Today’s Presenters

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Why Wikipedia Matters for Health and Medical Information

Wednesday, August 14 2019
Topics for Today

• Welcome and warm-up
• Finding the intersection of Wikipedia, libraries, and health information
• The inner workings of Wikipedia
• NNLM and public libraries
• Upcoming course: Wikipedia + Libraries: Health and Medical Information
Annotation Tools

1. Mouse over slide to find **small pill menu** at far left
2. Select top **squiggle icon** to open annotation tool panel
3. Select **square** icon
4. Select **check mark**
5. Click on slide **to practice**
What is your experience with Wikipedia?

☐ I look up information for patrons on Wikipedia
☐ I use Wikipedia to teach information literacy
☐ I help patrons find health and medical information on Wikipedia
☐ I have edited one or more Wikipedia articles
FINDING THE INTERSECTION OF WIKIPEDIA, LIBRARIES, AND HEALTH INFORMATION
What do we know about Wikipedia?
It’s immensely popular

- 5th most visited website
- Half billion visitors per month
- 21% daily Internet traffic
- 200 million pageviews per day
It’s an encyclopedia

• Tertiary reference
• Continuously reviewed and updated
• Focused on verifiability
And it’s a community

- Open to all
- Free to use
- No owners; crowd-sourced funding
- Community norms, not rules
How do libraries fit in?
Mission Alignment

“Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment.”

- Wikimedia Foundation vision
Wikipedian + librarian = Wikibrarian!

- Use in informational literacy training
- Advise faculty, school administrators
- Guide students and researchers
- Host editathons
- Add local knowledge
- Participate in #1lib1ref events
- Join Wikimedia projects
“Now I consider myself a [Wikipedia] convert. I am pushing its value to help students be critical consumers of information.”

– Denise Davis, Morton-James Public Library
What about health and medical information?
Wikipedia has health & medical articles

- 223,784 articles in 281 languages
- 34,500 English-language articles
- 4.67 billion pageviews
- 1.5M references
80% of adult internet users looked online for health information (Pew 2013)
What are internet users looking up?

- 63% disease or medical problem
- 47% medical treatment or procedure
- 44% diet, nutrition, vitamins
- 36% exercise or fitness
- 24% prescription or over-the-counter drugs
- 28% alternative treatments
- 25% health insurance
- 21% depression, anxiety, or stress; doctor or hospital
Health professionals use Wikipedia

- Single leading source of medical information for patients and health care professionals
- 50%+ of physicians use as health information source
- 94% of medical students, 70% of early career doctors, and at least 35% of pharmacists use it
- Evidence suggests that science articles referenced in Wikipedia receive more citations

Armed with knowledge of its inner workings, **library staff** join the Wikipedia community to **strengthen Wikipedia** as a **health information resource** for all.
THE INNER WORKINGS
OF WIKIPEDIA
Why learn about the inner workings of Wikipedia?
How reliable is Wikipedia?

What signs of reliability do you look for?
Signs of reliability on Wikipedia

• Stability of articles
• Neutral point of view (no undue weight)
• Claims cited using verifiable secondary sources
Who edits Wikipedia?

No one person authors Wikipedia articles

117,000 active users make edits every month
The BIG volunteer community working together to edit!

A WikiProject is a group of contributors who want to work together as a team to improve Wikipedia.

English Wikipedia currently has over 2,000 WikiProjects
Welcome to WikiProject Medicine! We discuss, collaborate, and debate anything and everything relating to medicine and health on Wikipedia on our discussion page.
Everyone is welcome to join!

WikiProject Medicine editors, including John Byrne, Rich Farmbrough and Sydney Poore at Wikimania 2014. Credit: Chris McKenna (WMF)
Policies and guidelines

WikiProject Medicine has rigorous policies and guidelines that complement those of Wikipedia.

- **WP:MEDRS** Reliable Sources
- **WP:MEDCOI** Conflicts of Interest
- **WP:MEDMOS** Manual of Style
- **WP:MEDHOW** How to edit
NNLM AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES
National Network of Libraries of Medicine

Eight Regional Medical Libraries (RML)

NNLM offers:

- Funding opportunities
- Training
- Educational materials
- Community outreach
Membership

NNLM members provide health professionals and the general public with health information resources and services

- Membership is FREE!
- Institutional, not individual
- Receive access to funding opportunities, training, and educational materials
Funding Opportunities

May 1 - April 30

Awards ranging from $1,500 to $19,000

Available awards include:

▪ Professional Development
▪ Health Information Outreach
▪ Exhibitor Award
▪ Technology Improvement
Training Opportunities

All courses offered by NNLM are FREE!

