FootNotes

Even More Books with AccessMedicine!

The Library Services of Samaritan Health Services provides online access to almost 2000 books, journals, and databases all with instructional support from your library staff!

Here, we will be looking at McGraw-Hill's AccessMedicine which provides more than 95 textbooks in full-text with some very familiar titles available. Harrison's Textbook of Internal Medicine and the complete Current Diagnosis & Treatment series of textbooks in clinical disciplines are but among the 95+ textbooks for you to read. A unique feature of this robust textbook collection is the archived editions which AccessMedicine continue to make available even after the addition of the newest edition of a title! Look for the link to AccessMedicine on the Online Textbooks page of The Medical Library Gateway.

If you are in need of a diagnosis, AccessMedicine has you covered! Their tool, Diagnosaurus® provides you the opportunity to find, then use over 1,000 diagnoses at the point-of-care. Browse by symptom, disease, or organ system. There is also multi-media library, practice guidelines, diagnostic tests, along with a Quick Medical Dx & Rx tool!
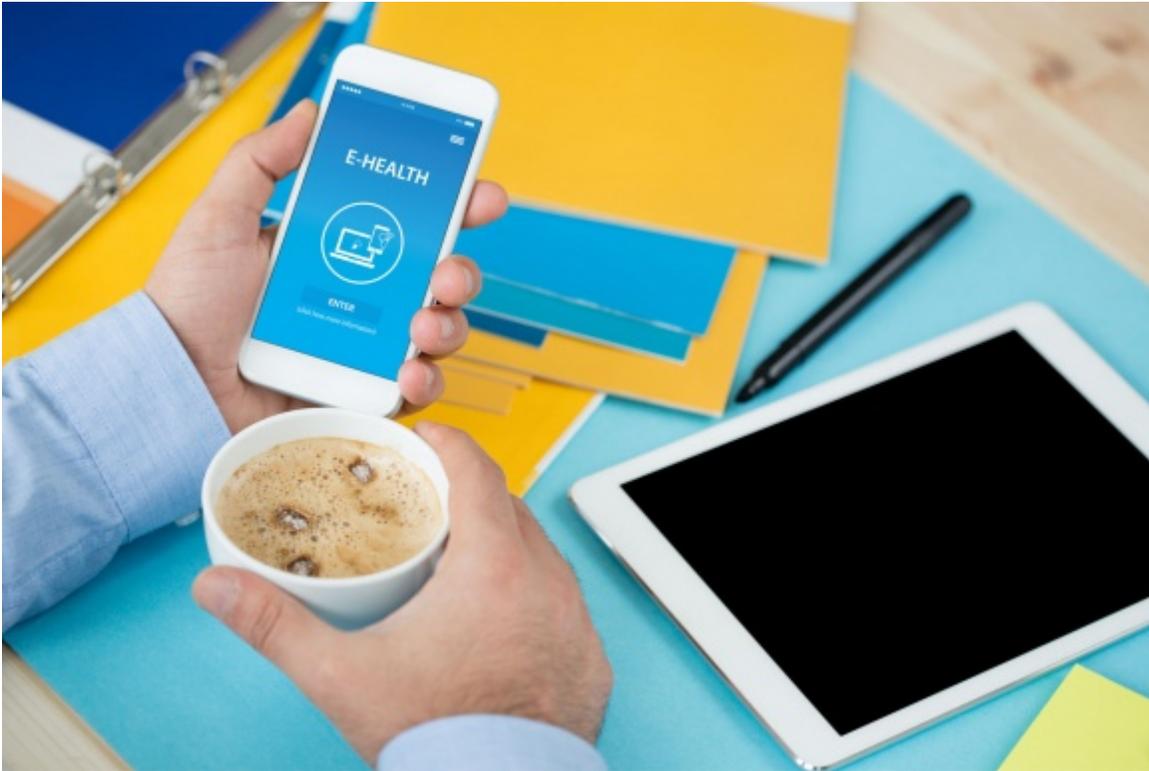
Journals in Print, We Still Have 'em!

There are times you want to be able to take hold of a journal in your hands from the shelf, peruse its contents, then sit down and read from it while in the library. You still can! We do still subscribe to some journals as hardcopy in print even though we continue to migrate more content to electronic accessible formats reducing our print holdings. Reasons for continuation of hardcopy acquisition are due in part to the following:

- The significant expense incurred with electronic / online version versus hardcopy (aka print)
- Combination versions of various journal titles provided in both print with online

Wading into Record Territory

Wading into accessing your Electronic Medical Record (EMR) may seem to be daunting and one that you may think is downright frustrating! No worries, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has created and published a guide to help patients and / or their caregivers access the personal health record. Specifically, it is HHS' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC).

The purpose of the Guide to Getting & Using Your Health Records is to help answer many of the questions that patients (yes!, we all will fall into that category at some time) may have when asking for their health information. It was designed and created to support the 21st Century Cures Act (link is to Wikipedia information) and a new initiative from CMS MyHealthEDATA Initiative (link is to the fact sheet).

According to the ONC, half of all Americans were provided the opportunity by either their provider or health insurer to access an electronic medical record in 2017. That is a 42% increase from 2014! More than half of those offered the opportunity to view their medical record during this past year did so. Of that one half that viewed their record in 2017 found it to be useful for them and easy to understand. ONC stated that the other one half that did not access it because they felt they did not need it to or understand that it is their right along with benefits that access to their medical record could bring them.

