NER'eastah
Newsletter of the New England Regional Medical Library

Newsletter 2006
Volume 6 - Issue 1

See What's Happening In The New England Region !

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NEWS IN MOTION

NER AWARDS AVAILABLE!

NER announces the availability of awards in support of projects that advance the National Library of Medicine's mission to improve access to health information. Network members can apply for awards via brief proposals that describe the target audience, scope, and expected outcome of the project. Awards are offered in support of technology, outreach, and professional development. Awards will be made under the following categories:

Express Outreach

Express Outreachis the broad category of awards for projects involving community outreach, professional development, and instructional design.

> **Community Engagement** Awards support short-term outreach projects that involve advancing health information resources in collaboration with local community groups. These projects are smaller than extensive outreach subcontracts.

> **Course Development**Awards support the development of instructional programs that improve the knowledge and skills of librarians, health care providers, and other groups. Courses may be delivered in-person or through various technologies.

> **Exhibits Awards** are for members' participation at venues that promote health information resources. Funds support registration and fees, travel, and related expenses. Members can promote their local library resources while promoting the National Library of Medicine.

> **Partnering Libraries**Awards assist members' learning through onsite learning at partnering institutions. Members find a participating library that will host their learning and exploration in a particular area of library or informatics practice.

Technology Awareness Program Awards

Technology Awareness Awards fund learning programs for large groups. The focus should be the application of technology in health information or health care and policy issues related to health information technologies. Programs can be day-long events or a series of learning venues.

Internet Connectivity Awards

Internet Connectivity Awards fund the expanded access to health information needed in libraries, resource centers, and other health care settings. Connectivity awards allow network members to purchase technologies to make health information readily available to users.

Electronic Document Delivery Awards

Electronic Document Delivery Awards allow members to enhance information delivery through the implementation of electronic document delivery technologies. Funds can be used towards the purchase of hardware or software technologies.

Funding amounts, proposal requirements, and expectations are listed in our Award section of NER's Funding page. Funding decisions are based on need, amount to be funded, and availability of funds. Funded projects are required to submit progress reports and standard activity reporting forms.

If you are thinking about a project, please send me a note at javier.crespo@umassmed.edu, or call 508-856-2223. Find out if one of our awards can be a good match.

Applications for the Donald A. B. Lindberg Fellowship Due November 15, 2006

MLA is now accepting applications for The **Donald A. B. Lindberg Research Fellowship** established by MLA to fund research aimed at expanding the research knowledge base of health sciences information management and enhancing the role of health sciences librarians and other information professionals in health care access and delivery, public health, consumer information, health professions education or biomedical research. The endowment will provide a $25,000 grant, awarded annually by MLA through a competitive grant process, to a qualified health sciences librarian, informatician, health professional, researcher, educator, or health administrator.

An application and more information about the fellowship can be accessed at http://www.mlanet.org/awards/ or by contacting Lisa C. Fried, MLA's Credentialing, Professional Recognition and Career Coordinator at mlapd2@mlahq.org.

The awardee will be notified in late February 2007.

NLM Technical Bulletin
National Library of Medicine | National Institutes of Health

What's new from the July-August 2006 NLM Technical Bulletin:

Change the display format of single citations using the My NCBI user preferences
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06_myncbi_display_preference.html

TOXLINE unified
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06_sis_toxline_combined.html

Updated PubMed training manuals available
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06_technote.html#9

NLM RSS feeds and podcasts
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06_technote.html#10

Number of authors per MEDLINE/PubMed citation
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06_technote.html#11

NLM Gateway adds Profiles in Science
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06_technote.html#8

And from previous editions of the NLM Technical Bulletin, in case you missed 'em:

Skill kit: Overview of resources from the Toxicology & Environmental Health Information Program (TEHIP) http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/mj06/mj06_skill_kit_sis.html

NCBI Toolbar no longer supported
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/mj06/mj06_technote.html#8

NIH Grant numbers in PubMed citations
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/mj06/mj06_grant_numbers.html

Wellcome Trust grant numbers added to MEDLINE/PubMed citations
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/mj06/mj06_wellcome.html

PubMed maintenance for EDATs on older citations
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ma06/ma06_technote.html#3

MedlinePlus adds tutorial on evaluating internet health information
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ma06/ma06_technote.html#4

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In This Issue:

CHIC Chat:

Consumer **H**ealth **I**nformation **C**oordinator **Chat**
Author: Michelle Eberle, michelle.eberle@umassmed.edu

