# VALNET_logo1

# Health Literacy Resources

# Developed by

# Janet Schneider

# Updated by:

**Mason Baldwin**

**Jessie Casella**

**Lucinda Edwards**

**Jennifer Pickerell**

**Thomas Keeler**

**Jane Rish**

# on behalf of the

#

# CONSUMER HEALTH LIBRARY PANEL

# September 2018

**Health Literacy Resources**

Health literacy is a complex issue that effects a patient’s safety, overall health and impacts healthcare spending ([National Network of Libraries of Medicine: Health Literacy](https://nnlm.gov/initiatives/topics/health-literacy)).

The following resources have been compiled by the VHA librarians and library technicians to assist VHA staff in working more effectively with our Veteran patients. They include health literacy materials, readability formulas, free resources for pictograms and graphics, and sites that assist in writing low-literacy patient education materials.

The guide is divided into the following sections:

 [Health Literacy Books ………………………………………………………………….3](#HealthLiteracyBooks)

 [Health Literacy Bibliographies ………………………………………………………...3](#HealthLiteracyBibliographies)

 [Health Literacy Websites ………………………………………………………………4](#HealthLiteracyWebsites)

 [Development of Patient Education Materials ……………………………………...…6](#DevelopmentofPatientEducationMaterials)

 [Readability Tools …………………. ……………………………………………………8](#ReadabilityFormulasforMaterials)

 [Literacy Assessment Tools …………………………………………………………….9](#LiteracyAssessmentTools)

 [Free Health Clip Art, Graphics and Other Illustrations …..………………………...10](#FreeHealthClipArtGraphicsandOtherIllus)

 [Online Videos for Professionals 10](#OnlineVideosforProfessionals)

 [Online Videos for Patients 11](#OnlineVideosforPatients)

 [VA/LNO Resources 12](#LNOVAResources)

“Put it before them briefly so they will read it, clearly so they will appreciate it, picturesquely so they will remember it, and above all, accurately so they will be guided by its light.”—*An Adventure with a Genius: Recollections of Joseph Pulitzer.*

Health Literacy Books

Alper, Joe. [Health literacy: past, present, and future: workshop summary](https://lccn.loc.gov/2016304698). Roundtable on Health Literacy, Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine, The National Academies of Science, Engineering, Medicine. The National Academies Press. ISBN 9780309371544. 2015.

# [Health Literacy, eHealth, and Communication: Putting the Consumer First: Workshop Summary](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12474). Roundtable on Health Literacy, Institute of Medicine. National Academies Press. ISBN 0309126428. 2009.

[**Health Literacy Month Handbook: The Event Planning Guide for Health Literacy Advocates**](https://healthliteracy.com/2015/04/22/health-literacy-month-handbook-the-event-planning-guide-for-health-literacy-advocates/)*.* This handbook helps with creating, planning, running, and evaluating health literacy month events. Follow the directions at the bottom of the webpage for getting a free copy.

Kline, Jo. [**The 60-Minute Guide to Health Literacy: A common sense approach to informed medical decision making**](https://www.amazon.com/60-MINUTE-GUIDE-HEALTH-LITERACY-approach-ebook/dp/B075NM1324/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1537969312&sr=8-1&keywords=The+60-Minute+Guide+to+Health+Literacy%3A+A+common+sense+approach+to+informed+medical+decision+making)**.** Providentia Publishing. ISBN 9780692955062. 2017.

Logan, Robert & Siegel, Elliot. [**Health literacy: new directions in research, theory and practice**](https://lccn.loc.gov/2017955590). IOS Press. ISBN (Hardcover) 9781614997894. ISBN (Web) 9781614997900. 2017.

Osborne, Helen. [Health Literacy From A To Z: Practical Ways to Communicate Your Health 2nd Edition](https://lccn.loc.gov/2017919656). Health Literacy Press. ISBN 9781947937130. 2018.

Parnell, Terri Ann. [Health literacy in nursing: providing person-centered care. Springer Publishing](https://lccn.loc.gov/2014010967). ISBN 9780826161727. 2014.

[Plain Language Pediatrics: Health Literacy Strategies and Communication Resources for Common Pediatric Topics](https://lccn.loc.gov/2008931202). American Academy of Pediatrics. ISBN1581102658. 2009.

