

Free Information Resources Bulletin
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American International Health Alliance
LRC Project
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The **Free Information Resources Bulletin** is intended to promote improved access for healthcare institutions and professionals, with an emphasis on resources available in English. This bimonthly Bulletin provides information on different types of publications – manuals, monographs, books, journals, CD-ROMs and other resources – available for free in hardcopy or electronic format for healthcare professionals from countries with developing economies.

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Your input on new free information resources will be greatly appreciated.

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- Medical - free Health and Hospital Information System

URL: http://www.who.int/goe/publications/ehealth_series_vol2/en/index.html

Essential Drugs – Practical Guidelines (2010)

Author: Médecins Sans Frontières. Edited by Jacques Pinel, Françoise Weiss, Myriam Henkens and Véronique Grouzard

Description: The WHO department of Essential Drugs and Other Medicines (EDM) works with countries, international agencies, NGOs and other organizations to ensure that people everywhere have access to the essential drugs they need at a price which is affordable; that the drugs are safe, effective, and of good quality; and that they are prescribed and used rationally. Designed to give practical, concise information to physicians, pharmacists and nurses, these guidelines are an important contribution to improve the rational use of drugs, which will be a continuing challenge in the coming years.

How to obtain: Available online as PDF file [362p.]

URL: http://www.refbooks.msf.org/msf_docs/en/Essential_drugs/ED_en.pdf

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BOOKS/REPORTS

Performance-Based Contracting for Health Services in Developing Countries: A Toolkit (2008)

Author: Benjamin Loevinsohn. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank

Description: Performance-based contracting is a type of contracting with: (a) a clear set of objectives and indicators; (b) systematic efforts to collect data to judge contractor performance; and (c) some consequences for the contractor, either rewards or sanctions, based on performance. Effective contracting for health services can be facilitated by using a systematic approach, described in this toolkit, that addresses key issues, including how to: 1. have a constructive dialogue with all stakeholders; 2. define the health services in terms of what services are to be delivered, where, the quantity of beneficiaries to be served, equity, and quality of care; 3. design the monitoring and evaluation to judge the performance of contractors; 4. select the contractors in a fair and transparent way; 5. arrange for effective contract management; 6. draft the contract and bidding documents; and 7. carry out the bidding process and successfully manage the contracts. The toolkit also includes a review of 14 evaluated examples of contracting in developing countries which concludes that the current weight of evidence indicates that contracting improves the coverage and quality of services rapidly.

How to obtain: Available online as PDF file [226p.]

URL: <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTHSD/Resources/topics/415176-1216235459918/ContractingEbook.pdf>

Bridging the gap: The role of monitoring and evaluation in evidence-based policy making (2008)

Author: UNICEF, the World Bank and the International Development Evaluation Association

Description: This publication offers a number of strong contributions from senior officers in institutions dealing with evidence-based policy making. These institutions are national and local governments, UNICEF, the World Bank and the International Development Evaluation Association. It tries to bring together the vision and lessons learned from different stakeholders on the strategic role of monitoring and evaluation in evidence-based policy making. “The concept of ‘evidence-based policy making’ has been gaining currency over recent years. The use of strong evidence can make a difference to policy making in at least five ways: Achieve recognition of a policy issue; Inform the

design and choice of policy; Forecast the future ; Monitor policy implementation; Evaluate policy impact....."

How to obtain: Available online as PDF file [220p.]

URL: http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/evidence_based_policy_making.pdf

Will It Work Here? A Decision maker's Guide to Adopting Innovations (2008)

Author: Cindy Brach, Nancy Lenfestey, Amy Roussel, Jacqueline Amoozegar, and Asta Sorenson

Description: "...The Guide helps users determine if an innovation would be a good fit—or an appropriate stretch—for their health care organization by asking a series of questions. It links users to actionable Web-based tools and presents case studies that illustrate how other organizations have addressed these questions. Users will be able to answer the four overarching questions the Guide poses: Does this innovation fit? Should we do it here? Can we do it here? How can we do it here?" Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and RTI International. AHRQ Publication No. 08-0051

How to obtain: Available online as PDF file [116p.]

