

Listing of Online Resources

Articles and Manuals on Plain Language

Health Literacy: A Manual for Clinicians.

Developed by the AMA in 2003, this booklet provides general information on what health literacy is and why it is important; tips on how to estimate a patient's literacy level; and an overview on communicating effectively with patients through both written, visual and verbal communication. It also includes case studies and discussion questions.

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/367/healthlitclinicians.pdf>

Article also provided in toolkit

Teaching Patients with Low Literacy Skills

This book is now considered a classic text in health literacy. The authors, Ceci and Len Doak, are often introduced at health literacy conferences as 'the grandparents' of health literacy. Indeed, their contribution to the field and to our understanding of clear communication principles has been profound.

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/healthliteracy/doak.html>

The Health Literacy Environment of Hospitals and Health Centers: Partners for Action: Making Your Healthcare Facility Literacy-Friendly

The guide and the review tools found within it offer an approach for analyzing literacy-related barriers to healthcare access and navigation. This guide was designed to assist chief executive officers, presidents, program directors, administrators, and healthcare workers at hospitals or health centers to consider the health literacy environment of their healthcare facilities and to analyze ways to reduce demands, to better serve their patients and staff and ultimately to increase revenue.

<http://www.ncsall.net/?id=1167>

Article also provided in toolkit

The New England Literacy Resource Center

NELRC works to strengthen adult literacy services in New England through sharing and collaborative projects among adult literacy professional development providers, practitioners and policy-makers.

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

Clear and to the Point: Guidelines for Using Plain Language at NIH

This website developed by the Harvard School of Public Health is a quick summary of most of the main concepts of plain language writing, including examples of "translations" and SMOG.

http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/healthliteracy/how_to/clear.html



The Plain Language Initiative

This Web site was created to provide resources to help writers achieve the goal of plain language at NIH.

<http://execsec.od.nih.gov/plainlang/index.html>

SMOG Information and Calculators

<http://www.harrymclaughlin.com/SMOG.htm>

<http://www.wordscount.info/hw/smog.jsp>

Glossaries

HEAL wordlist

http://healthliteracy.worlded.org/heal/list/word_list_booklet.pdf

Alternative Lay Language for Medical Terms in Consent Forms copyrighted by the University of Kentucky.

<http://healthcare.partners.org/phsirb/irbforms/dict2.pdf>

Provides brochures to download containing glossaries on asthma, arthritis and lupus.

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/healthliteracy/innovative.html#three>

University of Michigan Medical School, IRB. Guidance: Simplification Guide to Medical Terms. Last updated 20 January 1999.

<http://www.med.umich.edu/irbmed/guidance/guide.htm>

Sexual health glossary provided by Planned Parenthood

<http://www.plannedparenthood.org/sexual-health/glossary-4338.htm>

Focus Group Resources

The Free Management Library's webpage on conducting focus groups

http://www.managementhelp.org/grp_skill/focusgrp/focusgrp.htm

A website with tips on conducting focus groups by the Market Navigation, Inc.

http://www.mnav.com/qualitative_research.htm

The Community Toolbox provides over 6,000 pages of practical skill-building information on over 250 different topics. Topic sections include step-by-step instruction, examples, check-lists, and related resources.

<http://ctb.ku.edu/index.jsp>



Resources from the Region I Title X Family Planning Training Center

<http://www.famplan.org/plainlang.htm>

<http://www.famplan.org/spanish.htm>

Clear Communication