Through the guide you now have the steps, tips, and tools to get, check, and then use your health records, so why wouldn't you? Become empowered!

PILOTS Database

[PILOTS](#) is the acronym for the Published International Literature on Traumatic Stress (PILOTS) database produced by the [National Center for PTSD](#), a part of the [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#).

The database is free to search providing citations and abstracts only, to the international literature on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) along with other mental health ramifications that are traumatic events. Hosted on library database producer / vendor ProQuest, coverage is extensive from 1871 – present; updated monthly by headquarters of the National Center for PTSD in White River Junction, Vermont.

Each record in PILOTS contains the following so that a determination can be made as to its relevance to your search:

- A bibliographic citation (author, title, and source it can be found in)
- Terms describing its content selected from the [PILOTS Thesaurus](#) controlled vocabulary
- A brief summary (abstract) helping to determine if it contains relevant information to your query

Is It All About the Ratings?

Have you ever noticed that hospitals tout their ratings? You may have seen it on billboards heard it on radio, or as a sponsor on a television show, even in print; but do you know what it means and what it may mean for you? There are a number of these ratings lists that can be found in newspaper and magazine advertisements of hospitals that are promoting their services and specialties. So, what is the basis for the criteria that gets tracked by each and what does it mean for you and me? We will look at three; some you may know and others perhaps not. Using one or all of these, find a hospital you may find comfortable for your care.

In 2002, the consumer-friendly [Hospital Compare](#) ,was created through efforts by Medicare (now known as [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)](#) and the Hospital Quality Alliance (HQA), a public-private collaboration established to promote reporting on hospital quality care (*hint*: find link on the [Consumer Health Information](#) page under [Healthcare Consumerism](#) on http://www.samlib.com). CMS calculates its overall Star Ratings utilizing 57 distinct quality metrics of a hospital's performance in seven different categories (mortality, readmission, safety of care, patient experience, effectiveness of care, timeliness of care, and efficient use of imaging. The overall rating shows how well each hospital performed compared to other U.S. hospitals. They are scored from 1 to 5 stars, more stars indicates better performance by a hospital on the available quality measures. [Samaritan Health Services](#) continues to strive to improve its ratings by providing the [best possible patient care and experience](#) every day.

One that you have heard of, the annual [US News & World Report Best Hospitals](#) this is one of the most widely known and read. (*hint*: find link on the [Consumer Health Information](#) page under [Healthcare Consumerism](#) on http://www.samlib.com). This annual list has been published since 1990, with its focus remaining on identification of hospitals that excel in the treatment of difficult patients; difficult in that there illnesses pose unusual challenges due to underlying conditions, advanced age, or other medical issues amongst a number of others. This has continually evolved as healthcare (in general) has continued its perpetual evolution.

The Leapfrog Group [Hospital Safety Grade](#) is another hospital rating system assessing hospital safety that utilizes 30 performance metrics but in only 2 categories. Leapfrog's stated purpose is to promote the consumer to choose a healthcare facility accordingly. You can find new safety grades every April with an update presented in October of the same year.

I Want To Request an Article, but How?

Many of the requests for information that flows into the libraries are for articles that come from a PubMed search result or through a received email alerting the requestor of recently published research. Many requests of this sort are listed as "Epub ahead of print".

The National Library of Medicine provides the option of submitting citations prior to their publication in its published or print form. This option is used for those publications in which the date of the article's electronic publishing predates publication in the journal issue or volume. When articles are initially made available on a website (publishers' or others), the publisher or provider sends the same citation data made available to the public for its inclusion in the PubMed database.

As stated on the PubMed database site, many of these citations contain only partial citation information --- perhaps it may be an article title with full abstract but without volume, issue or page numbers. That is the perfect moment for you to contact one of the Samaritan librarians who possess the expertise and knowledge to verify, locate, order (if need be), then deliver the article to you in its full text.

Contact us via the Medical Library Gateway again using our Requests Form choosing Article Request from the drop-down menu by Request Type. On rare occasions if you are unable to use the Request Form you may email us directly; but only on those rare occasions, please.

Welcome New Residents and Students!

The Libraries of Samaritan Health Services want to welcome all of our new Residents and Medical Students to Samaritan Health Services as they arrive in late June. The library staff is ready to assist with all their information needs. It is hoped that they will feel free to stop by any of the libraries located at our hospitals in Corvallis, Albany, and Lebanon. Our three locations and telephone numbers are listed at the end of this newsletter.

When You Can't Make It to One of Our Libraries

When you can't find time to get to one of our three library locations (only GSRMC is staffed) simply head to the Library Page on the SHS Insider (available only to the employees of Samaritan Health Services) where you will find us under the Departments heading. The same website pages you will find on the SHS Insider are those you will find if you go directly to the library website at www.samlib.com. The main difference is that when on our Intranet internal network, rarely will you be prompted for a username/password to access the many resources we provide all Samaritan employees.

Visit or contact SHS libraries:
Murray Memorial Library at GSRMC - 541.768.6200 / 80-6200
Stanley K. Davis Library at SAGH - 541.812.4446 / 82-4446
Medical Library at SLCH – 541.451.7173 / 81-7173