By popular request, UpToDate Online remains available at your desktop through HSL Online, after the conclusion of the free-access trial period. The electronic, full-text clinical reference database provides instantaneous, evidence-based answers to the most commonly asked questions in clinical practice. In-depth coverage of the following medical specialties is included: Adult Primary Care and Internal Medicine; Cardiovascular Medicine; Endocrinology and Diabetes; Gastroenterology and Hepatology; Hematology; Infectious Diseases; Nephrology and Hypertension; Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine; and Rheumatology.

Navigation of the database is simple, quick and intuitive, and the fully referenced content is currently updated three times a year. UpToDate contains the latest medical information synthesized from more than 200 journals. Thousands of original topic reviews, written by recognized experts, provide specific, well-referenced recommendations on diagnosis and therapy. The database includes over 40,000 pages of text, 8,000 graphics, 100,000 Medline abstracts, and an extensive drug database.

You can access UpToDate by following the UpToDate links located on the HSLS home page <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu> and HSL Online <http://online.hsls.pitt.edu>. Once connected to UpToDate, click on the ‘Accept’ button to agree to the terms of use, and the main screen will appear. Access to UpToDate online is IP verified, eliminating the need for user ID and passwords when accessing from machines connected to Pitt and UPMC networks.
**CMC Security Change**

An HSL Online account is now required when using Computer and Media Center (CMC) computers to access the Internet. This account is specific to the CMC and HSLS, and is distinct from your University of Pittsburgh or UPMCHS email account. To apply for an account please stop by any HSLS Circulation Desk, or the Computer and Media Center Information Desk. The application form requires name and address, affiliation within the Schools of the Health Sciences or UPMCHS, and presentation of a valid ID card. Once a staff member validates your identification, the account will be processed and sent to the address specified. Please refer account questions or concerns to Nelson Gallo-way (412-648-2065).

--- Fran Yarger

**New Remote Access to HSL Online Resources**

A new remote access server is now available that allows eligible library users at computers outside the University and UPMCHS IP ranges to access most HSL Online resources. To use the remote access server, follow the link from the HSLS Home Page <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu> to ‘Remote Access’ and when prompted, enter your HSL Online username and password.

Use of the remote access server requires an HSL Online password. You may register for an HSL Online account at any HSLS Library Circulation desk. Library users from the University of Pittsburgh Schools of the Health Sciences and UPMCHS are eligible for HSL Online accounts. A University of Pittsburgh or UPMCHS ID card is required to register. Note that users of the old Proxy Server should disable the proxy settings in their browser before using Remote Access.

--- Paul Worona

**UpToDate continued from page 1**

During the trial period that began in November 2000, HSLS received many positive comments about UpToDate. As we select new resources, your feedback is important to our decision making process. Suggestions for new books and journals can be submitted through online forms available at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/forms>. You may also share your comments about library collections, including electronic resources, with Deb Silverman, HSLS Assistant Director for Resource Management, at 412-648-2868, or debs@pitt.edu.

**Ovid Online continued from page 1**

containing critical assessments of systematic reviews from a variety of medical journals. DARE records cover topics such as diagnosis, prevention, rehabilitation, screening and treatment.

Books@Ovid is another new listing available on the Ovid ‘Choose a Database’ screen. Books@Ovid contains four key electronic nursing reference books. These same textbooks may also be searched through Primary Care Online, listed on the HSL Online main screen.

Ovid Online looks somewhat different from the previous version, and provides several new time saving features. From the ‘Choose a Database’ screen you can now select up to 5 databases to search simultaneously, and you can remove duplicate citations from these multiple database searches. Citations on the Title Display screen now include more color and spacing to make the text easier to read. With a few mouse clicks you can also customize the Title Display screen to suit your viewing preferences. Each citation in Ovid Online contains a ‘Library Catalog Holdings’ link that connects to PITTCat, allowing you to determine if the journal you need is available in print or electronic format from any of the University of Pittsburgh Libraries.

The Ovid upgrade has brought changes that will affect those who use EndNote or ProCite bibliographic software to retrieve and store citations. A handout ‘Using EndNote Connection Files with OVID Databases’ provides answers to questions about these changes. The handout is available from the HSLS Home Page <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu> and any HSLS Reference Desk.

