

WEBSITES FOR HEALTH INFORMATION



BASIC INFORMATION

DESCRIPTION

People who look for health and medical information have many choices on the World Wide Web. It is important to know the source and if it is reliable. Look at the web page address. The following types of addresses often have excellent websites:

- Addresses that end in *.gov* are hosted by the U.S. government.
- Addresses that end in *.org* are hosted by nonprofit organizations, such as the American Heart Association.
- Addresses ending in *.edu* are provided by universities.

Websites that advertise products (*.com*) can be good sources for medical information also, but should be read with some caution. It is often helpful to compare several different web resources on the same topic.

Information obtained from the Web is not a substitute for your health care provider's instructions and advice. Words on the computer screen can not replace the knowledge and experience that your health care provider can share with you.

SELECTED WEB SITES

This is a selected list of websites that provide medical information. There are also many others (sponsored by different types of organizations) that are useful for valid and quality medical information, patient education materials, and helpful ideas for managing your health.

- **CancerNet (National Cancer Institute)**
www.cancernet.nci.nih.gov

A source of current cancer information for patients and anyone interested in learning more about this topic.

- **Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Division of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention**
www.cdc.gov/nchstp/dstd/dstdp.html

Provides information on specific diseases. An excellent starting point for finding reliable STD facts.

- **Family Doctor**
www.familydoctor.org

The American Academy of Family Physicians provides information for general educational purposes for the whole family. All of the information has been written and reviewed by physicians and patient education professionals.

- **American Dental Association**
www.ada.org/public//index.asp

The American Dental Association provides information on a variety of topics about your teeth and oral health. They include topics such as Anxiety about dental visits.

- **Healthfinder**
www.healthfinder.gov

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services along with other federal agencies designed this web site as a gateway to consumer health information. It provides access to selected online publications, clearinghouses, databases, web sites, and support and self-help groups. It also links to government agencies and not-for-profit organizations that produce reliable information for the public. Resources in Spanish are located in the section, "espanol."

- **Medem**
www.medem.com

Medem is the web site project of several organizations—including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. It is a comprehensive and trusted source of health care content on the Internet.

- **Medlineplus**
www.medlineplus.gov

A web site established by the National Library of Medicine, the world's largest biomedical library and creator of the Medline database. An alphabetical list of medical and health topics consists of hundreds of specific diseases, conditions and wellness issues. Health information in Spanish is also included.

- **National Women's Health Information Center (NWHIC)**
www.4woman.gov

A project of the Office on Women's Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). NWHIC is a gateway to women's health information resources that allows visitors to read and download a wide variety of materials developed by federal government agencies, and private sector resources.

- **Mayo Clinic**
www.mayoclinic.com

Sponsored by the Mayo Clinic, this site offers general information about health and medical topics. New information is added daily.

- **National Health Information center**
www.health.gov/nhic

This site is run by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It provides links to many organizations that have information about specific medical topics.

Special notes:

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