Ability to claim MLA CE credit

NNLM offers a variety of learning formats:

- Webinars
- On Demand
- Asynchronous
- In-person
Consumer Health Information Specialization

Specialization offered through MLA

Organized around eight core competencies

Available classes include:

- Rural health resources
- Multicultural health information
- Opioid crisis
- K-12 health information
Health Programming Materials

A UNIVERSE OF STORIES

May 29th is National Senior Health & Fitness Day!
Access resources from the National Institute on Aging at NIH go4life.nia.nih.gov

Health Reach
Health Information in Many Languages

U.S. National Library of Medicine
National Network of Libraries of Medicine
Southwestern/Atlantic Region
#CiteNLM

The National Library of Medicine is actively engaged in reaching a major strategic goal to “reach more people in more ways through enhanced dissemination and engagement pathways.”

By holding Wikipedia Edit-a-thons, we can:

▪ Improve the use of NLM and other open access resources
▪ Engage NNLM members nationwide
▪ Make Wikipedia a better, evidence-based resource
#CiteNLM

Three past events:
- Rare Diseases - Spring 2018
- Women’s Health - Fall 2018
- Health Equity - Spring 2019

In total, our 136 editors have:
- Made 1,575 edits
- Edited 357 articles
- Created 25 new articles
Join us for future #CiteNLM Edit-a-Thons!

- Mental Health - Fall 2019
- Join us for our virtual edit-a-thon on **Wednesday, November 20**
- Host your own event between **October 1 - November 30**

Interested in hosting your own event? Our **Guide for Organizers** is coming soon!
Thanks #CiteNLM!
WIKIPEDIA + LIBRARIES: HEALTH AND MEDICAL INFORMATION
THE COURSE
Learning the inner workings of Wikipedia is like …
Course will build digital information literacy skills in ...

- Evaluation
- Assessment
- Citations

Topics ...

- History
- Guidelines
- Page analyses
- Editing
- Activism

Kansas City Jazz Wikipedia Edit-a-thon-2, Clint Ashlock, CC BY-SA 4.0.
Signs and signals to evaluate articles

1. Assessment class
2. Templates
3. Breadth and readability
4. Reference diversity
5. Stability
6. Authority of contributors
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Huntington's disease

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Huntington's disease (HD), also known as Huntington's chorea, is an inherited disorder that results in the death of brain cells. The earliest symptoms are often subtle problems with mood or mental abilities. A general lack of coordination and an unsteady gait often follow. As the disease advances, uncoordinated, jerky body movements become more apparent. Physical abilities gradually worsen until coordinated movement becomes difficult and the person is unable to talk. Intellect abilities generally decline into dementia. The specific symptoms vary somewhat between people. Symptoms usually begin between 30 and 50 years of age, but can start at any age. The disease may develop earlier in life in successive generations. About eight percent of cases start before the age of 20 and typically present with symptoms more similar to Parkinson's disease. People with HD often underestimate the degree of their problems.

HD is typically inherited, although up to 10% of cases are due to a new mutation. The disease is caused by an autosomal dominant mutation in either of an individual's two copies of the gene called huntingtin. This means a child of an affected person typically has a 50% chance of inheriting the disease. The Huntington gene provides the genetic information for a protein that is also called "huntingtin." Expansion of CAG repeats in the Huntington protein results in an abnormal protein, which gradually damages cells in the brain, through mechanisms that are not fully understood. Diagnosis is by genetic testing, which can be carried out at any time, regardless of whether or not symptoms are present. This fact raises several ethical debates. The age at which an individual is considered mature enough to choose testing, whether parents have the right to have their children tested, and managing confidentiality and disclosure of test results is no cure for HD. Full-time care is required in the later stages of the disease. Treatments can relieve some symptoms and in some improve quality of life. The best evidence for treatment of the movement problems is with tetrabenzazine. HD affects about 4 to 15 in 100,000 people of European descent. It is rare among Japanese, while the occurrence rate in Africa is unknown. The disease affects men and women equally. Complications such as pneumonia, heart disease, and physical injury from falls reduce life expectancy. Suicide is the cause of death in about 90% of cases. Death typically occurs fifteen to twenty years after the disease was first detected. The first likely description of the disease was in 1856 by Charles Oscar Walters. The condition was described in further detail in 1872 by the physician George Huntington, after whom it is named. The genetic basis was discovered in 1993 by an international collaborative effort led by the Huntington's Disease Foundation. Research and support organizations began forming in the late 1990s to increase public awareness, to provide support for individuals and their families, and to promote research. Current research directions include determining the exact mechanism of the disease, improving animal models to aid with research, testing of medications to treat slow the progression of the disease, and studying procedures such as stem cell therapy with the goal of repairing damage caused by the disease.

References

Signs and signals to evaluate articles

1. Assessment class
2. Templates
3. Breadth and readability
4. Reference diversity
5. Stability
6. Authority of contributors
When

• October 8 – November 1
• Four live weekly sessions, beginning Tuesday, October 8
• Readings, activities and discussions in between sessions

How to enroll

• Go to oc.lc/wikihealth
• Limited to 100 public library staff
• It’s FREE!
• See course FAQ for other information
thank you