

The starter pack to a fountain of knowledge

In this series of articles, John Eyers has provided readers with links to a huge range of medical and health information available on the web. In this issue he's gone back to the basics and provides what he proposes as the 'essential reference list'.



It is now 3 years since I began writing on information resources for each issue of *Africa Health*, and in that time I have listed quite a few websites etc of particular relevance to health professionals in Africa. Perhaps it is now time to take stock and identify from these resources a selected list which could be considered for keeping at hand in an Internet browser's Favourites or Bookmarks file.

Listed below is a selection of Internet-based health and medical resources arranged according to subject or type of resource. If you consider any of these worthy of your Favorites file, the quickest way would be accessing online this issue of *Africa Health* (http://www.africa-health.com/latest_issues.html), identifying this article and clicking and adding each link you wish to keep in your Favorites file, or alternatively, adding the whole article. This will save typing out each URL from the print issue.

Gateway/Starting Points

Essential Health Links – <http://www.healthnet.org/essential-links/>
 Hinari – <http://www.who.int/hinari/en/>
 Africa (Stanford University) – <http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/health.html>
 Antwerp Institute of Tropical Medicine – <http://lib.itg.be/biblinks.htm#med>

Databases

Pubmed – <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>
 Popline – <http://www.popline.org/>
 Cochrane Library – <http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/index.html>
 Reproductive Health Library – <http://apps.who.int/rhl/en/>
 WHO Global Health Library – <http://www.globalhealthlibrary.net/php/index.php>
 TRIP Evidence – <http://www.tripdatabase.com/>
 Google Scholar – <http://scholar.google.co.uk/>

Discussion/Email Lists

HIFA2015 – <http://www.hifa2015.org/hifa2015-forum/>
 CHILD2015 – <http://www.hifa2015.org/child2015-forum/>
 Afro-Nets – <http://www.afronets.org/>

Full-text Articles/Books

Hinari – <http://www.who.int/hinari/en/>
 Pubmed Central – <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/>
 FreeMedicalJournals – <http://www.freemedicaljournals.com/>
 Highwire – <http://highwire.stanford.edu/lists/devecon.dtl>
 BMJ Journals – <http://group.bmj.com/group/customerservice/hinari/>
 Directory of Open-Access Journals – <http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=subject&cpid=20>
 BioMedCentral Journals – <http://www.biomedcentral.com/developingcountries/>
 FreeBooks4Doctors – <http://www.freebooks4doctors.com/>
 Hesperian Health Guides – <http://hesperian.org/books-and-resources/>

Data/Statistics

WHO Statistics – <http://www.who.int/research/en/>
 Demographic & Health Surveys – <http://www.measuredhs.com/>
 UNAIDS – <http://www.unaids.org/en/dataanalysis/>

As a member of HIFA2015 (<http://www.hifa2015.org/>), John Eyers believes one of the biggest challenges for improved health in less-developed countries is ensuring that equal access to appropriate and evidence-based health information is made available to all. To contact John email johneysers@hotmail.com

Continuing Education/Guidelines

Epidemiology Supercourse – <http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/>

International Guideline Library – <http://www.g-i-n.net/library/international-guidelines-library/>

WHO Guidelines – <http://www.who.int/publications/guidelines/en/index.html>

MSF Clinical Guidelines – http://www.refbooks.msf.org/MSF_Docs/En/Clinical_Guide/CG_en.pdf

Health Sciences Online – <http://hso.info>

African Open Education – <http://www.oerafrica.org/healthoer/FindOER/tabid/1862/Default.aspx>

Selected Specialties**Cardiology**

<http://emedicine.medscape.com/cardiology>

<http://www.procor.org/clinical/>

http://www.who.int/topics/cardiovascular_diseases/en

Child Health

<http://www.kznhealth.gov.za/chrp/guidelines.htm>

<http://www.ichrc.org/reviews.html>

http://emedicine.medscape.com/pediatrics_general

HIV/AIDS

http://www.who.int/topics/hiv_aids/en/index.html

<http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/InSite> <http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/hiv/index.php>

Infectious Diseases

<http://lib.itg.be/biblinks.htm#med>

http://www.who.int/topics/infectious_diseases/en/

http://emedicine.medscape.com/infectious_diseases/

Mental Health

http://www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/atlas/en/

<http://www.wfmh.com/01Links.htm>

Public Health

<http://www.thelancet.com/collections/public-health?collexcode=125>

http://www.who.int/workforcealliance/knowledge/region_afro/en/index.html

Reproductive/Sexual Health

<http://www.k4health.org/resources>

<http://www.arhp.org/publications-and-resources/core>

<http://www.pathfinder.org/publications-tools/>

<http://www.glowm.com/?p=glowm.cml/contents>

Surgery

<http://ptolemy.library.utoronto.ca/surgery-in-africa>

<http://www.medmatrix.org/SPages/Surgery.asp>

<http://www.surgical-tutor.org.uk/default-home.htm>

<http://www.who.int/surgery/publications/en/SCDH.pdf>

The one not to forget!
www.africa-health.com



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