URL: <http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/resources/InnovationAdoptionGuide.pdf>

Guidelines for Systematic Reviews of Health Promotion and Public Health Interventions (2007)

Author: Rebecca Armstrong, Elizabeth Waters

Description: "These guidelines complement Sections 3 to 11 of the Cochrane Reviewers' Handbook. The content has been prepared by health promotion and public health researchers, decision-makers and practitioners experienced with both the use and conduct of systematic reviews. While these guidelines were originally developed to support the conduct of systematic reviews, they are also important for the conduct of primary research and for more informal reviews of research evidence. Many of the topics may not be unique to health promotion and public health reviews, but they are issues that are important in enabling research to be used in public health policy and practice decision making."

How to obtain: Available online as PDF file [52p.]

URL:

http://ph.cochrane.org/sites/ph.cochrane.org/files/uploads/Guidelines%20HP_PH%20reviews.pdf

Psychosocial Care and Counseling for HIV-Infected Children and Adolescents (2009)

Author: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Description: A training curriculum for health care providers to learn effective methods to care for and counsel HIV infected children and adolescents and their families.

How to obtain: Available online as PDF file [318p.]

URL:

<http://www.k4health.org/system/files/Psychosocial%20care%20and%20counseling%20for%20HIV%20infected%20children%20and%20adolescents%5B1%5D.pdf>

British National Formulary

Author: British Medical Association and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Description: The BNF aims to provide prescribers, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals with sound up-to-date information about the use of medicines. The BNF includes key information on the selection, prescribing, dispensing and administration of medicines. Medicines generally prescribed in the UK are covered and those considered less suitable for prescribing are clearly identified. Little or no information is included on medicines promoted for purchase by the public. New editions are published every 6 months.

Information on drugs is drawn from the manufacturers' product literature, medical and pharmaceutical literature, UK health departments, regulatory authorities, and professional bodies.

BNF.org was launched in June 2000. It provides free access to the complete text of the BNF to visitors based in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and to the developing countries including Zambia, Nigeria, Uganda, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Tanzania.

How to obtain: Registration for access to BNF at http://bnf.org/bnf/request_registration.htm

Recently outdated copies of the BNF and BNF for Children are collected by the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association for redistribution in low-income countries:
<http://www.commonwealthpharmacy.org/site/projects/pharmaid.htm>

URL: <http://bnf.org/bnf/>

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CD-ROM

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care in Resource-Constrained Settings: A Handbook for the Design and Management of Programs

Author: Family Health international

Description: The HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care in Resource-Constrained Settings: A Handbook for the Design and Management of Programs offers state of the art knowledge on designing and managing HIV/AIDS programs. The handbook is intended to be used by program managers, technical and programmatic field staff, the staffs of donor and international partner agencies, health care providers, and field researchers. Among the topics covered are: Reducing risk and vulnerability to HIV infection; Strengthening STD management and services; Reducing risk of HIV infection to infants; Reducing risk of parenteral transmission; Management and support of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS; Prospects for the future

How to obtain: To request a free copy of the handbook on CD-ROM, email aidspubs@fhi.org
Shipping charges may apply.

URL: <http://www.fhi.org/en/hivaids/pub/guide/hivaidspreventioncare.htm>

Topics in International Health

'Topics in International Health' is a unique series of educational materials for medical and life sciences students, their teachers and other healthcare professionals. Aspects of international and tropical health are presented on a range of CD-ROMs, each focusing on a disease (or group of diseases) of global significance. Currently there are 14 titles available in the Topics in International Health CD-ROM series.

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/index.htm>

Title: Acute respiratory infections (2001)

Description: This CD-ROM covers the range of acute respiratory infections (ARI) in young children in developing countries. An illustrated introduction to ARI in young children is provided by 11 interactive tutorials. The CD-ROM includes over 600 images. Download selected content at <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD039893.htm>

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD038758.htm>

Title: Dengue (2001)

Description: An illustrated introduction to dengue worldwide is provided through ten interactive tutorials. The CD-ROM includes over 750 images. developed in collaboration with the UNICEF-UNDP-World Bank-WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR). Download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD038751.htm>

Title: Diarrhoeal diseases (1998)

Description: This CD-ROM closely follows World Health Organization guidelines for the classification and management of this group of diseases. An illustrated introduction to diarrhoeal diseases is provided through 11 interactive tutorials. Complicated concepts in bowel immunology and pathophysiology are clearly explained using interactive graphics and animations. The CD-ROM contains over 700 images. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003550.htm>

