FINDING HEALTH SCIENCES INFORMATION

Information is everywhere!

- Finding reliable information for educational purposes requires a variety of different skills.
- A researcher must be able to find books, journal articles, meeting reports, personal communications, audiovisual items, etc. - the variety is enormous.
- The information is also available in different formats - print, electronic, audiovisual, etc.
- How do you evaluate the information?
- How do you cite the information you include in your reports?
- Where do you begin?

Define the subject.

- Try a dictionary, or a basic textbook in the subject area.
- To find a book, look in the electronic card catalog of Case Western Reserve University, EuclidPLUS.
- In organizing books and journal articles in the health sciences, the thesaurus of index terms is MeSH (Medical Subject Headings) from the U. S. National Library of Medicine.
- When you look for a book by Subject, be sure to look at the right side of the page for MeSH Search.
- There are online dictionaries and encyclopedias available from MEDLINEplus.
Find books in your subject area.

- Use EuclidPLUS by **MeSH Search**.
- Use the **MeSH** database to find MeSH terms - Headings and Subheadings. The MeSH database can be searched by MeSH term, MeSH Entry Term, Subheading, Publication Type, or words within a MeSH Scope Note.
- In EuclidPLUS, be sure to note the **AUTHOR**, **TITLE**, **LOCATION**, **CALL NUMBER** and **STATUS**:

- **CHSL** has links to **Electronic Books**.
Find journal articles on the topic.

- Journal articles are indexed in databases. There is no all-inclusive database for all journals. You must select a database in your subject area. Sometimes, you may want to search many databases in your subject area.
- Databases available to Case are listed by subject.
- **Health Sciences** databases include Ageline, BIOSIS, CINAHL (nursing), Human Nutrition, (OhioLINK) MEDLINE, PsycINFO, PubMed, SCI and others. The databases have online help.
- Not all journal articles are electronically available.
- Not all electronic journal articles are available to Case.
- To determine if a journal is available in print or electronically to Case, check by the **title** of the journal in EuclidPLUS. You may also check the journal title abbreviation. If the abbreviation does not display, try the full title.
- Pertinent journal information includes the **TITLE**, the **LOCATION**, what the LIBrary HAS, and where it is available - either stack locations or electronically:

  ![EuclidPLUS](image)

  **Note:**

  **TITLE**, **CLICK** to go to the electronic version,

  **LIBrary HAS** indicates which volumes are available in print and electronically.

  **CHSL** has links to [Electronic Journals](#).
Find other information on the topic.

- Sometimes you need to search the World Wide Web for other information.
- For government information, try Firstgov to locate any type of federal information.
- For information about the state of Ohio, try the State of Ohio web site.
- For the Cleveland Department of Public Health, the web site has many links.
- For disease information from the federal government, try The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Included here are electronic publications, data and statistics.
- Sometimes it is necessary to search the web for other information, such as locating a professional organization in your topic area. You will have to use a search engine for this. For health sites, look for the endorsement from the Health on the Net Foundation.

Other Information – including evaluation and citing

- OhioLINK & ALAO Instruction Clearinghouse
  There are links to online tutorials available here.
- Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals
  This is the Vancouver style. This is a way to cite your references in a paper.

Contact Information

- If you need more assistance, please contact Health Center Reference, hclref@case.edu, or by phone at 216-368-3218.