--- Paul Worona

**Contributors:** Kimberly Batch, MSIS; Phil Bergen, MA; Michelle Burda, MLS; Andre Francois; Michele Klein Fedyshin, MLS; Amber Knopic; Ammon Ripple, MLS; James M. Roman, MA; Paul Worona, MLIS; Fran Yarger, MA

**HSLS Update** is produced by the Health Sciences Library System Falk Library of the Health Sciences 200 Scaife Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15261

http://www.hsls.pitt.edu

Contact HSLS with questions, comments or ideas at 648-8796, or send email to medlibq@pitt.edu.
**Decision Analysis TreeAge Software available in CMC**

The Computer and Media Center has acquired a site license for Decision Analysis by TreeAge (DATA) as a gift from Dr. Mark S. Roberts, Associate Professor of Medicine and Chief for the Section of Decision Sciences and Clinical Systems Modeling. With DATA software, programming skills are not required in order to perform complex decision analyses, cost-effectiveness analyses, Monte Carlo simulation, Markov processes, influence diagrams, and more. The software interface and graphical output was developed to simplify the process of applying these types of analyses to strategic or tactical problems.

The combination of analytical power and ease-of-use offered by DATA provides clinicians and medical policy makers with opportunities to improve their decision-making processes. DATA can be useful, for example, in healthcare decision making by clinicians seeking the treatment best suited to a particular patient. Public health researchers involved in formulating cost-effective procedures for treatment of life-threatening conditions might use DATA to analyze models on the basis of expected costs, expected effectiveness, or combined cost-effectiveness. Healthcare business managers can apply the functions in DATA to analyze problems for strategic planning purposes. With a wide range of applicability for the health sciences community, DATA offers powerful tools for decision analysis.

--Fran Yarger
HSLS users now have access to the complete Wiley InterScience electronic journal collection, which features over 160 John Wiley and Wiley-Liss publications of interest to the biomedical sciences community. InterScience titles can be located in PittCat <http://pittcat.pitt.edu>, on the HSLS Electronic Journals page <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/php/ejournals.php3>, and on the InterScience website <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journalfinder.html>. Significant titles previously unavailable to HSLS users in electronic format include:

- American Journal of Industrial Medicine
- American Journal of Medical Genetics
- Cancer
- European Journal of Immunology
- International Journal of Cancer
- International Journal of Eating Disorders
- Journal of Comparative Neurology
- Psycho-Oncology

Access to Wiley InterScience is available to all Pitt and UPMC users. Contact Phil Bergen (412-648-2309 or bergen@pitt.edu) with questions or comments.

--Phil Bergen

MEDLINEplus <http://medlineplus.gov>, the National Library of Medicine’s consumer health website, has added a current news section featuring stories on health-related issues. News items from sources such as the Associated Press, New York Times Syndicate and United Press International are included.

News items are indexed to the more than 430 in-depth health topic pages. For example, someone interested in diabetes will find a section called ‘Latest News’ at the top of the Diabetes page. In addition, a complete list of news items from the last 30 days is also available.

The news section enhances the MEDLINEplus information for consumers, which also includes: overviews of diagnosis and treatment, links to ongoing clinical research studies and recent journal articles.

Ovid Technologies, Inc. announced that it has discontinued updates of the AIDSLINE and BIOETHICSLINE databases at the end of 2000. Articles in these subject areas will be accessible in Medline, effective January 2001. Books and conference proceedings formerly found in these databases can still be located by using the NLM Gateway retrieval system from the National Library of Medicine <http://gateway.nlm.nih.gov>. Contact any HSLS Reference Desk for more information.
A Peek Inside Health Sciences Software Development

Every two weeks the Health Science Information Resource group (HSIR) convenes to advance the development of information technology initiatives within the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences. HSIR is comprised of programmers, system analysts, web developers and administrators. The group coordinates these varied initiatives to conserve resources, promote integration and utilize technology to benefit faculty and staff throughout the health sciences, the University and UPMC Health System.

In December, the group focused on establishing data representation standards, since most of the applications in use or under development share the same data elements.

This year the HSIR group is embarking on a peer review process. Each project that is part of the HSIR “family” will be reviewed. In particular, the HSIR will assess the use of shared data, complementary technology and sound application development practices.