Health Literacy Bibliographies

[**Health Literacy (Current Bibliographies in Medicine 2000-2001)**](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/archive/20061214/pubs/cbm/hliteracy.html)

 Each bibliography in the Current Bibliographies in Medicine (CBM) series covers a distinct subject area of biomedicine and is intended to fulfill a current awareness function. Citations are usually derived from searching a variety of online databases, including MEDLINE®, AVLINE®, BIOETHICSLINE®, CANCERLIT®, CATLINE®, HEALTHSTARtm, POPLINEtm, and TOXLINE®. The only criterion for the inclusion of a particular published work is its relevance to the topic being presented; the format, ownership, or location of the material is not considered. This bibliography covers January 1990 through October 1999.

[**Health Literacy and Cultural Competence (National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology (NICHSR)**](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hsrinfo/health_literacy.html)

A specialized search for published research in PubMed has been developed to help inform investigations of health literacy. An extensive list of health literacy resources is also featured on this website.

[**Improving Health Literacy: Training Resources**](https://guides.lib.umich.edu/c.php?g=283033&p=1885790)

 From the University of Michigan this research guide provides annotated reference lists for: training resources, assessment tools, plain language and numeracy.

[**Understanding Health Literacy and Its Barriers**](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/archive/20040830/pubs/cbm/healthliteracybarriers.html)

 Part of the National Library of Medicine’s “Current Bibliographies in Medicine” series, this covers January 1998 through November 2003 and contains 651 citations.

Health Literacy Websites

[**AHRQ Health Literacy**](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJlbWFpbCI6ImRpYW5hLmFraW5zQHZhLmdvdiIsImJ1bGxldGluX2xpbmtfaWQiOiIxMDAiLCJzdWJzY3JpYmVyX2lkIjoiNjAwMzM1NDYyIiwibGlua19pZCI6IjI0NDY2NDU5MSIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpkaWdlc3QiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5haHJxLmdvdi9wcm9mZXNzaW9uYWxzL3F1YWxpdHktcGF0aWVudC1zYWZldHkvcGF0aWVudC1mYW1pbHktZW5nYWdlbWVudC9wZmVwcmltYXJ5Y2FyZS9pbmRleC5odG1sIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDE4MDgyNC45NDA1Mjg1MSJ9.q-GxdMMfgMt0_syWG2RTnmbGpljtv84R5kM2Ttx4R3g)

 The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has developed many resources for health literacy including:

* Tools for Health Care Professionals, Delivery Organizations, and Systems
* Professional Education and Training
* Patient Education Resources
* Assessing the Patient Experience
* Health Information Technology
* Tools for Researchers
* Articles, Papers, and Reports
* Podcasts and Videos
* Impact Case Studies

# [Ask Me 3](http://www.npsf.org/?page=askme3)

 Ask Me 3 is a patient education program that encourages patients and families to ask three specific questions of their providers to better understand their health conditions and what they need to do to stay healthy. The site includes presentation tool kits for professionals and patients, fact sheets, brochures, statistics, logos and guidelines, and more.

[**CDC: Health Literacy**](https://www.cdc.gov/healthliteracy/)

 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed a website that includes planning, collaborating, developing and testing for improved health literacy as well as guidelines and research.

[**Demand to Understand**](https://sites.google.com/site/demandtounderstand/home)

The Center for Plain Language has been working to fix brain-numbing language by supporting laws that will make Plain Language the law of the land, and by training writers who want to be understood. Videos demonstrate the hazards of convoluted language; viewers can sign a petition urging plain language in all documents and learn more about plain language.

[**Health Literacy: A Prescription to End Confusion**](http://www.nap.edu/read/10883/chapter/1)

The Institutes of Medicine’s Committee on Health Literacy documents the health literacy problem and describes its origins, consequences, and solutions. Published in 2004, this online book is often cited in health literacy studies and guides.

[**Health Literacy: Accurate, Accessible, and Actionable Health Information for All**](http://www.cdc.gov/healthliteracy/)

 This web site provides information and tools to improve health literacy and public health. These resources are for all organizations that interact and communicate with people about health, including public health departments, healthcare providers and facilities, health plans, government agencies, non-profit/community and advocacy organizations, childcare and schools, the media, and health-related industries.

[**Health Literacy and Cultural Competency**](http://www.ahrq.gov/browse/hlitix.htm)

 The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has compiled this page of links to consumer information, evidence reports, tools, and more.