Title: HIV/AIDS. Revised edition (2003)

Description: An illustrated introduction to HIV/AIDS in developing and developed countries is provided through 11 interactive tutorials. Complicated concepts such as the pathogenesis and management of HIV infection are clearly explained using interactive graphics and animations. The CD-ROM contains over 750 images, covering the major aspects of the epidemiology, pathogenesis, management and prevention of HIV/AIDS. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003551.htm>

Title: Human African Trypanosomiasis (2007)

Description: This title has been developed in collaboration with the UNICEF-UNDP-World Bank-WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR). 10 interactive tutorials. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTX038293.htm>

Title: Leishmaniasis (2000)

Description: An illustrated introduction to the clinical aspects, epidemiology, vector and host biology, and control of the leishmaniasis is provided through ten interactive tutorials. This CD-ROM covers the range of cutaneous and visceral manifestations of the disease, their clinical features, diagnosis and treatment, epidemiology, transmission and control. You can download selected content
The CD-ROM contains over 700 images.

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003552.htm>

Title: Leprosy (1998)

Description: This CD-ROM features the latest epidemiological data on leprosy and includes a comprehensive guide to all aspects of ocular leprosy. The CD-ROM contains over 900 images. The important aspects of leprosy are introduced and illustrated by ten interactive tutorials. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003553.htm>

Title: Malaria.3d edition (2007)

Description: This fully revised edition of 'Malaria' contains 13 interactive tutorials covering all the important aspects of malaria in depth. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003554.htm>

Title: Nutrition (2000)

Description: This CD-ROM covers 'protein-energy malnutrition' and major micronutrient deficiencies in the developing world, together with a summary of diet in relation to chronic disease worldwide. An illustrated introduction to the causes, epidemiology, treatment and prevention of malnutrition in developing countries is provided through 12 interactive tutorials. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003555.htm>

Title: Schistosomiasis (1998)

Description: An illustrated introduction to this parasitic disease is provided by 12 interactive tutorials. The CD-ROM contains over 550 images. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTX022227.htm>

Title: Sexually transmitted infections. 2nd edition (2003)

Description: The fully revised edition contains 18 interactive tutorials covering general aspects of the major sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in tropical areas. The CD-ROM contains approximately 600 images. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003557.htm>

Title: Sickle cell disease (1998)

Description: This title is based on extensive material from the Caribbean, Africa and the Mediterranean. All aspects of this complicated disease are covered by 16 interactive tutorials. The CD-ROM contains a collection of over 200 images. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003558.htm>

Title: Trachoma. 2nd edition (2006)

Description: A guide to trachoma and the SAFE strategy. The new edition, produced in collaboration with international partners, has been fully revised and expanded. It now includes coverage of the SAFE strategy for the elimination of blinding trachoma. CD-ROM provides an introduction to the diagnosis, control, prevention and treatment of trachoma through 11 interactive tutorials. The tutorials include objectives, self-assessment tests, a list of key references to encourage further reading and summary screens to reinforce the crucial points. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003559.htm>

Title: Tuberculosis (1998)

Description: Ten interactive tutorials provide an introduction to the important features of this major disease, its prevention and control. The CD-ROM contains over 600 images. You can download selected content

URL: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Publications/CD-ROMs/Topics-in-International-Health/WTD003560.htm>

How to obtain: The distributor of the CD-ROMs to users anywhere in the world is [Teaching-aids At Low Cost](#) (TALC). Prices to low- and middle-income countries are £3.50 plus postage per CD-ROM, or £45 plus postage for the complete set of 14 CDs. Prices to high-income countries are £10 plus postage per CD-ROM, or £130 for the complete set.

To place an order, please contact:

TALC
PO Box 49
St Albans
Herts AL1 5TX, UK info@talcuk.org

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SOFTWARE

Medical - free Health and Hospital Information System

Description: This version includes the basic inpatient (hospitalization) and outpatient functionality...: Today, Medical is being used in different countries around the world, such as Argentina, Nigeria and Indonesia. Medical is part of the GNU Solidario project . GNU Solidario is a NGO that delivers education and health solutions with free software.

URL: <http://medical.sourceforge.net/>

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<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/misc/publications/publication4>