MedlinePlus®
Trusted Health Information for You

CONSUMER HEALTH PROFILE

Holyoke Consumer Health Library, Inc.
Holyoke, MA
http://www.holyokehealth.info/

The Holyoke Consumer Health Library started in 2000 as an idea in one librarian's mind: Holyoke ought to have a consumer health library in English and Spanish for the people to use. Over the past 6 years there have been various attempts to promote and implement that idea. Originally, the vision was to establish a physical, bricks-and-mortar consumer health library in Holyoke. After confronting various challenges that encouraged us to think creatively, we have evolved into a decentralized, "virtual" library. In addition to our web presence at www.holyokehealth.info, we have developed a "roving librarian" model in which health librarians travel to partner agencies and public locations to do direct outreach. This decentralized model has allowed us an unprecedented amount of flexibility in meeting consumer health information needs.

In summer 2006, HCHL brought MedlinePlus to the weekly Holyoke Farmers' Market, thanks to an Express Outreach grant from the NNLM/New England Region. Using a local WiFi hotspot, we connected a laptop to our virtual library (our website) and offered demonstrations of MedlinePlus to passersby. We also handed out brochures about MedlinePlus and health resources available at the public library. With our portable printer and live online Internet connection, we provided customized search results for people. This Farmers' Market outreach is the most publicly visible of HCHL's activities to date and is fun for the participating librarians: Sandy Ward, Jennifer Hartley, and Kathleen Packard.

Photos below taken by Sandy Ward. First image shows our canopy with bilingual signage; second image shows librarian Jennifer Hartley using our laptop and portable printer.

Check out pictures of the Holyoke Consumer Health Library's outeach at: http://sward.smugmug.com/gallery/1473736/2/75234254 .

By Jennifer Hartley

Mission

The Holyoke Consumer Health Library, Inc. aims to provide Holyoke residents with access to health information to empower them to better advocate for their health needs.

We seek to:

- Build awareness of health information resources available in the community;

- Promote coordination among hospitals, agencies, health centers, and libraries in order to provide access to health information;
- Identify and assess gaps in health information resources and barriers to accessing information resources.

The Holyoke Consumer Health Library, Inc, is committed to reflecting and affirming the diverse ethnic and racial cultures and spirit of Holyoke by promoting information that is in the appropriate language and reading level and is culturally sensitive.

In Review:

"Family Health and Literacy: A Guide to Easy-to-Read Health Education Materials and Web Sites for Families"

World Education has done it again. Julie McKinney and Sabrina Kurtz-Rossi have published a resource to help integrate health literacy and the Internet into family literacy programs. To quote the guide, "When you integrate health and literacy you help students develop the skills and knowledge they need to make good decisions about their health and the health of their families." The guide emphasizes the importance of engaging learners and encouraging discussion while learning about health matters. In addition to being relevant for family literacy educators, the guide is helpful for teachers, health professionals and of course medical librarians.

There are several chapters which are of particular interest to librarians. In the "How to Get Started" chapter, there are sections on collaborating with health organizations and local and national health organizations to contact. This introductory chapter also includes sample activities and presentation approaches. For example, there is a "What is Good Health?" activity where students explore the different ways they think about health. Another activity, "How I Learn about Health" explores different sources of health care information on the Internet and the roles of each source in providing health care advice.

"Easy-to-Read Health Information" begins the compilation of web resources. The web resources are organized by topic. Topics include nutrition, childhood health and diseases, safety, healthy lifestyle, medicine use, women's health, health care access. Each topic is arranged with the following subheadings:

  ○ Web sites with information on the health topic
  ○ Curricula, lessons, and activities
  ○ Direct links to handouts, charts, and tutorials

For educators, there is a separate chapter on "Curricula, Lessons, and Activities." Parents will be happy to find a chapter titled, "Parents and Children Together," which highlights health education activities, health-related children's books and online health games.

The guide also includes information on the Health & Literacy Discussion List which is a service of the National Institute for Literacy in partnership with World Education. To join the discussion list, go to http://www.worlded.org/us/health/lincs.

A print copy of the guide is available by purchase from World Education for ten dollars by e-mailing healthliteracy@worlded.org.

The online version is available free of charge at
http://www.worlded.org/us/health/docs/family.

