New! Clinical Pharmacology Provides Drug Information

The Health Sciences Library System invites you to try Clinical Pharmacology, a new electronic resource recently added to the collection. Clinical Pharmacology, produced by Gold Standard Multimedia Inc., is a full-text pharmaceutical database consisting of current, peer-reviewed information about U.S. prescription drugs, herbal supplements, nutritional and over-the-counter products, as well as new and investigational drugs in phase III trials. The resource is divided into four sections:

The Drug Information section:
- Drug Monographs contain descriptions, photographs, mechanisms of action, pharmacokinetics, indications/dosage, administration guidelines, off-label uses, contraindications, interactions, adverse reactions, costs and classifications.
- Overviews provide background information as well as mechanisms of action for therapeutic drug classifications.
- Advanced Search capabilities allow you to devise a search strategy that includes any combination of indications, contraindications, adverse reactions, and/or interactions. For example, you can generate a list of drugs indicated for dyspepsia that do not have urticaria as an adverse reaction, and that are suitable for pregnant women.
- Drug Comparisons allows clinicians to create customized tables to compare drugs by indications, contraindications, interactions and adverse reactions.

Printing for Wireless Users

Laptop computer users on the University of Pittsburgh wireless network in Falk Library can now send print jobs to the HP 4200n laser printer in the library’s Computer and Media Center (CMC). Print jobs sent through the network will be held in the print queue for one hour, and can be printed with a Vendacard at a cost of $.07/page.

To take advantage of this new service, a Pharos printing client must be installed on your laptop by a CMC staff member. Staff are available to install the Pharos printing client Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., on a first-come, first-served basis. Owners must be present for the print client installation, which takes
Falk Library Storage Materials Now Available

For the past six years, older materials from the Falk Library collections have been in remote storage and unavailable to users. As of September 1, 2004, all storage materials are once again available by request.

In 1988, overcrowding in Falk Library mandated that some infrequently-used materials be moved to storage. Using the start date of MEDLINE as a base, all materials with publication dates of 1966 or earlier (with the exception of the History of Medicine collection) were moved to onsite storage, or warehouse space on the South Side. Ten years later, these materials were moved out of the warehouse, and with no other alternatives, all the pre-1966 books and journals were boxed, shrink-wrapped onto pallets, and placed in inaccessible storage. Journals published from 1966 to 1974 were moved to closed stacks in Falk Library in 2002.

This summer, space for HSLS became available in the University-owned library storage facility in Point Breeze, and Falk Library storage materials are again available to patrons. The pre-1966 journals and pre-1966 books are listed in PITTCat as “HSLS Storage – Request through HSLS Requests page” at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/documentdelivery>.

--Deb Silverman

Gale Encyclopedias Added to the HSLS E-book Collection

HSLS has purchased ten online Gale Encyclopedias for the electronic book collection. These replace the Health and Wellness Resource Center, which HSLS discontinued due to low use. The new Gale titles are available electronically through PITTCat for the Health Sciences <http://pittcat.hsls.pitt.edu> and the Electronic Books page <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/ebooks/titles>. They are searchable at the title level and as a database under Gale Virtual Reference Library at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/databases/titles/G>. New titles include:

- Child development
- Encyclopedia of mental disorders
- Encyclopedia of public health
- Genetics
- Gale encyclopedia of cancer
- Gale encyclopedia of genetic disorders
- Gale encyclopedia of medicine
- Gale encyclopedia of nursing & allied health
- Gale encyclopedia of surgery
- Nutrition and well-being: A to Z

--Liping Song
Clinical Pharmacology  
continued from page 1

The DRUG PRODUCTS section:

- **Product Information** provides NDC codes, manufacturer, formulation, dosage form, product descriptors, classifications, packaging information, and, in some cases, a digital photograph.
- **Product ID** allows you to identify an unknown drug by searching for descriptors such as color, shape, and imprint code.
- **Product Comparisons** allows you to compare products containing the same ingredients.
- **Drug Patents** provides patent information for FDA approved drugs.

The CLINICAL REPORTS section:

- **Drug Interactions** allows you to check possible interactions between any number of drugs, herbs, and nutritional products. In addition, interactions with substances such as ethanol, tobacco, caffeine, enteral feedings, grapefruit juice or other foods can be included in the report.
- **Adverse Reactions** can be useful in determining which drug is causing an adverse reaction in a patient taking multiple drugs.
- **IV Compatibility** allows you to check the compatibility of two or more intravenous products and/or solutions when mixed in solution or a syringe, or via Y-site administration.

