Resource List for Effective Communication and Health Literacy
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Resources from the National Library of Medicine
- **MedlinePlus**
  - MedlinePlus: Health Information in Multiple Languages (link is external)
  - Health Reach: Find multilingual, multicultural health information and patient education materials about health conditions and wellness topics
- **Drug Information Portal**: A gateway to selected drug information from the U.S. National Library of Medicine and other key U.S. Government agencies.
- **Pillbox**: Identify or search for a pill
- **All of Us CEN- Community Engagement Network**
- **Engage for Health: A Health Program in a Box**: Focuses on teaching participants strategies for improving communication with their health care providers and researching health issues using quality online health resources.
- **Drugs, Herbs, Supplements**: Browse dietary supplements and herbal remedies to learn about their effectiveness, usual dosage, and drug interactions on MedlinePlus

Resources from NIH
- **Plain Language.gov**: Plain language (also called plain writing or plain English) is communication your audience can understand the first time they read or hear it.
  - Plain Writing Act of 2010
- **Digital.gov**: Government-wide resources to make communicating government information to multilingual audiences easier and more consistent
  - Bilingual Glossaries, Dictionaries and Style Guides
- **Health Literacy**: Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- **2019 Monitoring the Future**: National Institute on Drug Abuse’s (NIDA) Survey of eighth, 10th and 12th graders
- **National Prescription Drug Take Back Day**: Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- **Using Medicines Safely** from healthfinder.gov

Statistics
- **Health Literacy Data Map**: This website provides an interactive, searchable, national map of health literacy estimates for 216,864 census block groups in the United States. There are usually between 600 and 3,000 people living in a census block group.

Guides/Tools
- **The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)**
  - App Question Builder also online
• Collection of health literacy tools and resources,
  • Use the Teach- Back Method The teach-back method is a way of checking understanding by asking patients to state in their own words

• Health Literacy Toolkit The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) and The American Library Association (ALA) have partnered through the Libraries Transform public awareness campaign to create a free toolkit to help library professionals raise awareness of how libraries provide trusted health information to their communities.

Videos

• Health Literacy and Patient Safety: Help patients Understand, American Medical Association’s (AMA) video was part of a AMA health literacy educational toolkit developed in 2010. (23 min) Short version (4 min) In their own words.....
• Misunderstanding of Inhaler Use Dr. House
• Patients Matter Video Series FDA video series
• Words Matter Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Excellence in Healthcare Communication

Miscellaneous – various resources from multiple sources


• Letty’s Story When Gaps Become Sinkholes By Geri Lynn Baumblatt & Teresa Wagner Copyright © 2019 Association for Patient Experience Blog, Sept. 03, 2019


• NY Times: Dec. 21, 2018 This type of illiteracy can hurt you? Comments from NY Times Article 245 comments

• NIH Health News
  • For wellness toolkits

• Health Literacy Calgary Charter Rationale and Core Principles for the Development of Health Literacy Curricula

Pictograms

• The Noun Project
• USP Pictograms
• PictureRx: Illustrated Medication Instructions for Patients with Limited Health Literacy

October is Health Literacy Month (2019)

• Helen Osborne founded Health Literacy Month in 1999. The theme she created for Health Literacy Month is “Be a Health Literacy Hero.”

• NLM and All of Us Health Literacy Month National Health Observances for October
o NNLM Book Club  The NNLM All of Us Community Engagement Network is pleased to announce its three book selections in support of Health Literacy.

o National Prescription Take Back Day  Program in a Box

- **Health Literacy Discussion List.** Institute for Healthcare Advancement A great resource to ask questions, exchange information, and hear from others in situations like your own.

- **Achieving Value in Health Care Through Health Literacy**  To kick off Health Literacy Month, AHRQ researcher Cindy Brach and Dr. Bernard Rosof, talk about how health systems must address health literacy to be successful in the value-based payment environment.

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