#

# [Health Literacy Month](http://www.healthliteracymonth.org/)

 October is Health Literacy Month, and this site provides facts, articles, links, logos and posters, fact sheets, suggestions for programs and campaigns, ongoing programs, and more. This website is sponsored by the Institute for Healthcare Advancement.

**[Health Literacy Practices in Primary Care Settings: Examples From the Field](https://www.commonwealthfund.org/sites/default/files/documents/___media_files_publications_fund_report_2008_jan_health_literacy_practices_in_primary_care_settings__examples_from_the_field_barrett_hltliteracypracticesprimarycaresettingsexamplesfield_1093_pdf.pdf)**

 This report funded by the Commonwealth Fund and Kaiser Permanente, identifies health literacy practices that providers commonly use to improve communication with patients during clinical visits.

[**Joint Commission: Speak Up**](http://www.jointcommission.org/speakup.aspx)

 The Joint Commission’s revamped Speak Up program is a patient safety initiative to encourages patients to ask questions of their health care providers. A variety of copyright-free pamphlets on medical and surgical care, pain management, patients’ rights, and more are available at the site.

[**National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy**](http://www.health.gov/communication/HLActionPlan/pdf/Health_Literacy_Action_Plan.pdf)

 The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has compiled this report with seven goals and multiple strategies to improve the national health literacy rate.

# [National Network of Libraries of Medicine—Health Literacy](http://nnlm.gov/outreach/consumer/hlthlit.html)

 Health literacy is highlighted in a chapter from “Consumer Health: An Online Manual,” written for librarians. Contents include definition, skills needed for health literacy, background, role of the consumer health librarian, support, health literacy organizations and programs, bibliographies and webliographies, and health literacy listservs.

[**Pharmacy Health Literacy Center**](http://pharmacyhealthliteracy.ahrq.gov/sites/PharmHealthLiteracy/default.aspx)

 The Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality (AHRQ) provides pharmacists with recently-released health literacy tools and other resources, including a discussion group for them to exchange ideas and experiences with peers about health literacy challenges.

# [PlainLanguage.gov](https://www.plainlanguage.gov/)  (VA access works in Chrome but not Internet Explorer)

 This government web site offers information on the Plain Language initiative through examples, guidelines for content and layout in documents, an online tutorial, and numerous resources including links to writing tools.

# [Program for Readability In Science & Medicine (PRISM)](http://www.grouphealthresearch.org/about-us/capabilities/research-communications/prism)

 The Program for Readability In Science & Medicine (PRISM) is a Group Health Research Institute initiative to improve the readability of consent forms and other print materials used in communication with study participants. Established in 2005, PRISM’s suite of resources includes [The PRISM Readability Toolkit](https://www.kpwashingtonresearch.org/files/1814/1062/9858/PRISM_readability_toolkit.pdf), plain language editing and consultation, and online and in-person training workshops.

[**Staying Healthy: An English Learner’s Guide to Health Care and Healthy Living**](http://www.floridaliteracy.org/health_literacy_curriculum.html)

 Staying Healthy is an award-winning curriculum that is used throughout the United States. It is written at a 4th-5th grade reading level and is suitable for low intermediate level ESOL learners and above. The newly-released Staying Healthy for Beginners is written at a lower reading level, making it more accessible to learners at the high beginning level.

##

## Development of Patient Education Materials

[**Clear Communication: Clear & Simple**](https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/clear-communication/clear-simple)

From the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Clear & Simple provides the steps to creating patient education materials who have limited literacy skills.

[**Health Literacy: Develop & Test Materials**](https://www.cdc.gov/healthliteracy/developmaterials/index.html)

 From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) this toolkit includes sections on guidelines, tools, testing, visual communication resources, and understanding your audience.

[**Health Literacy Discussion List**](http://www.iha4health.org/our-services/health-literacy-discussion-list/http%3A/www.iha4health.org/our-services/health-literacy-discussion-list/)

This listserv currently has over 1,500 members who post about their experiences and questions about health literacy. This is a helpful group to get feedback on developing patient education materials.

[**Health Literacy for Public Health Professionals**](https://www.train.org/cdctrain/course/1078759/)

 This one hour training provides free CEUs for a variety of professions. The training provides health professionals information on what health literacy is and how it can be improved.

[**Health Literacy Online: A Guide to Writing and Designing Easy-to-Use Health Web Sites**](http://www.health.gov/healthliteracyonline/)

 The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) is pleased to present [Health Literacy Online](http://www.health.gov/healthliteracyonline/), a how-to guide for web managers and professionals. Health Literacy Online includes research-based recommendations and examples to help you create clear, user-friendly health websites.