The PATIENT EDUCATION section:

- Provides drug information handouts in English or Spanish, written at a sixth to eighth-grade reading level.

Clinical Pharmacology is available through the HSLS database page at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/databases/>.

--Renae Barger

Laptop Etiquette

As the use of wireless laptops in Falk Library grows, the need for laptop etiquette increases as well!

Please do not drape power cords across aisles and walkways. This presents safety hazards to yourself and others, and could damage your computer if someone trips over your cord. If you must use a power cord for your laptop, place yourself within easy reach of an outlet. In Falk Library, the best places for laptop work are:

- The tables along the walls of the quiet study area on the main floor (turn right after entering the library);
- The laptop tables in the CMC (in the hallway near Classroom 1);
- The enclosed “fish bowl,” area on the main floor, where every carrel has an electrical outlet;
- Wherever you see “Laptop Power Cord Friendly” signs on tables.

Also, please keep the volume on your headphones as low as possible, as some headphones emit sounds discernable to others when audio files are played at a high volume.

--Fran Yarger

Printing for Wireless Users  
continued from page 1

about 30 minutes in most cases. Other conditions also apply:

- The laptop’s operating system must be Windows 2000 or XP, or Macintosh OS X or higher.
- The laptop must be properly configured to access the University of Pittsburgh wireless network before the CMC staff can install the Pharos printing client.
- CMC staff will not install the Pharos client on laptops that display boot-up, software, or operating system errors.
- To avoid future operating system errors, it is strongly recommended that CMC staff remove the Pharos printing client when you no longer wish to use this service.

Please contact the CMC at 412-648-9109 for more information.

--Fran Yarger
“It’s raining upstairs....”

This report to the Falk Library reference desk evoked curiosity, followed quickly by dismay. On Saturday, August 15, a plumbing leak on the third floor of Scaife Hall caused gallons of water to seep through to the mezzanine floor below, saturating a section of Falk Library’s oversize books collection. Because the leak occurred on a summer weekend when there are few people in the library, it is impossible to say how long the downpour went undetected. Nearly 1,200 books, primarily on plastic surgery, were damaged or destroyed.

Water damage is one of the most serious disasters that a paper-based library can have, and the most difficult to clean up. A flood creates two problems: wet paper, and a moisture-laden environment for mold to grow and spread. Wet materials can often be restored, most commonly by a freeze-drying method in which books are frozen to stop the absorption of moisture and the deterioration of the wet paper. Slow drying in a room with less than 10 percent moisture content in the air can return books to a usable condition. A greater concern than water is the resulting mold. The increased moisture in the environment creates a breeding ground for mold to grow on the wet materials, and even spread to undamaged books surrounded by excessive humidity in the air. Mold can begin to form in less than 48 hours with the right combination of temperature and humidity. While mold can be removed from paper, the time and expense of the process makes it practical only for rare and valuable materials.

At the time of this publication, the damaged materials have been removed from the collection and sent to a disaster recovery firm for examination and possible restoration. HSLS will evaluate the materials that are returned, and rebuild the collection as best we can. Some books will be replaced with newer editions, and some important older works may be available on the used books market. Unfortunately, many others are gone from the collection for good. Materials that have been removed have the designation “Temporarily Unavailable – Damaged” in PITTCat until they are either replaced or permanently withdrawn. These titles may be obtained through interlibrary loan at no charge by submitting a book request through the HSLS Web site at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/documentdelivery/bookrequest>.

--Deb Silverman

NIH Expands Web Site

Statistics show that more than half of American adults use the Web to access health information. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has responded by launching an expanded health information Web site, available at <http://health.nih.gov/>. The site now offers links to a wider range of NIH’s valuable resources, features colorful images to highlight a broad range of useful features, and gives readers the chance to test their health knowledge. Visitors can still access the popular A to Z listing of health topics, browse topics by body location/systems, or use the main Search box.

New Web site features include:

✓ Healthy Lifestyles links users to popular topics such as seasonal health concerns, nutrition and weight loss.
✓ Research In Action links users to cutting-edge scientific information on topics such as stem cells and genetics, and provides readers with an opportunity to meet scientists ranging from high school students to Nobel laureates.
✓ Now Online emphasizes interactive features and Web exhibits such as the Portion Distortion quiz, the Household Products Database, and the Milk Matters campaign.
✓ Take a Quiz challenges viewers to test their knowledge on current health topics.