Questions related to the projects listed on the chart should be directed to Andre Francois, Information Technology Manager – Schools of the Health Sciences or Kim Batch, Enterprise Architect. For additional information, see the Health Science Information Technology Website at <http://www.health.pitt.edu/it>

--Andre Francois, Information Technology Manager Schools of the Health Sciences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Research Interests Project (FRIP)</td>
<td>Database of searchable index terms describing faculty research interests. Enables faculty to identify local colleagues in other disciplines; enhances global visibility of local research expertise; enables targeted distribution of health sciences announcements; faculty recruitment tool; helps identify strengths and needs for program planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHS Master Person Index (MPI)</td>
<td>An administrative resource to facilitate the sharing of data between departments of the health sciences. (See related article on next page).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics E-commerce Suite</td>
<td>Web based scheduling of DNA sample submissions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Practice Fundamentals</td>
<td>Provides educational tools and materials on topics related to research fundamentals and research integrity at the University of Pittsburgh. Provides a means to test a user’s mastery of key concepts, and provides an efficient way to manage an individual’s certification status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMBINE</td>
<td>An educational resource which exports key elements of the traditional campus experience to the community training setting. (See related article on next page).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PittMedNet</td>
<td>A comprehensive database of information on research conducted in the Schools of the Health Sciences and UPMC-HS accessible via both thin and thick clients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences Calendar</td>
<td>An events calendar for Health Sciences faculty and staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRB Protocol System (RCCO)</td>
<td>A web based IRB protocol submission process. This application will enforce the correctness and completeness of protocol submissions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences Portal</td>
<td>The information portal for Health Sciences faculty and staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IACUC Protocol System</td>
<td>A web based IACUC protocol submission process. This application will enforce the correctness and completeness of protocol submissions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORBAmed PIDS</td>
<td>The CORBAmed Services are standard interfaces to health care components. The PIDS interfaces wrap the EMPI system as specified by the OMG CORBAmed Person Identification Service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notifier</td>
<td>A CORBA server that may be accessed either by another automatic system that needs to deliver a message, or by a human user (e.g., a nurse) using a web client.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifying Patient Sets (IPS)</td>
<td>Assists researchers in defining criteria that identify patients to satisfy a study goal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
People in the Health Sciences - Who are they and what makes them so special?

This is a very good question. Members of the Health Sciences Information Resource (HSIR) Group have spent the last several weeks conducting requirements arbitration and review to define and qualify the attributes of a health science “person” for an information system Master Person Index (MPI).

Individuals who will be included in this Master Person Index can be faculty members or students from the Schools of the Health Sciences and related departments, such as bioengineering or computer science. Staff members from both the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC Health System who support clinical research are also health sciences “people”, as are the many UPMC Health System staff members who work on both sides of the health sciences fence (academic and clinical). These people, although extremely diverse in both profession and role, have a great deal in common within the health science community. This is made apparent by the overlapping information requirements of the health science software applications that exist to support them. All of these applications require the same information for their records, including name, business addresses, email addresses, organizational status and job title. The HSIR Group is working to develop a software component based on standards that will make it easier for health science applications to access this essential demographic information in a reliable and secure manner.

The Health Sciences MPI has just completed its initiation phase of project definition and approval and is moving into the elaboration phase of feasibility and design. This Master Person Index will be a re-usable component of the integrated architecture that was featured in the October 2000 issue of Integrated Information Matters.

--Kim Batch, Enterprise Architect

The COMBINE Project’s Electronic Reading Assignments

The Community-Based Integrated Education (COMBINE) Project has developed an experiential learning environment supported by information technology to assist University of Pittsburgh health sciences students in community training settings. These students spend 12 weeks in various off-campus preceptor offices, thus limiting access to campus resources available in the typical tertiary inpatient setting. The use of electronic resources in community-based teaching settings provide a “virtual campus” in which students benefit from the expertise of superlative clinicians while remaining connected to the faculty and knowledge bases resident in the central academic location.

Electronic reading assignments provide answers to questions arising from student interactions with patients in the outpatient environment. Based on these patient encounters, each student is required to locate and review an appropriate article on the COMBINE web site. An automated search function permits students to search by condition, article title, or student submission. Students are able to topically search five or six articles approved by medical school faculty members prior to their inclusion in the project. Upon locating the best article for their patient, students must then submit their findings through the project’s online assignment component. Assignment requirements include general patient identifiers (date, gender, age), patient problem, and creation of clinical question to answer. Students are then expected to determine whether the article answered their clinical question, as well as scoring the usefulness of the article. Submissions are viewable by all other students to encourage professional discourse and to induce a higher quality in the assignments submitted. During their clerkship, students must complete ten electronic reading assignments as one component of the COMBINE Project.

Preliminary evaluation demonstrates that 76% of student participants rated the electronic reading assignments to be valuable and 69% felt the project improved access to medical information and resources online. The use of electronic reading assignments is just one set of the development activities funded by the Integrated Advanced Information Management System (IAIMS) program from the National Library of Medicine (Grant No.: 5 G08 LM06625).