[**Health Literacy Style Manual**](http://www.coveringkidsandfamilies.org/resources/docs/stylemanual.pdf)

 The Maximus Center for Health Literacy developed this guide for the Southern Institute for Children and Families. The manual includes information on appropriate use of plain language, formatting and styling, sample forms for evaluation of materials, field testing, and translation issues.

[**Plain Language: Getting Started or Brushing Up**](https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/clear-communication/plain-language/plain-language-getting-started-or-brushinghttps%3A/www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/clear-communication/plain-language/plain-language-getting-started-or-brushing)

From the National Institutes of Health, this training resource consists of sections to help develop plain language skills including: Before You Start Writing, Connecting with Your Readers, Presenting Your Information, Formatting and Visual Clarity, and Testing and Revising.

[**Plain Language Medical Dictionary Widget**](http://www.lib.umich.edu/plain-language-dictionary)

 The librarians at the Taubman Health Sciences Library, University of Michigan, have developed a widget that can be placed on web sites. The widget translates medical language into plain language.

**[The Plain Language Thesaurus](https://www.orau.gov/hsc/HealthCommWorks/MessageMappingGuide/resources/CDC%20Plain%20Language%20Thesaurus%20for%20Health%20Communication.pdf)**

 Compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Marketing, its aim is to make health information clear and easy to understand. This thesaurus offers plain language equivalents to medical terms, phrases, and references that are often used. This thesaurus is a tool to help clinicians find words that people may understand better.

[**Quick Guide to Health Literacy and Older Adults**](https://health.gov/communication/literacy/quickguide/Quickguide.pdf)

 From Health.gov this resource includes fact sheets about health literacy and plain language, strategies for developing patient education materials, and resources for further reading.

[**Simply Put: Tips for Creating Easy-to-Read Print Materials Your Audience Will Want to Read**](http://www.cdc.gov/healthliteracy/pdf/Simply_Put.pdf)

 This guide from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is designed to help translate complicated scientific and technical information into material that captures and keeps the interest of your intended audience.

[**Toolkit for Making Written Material Clear and Effective**](http://www.cms.gov/WrittenMaterialsToolkit/)

 From the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), this 11-part toolkit provides a detailed and comprehensive set of tools to help educators make written material in printed formats easier for people to read, understand, and use. While the guidelines and advice offered are geared to the needs of CMS audiences, most of them reflect general principles for effective communication of information that can be applied to *any* audience.

[**Useability.gov**](https://www.usability.gov/)

 This is a one-stop source for government web designers to learn how to make websites more usable, useful, and accessible. The site addresses a broad range of factors that go into web design and development.

[**The Universal Language of Pain**](https://www.universallanguageofpain.com/)

From Thai Health and Mercedes Benz, this collection of images represents different types of pain that can be translated across language barriers.

[**Universal Symbols In Health Care Workbook: Best Practice for Sign Systems**](https://www.complianceonline.com/articlefiles/Universal%20Symbols%20in%20Healthcare%20Workbook%20Best%20Practices.pdf)

 From Hablamos Juntos, SEGD, and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, this summary explores universal symbols to help patients navigate the hospital. The symbols can also be used in patient education materials.

## Readability Tools

**[OnlineUtility.org Readability Test](https://www.online-utility.org/english/readability_test_and_improve.jsp)**

This site uses a tool to test the readability of a portion of text. Paste a section of text into the reading area and click Process Text. Find the Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level number, which states the reading level of the text. The aim is for a fifth-grade reading level. This site also processes the text against other readability tools, and will also provide a word count and suggestions for simplifying the readability of the text, if desired.

**[Readability on Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Readability&oldid=861496611)**

A good, thorough background on readability includes information on the Flesch-Kincaid formula, the SMOG formula, and the FORCAST formula, developed for the U.S. military. Wikipedia contributors. (2018, September 27). Readability. In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 11:46, October 3, 2018.

[**PMOSE/IKIRSCH Document Readability Formula**](https://cdn1.sph.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/135/2012/09/pmose.pdf)

A readability tool named PMOSE/IKIRSCH, after its creators. This tool to evaluates text in fragmented or unusual formats, such as bulleted lists, tables, or nutrition labels.