The newly expanded NIH health Web site has information geared for consumers of all ages, as well as educators, clinicians, and researchers.

Information in this article is from <www.nih.gov/news/WordonHealth/aug2004/story05.htm>
Is this a familiar scenario? You are searching the online GenBank database, perhaps looking for an mRNA sequence for your gene of interest. When the search results appear, you are overwhelmed by the sheer number, and don’t know which one to choose. If you have experienced this challenge, here is a solution.

Although GenBank offers the most comprehensive data source for nucleotide sequences (38,989,342,565 bases as of April 2004 and increasing exponentially), the database suffers from redundancy. When you search GenBank without using the limit option, it retrieves all records that match your query term in any field in the database record, producing a result set with many duplicate and non-significant records.

Instead of using GenBank, a much more efficient search is available through the Reference Sequences (RefSeq) database <www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/RefSeq/>, which supplies a concise results list containing just one record representing each splice variant of your gene. RefSeq, produced by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), provides the best non-redundant and comprehensive collection of naturally occurring DNA, RNA, and protein molecules for major organisms.

A step-by-step example illustrating how to use RefSeq appears on page 6 of this issue.

For more information about RefSeq, or any other HSLS molecular biology and genetics resource, go to <www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/genetics/> or contact Ansuman Chattopadhyay (412-648-1297 or ansuman@pitt.edu).

--Ansuman Chattopadhyay

The RefSeq Accession numbers are in an alphanumeric format, consisting of a two-letter prefix, followed by an underscore bar and six digits. The two-letter prefix represents molecule types, as presented in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCESSION PREFIX</th>
<th>MOLECULE TYPE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NM_</td>
<td>mRNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NP_</td>
<td>Protein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR_</td>
<td>RNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC_</td>
<td>Complete genomic molecule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT_</td>
<td>Genomic contig (Computed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XP_</td>
<td>Protein (Computed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XM_</td>
<td>mRNA (Computed)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How to Use RefSeq: a step-by-step example

Question: Find the mRNA sequence for human Epidermal Growth Factor receptor (EGFR).
A GenBank search of “EGFR” as a text word produces a result set of 14,219 records. Even a search of “human EGFR” only reduces the results to 13,320 records, because many non-human records are still included in the results. However, limiting your search to “RefSeq,” and specifying “human as an organism” narrows the search results to only four records, representing each splice variant of human EGFR.


Steps 1 - 2
1) Type “EGFR” in the Search box
2) Click on “Limits”

Steps 3 - 7
3) “Gene Name” from the Fields Options
4) “Exclude All of the Above”
5) “mRNA” from the Molecule options
6) “RefSeq” from the “only from” option
7) Click on “Preview/Index” to limit your search to specified organism

Steps 8 - 11
8) Type “Human”
9) Select “Organism”
10) Click “AND”
11) Click “GO”

Step 12
12) View the search results. Note that only four records, representing all splice variants of EGFR, appear in the results.
HSLS Year in Review: 2003-04

The past year was a busy and productive one for HSLS. Following are excerpts from our annual report, highlighting major accomplishments and initiatives. The full text of the annual report is available at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/about/annualreport.pdf>.

HSLS continued to enhance its collection of electronic resources available to the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC community. The past year continued the transformation of the library from a “print-dominant” collection to one that is primarily electronic. Notable additions are:

- FIRSTConsult, an evidence-based point-of-care information tool
- Science’s Signal Transduction Knowledge Environment (STKE).
- ABMS BoardCertifiedDocs
- New e-books from Elsevier Science, Wiley Interscience, and Books@Ovid

Enterprise-wide access to Vector NTI Advance, an integrated sequence analysis and data management software package, was also implemented, making the University of Pittsburgh the only university to provide this service to researchers through the library.

The HSLS Web site is a technologically sophisticated electronic “front door” to print and electronic resources, and library services. Improvements developed by HSLS librarians include:

- PITTCat for the Health Sciences <http://pittcat.hsls.pitt.edu>, a customized interface to the PITTCat online library catalog
- A newly redesigned Consumer Health Information Web site <www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/chi>
- A specialized Web portal to help nurses and nursing students locate relevant health information <www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/students/nursing>.
- Upgraded HSLS Resources Web page <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources> with features such as a “Services Requests” section, and an Electronic Resource “Title Search” box.

