has received several requests to allow libraries to edit their LD patrons' records and is considering doing so in a future release. You might wish to periodically remind your Loansome Doc patrons to review and update their LD account information. Instructions can be found at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/services/ldchange.html

For patrons with duplicate accounts, it is suggested that the user be notified before an inactive account is unauthorized. In the future, NLM plans to regularly delete inactive Loansome Doc patron records after a defined period.

NURSING ON THE NET OFFERED

A new class for librarians who work with nurses, nursing students, or other allied health professionals has been added to the list of classes available in our region. *Nursing on the Net: Health Care Resources You Can Use* is a half-day course approved for four MLA CE units. This hands-on workshop will introduce participants to some of the many clinical and professional resources available on the Internet to nurses. This class can also be adapted for use with nurses.

For more detail, see http://nnlm.gov/train/nursing. If you would like to schedule a class, or have any questions, please contact Joan Seidman, Education Programs Coordinator, at (212) 822-7355 or jseidman@nyam.org.

WELCOME NEW LIBRARIES

North Shore University Hospital at Plainview, NYUCIX

We welcome back after a long period of inactivity Franklin Hospital Medical Center, NYUFRK, under its new librarian, Christine Johnson.

WHAT IS PUBMED CENTRAL?

What is PubMed Central? PubMed Central is a digital archive of life sciences journal literature, developed and managed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM). Access to PubMed Central is free and unrestricted. (You might wish to refer back to the article in the March-April 2003 issue of the *Middle Atlantic Perspective.)*

Participation by publishers in PubMed Central (PMC) is voluntary, although participating journals must meet certain editorial standards. A journal may deposit its material in PMC and make it available for public release as soon as it is published, or it may delay release in PMC for a specified period after initial publication. Please note that PubMed Central does not claim copyright on any material deposited in the archive. Copyright remains with the journal publisher or with individual authors, whichever is applicable.

1. Are libraries adding PMC links to their catalogs?

Answer: A number of libraries have signed up to be informed when a journal is added to PMC, but NLM does not know what they do with that information. Presumably some of them do add links to their catalogs.

2. What commitment have the publishers made as to their continued participation in PubMed Central?

Answer: The formal participation agreement is for one year, automatically renewed in one-year increments. If a journal drops out of PMC, any content already deposited in PMC will continue to be available indefinitely, but no new content will be added. However, no one has dropped out, nor has anyone indicated they might. The current trend is for journals to provide PMC access to more content once they're comfortable with their participation.

With the permission of the publishers, NLM is now committed to scanning the back issues of almost 70 PubMed Central titles (including title variations). The first back issues should be available by the end of the summer 2003.

3. Will NLM distribute a list of new titles available in PubMed Central? If yes, in what format?

Answer: PMC uses a mailing list to announce when a new journal becomes available in PMC. To add your name go to http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mailman/listinfo/pmc-news and fill out the form. You can also get a list from Locatorplus of all titles currently available in PMC--the search is simply "pubmedcentral" (without the quotation marks) using the "search in" default of "keyword anywhere search."

4. What will happen if libraries cancel their subscriptions to the titles listed in PubMed Central?

Answer: They'll save money for the subscription cost, but will not have free access to current content for many of those titles.

Complete information about PubMed Central, including links to the PubMed FAQ can be found at http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/about/intro.html The listing of available journals can also be found at http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/index.html

5. So then, what is BioMed Central and how does it differ?

Answer: BioMed Central is an independent online publishing house committed to providing immediate and free access to the peer-reviewed biological and medical research it publishes. Authors who publish in BMC's journals are asked to pay a processing charge of $500.00 per published paper. To remove this burden from authors, institutions can join BioMed Central's institutional membership program. For more information, see: http://www.biomedcentral.com

MLA TAPES AVAILABLE

The NN/LM office has purchased a full set of audiotapes from the Medical Library Association 2003 annual meeting held in San Diego, California.

The tapes are available on loan from the NN/LM office and may be requested by DOCLINE® through the New York Academy of Medicine Library (NYUNYA). When ordering, please note in the Comments field, "Available from the RML." There is no charge for borrowing these tapes. If you prefer to make an email request for a tape, please direct your request to dweyeneth@nyam.org In your request please specify the tape number and title.

GENERAL SESSIONS

GS 1. Welcome and Presidential Address…*Linda A. Watson, AHIP, President, MLA*

GS 2. Plenary Session I – The John P. McGovern Lecture; Protecting a Creative Commons for Knowledge…*Lawrence Lessig, J.D.*

GS 3. Plenary Session II – The Janet Doe Lecture; Being There: The Library as Place…*Frieda O.Weise*

GS 4. MLA Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony

GS 5. Presidential Inaugural Address…*Patricia L. Thibodeau, President, MLA*

GS 6. Plenary Session III – Joseph Leiter NLM/ MLA Lecture…*Roz Diane Lasker, M.D.*

GS 7. NLM Update...

GS 8. Plenary Session IV – Mentoring: Sharing Experiences for Professional Growth/A Town Meeting, Session Introduction…*Patricia L. Thibodeau, AHIP, President, MLA* Speaker: *Karen Garman, Ph.D*., Town Meeting Facilitator: *Jean P. Shipman, AHIP, Director*

SECTION SESSIONS

01. Hang Ten! Utilizing Standards and Benchmarking Data…Hospital Libraries Section

02. Building Castles in the Shifting Sand: Sculpting Partnerships and Alliances to Withstand the Incoming Tide: Parts I and II …Leadership and Management Section

03. The Extreme Librarian: Parts I and II ...Leadership and Management Section

04. The Crest of the Wave – Cool New Health Information Resources for Consumers …Consumer and Patient Health Information Section

05. Staying Afloat in a Sea of Data: Lessons in Public Health Informatics…Public Health/ Health Administration Section

06. The Changing Shoreline: Virtual Real-Time Reference…Public Service Section

07. Knowing When to Get Out of the Water: Delivering Disaster-Related Public Health Information…Relevant Issues Section

08. 2003 EMBASE Lecture…Pharmacy and Drug Information Section

09. Bioinformatics: A New Wave of Research, A New Wave of Service…Medical Informatics Section

10. Building Lighthouses on Far Shores: Services to Underserved Health Professionals …Nursing and Allied Health Resources Section

11. Library Instruction on the Half Shell: Technique versus Technology…Public Services Section

12. Shoot the Pipeline with Evidence-Based Librarians: Original Research and Practical Methods…Research Section

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The following articles from the current *Technical Bulletin* are available on the Web at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/tb.html

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Technical Notes: - e2
- New Version of NLM Gateway Released - March 5, 2003
- *Merriam-Webster Medical Dictionary* on MEDLINEplus
- New Clinical Advisory Issued
- 2003 MLA Meeting Reminder and NLM Invitation
- MEDLINE Milestone - 12 Millionth Journal Citation
- More Organisms Added to LocusLink Organisms
- PubMed to Complete Transition to E-Utilities and Manually Constructed URLs
- Partners in Information Access Web Site Redesign
- New Books Added to NCBI's Bookshelf
- DOCLINE 1.5 Released
- DOCLINE: 10 Million Transactions and Counting
- New Version of NLM Gateway Released - April 22, 2003