[**Test Your Document’s Readability**](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/test-your-document-s-readability-85b4969e-e80a-4777-8dd3-f7fc3c8b3fd2?ocmsassetID=HP010148506&CorrelationId=91299715-9cb8-4c49-a61e-f4895d5e232a&ui=en-US&rs=en-US&ad=US)

This is an article published by Microsoft on readability and how to check for readability in Microsoft Outlook or Microsoft Word.

## Literacy Assessment Tools

**[Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Health Literacy Measurement Tools](https://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/quality-resources/tools/literacy/index.html)**

AHRQ’s Health Literacy Measurement Tools support the assessment of health literacy in speakers of English and Spanish.

[**Short Assessment of Health Literacy-Spanish and English(SAHL-E&S).**](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20500222)

This instrument tests the subject’s comprehension as well as pronunciation (decoding) of health-related terms. The tests are comparable in English and Spanish, with good reliability and validity in both languages. This tool unavailable directly through the VA and needs to be requested through the library.

[**Rapid Estimate of Adult Literacy in Medicine-Short (REALM-SF)**](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=18049342)

REALM is a 7 item work recognition test to provide clinicians with a valid, quick assessment of patient health literacy. The REALM-SF has been validated and field tested in diverse research settings. This tool unavailable directly through the VA and needs to be requested through the library.

[**Short Test of Functional Health Literacy In Adults (S-TOFHLA)**](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26444506)

This tool measures various levels of health literacy. This tool unavailable directly through the VA and needs to be requested through the library.

[**All Aspects of Health Literacy (AAHLS)**](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=23206659)

This is a tool to measure function, communicative and critical health literacy in primary Healthcare settings. Principle scale items loaded on four factors, corresponding to skills in using written health information, communication with health providers, health information management and appraisal assertion of individual autonomy regards to health. This tool unavailable directly through the VA and needs to be requested through the library.

[**Health Literacy Tool Shed**](http://healthliteracy.bu.edu/)

## **The Health Literacy Tool Shed** is an online database of health literacy measures. The site contains information about measures, including their psychometric properties, based on a review of the peer-reviewed literature. [Read more about the Tool Shed's goals and criteria](http://healthliteracy.bu.edu/about)

## Free Health Clip Art, Graphics and Other Illustrations

NOTE: While the graphics and images may be free, certain restrictions may be noted at the sites. Please be sure to follow all copyright guidelines when using the images.

# [USP Pictograms](http://www.usp.org/health-quality-safety/usp-pictograms)

The USP’s pictograms are images in .gif or .eps format representing proper ways to take or store medications, precautions, or other important information about a medication that a health care provider should provide to his or her patient. You must register to use the site.

# [National Cancer Institute Visuals Online](http://visualsonline.cancer.gov/)

 The NCI Visuals Online database contains images from the collections of the Communication Services Branch and Mass Media Office of the Office of Communications, National Cancer Institute. The collection spans everything from biomedical, science, and patient-care related illustrations and provides public access to over 3,600 images.

# [National Eye Institute Photos, Images, and Videos](http://www.nei.nih.gov/photo/)

The NEI provides photos and images on eye anatomy, disease simulations, clinician/patient interactions, and more.

# [Health on the Net Foundation Media](http://www.hon.ch/cgi-bin/HONmedia)

HONmedia is a unique repository of over 6800 medical images and videos, pertaining to 1,700 topics and themes. This database has been created manually by HON and new image links are constantly being added.

## Online Videos for Professionals

**[This is Bad Enough](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3tJ-MXqPmk)**

 Short YouTube video of Elspeth Murray reading her poem “This Is Bad Enough” which urges healthcare providers to speak plainly.

[**Scott Ratzan Defines Health Communication**](http://sk.sagepub.com/video/scott-ratzan-defines-health-communication?fromsearch=true)

 Dr. Scott Ratzan speaks about the evolution of health communication and outlines how he developed the Journal of Health Communication. He believes doctors have an ethical duty to use communication to improve the environment and communities, in addition to the lives of individual patients.

[**Health Literacy: A Prescription to End Confusion**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iCvQyRhpI4Q)

Patients testimonials about their experiences on understanding prescriptions labels.

## Online Videos for Patients

[**My HealtheVet Veterans Health Library**](http://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/)

The Veterans Health Library is designed and available to all Veterans, their family members, and the public, no matter where the Veteran receives care. It covers topics like wellness, heart and lung problems, diabetes, mental health, senior health, and rehabilitation. It provides a rich variety of trusted and consistent health information for Veterans, including attractive and colorful 'Go-To Guides,' a library of more than 150 videos and more than 1,500 printable health and medication information sheets in both English and Spanish.