--James M. Roman
Community-based Education Project Coordinator
Providing accurate and understandable information to patients and consumers is essential. The Health Sciences Library System provides a variety of patient education information through HSL Online <http://online.hsls.pitt.edu> and the Health Information for the Consumer Web site <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/chi>.

Patient education links available through HSL Online include MDConsult, Health Reference Center, CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature), PITT Cat, Health Source Plus and PubMed.

- **MDConsult** is best known for its professional information. However this resource also provides thousands of patient education handouts that can be customized for individual patients. In addition, MDConsult contains the “Well-Connected” reports that comprehensively describe medical conditions for patients. These 5-10 page reports offer greater depth than most pamphlets.

- **Health Reference Center** features a range of mostly full text resources, many of which are written in less technical language geared toward consumers.

- **CINAHL** is another database that supplies access to less technical health information.

CINAHL allows you to limit your search to consumer health literature indexed in consumer health journals.

- **PITT Cat**, the University’s online public access catalog, allows limiting for consumer health and patient education books owned by Pitt, UPMC, and UPCI libraries. Before searching, click on ‘Set Limits,’ scroll to ‘Locations,’ and highlight ‘Health Sciences-Consumer Health Collections.’ Only those books in patient education or consumer health classifications will appear in your search results.

- From HSL Online, searchers with access to Pitt databases can link to Health Source Plus, a database provided through the ULS (University Library System). Like Health Reference Center, it focuses on less technical health information.

- **PubMed**, the public version of MEDLINE, also enables searchers to limit to a small subset of consumer publications. Combine any search term with the phrase ‘AND consumerj [sb]’ to access this subset of information.

In addition to HSL Online, HSLS provides an innovative Web site, Health Information for the Consumer <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/chi>, with links to numerous helpful patient education resources. At this site, select ‘Health Topics’ to access patient education links such as:

- **MEDLINEPlus**, the consumer version of MEDLINE that provides actual text of many NIH and professional organization publications. (See article on page 4).

- **NORD (National Organization for Rare Diseases)** and the NIH Office of Rare Diseases to access less technical information about such diseases.

- **Pamphlets** to access UPMC Health System patient education material, geared to local procedures and treatments.

When seeking patient education materials, also consult The Hopwood Library: A Health Resource Center for Patients and Families (412-623-2620), located at UPMC Shadyside, which specializes in such materials.  

--Michele Klein Fedyskin

--Michelle Burda
# HSLS Schedule of Classes
## March - April 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Time(s)</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction and Tour of Falk Library</strong>*</td>
<td>(Falk Library, meet inside entrance to Library)</td>
<td>Monday, March 5…11:00am-12:00pm Tuesday, April 24…11:00am-12:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Searching for Evidence-Based Literature</strong></td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 6…10:30am-12:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Searching MEDLINE on PubMed</strong></td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 27…2:00pm-3:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MEDLINE Searching using the HSL Online Web Gateway</strong></td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 21…2:00pm-3:30pm Monday, April 9…11:00am-12:30pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Searching PsycINFO</strong></td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 13…9:30am-11:00am</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EndNote Basics</strong></td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 28…1:00pm-3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Health Resources on the WWW</strong></td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)</td>
<td>Thursday, March 22…2:00pm-3:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Getting Started with Netscape on the WWW</strong>*</td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)</td>
<td>Thursday, April 5…1:30pm-3:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PowerPoint for Presentations</strong>*</td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)</td>
<td>Friday, March 16…2:00pm-4:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adobe Photoshop for Beginners</strong>*</td>
<td>(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 17…10:00am-12:00pm</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No registration required. Seating for classes is first-come, first-served until the class is full.

Detailed course descriptions are available at http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/classes/index.html

### AMA CATEGORY 2 CREDIT

These activities meet the requirements for AMA Category 2 Continuing Medical Education. Physicians should maintain records of attendance, claiming one hour of credit for each hour of course participation. The AMA Physician’s Recognition Award permits up to 30 hours of the 50 hours required annually to be earned in Category 2 activities. CME Category 2 credit not offered for courses marked with ***
Consumer Health Librarian Michelle L. Burda, MLS, was recently elected President of the Beta Phi Mu Pittsburgh Chapter, and Rebecca Abromitis, MLS, WPIC Reference Librarian, was elected Secretary. Beta Phi Mu is the international library and information studies honor society.

