

Health Literacy

Health literacy is a patient's ability to effectively understand information given to them about their health and wellbeing. Part of this practice requires an open line of communication between patients and healthcare professionals. Below you will find information and resources regarding health literacy and how to better your understanding of medical terms and practices. If you need more information please feel free to reach out to Verona Public Library at 608-845-7180.

Definitions of health literacy

[Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) Health Literacy Definition](#)

Why health literacy is important and what it means within U.S. medical terminology. Put together by the Center for Disease Control.

[National Institutes of Health \(NIH\) Health Literacy](#)

Discusses both personal and organizational health literacy. The NIH also has other resources as well as training and toolkits.

[Network of the National Library of Medicine \(NNLM\) Health Literacy and Low Health Literacy Definition](#)

NNLM has the definition as well as research and the effects of low health literacy.

Health Literacy Resources

[The Over-the-Counter Medicine Label \(FDA\)](#)

How to read medicine labels put together by the Food and Drug Administration.

[Understanding Medical Words Tutorial \(MedlinePlus\)](#)

Tutorials and quizzes on to better understand medical words. You can also download the tutorial as a PDF.

[Appendix A: Word Parts and What They Mean \(MedlinePlus\)](#)

A MedlinePlus medical terminology appendix on definitions for word parts.

[Appendix B: Some Common Abbreviations \(medical terminology\)](#)

A MedlinePlus medical terminology appendix on definitions of common abbreviations.

[Kids' Medical Dictionary \(Nemours\)](#)

A dictionary of medical definitions specifically made for children. Dictionary is put together by Nemours, a nonprofit children's health system.

[Figuring Out Health News \(Nemours\)](#)

An article about how to evaluate health information for Teens. The article is put together by Nemours, a nonprofit children's health system. They also have information on how to talk to your doctor and questions to ask your doctor.

Communicating with Healthcare Professionals

[Question Builder: Be Prepared for Your Next Medical Appointment \(Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality\)](#)

Go through a step-by-step process to prepare questions for your next healthcare appointment. A resource put together by the AHRQ.

[Talking With Your Doctor \(National Institute of Health\)](#)

A short article about how to prepare for a doctor's appointment and talk with your doctor. Put together by the National Institute of Health.

[Talking With Your Doctor \(Spanish\)](#)

A short article in Spanish about how to prepare for a doctor's appointment and talk with your doctor. Put together by the National Institute of Health.

[Tips for Talking to Your Doctor \(American Academy of Family Physicians\)](#)

Put together by the AAFP, this resource discusses tips and tricks for getting the most of your medical appointments.

[Tips for Talking to Your Doctor \(American Academy of Family Physicians\) \(Spanish\)](#)

Put together by the AAFP, this resource, in Spanish, discusses tips and tricks for getting the most of your medical appointments.

[Talking to Your Children's Doctor \(Nemours\)](#)

Put together by Nemours, a nonprofit children's health system. Discusses the doctor-patient relationship and how to communicate with your child's doctor.

MedlinePlus Topic Pages

MedlinePlus topic pages which hold many resources, videos, articles, and much more on different subjects listed below:

- [Health Literacy](#)
- [Evaluating Health Information](#)
- [Understanding Medical Research](#)
- [Talking With Your Doctor](#)
- [Easy-to-Read Articles \(on common health topics\)](#)

Websites with Consumer Health Information

[AHFS Consumer Medication Information](#)

Access granted by BadgerLink to Wisconsin residents. The database has information on medications as well as how to administer different medications.

[Consumer Health Complete](#)

Has magazine and journals, reference books, and medical images pertaining to consumer health topics. Access is granted by BadgerLink to Wisconsin residents.

[National Institutes of Health](#)

The National Institutes of Health is a part of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. You can find lots of health information available on their website.

[Medline Plus](#)

A part of the National Health Institutes. Has information on health topics, drugs, medical tests information, a medical encyclopedia, and video and tools.

[Nemours Foundation](#)

A nonprofit children's health system. It was created by Neil Izenberg, an MD physician at Nemours Health. Has health information available on parents, teens, kids and educators.