

Rx for Consumer Health Information: The Magic is in the Right Source

– Selected List of Resources

2010 CAPHIS Top 100 List: Health Websites You Can Trust¹

<http://caphis.mlanet.org/consumer/top100all.pdf>

BioMed Central <http://www.biomedcentral.com/>

BioMed Central is an independent publishing house committed to providing immediate open access to peer-reviewed biomedical research.

CHIPIG <http://www.chla-absc.ca/chipig/>

The Consumer Health Information Providers Interest Group (CHIPIG) is a voluntary association of individuals interested in providing health information to the public. CHIPIG is an affiliate of the Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA).

CHLA Consumer Health Blog <http://www.chla-absc.ca/CHIBlog>

Calendar of Health Promotion Days <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/conferences/calend/index-eng.php>

Health Canada's online Calendar of Health Promotion Days lists health-related days, weeks and months that are recognized throughout the health professional community. Days listed are only those that are recognized in Canada or internationally.

Canadian Virtual Health Library

<http://www.chla-absc.ca/nnlh/indexe.htm>

Funding for this virtual library was announced in February 2010. The Canadian Virtual Health Library (CVHL) will make high-quality health information readily accessible to all health professionals for patient care, decision-making, policy and program development, research, continuous learning and patient education.

Clinical Practice Guidelines & Protocols for B.C. <http://www.bcguidelines.ca/gpac/>

These practice guidelines and protocols are used to improve patient care and health outcomes, by clinicians in Canada and around the world. They help offer the best possible care for patients by providing recommendations based on scientific evidence and expert clinical opinion.

Consumer Health Information [Bibliography] – Prepared by Susan Murray² [Updated on 10 April 2006] http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/uni_chi_biblio.jsp

Consumer Health Information – UBC Health Library Wiki

http://hlwiki.slais.ubc.ca/index.php/Consumer_health_information

¹ Accessed on 14 March 2010.

² "Susan Murray is one of Canada's leading voices in [consumer health information](#) (CHI). For several years, she managed the Toronto Reference Library's [Consumer Health Information Service](#) (CHIS) but in May 2009, it was closed due to government cutbacks. During her time at CHIS, Susan created a province-wide service to assist consumers in gaining control over their own health care through the access to information. Murray was also a Project Manager for the Complementary and Alternative Health Affiliate of the Canadian Health Network from 1999 to 2007 before it closed its doors." Susan Murray: UBC Health Library Wiki. http://hlwiki.slais.ubc.ca/index.php/Susan_Murray Accessed on 14 March 2010.

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Consumer Health Information for Public Librarians. By Lynda M. Baker & Virginia Manbeck Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2002.

Consumer Health Information Webliography <http://library.uthct.edu/outreachweblio.htm>

eMedicine <http://www.emedicine.com>

Launched in 1996, this site features a Clinical Knowledge Base that covers over 7,000 diseases and disorders. The evidence-based content provides current practice guidelines in 62 specialties.

Guide to Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Information in British Columbia – 6th edition, 2008³

http://www.worksafebc.com/about_us/library_services/assets/pdf/ohsguide.pdf

This is a directory of government agencies, libraries, associations, and other institutions with varying degrees of expertise in/or containing information on occupational health and safety, including such areas as workers' compensation, rehabilitation, and environmental health, among others. The emphasis is on organizations located in British Columbia; however, other agencies with a national mandate or service orientation are also included.

Health Canada <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/>

Health Canada is the federal department responsible for helping Canadians maintain and improve their health, while respecting individual choices and circumstances.

Health Literacy

- Health Literacy and Increased Health Care Costs
http://www.impactbc.ca/files/Health_Literacy_Increased_Healthcare_Costs_.pdf
- Health Literacy in Canada <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/HealthLiteracy/>
- Map of Health Literacy in Canada
http://www.ccl-cca.ca/cclflash/healthliteracy/map_canada_e.html
- Health Literacy Fact Sheet
The Canadian Public Health Association defines health literacy as: "Skills to enable access, understanding and use of information for health." <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/pdfs/HealthLiteracy/HealthLiteracyFactSheetFeb2008E.pdf>
Full report [2008]
<http://www.ccl-cca.ca/pdfs/HealthLiteracy/HealthLiteracyReportFeb2008E.pdf>