The Information Service in Molecular Biology and Genetics continued to grow. The HSLS Web portal to molecular biology and genetics resources <www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/genetics> receives over 100 visits per day. The training program currently offers a variety of three-hour hands-on workshops on the use of molecular biology and genetics software and databases. The workshops had 180 attendees during the past year. The consultation and support service assisted more than 70 faculty members, post-doctoral students and graduate students.

HSLS librarians performed 1,220 mediated database searches for our user community, and provided 80 individual consultations. The Web-based Ask-A-Librarian feature <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/reference/askalibrarian> allows library users to find answers to frequently asked questions, submit questions about library resources, or request assistance in searching HSLS databases. Requests typically receive a response in less than 24 hours. In the first five months of availability, 170 questions were answered.

During the year, HSLS librarians and staff provided instruction, orientations or tours to 8,200 faculty, students or staff. HSLS librarians conduct extensive instructional and collaborative activities for the schools of the health sciences, residency programs, and the hospitals of the UPMC.

HSLS expanded to include management of libraries and provision of electronic resources to Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh (CHP) in January 2004. This major project impacted nearly every HSLS department. Three physical library collections are on the 7th floor of the CHP DeSoto wing: The Blaxter Medical Library with books and journals in clinical pediatrics, the Family Resource Center with healthcare information for children and parents, and the Moulis Children’s Library with books and videos for general reading, entertainment and school assignments.

The HSLS Document Express service supplied 27,360 journal articles to libraries throughout the world through interlibrary loan, an increase of 20 percent from the previous year. In May 2004, HSLS Document Delivery Services initiated a service to deliver books to users’ homes or offices.

HSLS is a leader in development, use and educational applications of information technology. The Computing and Media Center (CMC) in Falk Library sets a standard of excellence for its well-equipped classrooms, service-oriented staff, and outstanding media collection. Students, instructors, and clinicians use the CMC to prepare lectures, Web-based materials, and video editing applications. Nearly 250 users visit the CMC each day.

--Barbara Epstein
HSLS Update

HSLS Schedule of Classes November-December 2004

Class schedules are subject to change. Please consult the online class calendar <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction/calendar> for the most current information.

HSLS ORIENTATION

The two tour and orientation sessions are offered upon request so you can come at a time convenient to you.
Contact Mary Lou Librecht at 412-648-8796.

Introduction to HSLS Resources and Services at Falk Library
(Falk Library, meet inside entrance to Library)

Introduction to HSLS Resources and Services at WPIC Library
(WPIC Library, meet inside entrance to Library)

SEARCHING DATABASES

Searching MEDLINE on Ovid*
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Tuesday, November 16 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Friday, December 3 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Advanced MEDLINE Searching on Ovid*
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Tuesday, November 2 noon-1:30 p.m.

Searching MEDLINE on PubMed*
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Tuesday, November 9 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, December 8 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

Searching EMBASE.com*
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
Wednesday, November 3 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Searching PsycINFO*
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
Thursday, November 11 10:30 a.m.-noon

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND GENETICS RESOURCES

Sequence Similarity Searching*
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Tuesday, November 23 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

DNA Analysis Tools*
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Wednesday, December 1 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

SOFTWARE TRAINING

Adobe Photoshop for Beginners
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
Thursday, November 18 10 a.m.-noon

EndNote Basics
This class is usually full. Please arrive 15 minutes in advance to ensure seating. Class will start promptly at scheduled time.
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Wednesday, November 10 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
Tuesday, December 7 10 a.m.-noon

PowerPoint for Presentations
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
Tuesday, November 16 8 a.m.-10 a.m.
Tuesday, December 7 10 a.m.-noon.

SPECIAL TOPICS These classes are offered upon request so you can come at a time convenient to you.

Clinical Information Resources*
Contact Alice Kuller at 412-648-1971 or abk1@pitt.edu

Basic Science Information Resources*
Contact Ammon Ripple at 412-648-1251 or ammon2@pitt.edu

Mental Health Information Resources*
Contact Rebecca Abromitis at 412-246-5507 or baa@pitt.edu

Finding Information on Psychiatric and Psychological Testing Instruments*
Contact Ester Saghafi at 412-246-5502 or esa2@pitt.edu

Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Information Resources*
Contact Charles Wessel at 412-648-8730 or cbw@pitt.edu

Medical Humanities Information Resources*
Contact Jonathon Erlen at 412-648-8927 or erlen@pitt.edu