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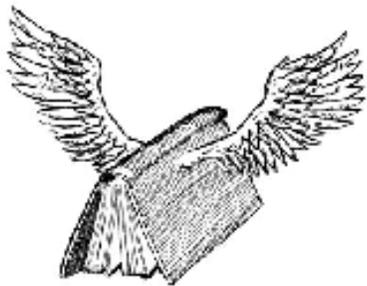508-856-5979
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In This Issue:

ILL ADVISED

DOCLINE System Updates

NN/LM Member Certificates are in the Pipeline

An Advocacy Service for Hospital Libraries

Announcing Release of DOCLINE 3.0

LinkOut for Libraries: Testing Links in LinkOut

NER's Newest Members

HELP - ADVICE - QUESTIONS

WHAT'S THAT I HEAR?
MEMBER CERTIFICATES ARE IN THE PIPELINE

Starting in the late Fall of 2006, the NER will begin to mail out NN/LM certificates to the membership.

This occurs during the first year of every 5-year contract with the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

Before certificates are mailed out though, member contact information (for both Affiliate and Full members) will be verified (such as: names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc.)

TROUBLE➡

an advocacy service for hospital libraries

Expecting a reduction in staff, hours, services, or space?	**Y/N?**
Organizing a move of the library within your institution?	**Y/N?**
Leaving the library (for a new job, retirement, etc.), yet hoping the institution will hire a suitable replacement?	**Y/N?**
Just got word that your institution (and library) will be going through a consolidation or merger?	**Y/N?**
Are rumours circulating about the possible elimination of the library function?	**Y/N?**
Has your institution announced that it's closing it's doors?	**Y/N?**
Arriving to your institution as the new librarian?	**Y/N?**

If you responded "Yes" to any of the questions above, please contact Mark Goldstein at the NER for a consultation over what the Regional Medical Library can provide you in the way of an appropriately measured response.

Mark Goldstein, *NN/LM NER*
508-856-5964
mark.goldstein@umassmed.edu

As mentioned in previous issues of this newsletter, the Hospital Library Subcommittee of the RAC (the Regional Advisory Council of the NER) has developed and approved a Hospital Library Advocacy Toolkit that will act both as a ways and a means to improving the visibility and support for hospital libraries throughout the region.

We're currently seeking libraries to work with us to help us test and improve the various components of the Toolkit, so please contact Mark if you'd like to have a talk about your hospital library - you're really not alone!
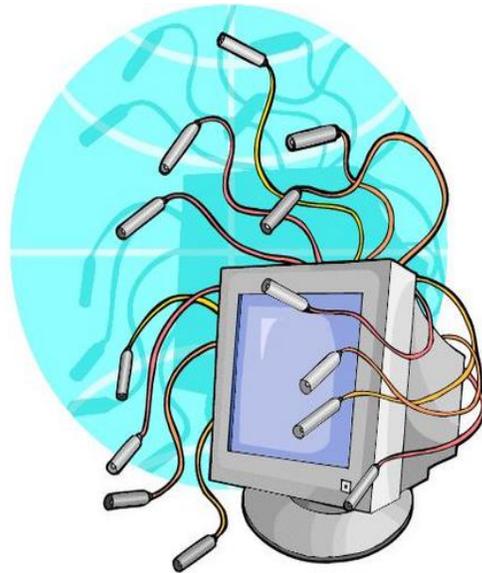
ANNOUNCING RELEASE OF DOCLINE® 3.0

[At the time of this issue's publication, DOCLINE 3.0 is expected to be released in mid-October. Preliminary release notes may be found below.]

DOCLINE Requests

- Borrow: Display borrower's LinkOut holdings information during Borrow to alert libraries to availability of item being requested.
- Borrow: Display borrower's DOCLINE serial holdings information during Borrow to alert libraries to availability of item being requested.
- Borrow: Display link to author manuscript for item being requested if available in PubMed Central and published article is not free. If published article is known to be free, then DOCLINE would show link to published article instead.
- Borrow: Added link to ILL record view on M/A/N Map routing to assist borrowers in searching lender's OPAC for item to be requested and confirm services & fees.
- EFTS: Added ability for EFTS participants to generate a file of charges to submit to EFTS. Process includes a confirmation page and then file generation page. The generated file is downloaded to the user's computer for submission to EFTS at their convenience.
- Loansome Doc Transfer: Display borrower's LinkOut holdings information during LD Transfer to alert libraries to availability of item being requested.
- Loansome Doc Transfer: Display borrower's DOCLINE serial holdings information during LD Transfer to alert libraries to availability of item being requested.
- Loansome Doc Transfer: Added link to view request on LD Transfer Routing Instructions page.
- Status/Cancel: Add ability to individually "review" retired unfilled requests.

HELP

- Help screens were added or modified for all new features or changes to DOCLINE 3.0.

