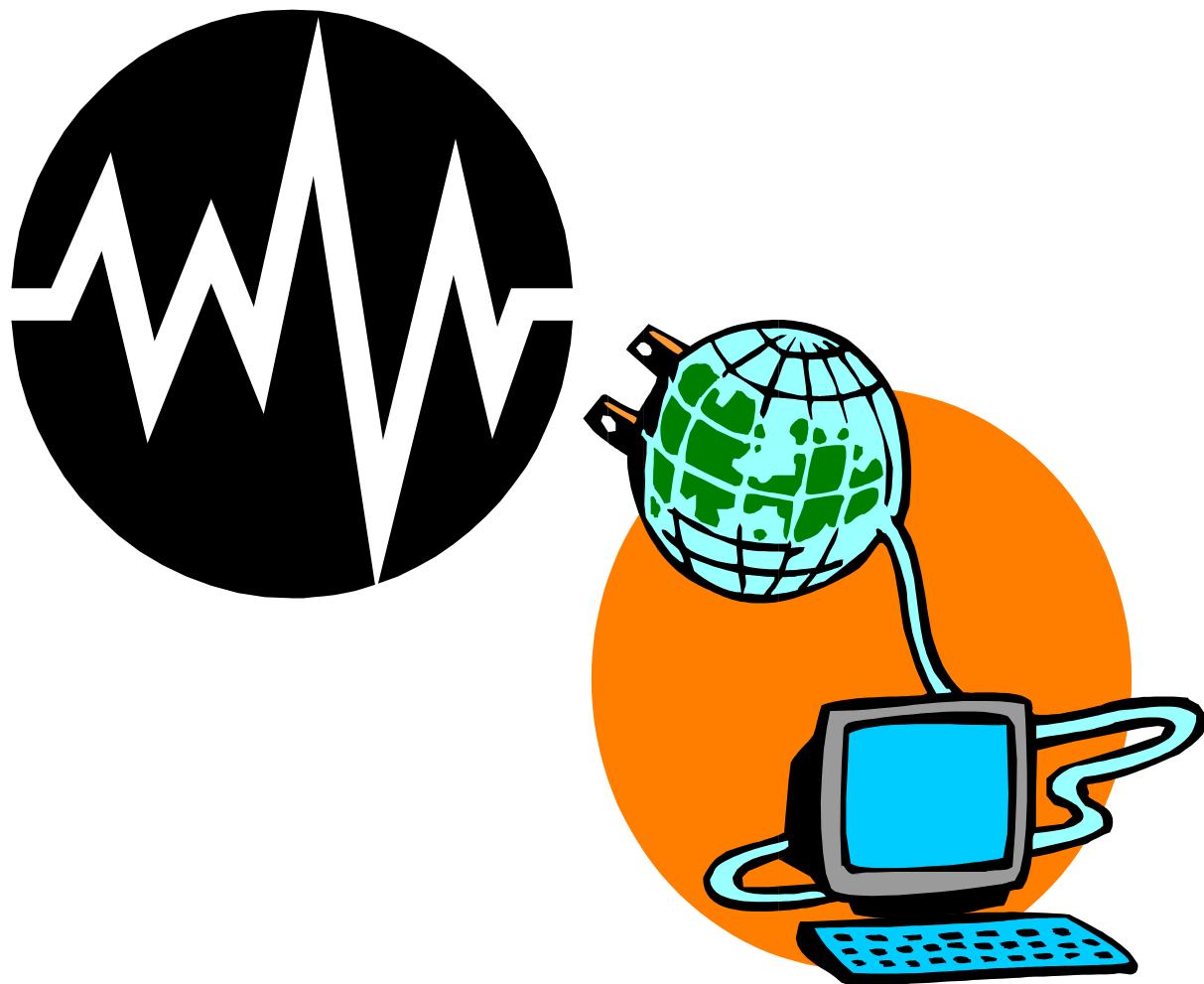


Consumer Health Information Web Sites



Medical Library - 142D Bldg 101, Room A2-200
September 2003

Nobody needs a license to drive the “information highway” of the Internet. But anybody can put up a web page, so there are huge opportunities for flawed information and radical opinions. It is estimated that close to 95% of the health information on the Internet is potentially dangerous, since it is not backed up by scientific evidence or leaves important facts out. Since many consumers now search the Internet for health and medical information, the quality of that information becomes a critical issue. Remember, also, that the Internet may not be the best place to look. While it contains huge quantities of information, that information can take a long time to dig out and may be more easily found in a good book. The Staff of the Medical Library at VA Palo Alto Health Care System are available to assist you in finding current, quality health information from print as well as online resources. The following web sites are useful and have been found to be generally reliable.

