

Finding Health Information on the Web

Using Google to find health information

To cut down the number of hits – use more keywords, put key phrases in quotes, e.g. “care pathways”.

To get more hits – try adding more keywords

Use ‘Advanced Search’ option on Google provides options to limit your search.

Try Google Scholar

<http://scholar.google.com/> searches scholarly literature, including theses, books, abstracts and articles.

Refine results for – sometimes Google will offer some useful hints. Look for their ‘refine results for’ links at the top of the search results page that help you quickly narrow your search

Check out the Google Help Centre

<http://www.google.com/help/features.html>

Don’t always stick to Google.

Sometimes it is better to go straight to portals for your topic. See those suggested in this leaflet including *MedlinePlus*

Do a training session or look for free online tutorials.

Need help? librarycml.uoc@otago.ac.nz

Key Health Portals on the Web

National Library of Medicine (NLM), in the United States and the **UK National Health Service** provide the following wonderful resources free of charge:

MedlinePlus

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus>

Medline plus offers full text information about many medical conditions and links to authoritative sources.

PubMed

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez>

Medline on the web - the comprehensive database of article titles and abstracts. See their free tutorial.

Health Information. Health topics A-Z.

<http://health.nih.gov/>

From the US National Institutes of Health (NIH).

PubMed Central

<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/>

Free biomedical journals from U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Center.

UK PubMed Central

<http://ukpmc.ac.uk/>

Electronic Quality Information for Patients (NHS)

<http://www.equip.nhs.uk>

NHS Information (Patient UK)

<http://www.patient.co.uk>

NHS Evidence

<https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/>

Key Local Resources

Health Information Resources (Christchurch City Libraries)

<http://library.christchurch.org.nz/Health/>

Access an exciting range of full text health resources at the libraries including *Ebsco Megasearch*, *Infotrac Onefile* and *Health and Wellness Resource Centre*.

Ask to have a PIN number on your library card for remote access to resources.

Don't forget to check out their books too.



New Zealand Ministry of Health

<http://www.health.govt.nz/cochrane-library>

The ministry has negotiated free access to these resources which provide reliable health information for consumers including: *Best Treatments* and the *Cochrane Library*.

Community Health Information Centre (CHIC)

<http://www.cph.co.nz/About-Us/Health-Information/>

Provide free information for health consumers on a wide variety of health issues

NZCareCoach

<http://www.carers.net.nz>

Check the link to NZCareCoach on this page.

New Zealand Health Information

Everybody.co.nz

<http://www.everybody.co.nz/about.aspx>

A consumer health information resource that is owned and published by CMPMedica (NZ) Ltd.

Ministry of Health. YourHealth Topics

<http://www.health.govt.nz/yourhealth-topics>

Maori Health

Maori Health

<http://www.maorihealth.govt.nz/>

Ministry of Health website that provides information about Māori Health policies, programmes, and people.

Nga Ngaru Hauora O Aotearoa (National Maori Health Providers' Association)

www.ngangaru.co.nz/

New Zealand & Pacific Directory

Te Puna Web Directory

<http://webdirectory.natlib.govt.nz/index.htm>

A directory to New Zealand & Pacific Island web sites.



Finding Guidelines

New Zealand Guidelines Group

<http://www.nzgg.org.nz/>

National Guideline Clearinghouse™ (NGC)

<http://www.guideline.gov/>

An American public resource for evidence-based clinical practice guidelines

Other Health Portals

Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH):

<http://www.camh.org.uk/>

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Information for health professionals

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/indexpro.htm>

Family & Community Health. New York State Department of Health

<http://www.health.state.ny.us/community/>

HSRIC Domestic Violence

https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hsrinfo/domestic_violence.html

NIH TOXNET (Toxicology Data Network)

<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/>

HelpAge International

<http://www.helpage.org/resources/>

Directories of Health information

University of Otago Library (Health Sciences)

<http://otago.libguides.com/liaison/healthsciences>

Health Statistics

The New Zealand Health Information Service (NZHIS)

<http://www.nzhis.govt.nz/>

This New Zealand Ministry of Health group provides statistics and trends on the prevalence of diseases and the effectiveness of treatments.

Statistics New Zealand Tatauranga Aotearoa

<http://www.stats.govt.nz/>

World health Organisation. A guide to statistical information at WHO

<http://www.who.int/whosis/en/>

Presents the most recent statistics since 1997 of 50 health indicators for WHO's 192 Member States, including New Zealand.

Nationmaster

<http://www.nationmaster.com/country/nz/Top-Rankings>

A one-stop web resource for country statistics on everything from health, crime to wall-plug-voltages.

View profiles and rankings of individual countries, compile graphs and lists. Also has a fully integrated encyclopedia with over one million articles.

Canterbury Medical Library

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/christchurch/library/index.html>

Health professionals or anyone studying towards a professional health qualification may apply for personal membership of the library. There is an annual membership fee.

Membership is free to staff and students of the Christchurch School of Medicine and Health Sciences and Canterbury District Health Board hospitals.