Deja Vu: Testing Links in LinkOut

[This article has appeared in previous issues of the newsletter, but bears repetition.]

A number of hospital and academic libraries in our region have signed up for LinkOut, participating in the LinkOut for Libraries program, but many librarians are still not familiar with testing their full-text links when things go awry.

To test those links, follow these simple steps:
Step 1. Go to the PubMed Home Page:
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi

Step 2. Enter the following URL in the Address bar:
http:// www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov / entrez / query.fcgi? holding= xxxxlib
where "xxxxxlib" is your LinkOut User Name.

Step 3. Then hit the Return key.

Step 4. In the Search box, enter the following: loprovxxxxxlib [filter]
where "xxxxxlib " is your LinkOut User Name.

Step 5. Hit the grey "GO" button.

Step 6. Next to the DISPLAY button, select "Abstract" in the drop-down box, where it defaults on "Summary".

Step 7. Hit the grey DISPLAY button.

Let's Welcome NER's Newest Members

Olin College of Engineering	MAUKY	Needham, MA	*Full Member/DOCLINE Participant*
Westerly Public Library	RIUKYT	Cranston, RI	Affiliate Member

Help? Advice? Questions?

Please contact Mark at:
508-856-5964 -or- mark.goldstein@umassmed.edu.

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- *The Upper Corner*
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INside OUTreach

Adventures in Exhibiting – or – Where are we and where the heck are we going??

Exhibiting is a part of what we do in the NER. Traditionally, the fall and the spring are the busy seasons for exhibiting. But, for us, exhibiting happens all year round and in all sorts of venues. Here's where we've been since April 2006:

1. Caring Health Center Health Fair - Springfield, MA
2. RI Educational Media Association - Warwick, RI
3. Holliston Women's Health Fair - Holliston, MA
4. MA Public Health Nursing Association - Westborough, MA
5. New England School Nurse Association - Stowe, VT
6. CT Library Association - Wallingford, CT
7. Partners in Perinatal Health - Marlborough, MA
8. VT Public Health Association - Essex, VT
9. American Association of Immunologists - Boston, MA
10. VT Libraries Conference - Burlington, VT
11. ALA - New Orleans, LA
12. MA Osteopathic Society - Cambridge, MA
13. World Transplant Congress - Boston, MA
14. MA Teachers Association - Williamstown, MA
15. Hispanic Health Council - Hartford, CT
16. American Psychological Association - New Orleans, LA

Yes, you read correctly. We've been as far away as New Orleans and as close as Marlborough, MA, just down the road from our office. Each exhibiting experience has its own flavor. We've exhibited in small hotel meeting rooms, in major conference venues like the Hynes and the new Boston Convention and Exposition Center (aka the "BCEC") and outside in parks. At

some events, we've been invited to give presentations as well as exhibit. Sometimes, the conference attendees are eager to talk about what's new from NLM and chat. Sometimes, they act like we're tying to sell 'em something!

And we're not done yet for the year. Here's what's up between September and December, 2006:

1. Lamaze International Conference - Boston, MA
2. Case Management Society of New England - Falmouth, MA
3. MA Public Health Association - Marlborough, MA
4. MA Councils on Aging - Falmouth, MA
5. NAHSL - Hartford, CT
6. NELA - Burlington, VT
7. CT Public Health Association - Hartford, CT
8. Pri-Med East - Boston, MA
9. MA School Library Media Association - Sturbridge, MA
10. American Public Health Association - Boston, MA
11. Nurse Practitioner Association for Continuing Education - Boston, MA

So, if you're at any of those events, come on over to the exhibit area and say hello.

And, if there's an event taking place in your part of the world and you think we might want to be there to exhibit, let us know. Or, if you'd like to be the exhibitor, representing your library (and NLM) at an event, we can help you do that - just get in touch and we'll talk.

Donna Berryman, Outreach Coordinator
Donna.Berryman@umassmed.edu

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http://nnlm.gov/ner/newsletter/23/insideoutreach23.html (2 of 2)9/21/2006 12:01:28 PM

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In This Issue:

Policy Time

October is Health Literacy Month

Health literacy is defined in Healthy People 2010 as "The degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions".[1] Health literacy includes the ability to understand instructions on prescription bottles, appointment slips, medical education brochures, doctor's directions and consent forms, and the ability to negotiate complex health care systems. It requires a complex group of reading, listening, analytical, and decision-making skills, and the ability to apply these skills to health situations.