**[Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality](https://www.ahrq.gov/patients-consumers/index.html)**

 AHRQ has a growing list of videos and podcasts geared to help patients take part in their health care experience. Some information is available in Spanish.

[**Healthy Roads Media**](http://www.healthyroadsmedia.org/)

This site contains free health education materials in a number of languages and a variety of formats, including audio, video and print. Some of the videos are offered free through the Free Media Library. Most are available at a low cost. There is an extensive handout collection that includes many free materials.

[**MedlinePlus: Videos and Tools**](https://medlineplus.gov/videosandcooltools.html)

 Patients can view health videos on topics such as anatomy, body systems, and surgical procedures. The website includes health check tools interactive tutorials and games, and calculators and quizzes. The Surgery Video tab provides links to pre-recorded webcasts of surgical procedures. These are actual operations performed at medical centers in the United States since January 2004. Caution should be used when recommending them to patients due to the graphic content. The National Library of Medicine (NLM) also presents a weekly audio/podcast update that highlights consumer health news.

[**Stanford Health Library**](http://healthlibrary.stanford.edu/videolibrary/index.html)

 Videos on a variety of health topics including cancer, dental, surgery, wellness and more. Videos play in Google Chrome but not IE.

**Go4Life**

Created by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), Go4Life offers free sample work out videos aimed at older adults to help with endurance, strength and balance.

**LNO/VA Resources**

[**My HealtheVet Veterans Health Library**](http://www.veteranshealthlibrary.va.gov/)

The Veterans Health Library is designed and available to all Veterans, their family members, and the public, no matter where the Veteran receives care. It covers topics like wellness, heart and lung problems, diabetes, mental health, senior health, and rehabilitation. It provides a rich variety of vetted health information for Veterans, including colorful 'Go-To Guides,' a library of more than 150 videos and more than 1,500 printable health and medication information sheets in both English and Spanish. The reading level of patient materials in this resource is 7th-8th grade. Patient materials are available in English and Spanish.

[**Clinical Key and Clinical Key for Nursing**](https://www.va.gov/LIBRARY/Find_a_Database.asp)

This resource is evidence-based, peer reviewed, and authored predominately by Elsevier Interactive Patient Education. There are over 15,000 educational handouts. Standard patient education materials are written at 5th grade through 8th grade reading levels. Additionally, there are 'Easy-to-Read' handouts are written at a 2nd to 4th grade reading level. Patient materials are available in both English and Spanish.

[**Access Databases**](https://www.va.gov/LIBRARY/Find_a_Database.asp)

These databases include AccessEmergency Medicine, AccessMedicine, AccessPharmacy, and AccessSurgery. There are 5,000 topics listed under acute advisor, adult advisor, medicines advisor, and pediatric advisor. Patient handouts can be customized with a logo or personal message to patient handouts. The reading level is specified as “laymen’s terms.” VA materials are in English.

**[Joanna Briggs Institute](https://www.va.gov/LIBRARY/Find_a_Database.asp)**

Joanna Briggs Institute(JBI) is evidence-based resource that includes the JBI Pamphlet Builder which allows users to create consumer education pamphlet from specialized predetermined topics. The customization is limited but users are able to add hospital information. The reading level for JBI patient materials goes up to 10th grade. Materials are available in English only.

[**LexiComp Online for Dentistry**](https://www.va.gov/LIBRARY/Find_a_Database.asp)

There is a patient education module with information on medications OTCs, herbal products, conditions, and/or procedures. Over 7,500 patient leaflets are available in reading levels of 5th – 7th grade. English and Spanish and medication leaflets available in up to 19 languages.

[**VisualDX**](https://www.va.gov/LIBRARY/Find_a_Database.asp)

VisualDX includes Patient handouts, listed as “Information for Patients”, of over 200 common diseases and medical images. Patient materials can be customized. Patient materials are at a 5th grade reading level and available in English and Spanish.

[**EBSCO CINAHL**](https://www.va.gov/LIBRARY/Find_a_Database.asp)

This resource includes consumer health information from a variety of publications. Select "Consumer Health” from Journal Subset to access patient materials.

Reading level depends on magazine/journal. English and selected languages are available.