

# EBOOKS

## AND OTHER ELECTRONIC TEXTS IN THE HEALTH SCIENCES

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While the vast majority books are still published only in print, the number of ebooks published increases annually. Listed below are some resources for identifying, finding and accessing ebooks and other kinds of electronic texts.

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These ebooks are available only to current students, staff and faculty of the University of Minnesota. Unaffiliated patrons do not have access.

#### ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

**ACCESSSCIENCE:** The online version of McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology and the McGraw-Hill Dictionary of Scientific and Technical Terms. Contains more than 8,000 articles written by the leading figures in their fields — including 30 Nobel Prize winners — edited and illustrated with the non-specialist in mind. <http://www.lib.umn.edu/cgi-bin/accs.cgi>

**CONCISE MEDICAL DICTIONARY:** This dictionary from Oxford Reference Online includes over 11,000 entries. This dictionary is indispensable both as a home medical guide and for all those working in medical and allied professions. [http://www.lib.umn.edu/libdata/link.phtml?page\\_id=2087&element\\_id=79171](http://www.lib.umn.edu/libdata/link.phtml?page_id=2087&element_id=79171)

**ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA ONLINE:** Concise as well as scholarly articles on a wide range of subjects. Also includes links to related Internet resources, and the Britannica Book of the Year. Search tip: When combining words in search, capitalize AND. For example: revolution AND 1848. <http://www.lib.umn.edu/cgi-bin/eb.cgi>

**ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY:** Covers all areas of biochemistry including aspects related to molecular biology, cell biology, genetics, and biophysics. Intended for a cross-disciplinary audience. [http://www.lib.umn.edu/libdata/link.phtml?page\\_id=701&element\\_id=80528](http://www.lib.umn.edu/libdata/link.phtml?page_id=701&element_id=80528)

**ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GENETICS, GENOMICS, PROTEOMICS AND BIOINFORMATICS:** [http://www.lib.umn.edu/libdata/link.phtml?page\\_id=701&element\\_id=74103](http://www.lib.umn.edu/libdata/link.phtml?page_id=701&element_id=74103)

**ENCYCLOPEDIA OF LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS:** An integrated compendium of sixteen encyclopedias, produced by UNESCO, that "presents authoritative, comprehensive, and integrated approaches to the science, technology, and management of natural and human resources necessary for life support". Access at: <http://www.lib.umn.edu/cgi-bin/eolss.cgi>

#### REFERENCE BOOKS

**CURRENT PROTOCOLS:** Series of standard, authoritative guides to research laboratory methods in the life sciences; the U of M subscribes to 9 Current Protocols titles: Bioinformatics, Cell Biology, Human Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Neuroscience, Protein Science, and Toxicology. <http://www.lib.umn.edu/get/cp>

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**HARRISON'S ONLINE:** Consists of the latest edition of the basic text of Harrison's principles of internal medicine, sections on clinical trials, updates (and their related references, including abstracts) related to the text and an online pretests section. Also included is an online forum where interested participants can post messages, read, or join any discussion threads. The Libraries' subscription to this resource allows for only five users at any one time. If you get a busy signal, please wait a few minutes and try accessing the site again. <http://www.lib.umn.edu/cgi-bin/harrisons.cgi>

**MDCONSULT:** MDConsult contains full text access to selected medical texts, such as *Cecil Textbook of Medicine* and *Campbell's Operative Orthopaedics*, medical journals, practice guidelines, drug information, patient handouts and CME materials. U of M Libraries' subscription allows only seven simultaneous users. Individual ebooks are indexed in MNCAT. <http://www.biomed.lib.umn.edu/articles/about/?id=5>

**NETLIBRARY:** Through netLibrary, U of M students, staff, and faculty have access to a variety books published in an electronic format. Each book is listed in MNCAT with links to its location on the Web. The first time you access netLibrary you will need to create an account. On the main netLibrary screen, proceed to **Create Account** and follow the instructions. <http://www.lib.umn.edu/books/netlibrary.phtml>

**STAT!REF:** Provides keyword searchable access to the full text of a dozen major medical and drug textbooks. U of M Libraries' subscription allows only five simultaneous users. Individual ebooks are indexed in MNCAT. <http://www.biomed.lib.umn.edu/articles/about/?id=3077>

## FREE EBOOKS

**FREEBOOKS4DOCTORS:** Full text of over 650 medical textbooks from around the world is available here for free. Includes books written in English and several other languages. <http://www.freebooks4doctors.com/>

**GOOGLE BOOK SEARCH:** Searches the full text of books, but many publishers limit how much full text one can view online.

- **Full view:** view the entire book.
- **Limited Preview:** to view a few pages of the book.
- **Snippet View:** view only a few sentences surrounding the search term.
- **No Preview Available:** displays only minimal, basic information about the book.