Internet Tutorials

Beginners’ Central, A User’s Guide to
the Internet

<http://northernwebs.com/bc/>

The Patient’s guide to Healthcare
Information on the Internet

<http://www3.bc.sympatico.ca/me/patientsguide/>

Advance Directives

Aging with Dignity

<http://www.agingwithdignity.org>

Partnership for Caring

<http://www.partnershipforcaring.org/HomePage/>

AIDS

HIV InSite

<http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/InSite>

Alzheimer’s Disease

Alzheimer’s Association

<http://www.alz.org/>

Alzheimer’s Disease Education &
Referral Center

<http://www.alzheimers.org/>

Alzheimer Research Forum

<http://www.alzforum.org/>

Stanford/VA Alzheimer’s Center

<http://arcc.stanford.edu/>

Arthritis

American College of Rheumatology

<http://www.rheumatology.org/>

Arthritis Foundation

<http://www.arthritis.org>

National Institute of Arthritis and
Musculoskeleton and Skin Diseases

<http://www.niams.nih.gov/hi/index.htm>

Cancer

American Cancer Society	http://www.cancer.org
Cancer Research Foundation	http://www.preventcancer.org/
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org
National Cancer Institute's CancerNet	http://cancernet.nci.nih.gov/
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship	http://www.canceradvocacy.org/
Oncolink	http://oncolink.upenn.edu/
Steve Dunn's CancerGuide	http://cancerguide.org

Death and Dying

Hospice Foundation of America	http://www.hospicefoundation.org
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization	http://www.nhpco.org/

Dermatology

American Academy of Dermatology	http://www.aad.org/
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Diabetes

American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists	http://www.aace.com
American Diabetes Association	http://www.diabetes.org
CDC's Diabetes and Public Health Resources	http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes

Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation	http://www.diabeteswellness.net
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Joslin Diabetes Center	http://www.joslin.org
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National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	http://www.niddk.nih.gov
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Rick Mendoza's Diabetes Directory	http://www.mendoza.com/diabetes.htm
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Diet/Nutrition

American Dietetic Association	http://www.eatright.org/
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Food and Nutrition Information Center	http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/
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Nutrition.gov	http://www.nutrition.gov/
Disability	
AbilityLinks	http://www.abilitylinks.org/HomePage.asp
Assistive Technology Partners	http://www.uchsc.edu/atp/
Moss Rehab Resource Net	http://www.mossresourcenet.org/
Untangling the Web: Disability Links	http://www.icdi.wvu.edu/others.htm
Drug Information	
FDA's Consumer Drug Information	http://www.fda.gov/cder/consumerinfo/default.htm
Institute for Safe Medication Practices	http://www.ismp.org
MedlinePlus Drug Information	http://www.medlineplus.gov/
National Council on Patient Information And Education	http://www.talkaboutrx.org
RxList	http://www.rxlist.com
Ear, Nose, and Throat	
American Academy of Audiology	http://www.audiology.org/consumer/
American Academy of Otolaryngology	http://www.entnet.org/index2.cfm
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association	http://www.asha.org/public/
Gastrointestinal	
American Gastroenterological Association	http://www.gastro.org/generalPublic.html
American Liver Foundation	http://www.liverfoundation.org/
Ask NOAH About Gastrointestinal Disorders	http://www.noah-health.org/english/illness/gastro/gastro.html
Centers for Disease Control Hepatitis Home Pages	http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/index.htm
Hepatitis Information Network	http://www.hepnet.com/index.html
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	http://www.niddk.nih.gov/index.htm
VA Hepatitis Materials	http://www.va.gov/hepatitisc/pted/pted.htm