There is a move towards a more "consumer-centric" health care system as part of an overall effort to improve quality and reduce health care costs. As a result, individuals are required to take an even more active role in their health care decisions. Unfortunately, low health literacy has a significant impact of health outcomes, quality of care, and health care costs. Therefore, it is an important issue for health professionals, patients, government officials, policy makers, and librarians. Promoting Health Literacy Month at your institution is one way to raise awareness about the importance of understanding health information. It can also be an opportunity to encourage patients and families to learn about their health by asking questions and advocating for treatment and services.

Most health literacy initiatives currently underway focus on:

- Increasing the awareness of low health literacy among health care professionals. This primarily includes physicians, allied health professionals, health educators, and hospital administration.
- Implementing "clear communication" strategies for communication with patients and their families. This includes hospital signage, health education material, Web sites, and other forms of communication.
- Fostering a non-threatening and supportive environment so patients and their families are comfortable asking for clarification of instructions.

National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL): The Health Literacy of America's Adults[2]

In September 2006, the National Center for Education Statistics released the preliminary results from the 2003 National Assessment on Health Literacy. The report established four health literacy levels and applied these levels to *Prose*, *Document*, and *Quantitative* tasks. The

report describes how health literacy varies across the population and where adults with different literacy levels obtain information about health issues. The four literacy levels are:

1. *Below Basic:* indicates no more than the most basic and concrete literacy skills.
2. *Basic:* indicates skills to perform simple and everyday literacy activities.
3. *Intermediate:* indicate skills to perform moderately challenging literacy activities
4. *Proficient:* indicates skills to perform more challenging and complex literacy activities

The table below from the report summarizes the knowledge, skills, and capabilities that adults needed to demonstrate to be classified into one of the four levels for prose, document, and quanitiave tasks. Please review the full report for a more detailed explanation of the literacy levels, literacy scales (Prose literacy, document literacy, and quantitative literacy), and the domains of health care information and services (clinical, prevention, and navigation of the health care system.)[3]

Table 1-1. Overview of the literacy levels

Level and definition	Key abilities associated with level
Below Basic indicates no more than the most simple and concrete literacy skills. Score ranges for *Below Basic:* Prose: 0–209 Document: 0–204 Quantitative: 0–234	Adults at the *Below Basic* level range from being nonliterate in English to having the abilities listed below: ■ locating easily identifiable information in short, commonplace **prose** texts ■ locating easily identifiable information and following written instructions in simple **documents** (e.g., charts or forms) ■ locating numbers and using them to perform simple **quantitative** operations (primarily addition) when the mathematical information is very concrete and familiar
Basic indicates skills necessary to perform simple and everyday literacy activities. Score ranges for *Basic:* Prose: 210–264 Document: 205–249 Quantitative: 235–289	■ reading and understanding information in short, commonplace **prose** texts ■ reading and understanding information in simple **documents** ■ locating easily identifiable **quantitative** information and using it to solve simple, one-step problems when the arithmetic operation is specified or easily inferred
Intermediate indicates skills necessary to perform moderately challenging literacy activities. Score ranges for *Intermediate:* Prose: 265–339 Document: 250–334 Quantitative: 290–349	■ reading and understanding moderately dense, less commonplace **prose** texts as well as summarizing, making simple inferences, determining cause and effect, and recognizing the author's purpose ■ locating information in dense, complex **documents** and making simple inferences about the information ■ locating less familiar **quantitative** information and using it to solve problems when the arithmetic operation is not specified or easily inferred
Proficient indicates skills necessary to perform more complex and challenging literacy activities.	■ reading lengthy, complex, abstract **prose** texts as well as synthesizing information and making complex inferences

Score ranges for *Proficient*:
Prose: 340–500
Document: 335–500
Quantitative: 350–500

- integrating, synthesizing, and analyzing multiple pieces of information located in complex **documents**

- locating more abstract **quantitative** information and using it to solve multi-step problems when the arithmetic operations are not easily inferred and the problems are more complex

NOTE: Although the literacy levels share common names with the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) levels, they do not correspond to the NAEP levels.
SOURCE: Hauser, R.M, Edley, C.F. Jr., Koenig, J.A., and Elliott, S.W. (Eds.). (2005). *Measuring Literacy: Performance Levels for Adults, Interim Report*. Washington, DC: National Academies Press; White, S. and Dillow, S. (2005). *Key Concepts and Features of the 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy* (NCES 2006-471). U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics.

Preliminary Analysis of Results

The information below is based on an anysis performed by Andres Muro on the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) Health and Literacy Discussion List.[4] Please refer to the Health Literacy of American Adults Report for more complete information.