Click on the radio button under the main search box to limit retrieval to only **Full view** books; alternatively, use the **Advanced Book Search** feature to retrieve targeted results. Additional books are constantly being added, so expect the scope of Google Book Search to expand in the future. <http://books.google.com/>

**MEDLINEPLUS MEDICAL DICTIONARY (MERRIAM-WEBSTER):**  
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/mplusdictionary.html>

**MEDLINEPLUS MEDICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA (A.D.A.M.):** The A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia includes over 4,000 articles about diseases, tests, symptoms, injuries, and surgeries. It also contains an extensive library of medical photographs and illustrations. <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/encyclopedia.html>

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**THE MERCK MANUALS:** Publications available for free online include *The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy*, *The Merck Manual of Geriatrics*, and the *Merck Veterinary Manual*. <http://www.merck.com/pubs/>

**NATIONAL ACADEMIES PRESS (NAP):** View over 3000 ebooks online, free of charge. Over 900 are available to download as PDFs (some are free of charge and some must be purchased). The site includes reports by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council. NAP publishes more than 200 books per year written by experts in the fields of medicine, science and engineering. <http://www.nap.edu/>

**NCBI BOOKSHELF:** This large collection of biomedical ebooks is made available to the world for free of charge by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). Full text is fully searchable by keyword. Go to <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=Books> or access by clicking on **Books** on right side of black menu bar in PubMed ([www.pubmed.gov](http://www.pubmed.gov)).

**ONLINE BOOKS PAGE:** Lists and links to over 25,000 free books on the Web, searchable by author, title or subject. <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/>

## FEE BASED OR COMMERCIAL SITES

**EBOOKS.COM:** This online digital bookstore sells 69,000 ebooks. The price varies from reasonable (around \$10.00) to expensive (over \$100.00). Can also download and purchase selected sections of ebooks. The wide scope of topics includes some scientific and medical titles. <http://www.ebooks.com/>

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**MOBIPOCKET:** Subsidiary of Amazon.com. Purchase and download complete ebooks, including a small selection of medical books. [www.mobipocket.com](http://www.mobipocket.com)

**POWELL'S EBOOKS:** Can purchase and download ebooks from this online bookstore, which includes some medical and scientific books. <http://www.powells.com/ebookstore/ebooks.html>

## FINDING EBOOKS ONLINE

**DIGITAL BOOK INDEX:** Meta-index to over 129,000 ebooks and other electronic texts, including about 1500 medical texts. Links to many free ebooks; others must be purchased. Search by author, title (keywords), or browse by subject, author or publisher. Requires free registration. [www.digitalbookindex.org](http://www.digitalbookindex.org)

**INTERNET PUBLIC LIBRARY: ONLINE TEXTS:** Includes a wide variety of Web sites which provide free access to ebooks, many of which are in the public domain. Emphasizes fiction and classic literature. <http://www.ipl.org/div/subject/browse/hum60.60.00>

**RESOURCES FOR U OF M PRECEPTORS:** Designed for preceptors in the University's Academic Health Center programs, this site includes links to many freely available health sciences online resources on topics such as drugs, clinical trials and evidence-based practice. <http://www.biomed.lib.umn.edu/help/guides/preceptors>

## GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

**GOOGLE U. S. GOVERNMENT SEARCH:** Searches for United States federal, state and local government documents and Web sites. The full text of many government documents is published online and most documents are available to view or download free of charge. The Advanced Search feature enables more sophisticated and targeted searching. <http://www.google.com/ig/usgov>

**HEALTH, UNITED STATES:** This annual report on trends in health statistics consists of two main sections: A chartbook containing text and figures that illustrates major trends in the health of Americans; and a trend tables section that contains 147 detailed data tables. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010:** This project challenges individuals, communities, and professionals to take specific steps to ensure that good health, as well as long life, are enjoyed by all. The site provides access to the online full text of several related publications. <http://www.healthypeople.gov/default.htm>

**STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE UNITED STATES:** Published since 1878, the Abstract is the authoritative and comprehensive summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic organization of the United States. Use it as a convenient volume for statistical reference, and as a guide to sources of more information both in print and on the Web. <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>

## FREE, FULL TEXT JOURNALS AND JOURNAL ARTICLES

**BIOMED CENTRAL:** The full text of over 150 peer-reviewed, open access medical and scientific journals is available here free of charge. <http://www.biomedcentral.com/>

**DOAJ: DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS:** DOAJ provides free, online access to the full text content of over 2470 peer-reviewed, open access journals on a wide variety of scholarly topics. DOAJ journals are listed individually in MNCAT. <http://www.doaj.org/>

**FREE MEDICAL JOURNALS:** Provides access to free full text of 1460 medical journals from around the world, in a variety of languages, including English. <http://www.freemedicaljournals.com/>

**PLOS:** PLoS publishes peer-reviewed, open access scientific and medical journals that include original research as well as timely feature articles. All PLoS articles are immediately freely accessible online and are deposited in the free public archive PubMed Central. Titles are listed individually in MNCAT. <http://www.plos.org/>

**PUBMED CENTRAL:** PubMed Central is a free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), developed and managed by NIH's National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) in the National Library of Medicine (NLM). It includes over 700,000 articles and other texts. <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/>