General Health

American Academy of Family Practitioners	http://www.familydoctor.org
American Medical Association Health Insights	http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/3457.html
Cochrane Consumer Network	http://www.cochraneconsumer.com/
Dr. Koop	http://drkoop.com/
Federal Consumer Health Information Center	http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/health.htm
HealthFinder	http://www.healthfinder.gov
HealthTouch	http://www.healthtouch.com
InteliHealth	http://www.intelihealth.com
Mayo Clinic Health Oasis	http://www.mayohealth.org
Medscape	http://www.medscape.com
MedlinePlus Health Information	http://medlineplus.gov
Merck Manual of Medical Information	http://www.merckhomeedition.com/home.html
National Guideline Clearinghouse	http://www.guidelines.gov
NOAH: New York Online Access to Health	http://www.noah-health.org/
Office of Rare Diseases, National Institutes of Health	http://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/
Toll-Free Numbers for Health Information	http://www.health.gov/NHIC/Pubs/tollfree.htm
1Uphealth	http://www.1uphealth.com/

Head Injury

Brain Injury Association	http://www.biausa.org/
Brain Injury Resource Center	http://www.headinjury.com/

Heart

American Heart Association	http://www.americanheart.org
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Cleveland Clinic Heart Center	http://www.clevelandclinic.org/heartcenter/
Heart Information Network	http://www.heartinfo.org/
National Heart Lung Blood Institute	http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/index.htm
Kidney	
American Association of Kidney Patients	http://www.aakp.org/
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	http://www.niddk.nih.gov
National Kidney Foundation	http://www.kidney.org/
Mental Health	
American Psychiatric Assn	http://www.psych.org
American Psychological Assn	http://apa.org/psychnet/
Mental Health Net	http://mentalhelp.net/
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill	http://www.nami.org/
National Institute of Mental Health	http://www.nimh.nih.gov/home.cfm
National Center for PTSD	http://www.ncptsd.org/
National Mental Health Association	http://www.nmha.org/infoctr/factsheets/index.cfm
Neurology	
American Brain Tumor Association	http://www.abta.org/index.html
Central Nervous System Disease	http://micf.mic.ki.se/Diseases/c10.228.html
Multiple Sclerosis.com	http://www.multiplesclerosis.com/
Muscular Dystrophy Association	http://www.mdausa.org/
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	http://www.ninds.nih.gov/index.htm
National Parkinson Foundation	http://www.parkinson.org/
The Brain Matters	http://www.thebrainmatters.org/
Neurosurgery	
American Association of Neurological Surgeons	http://www.neurosurgery.org/health/patient/index.asp

Pain

American Chronic Pain Association <http://www.theacpa.org/>

Physical Fitness

Shape Up America (Dr. Koop) <http://shapeup.org/>

Quality Control Sites (These sites list tips on how to spot health scams, evaluation of health info found on the Internet, and the latest hypes on the market)

Quackwatch <http://www.quackwatch.com>

Health on the Net Foundation <http://www.hon.ch>

National Council Against Health Fraud <http://www.ncahf.org>

National Fraud Information Center <http://www.fraud.org>

Reference

Lab Tests Online <http://www.labtestsonline.org/lab/index.html>

Respiratory

American Lung Association <http://www.lungusa.org/>

Spinal Cord Injury

Spine and Nerve Center at Harvard
<http://neurosurgery.mgh.harvard.edu/lkspine.htm#OtherSpineInfo>

Substance Abuse

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information <http://www.health.org/links/>

National Institute on Drug Abuse <http://www.nida.nih.gov/>

Web of Addictions <http://www.well.com/user/woa/>

Surgery

Plastic Surgery <http://www.ienhance.com/>

YourSurgery.com <http://www.yoursurgery.com/index.cfm>

Urology

American Foundation for Urologic Disease <http://www.afud.org/>

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Urology <http://www.niddk.nih.gov>

Vision

American Academy of Ophthalmology <http://www.aao.org/>

The Foundation Fighting Blindness <http://www.blindness.org/>

Women's Health

Boston Women's Health Book Collective <http://www.ourbodiesourselves.org/>

Estronaut <http://www.womenshealth.org/>

National Women's Health Information Center <http://www.4woman.org/>