	Percentage of Adults in Each Literacy Level	Percentage of Males in Each Literacy Level	Percentage of Females in Each Literacy Level	Percentage of Adults Over 65 in Each Literacy Level
Below Basic	14%	16%	12%	29%
Basic	22%	22%	21%	30%
Intermediate	53%	51%	55%	38%
Proficient	12%	11%	12%	3%

Note that women scored higher than males. This is not surprising since women are usually the health providers of the entire family. Also note that close to 60% of seniors have very limited health literacy skills. This limitation may be related to reduced cognitive abilities, limited vision, and/or hearing.

Literacy Level	Percentage of Whites in each literacy level	Percentage of Blacks in each literacy level	Percentage of Hispanics in each literacy level
Below Basic	9%	24%	41%
Basic	19%	34%	25%
Intermediate	58%	41%	31%
Proficient	14%	2%	4%

Note the very high numbers of Hispanics below basic. This is likely because many are not native English speakers.

Based on this assessment, over **one third of all** adults and **two-thirds of seniors** do not understand written information related to health well or at all. The complete report is available at: http://nces.ed.gov/naal/

Role of the Consumer Health Librarian[5]

Many consumer health initiatives are geared towards technological access to health information or rewriting existing health materials at a simpler language level. Both of these approaches are important, but limited. Easy-to-read materials and access to technology are only pieces of a process that must be placed in a larger community context.

Consumer health librarians can actively develop partnerships with:

- literacy groups (adult basic education, English as a Second Language, etc.)
- community-based organizations
- public and private schools (K-12)
- public libraries
- senior-citizen facilities (adult day care, 55+ housing complexes, assisted-living facilities, nursing homes, etc.)
- health care associations

This may take the form of providing space for meetings, providing health literacy materials, or actively developing health literacy programs. Consumer health librarians can promote awareness of health literacy among health professionals by creating clearinghouses of health literacy information, sponsoring health literacy seminars, and encouraging multi-organizational collaborations.

Possible initiatives to consider include:

- Developing partnerships with K-12 school librarians, math teachers, health teachers, science teachers, and school nurses to introduce health related tasks into the curriculum
- Work with Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language initiatives to include health related information into the program
- Partner with community-based organizations to develop outreach programs to senior-citizen facilities to discuss health information topics
- Health information classes at the public library to teach health related topics
- Work with consumer advocate organizations on outreach programs to vulnerable populations

Consumer health librarians can also support the direct needs of health information consumers by providing materials that are multi-lingual, culturally appropriate and easy to read, and by developing methods and materials to teach consumers how to evaluate health information resources, especially those found on the Internet.

Health Literacy Organizations and Programs

Health Literacy. American Medical Society Foundation.
http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/8115.html
515 North State Street
Chicago, Illinois 60610

Ask Me 3

http://www.askme3.org/

Sponsored by the Partnership for Clear Health Communication - A national coalition of more than 100 organizations that are working together to promote awareness and solutions around the issue of low health literacy and its effect on health outcomes. The website is a tool designed to improve communication between patients and providers by encouraging patients to ask questions.

National Literacy and Health Program. Canadian Public Health Association.
http://www.nlhp.cpha.ca/
Promotes awareness among health professionals of the links between literacy and health.

Health Literacy Studies
http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/healthliteracy/index.html
Harvard School of Public Health
Department of Society, Human Development and Health
677 Huntington Avenue, 7th Floor
Boston, MA 02115 USA

National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy
Harvard University Graduate School of Education
Nichols House
7 Appian Way
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA
Phone: 617-432-3914
Fax: 617-432-3123
Email: mailto:%20healthliteracy@hsph.harvard.edu

Health Literacy Center, University of New England
http://www.une.edu/hlit/
Area Health Education Center Program
11 Hills Beach Road
Biddeford, ME 04005
Phone: 207-283-0171

Health Literacy Consulting
http://www.healthliteracy.com/
Helen Osborne, M.Ed., OTR/L
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Fax: 508-650-9492
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Health Literacy Month

http://www.healthliteracy.com/hlmonth/

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Email: Helen@healthliteracy.com

Literacy and Health Project
http://www.opha.on.ca/resources/i-n.html#literacy
Ontario Public Health Association and Frontier College
Phone: 416-367-3313.