Journal Watch Online <http://www.jwatch.org>

Helps readers stay current with medical research by summarizing reviews of the latest clinical findings. It comes from the publishers of *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

³ Guide to Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Information in British Columbia [electronic resource]/ compiled by Marci Gibson and Lance Nordstrom. -- / Gibson, Marci; Nordstrom, Lance. Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia. -- Richmond, B.C.: Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia, 2008. (*Web site*) Internet

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MedlinePlus <http://www.medlineplus.gov>

MedlinePlus offers over 18,000 links to accurate and current medical information that have been evaluated by the National Library of Medicine. It includes drug information, an illustrated medical dictionary, the latest health news, directories of doctors, dentists and hospitals, surgery videos, and interactive health tutorials. The Medical Encyclopaedia includes brief information, with more in depth information, on over 800 Health Topics. A toggle feature translates the site into Spanish with links to Spanish-language information.

- MedlinePlus brochure: <http://nmlm.gov/training/resources/mptri.pdf>.

Medscape <http://www.medscape.com/>

Medscape is a centralized online resource featuring thousands of free, full-text, peer-reviewed articles and medical news on topics such as “Critical Care”, “Infectious Diseases”, “Orthopedics”, and “Public Health and Prevention”. Includes links to journal articles, abstracts, conference reports and news summaries.

Merck & Co, Inc. <http://www.merck.com>

Merck & Co, Inc is a research-driven pharmaceutical company that develops and markets a broad range of innovative products and services. The “Merck Manuals” are authoritative sources of health science information. This site offers consumers information on a variety of health care topics.

Right to Know Hazardous Substance Fact Sheets

<http://web.doh.state.nj.us/rtkhsfs/indexfs.aspx>

The fact sheets, published by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, provide information on over 1,000 hazardous and toxic chemicals in a regularly updated database. Information includes identifying characteristics, health hazards, workplace exposure limits, emergency first aid, handling and storage, and a question-and-answer section.

ToxLearn <http://toxlearn.nlm.nih.gov>

This multi-module online learning tool introduces toxicology. It can provide users with a working knowledge of basic toxicology principles. Only Module 1 is fully available, (as of 24 January 2010). Additional modules will come later.

Vancouver Coastal Health - Patient Health Education Materials

http://www.vch.ca/your_stay/in_general/libraries/

This resource⁴ lists a wide range of print resources. Selected pamphlets are available in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, Chinese simplified, Dari, English, Farsi, French, German,

⁴ Accessed from: <http://vch.eduhealth.ca/> on 13 October 2009.

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Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Persian [i.e. Farsi], Punjabi, Somali, Spanish, Tagalong, and Vietnamese.

Worker Rights <http://www.workrights.ca/>

This site, an initiative of the labour movement, provides information to Canadians who have questions about their rights on the job. Specific sections include Health and Safety, Human Rights, and Work Environment.

Recommended Books for a Consumer Health Library.⁵ Healthnet: Connecticut Consumer Health Information Network, Lyman Maynard Stowe Library, University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington CT. Updated March 2008.

<http://library.uchc.edu/departm/hnet/corelist.html>

Additional websites that offer reliable and free health information

Alzheimer Society of Canada	http://www.alzheimer.ca
The Arthritis Society	http://www.arthritis.ca
Asthma Society of Canada	http://www.asthma.ca
Canada Safety Council	http://www.safety-council.org
Canadian Cancer Society	http://www.cancer.ca
Canadian Caregiver Coalition	http://www.ccc-ca.ca
Canadian Council for Tobacco Control	http://www.cctc.ca
Canadian Diabetes Association	http://www.diabetes.ca
Canadian Institute of Child Health	http://www.cich.ca
Canadian Lung Association	http://www.lung.ca
Canadian National Institute for the Blind	http://www.cnib.ca
Canadian Ophthalmological Society	http://www.eyesite.ca
Canadian Women's Health Network	http://www.cwhn.ca
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health	http://www.camh.net
Community AIDS Treatment Info Exchange	http://www.catie.ca
Dieticians of Canada	http://www.dieticians.ca
Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada	http://www.heartandstroke.ca
Kidney Foundation of Canada	http://www.kidney.ca
Osteoporosis Canada	http://www.osteoporosis.ca
Schizophrenia Society of Canada	http://www.schizophrenia.ca

⁵ Accessed on 24 January 2010.