Non-Legal Medical Research

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Health Law Clinic
Spring 2017
Evaluating Internet Resources

• Some factors to consider when evaluating websites include
  – Authority
    • Who is the author or sponsor? Are they clear about who they are? Where does the site get its information from?
  – Objectivity
    • Does the website purport to be objective? Advocacy group websites can be a valuable source of information, but you should question the information if it hides its agenda.
  – Timeliness
    • What is the date of publication? When was it last updated?
  – Documentation
    • Does it cite reliable sources?
  – Privacy
    • Does it collect your personal information? What does it do with it?
Evaluating Health & Medical Internet Resources

- NIH Finding and Evaluating Online Resources
- Evaluating Internet Health Information
  - 16 minute tutorial teaches you how to evaluate the health information that you find on the Web.
- Johns Hopkins Guide to Evaluating Information
  - Evaluating Internet Resources
  - Evaluating Social Media
  - Propaganda v. Misinformation
Some Reliable Portals

• **MedlinePlus**
  – Sponsored by the National Library of Medicine (part of NIH).

• **healthfinder.gov**
  – Sponsored by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (part of HHS).

• **Health Law Research Guide: Medical Research**
  – Part of Pace Law Library’s guide to health law research.
Health Information in Social Media

- Evaluate the sponsor’s website
- Make sure the social media account is authentic.
  - Verified Twitter accounts have a blue badge
  - Verify Federal government agency accounts here [http://registry.usa.gov/accounts/verify](http://registry.usa.gov/accounts/verify)
  - Access an organization’s social media accounts through its website
Westlaw

- **Stedman’s Medical Dictionary**
- **Medical Litigator**
  - Attorney’s Medical Atlas
  - Attorney’s Medical Deskbook
  - Medical Guides & Summaries
  - New England Journal of Medicine
  - International Classification of Diseases
    - Available from World Health Organization

* N.B. not everything is accessible in Medical Litigator.
Westlaw Directories

- West’s National Physicians Directory
- Forensic Services Directory
Lexis

- **Browse > Sources > Search for keyword**
- **Practice area or industry > Healthcare law > Scientific**
  - ArchieMD 3D Medical Images
  - Atlas of Gastroenterology
  - Bonney's Gynaecological Surgery
  - Lawyers’ Medical Cyclopedia
- **Attorney’s Textbook of Medicine**
- **Attorney’s Dictionary of Medicine**
- **Official ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists**
Lexis

- **Courtroom Medicine Series**
  - Comprehensive guide to cancer, heart disease, lung cancer and occupational diseases of the lungs as a medico-legal subject of litigation.

- **Courtroom Toxicology**
  - Encyclopedia of toxicological substances and side effects. It is an authoritative medico-legal treatise on using complex toxicology findings in the courtroom.

- **Occupational Injuries and Illnesses**
  - Provides medical analysis you need to prove, refute, or prevent allegations of occupational injury and illness, and includes AMA evaluations of permanent impairment.

- **Trauma Reports**
  - Peer-reviewed, focuses on emergency care of adult and pediatric patients with moderate and severe traumatic injuries.
Bloomberg Law

- **Health Practice Center**
  - Practical guidance
  - Books & treatises
  - News & law reports
    - Manage email notifications to subscribe
  - Transactional resources
    - Includes sample agreements, deal documents, and checklists

- **Business Intelligence**

- **Litigation Analytics**
Dictionaries & Encyclopedias

- Black’s Medical Dictionary (RA221 .B58 Law Reference)
- Dorland’s Illustrated Medical Dictionary (R121 .D67 2003)
- Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine
- Gray’s Anatomy (QM23.2 G73)
  - 1918 version
- Stedman’s Medical Dictionary (R121 .S8 2000) (also on Westlaw)
- Tauber’s Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary (R121 .T18 2001)
Internet Medical Resources

• **Merck Index**
  – Authoritative and reliable source of information on chemicals, drugs and biologicals.

• **Merck Manual (Consumer Version)**
  – Information on medical topics, symptoms, drugs, procedures, news and more, written in everyday language.

• **Merck Manual (Professional Version)**
  – Information on medical topics, symptoms, drugs, procedures, news and more, written for the health care professional.

• **Human Anatomy** includes illustrations

• **PDR (Physicians’ Desk Reference)**
Physician and Physician Assistants Disciplinary and Other Actions

Office of Professional Medical Conduct investigates complaints about physicians, physician assistants and specialist assistants and monitors practitioners who are subject to Orders of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This provides a listing of all physicians, physician assistants, specialist assistants, and professional medical corporations who have been disciplined since 1990, or who are subject to a non-disciplinary Board Order, or upon whom charges of misconduct have been served.
Pace Libraries Discovery Service

• **Journals**
  – Check full-text availability here, search groups of journals by discipline.

• **Discovery Service**
  – Searches Pace Library catalog and a wide-variety of interdisciplinary databases, including the health and medical databases listed below.

• **Health and medical related databases from Pace undergrad libraries**
Health and Medical Databases

- **CINAHL**
  - Articles, books, and other documents on a wide range of health topics including nursing, biomedicine, health sciences librarianship, alternative/complementary medicine, consumer health and 17 allied health disciplines.

- **Cochrane Library**
  - Collection of six evidence-based medicine databases: the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, the Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE), the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, the Cochrane Methodology Register, the Health Technology Assessment Database, and the NHS Economic Evaluation Database.

- **Family Health Database**
  - Articles and news on key areas of medicine and health.
Health and Medical Databases

• **Health and Medical Collection**
  – Articles on clinical and biomedical research topics, consumer health, and health administration.

• **Medline via Ebsco**
  – NIH database with literature on biomedicine, including the allied health fields and the biological and physical sciences as they relate to medicine and health care.
  – Free version listed below.

• **PubMed/Medline**
  – Citations to biomedical journals with some full-text articles available.