Movement for Canadian Literacy (MCL)
http://www.literacy.ca/about/about.htm
A national non-profit organization representing literacy coalitions, organizations, and individuals

National Institute for Literacy
http://www.nifl.gov/
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Washington DC 20006-2401
Phone: 202-233-2025

Office of Minority Health
http://www.omhrc.gov/
PO Box 37337
Washington DC, 20013-773
Phone: 800-444-6472

Pfizer Clear Health Communication Initiative
http://www.pfizerhealthliteracy.com/

University of Virginia School of Medicine Health Literacy Curriculum
http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/som-hlc/
PO Box 800325
Charlottesville, VA 22908
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Wiki on Health Literacy Issues
http://wiki.literacytent.org/index.php/Health_Literacy

World Education, Health and Literacy Initiative
http://www.worlded.org/
44 Farnsworth Street
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References

[1]U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) (2000). *Health People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health.* http://www.healthypeople.gov/document/html/volume1/11HealthCom.htm

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[3]Kutner, M., Greenberg, E., Jin,Y., and Paulsen, C. (2006). *The Health Literacy of America's Adults: Results From the 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NCES 2006–483).*U.S.Department of Education.Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics. (http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2006483)

[4]National Institute for Literacy Discussion List: http://www.nifl.gov/

[5]National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Consumer Health Manual. Section on Health Literacy. http://nnlm.gov/outreach/consumer/hlthlit.html

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Newsletter of the New England Regional Medical Library

Public Health Review

Resources for Public Health Practice

As the new Public Health Coordinator for the NN/LM NER, I will be using this column to highlight information resources for public health practice. If you would like to share ideas about public health information resources or announce projects in the region related to public health, please forward announcements to me for placement in this newsletter.

Before coming to the NN/LM NER, I worked as the Project Coordinator for the Evidence-Based Practice for Pubic Health Project at the Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School. One of the wonderful outcomes of this project is a website, http://library.umassmed.edu/ebpph, which focuses on disseminating resources for evidence-based public health (EBPH) practice. Work is underway to update and revise this website as a single portal for finding and accessing EBPH resources. Currently the website includes links to public health journals, bibliographic databases, evidence-based guidelines, systematic reviews, pre-formulated literature searches, and best practices.

Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health Project
http://library.umassmed.edu/ebpph

In addition to my work as the Public Health Coordinator, I also work as the Content Developer for the Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce website, http://PHPartners.org. Partners is a collaboration of U.S. government agencies, public health organizations and health science libraries: the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the American Public Health Association (APHA), the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH), the Association of State and Territorial Health

Officials (ASTHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Medical Library Association (MLA), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM NER), the Public Health Foundation (PHF), and the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE). The Partners' mission is to help the public health workforce find and use information effectively to improve and protect the public's health. The Partners website brings online public health resources from all these organizations together in one place for easy access.

Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce
http://PHPartners.org

If you any questions or ideas for public health outreach in the region, I would love to hear from you. I can be reached at 508-856-2085 or email Hathy.Simpson@umassmed.edu.

Hathy Simpson, MPH
Public Health Coordinator

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Newsletter of the New England Regional Medical Library

In This Issue:

Pubmed Particulars

Journals — A service of the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health

Journals Database: Did you know...?

Many people are aware that it is now possible to search for journals by subject. The Journals Database homepage gives a link to the available subject terms. And many people are also aware that the Limits function in Journals allows retrieval to be limited only to those journals that are currently indexed in MEDLINE. Both those features are great.

But, suppose I want to do a search for all the journals currently indexed in MEDLINE on a specific subject and then I want to turn those results into a PubMed search? How do I do that easily?

As an example, suppose I want to find all the journals currently indexed in MEDLINE about jurisprudence and I want to make a search out of those journal titles so that I can save it and call it up whenever needed (to AND with some subject search in PubMed).

First, set up the search and apply the appropriate limit. For this, you have two options:

1. Pick the term "Jurisprudence" from the list of Journal Subject Terms (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/journals/subjects.html) - that will automatically run that search in the Journals Database - and then click Limits and choose "Currently indexed in MEDLINE"
2. Type this into the search box in the Journals Database: jurisprudence[st] AND currentlyindexed

Now, OR together all these journal titles as a PubMed search.

Many people's first inclination will be to use the "Send to search box with OR" option from the Send to drop down menu. That's not the best choice here because that will require that you process one title at a time. There's no "select all" option available. And, in the case of this example, you'd be doing that 73 times! There's got to be a better way.

There is.

Once you have executed the search and retrieved the titles, look at the Display options in the Journals Database for the PubMed Links option:

Choosing this display option will automatically transfer all the titles in your result set to a PubMed search.

