



Web Sitings

Pain on the Web

By offering a broad bank of medical information for the public and a range of accredited activities for physicians, pharmacists, and nurses, Pain.com (www.pain.com) has created an online environment in which health care professionals and patients can learn about pain and how to manage it effectively. The site is sponsored by the Dannemiller Memorial Educational Foundation and supported by Abbott Laboratories, Allergan, Purdue, and Cephalon.

After registering (for free), you get complete access to Pain.com's features. Click into the site's Categories of Pain section, and you'll find up-to-date information on preventing or managing transitory or "break-through" pain, as well as the acute or chronic pain associated with arthritis, cancer and cancer therapy, and invasive surgical procedures.

A wide variety of slide and lecture programs are available on the site. And



in the Professional Information section, you'll find 36 modules, each consisting of 10 articles on pain and its management. The modules and programs are accredited for free continuing medical education credit, and new activities are added each month. In addition, the site links you to a collection of full-text articles by and interviews with renowned pain physicians and to information about national and international meetings on pain management.

The Consumer Information section features "Ask the Doctor," where patients can submit questions about pain manage-

ment or search the archives of previous inquiries. There's also information on prescription drug assistance programs, pain assessment tools, and how to get involved in pain support groups.

CHID: All Together Now

The Combined Health Information Database (CHID) is your one-stop shop for health promotion program information and patient education materials—including those not indexed anywhere else. Produced by

the CDC, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Health Resources and Service Administration, the CHID web site (chid.nih.gov) is a searchable, bibliographic database that provides titles, abstracts, and availability information on educational resources in 12 broad categories of health care, including digestive diseases, deafness and communication disorders, and maternal and child health.

These records are updated four times a year, and current listings are checked regularly to maintain accuracy. You can search the database using a simple or detailed search—and if you can't find something on the CHID site, follow the link to the NIH Health Information Index (health.nih.gov).

Autism Essentials

The folks at the Autism Network Resources for Physicians web site (home.san.rr.com/autismnet) have a request: As you explore the comprehensive

body of research, studies, and anecdotal accounts linked to the site, they ask you to challenge what you find there. It's their hope that through such inquiry, more physicians will become involved in autism research, so that at-risk children can be identified more easily and more cases of autism prevented.

In addition to dozens of articles and reports on autism, the site provides links to over 100 institutes, universities, and corporations conducting autism research (with details of their current studies). It connects you to autism organizations, informational sites on autism and other childhood diseases and disorders, and further physician resources on the web. The Treatment Options section offers a list of possible treatment strategies, followed by exhaustive sets of diagnostic links and recovery stories. There's even a list of U.S. physicians and treatment centers that specialize in autism.

And to get more involved, don't forget to check out the site's links to autism-related message boards—or click into the Autism Research Fund section to find out how you can contribute to any number of organizations or apply for research funding and grants.

From Scrubs to Suits

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, job opportunities for registered nurses (RNs) in the coming years are expected to be very good—with the employment of RNs growing faster on average than for other jobs through 2010. And now, to help match up administrative and executive nurses with employers and recruiters who are looking for capable leaders, there's a web site: NursingExecutives.com (www.nursingexecutives.com).

Seeking employment? You can create a free user profile to be provided to potential employers searching the site, or you can search for positions based on type, leadership level, location, and salary. You can upload your resume onto the site—where it will be held in confidence until you authorize a po-

tential employer to view it—and send or receive messages from interested employers.

Those seeking RN employees can create an account (cost varies according to length of time the job posting remains on the site and level of access to potential employee information). Employers can search job seekers' profiles, as well as send or respond to employment inquiries. Whether you're looking for employment or an employee, check back often for updated job listings and candidate profiles.

Abbreviation Explanation

With more than 70,000 entries, MediLexicon (www.medilexicon.com) is the world's largest online database of pharmaceutical and medical abbreviations. It's free, available in English and Spanish, and updated daily. The database is searchable by acronym, abbreviation, or definition. For your convenience, MediLexicon also provides a downloadable Desktop Search Box, which will remain on your computer's desktop even when you're not on the MediLexicon site. Plus, if you choose to become a regular or gold site member (for nominal annual fees), you can access their advanced alphabetical lists system and take advantage of the "quick search option," which allows you to search for all abbreviations by first letter. ●

What Are Your Favorite Web Sites?

Let us know which health care web sites you find most useful to your federal practice. Send the web address and a brief description to:

Web Sitings
Federal Practitioner
26 Main Street
Chatham, NJ 07928-2402

Or e-mail us at fedprac@qhc.com using the subject line "Web Sitings."