Searching for Evidence-Based Literature*
Contact Patricia Weiss Friedman at 412-648-2040

Health Resources on the World Wide Web*
Contact Linda Hartman at 412-648-1479 or lhartman@pitt.edu

Public Health on the Web: Finding What You Need When You Need It*
Contact Barb Folb at 412-246-5501 or folb@pitt.edu

All classes are open to faculty, staff and students of the schools of the health sciences at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC. No registration required. Seating for classes is first-come, first-served until the class is full. Classes marked with an asterisk (*) qualify for AMA Category 2 CME credit. Detailed course descriptions are available at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction>.
**HSLS Staff News**

Renae Barger is the new Reference librarian & Document Delivery coordinator, with dual responsibilities as a reference librarian and for oversight of all aspects of document delivery services and the membership program. She has been an HSLS reference librarian since 2003. Prior to that, she was a Health Sciences Library and Informatics trainee for 2002-03. She has worked as a medical technologist and Hematology Section supervisor at Clarion Hospital. Barger earned an undergraduate degree in medical technology and an MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh.

Falk Library circulation specialist Carrie Croll received an MLIS degree from the University of Pittsburgh in August 2004. She also holds a BA in Archaeology/Classical Civilization, with a minor in Latin from Pitt.

Gosia Fort has been appointed head of Bibliographic Services, and is now responsible for day-to-day activities in HSLS Technical Services. She has served as HSLS cataloging and database management librarian since 1999. She received her Master of Library Science and Doctor of Humanities degrees from the Uniwersytet Lódzki (Lódz, Poland), where she also held an associate professorship in Library Science. In 1993 she came to the U.S. as a Kosciuszko Fellow, and she has held cataloging and management positions in the University Library System, and at Barnes and Noble Booksellers.

Ammon Ripple has been promoted to head of Reference Services. His responsibilities include oversight of reference services at Falk and WPIC libraries, library instruction, and the school liaison program. He will serve as Web editor, and as a member of the Web committee. Ripple will also supervise the Document Delivery coordinator. He has been HSLS Document Delivery librarian & Reference Services coordinator since 1999. Prior to that, he was Reference/Public Services librarian at Pitt’s Information Sciences Library. Ripple is currently adjunct faculty in the School of Information Sciences. He received his undergraduate degree from St. Francis College, and MLS degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Liping Song has been appointed Electronic Resources Cataloging and Access librarian. She is responsible for managing metadata and user access for the HSLS electronic collection. Song has been the Circulation and Electronic Access librarian for HSLS since 2003. She has held librarian positions in cataloging and serials at Harvard University, Wheelock College, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. She received her MLIS from Simmons College, and holds a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard University, and a Master of Arts in English and American Literature from Yunnan Normal University (Kunming, China).

**HSLS staff** raised money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation by participating in the ninth annual Lee National Denim Day. In exchange for donations, staff members were permitted to wear blue jeans to work on October 8.

**PUBLICATIONS**


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**New Senior Health Web Site**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently launched NIHSeniorHealth.gov (<www.nihseniorhealth.gov>), a new talking Web site with formats and topics tailored to the needs of older people. The senior-friendly site takes advantage of techniques developed by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the National Library of Medicine (NLM) designed to encourage older people to use the Internet, and this site in particular, as a resource for the best information on health and medical research.

NIA and NLM brought together researchers who study cognition, Web site designers and communications experts to fashion a site that is easy for older adults to read, understand, remember and navigate. The site features large print and short, easy-to-read segments of information repeated in a variety of formats, such as open-captioned videos and short quizzes to increase recall.

*Information in this article is from <www.nih.gov/new/WordonHealth/apr2004/senior.htm>.*
New E-books

HSLS recently added to its collection the following electronic books, which are available through various online providers. There are currently more than 560 ebooks provided through HSLS and accessible through PITTCat for the Health Sciences <http://pittcat.hsls.pitt.edu> or the Electronic Books page <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/ebooks/titles>.

Stat!Ref:
- ACP medicine (formerly WebMD Scientific American Medicine)
- ACS surgery (formerly via WebMD)
- Adams and Victor’s principles of neurology
- Brunner and Suddarth’s textbook of medical-surgical nursing
- Degowin’s diagnostic examination

Wiley Interscience:
- Analysing gene expression
- Cancer and inflammation
- Eicosanoids
- Mammalian TRP channels as molecular targets

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