

FootNotes

Fall 2010

The Quarterly Newsletter of Libraries of Samaritan Health Services

Aging, Elder Care, & Caregiving

Many of us are finding ourselves placed into a position of caring for an aging parent or loved one. When this occurs, getting started with the process of finding help and coordinating assistance can be a daunting task. Caregiving may not be easy but it can and should be rewarding. Quite often, the difference between frustration and satisfaction is possessing the knowledge, understanding, and confidence to which we can rely on. Some of the constant refrains heard from those that find themselves in the position of caring for an aged family member or loved one include being overwhelmed, unprepared, and uninformed. It does not have to be that way, there is help available and you can start with only a few clicks of the mouse!

Two of the newest additions to our website resources on this very important subject which may affect us all at some time include the second edition of [Eldercare at Home](#) written by experienced health professionals for those individuals caring for older people at home. And [Aging in the Know: Your Gateway to Health and Aging Resources on the Web](#) offering up-to-date information for consumers on health and aging.

The [Consumer Health Information](#) page located on www.samlib.com contains a set of website resources under [Aging, Elder Care, & Caregiving](#) which offer books, newsletters, magazines, and links to a variety of information providing overviews of the ever challenging world many of us have had to begin or at some point need to address.

Natural Standard Added to our Databases

You spoke; we listened, and then acted. [Natural Standard](#) was offered through a six week trial period to all Samaritan Health Services locations during both July and most of August. We asked that it be utilized and "put through its paces" by anyone within SHS though only within the SHS network providing autologin. The responses of those who took the time to give it a try, responded in an overwhelmingly positive fashion.

For those of you that haven't tried it, [Natural Standard](#) is an integrative medicine product. It consists of 12 databases. Founded by clinicians and researchers to provide high quality, evidence-based information about complementary and alternative therapies, [Natural Standard](#) utilizes an international multidisciplinary collaboration which now includes contributors from more than 100 eminent academic institutions. All information found in the 12 databases is evidence-based, consensus-based, and peer-reviewed.

Access our newest database offering with autologin while on the SHS network or through a username/password when offsite which is easily obtained by contacting library staff. You can locate it on www.samlib.com by clicking on the [Databases](#) page.

HealthCare.gov

With healthcare reform's phased-in implementation; the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](http://www.hhs.gov) has created HealthCare.gov to help the public search for coverage options. After answering initial questions, users are directed then to a page that continues the insurance finder process based on answers to specific questions.

HealthCare.gov is the first central database of health coverage options, combining information about public programs, from Medicare to the new Pre-Existing Conditions Insurance Plan, with information from more than 1,000 private insurance plans. Consumers can receive information about options specific to their life situation and local community.

A useful and quite valuable feature coming in October, 2010, will be price estimates for health insurance plans which will be available online. In the weeks and months ahead, new information on preventing disease and illness and improving the quality of health care for all Americans will also be posted. The website also includes a series of opportunities where users can indicate whether pages were helpful to them and HHS will continue to seek user feedback to grow and strengthen the site.

This website is easy to locate on our [Consumer Health Information](#) page located on www.samlib.com under the [Managed Care / Health Insurance](#) subject heading.

PDF Article / Book Chapter Requests

When requesting articles through the Medical Libraries of Samaritan Health Services, the most popular format requested has grown to be the PDF. Its popularity may stem from its ease and timely delivery; usually into an email address mailbox. This is the format of choice when one of your library staffers requests an article or book chapter for you and where we concentrate our effort in delivery format.

Most articles are produced by the publisher and presented in a high quality format. That said, many of the older archived issues of a journal are scanned by us and others from a hardcopy. This may not produce the color plate you might expect from these "manually" produced items. We strive to fulfill your requests in a timely fashion with a copy that is legible and easily viewed. Sometimes what has been sent to us via interlibrary loan may need to be reordered; and we have done that both on our own and when requested to do so.

If you find upon receipt that your article or book chapter is unacceptable, contact us so that we can work with you to rectify the situation getting the information into your hands as soon as possible.

Wallet Card Updated Once Again

With the great acceptance and an ever growing set of electronic resources on the Medical Library Gateway (www.samlib.com) a new wallet card is now available. The wallet card which can easily click onto your Samaritan identification badge continues providing username/passwords for specific resources (when outside the SHS network), contact information for all library staff, and afterhours access information for your two staffed libraries.

Distribution and availability has begun. Check with any library staffer either by email or stopping by the libraries.

Patients, Their Families and the Public are Welcome!

The Libraries of Samaritan Health Services are always pleased to welcome our patients (when they can), their families, and the public to utilize our libraries during our open hours. The library staffs at both Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center (GSRMC) and Samaritan Albany General Hospital (SAGH) are ready to assist with all information needs from both our in-house and electronic resources.

Feel free to stop by either library or contact the Murray Memorial Library at GSRMC by dialing 541.768.6200 or the Stanley K. Davis Library at SAGH by calling 541.812.4446.