Once you've got that done, all that remains is to save the search in a My NCBI account and you can call it up whenever you need it. Easy! Once you know how to do it, it's a snap!

Tutorials Link - Take a look at it now!

In case you haven't done so lately, take a look at the Tutorials link from the blue side bar on the PubMed page. That used to link to a single PubMed tutorial. Now, it's that and more. NLM has put together some "Quick Tours" that teach specific skills for searching PubMed and for using the Entrez MeSH Database. In addition, there are a nice set of Quick Tours for using My NCBI - including a couple that you might want to take a peek at:

- Instructions for using My NCBI to create email alerts for new articles about the adverse effects of a drug or a class of drugs http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/viewlet/myncbi/adveff.html
- Instructions on how to use My NCBI to create email alerts for new articles from a set of favorite journals http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/viewlet/myncbi/jourup.html

The Tutorials page also provides a link to the video, "Branching Out: The MeSH Vocabulary" which is used in the day-long PubMed class taught by the National Training Center and Clearinghouse.

And don't miss the link to "The Basics of MeSH." This is a website that provides a more in-depth look at MeSH and indexing covering such topics as:

- The basics: What is MeSH & the tree structure organization of the vocabulary
- Principles of subject indexing:
    The indexing process
    Major Topics
    Coordination
- The MeSH Database
- Searching PubMed using MeSH
- Indexing for chemicals and drugs
- Pharmacological Action Terms
- Searching for chemical and drugs

It's a good tool for those who want to learn more about MeSH and a good review for those who have been using MeSH for awhile. Take a look. http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/mesh/index.html

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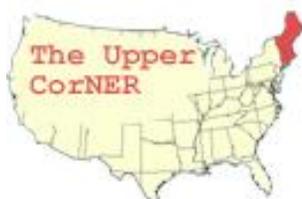508-856-5979
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Newsletter of the New England Regional Medical Library

In This Issue:

The Upper Corner

Historical Collection Task Force

NN/LM-NER announces the formation of the Historical Collections Task Force. The Historical Collections Task Force will develop a plan for identifying the region's historical and unique collections held by member libraries, medical societies, related associations, and other entities throughout the region.

The task force will advise and implement methods in order identify and compile information about the region's historical collections. The implementation will require the cooperation and assistance of member libraries in the region as well as outreach to non-member libraries, associations, and medical societies in New England.

The Historical Collections Task Force will consider:

- Criteria for including specific collections in a directory or similar work
- Creation of record format describing the collection
- Enlisting institutions to assist in identifying collections
- Develop recommendations for the method of documenting and making available a catalog
- Identifying and recommending regional resources that assist collections in preservation and archiving across various technologies

NER's Regional Advisory Council helped to identify issues related to the formation of the Historical Collections Task Force. NER invites members to participate! The work of the task force is expected to last 18 months. The task force will convene in-person at least once each year. Meeting format and frequency is subject to the task force members and the development of a work plan.

Interested individuals should contact Javier Crespo about participating on the task force.

Emergency Preparedness Task Force

NN/LM-NER announces the formation of the Emergency Preparedness Task Force. The Emergency Preparedness Task Force will assist in the development and implementation of regional and local plans in response to emergencies and disasters.

Disasters may include natural disasters (such as floods, hurricanes, snow) or other emergencies (such as bioterrorism). The task force will explore current working models of emergency preparedness and define the scope of planning and preparedness member libraries should undertake.

Issues concerning the Emergency Preparedness Task Force are:

- Preparedness to support responders in emergencies and disasters affecting the community
- Preparedness to support libraries affected by emergencies or disasters
- A hierarchy or chain of libraries and resource centers that operate in emergency situations as backups to affected libraries
- Identifying anticipated needs across a variety of emergencies: Disease outbreaks, natural disasters, fire, environmental emergencies, etc.
- Coordinating emergency responses with state and local authorities to provide information support
- Reviewing resources and existing plans that address the library's response in emergency settings

NER's Regional Advisory Council helped identify issues related to the development of a Regional Plan. NER invites members to participate! The work is expected to last 18 months to two years. The task force will convene in-person at least once each year with virtual meetings conducted throughout the year. An initial meeting would take place in January.

Interested individuals should contact Javier Crespo about participating on the task force.

Javier Crespo, Associate Director

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Newsletter of the New England Regional Medical Library

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LINKS

The Health Literacy of America's Adults

The September 2006 NIH Public Bulletin

NN/LM Training and Exhibit Schedule

Classes Offered by the New England Region

NLM Technical Bulletin

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