Carrie Croll is the newly appointed Falk Library Stack Manager/HSLS Courier. She holds a BA in Archaeology/Classical Civilization, with a minor in Latin from the University of Pittsburgh. Carrie previously worked at the Carnegie Institute as a Stockroom Manager.

Nelson Galloway, a familiar face at the WPIC Library audio-visual desk, has transferred to the HSLS Resource Management area in Falk Library. Nelson’s new title is Patron Services Specialist, and his responsibilities include managing patron accounts for Voyager and HSL Online, and also providing user assistance in the evenings.

Melissa Hall has accepted the part-time/weekend position at the Falk Library Circulation Desk. She is currently an English major at Point Park College and is certified in Grant Proposal Writing from Slippery Rock State University. Melissa previously worked at the Butler Area Public Library.

David Kilinsky, who worked as a student assistant in the WPIC Library since 1998, has been promoted to an Administrative Support III position. His responsibilities include document delivery, and book/audio-visual circulation at WPIC Library. Dave holds a BS in Mathematics from the University of Pittsburgh.

Lori Schaub has joined the Falk Library Computer and Media Center staff as a Library Specialist III. Her responsibilities include staffing the CMC Information Desk and assisting patrons. Lori holds a bachelor’s degree in Communications.

News from MDConsult recently added a number of evidence-based medicine journals to their list of online journals. Published quarterly by Churchill Livingstone, the journal titles include: Evidence-based Cardiovascular Medicine (1997 - forward), Evidence-based Health Policy & Management (1997 - 1998), Evidence-based Healthcare (1999 - forward), Evidence-based Obstetrics & Gynecology (2000 - forward), and Evidence-based Oncology (2000 - forward).

In addition to the new journals, it is now possible to retrieve abstracts from the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews in your MD Consult journal searches. You can narrow your search results to Cochrane abstracts-only by selecting ‘Cochrane Reviews’ as a search limiter. Or, narrow your search to all relevant Review articles, including Cochrane systematic reviews, by selecting the option ‘Literature Reviews.’

Available through HSL Online <http://www.online.hsls.pitt.edu>, MDConsult includes 52 of the world’s best medical journals and Clinics of North America, over 35 renowned reference books, 600 clinical practice guidelines, and nearly 3,000 customizable patient education handouts.

C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society Lecture

Title: “An Episode in the History of Clinical Trials: The N.Y.C. Diphtheria Antiserum Trials of 1899”

Who: Paul Edelson, M.D. Professor of Clinical Pediatrics Center for the Study of Society and Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

When: March 1, 2001, 6:00pm

Where: Scaife Hall Lecture Room 5 University of Pittsburgh

More Info: Dr. Jonathon Erlen 412-648-8927 or erlen@pitt.edu

Publications and Presentations


Farewell and best wishes to:

Marvin Brown, Computer and Media Center
HSLS Contacts

Administration/Office of the Director
Health Sciences Library System
648-2036

Audio-Visual
Falk Library 648-9109
WPIC Library 624-1920
UPMC Shadyside Libraries 623-2441

Computer and Media Center
Falk Library 648-9109

Circulation
Falk Library 648-8866
WPIC Library 624-2378
UPMC Shadyside Libraries 623-2441

Document Delivery
Falk Library 648-2037
WPIC Library 624-1923
UPMC Shadyside Libraries 623-2441
hlsldoc@pitt.edu

History of Medicine
Falk Library 648-8927

HSL Online Assistance
University of Pittsburgh see ‘Reference’
UPMC Braddock 664-2363
UPMC Magee 641-4985/4289
UPMC McKeesport 664-2363
UPMC Oakland Presbyterian/
Eye & Ear/Montefiore 648-8796
UPMC Passavant 367-6320
UPMC Rehabilitation 420-2247
UPMC St. Margaret 784-4121
UPMC Shadyside 623-2441
UPMC South Side 488-5683/5680
WPIC 624-1919

HSL Online/CMC Passwords
For all HSLS Libraries 648-8866

Reference
Falk Library 648-8796
medlibq@pitt.edu
WPIC Library 624-1919
wpicref@pitt.edu
UPMC Shadyside Libraries 623-2441

Technical Services
Cataloging 623-9773
Electronic Resources 648-2309

UPMC Health System
Library Services
648-8730
http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/upmc

University of Pittsburgh
Health Sciences Library System
Falk Library of the Health Sciences
200 Scaife Hall
DeSoto & Terrace Streets
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

HSLS Update

HSL ONLINE
www.online.hsls.pitt.edu