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Midcontinental Chapter of the
Medical Library Association
in partnership with NNLM Regions 3 & 4

EARLY CAREER HEALTH SCIENCE LIBRARIAN RESOURCE GUIDE



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Medical Knowledge Resources

- [The Accidental Health Sciences Librarian](#)

Lisa A. Ennis and Nicole Mitchell offer an overview along with guidance on a range of critical resources, tools, and functions. Although it's been over a decade since this book's release, its coverage of essential topics along with a wealth of expert tips and advice is a must for all new, prospective, and working health sciences librarians.

- [Anatomy & Physiology by CrashCourse](#)

This series of 49 YouTube videos brought to you by the Green Brothers and subject experts provides a fun and informative introduction to all major body systems and several A & P concepts.

- [DailyMed](#)

A database maintained by the National Library of Medicine containing labeling on drugs and medical devices submitted to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) by companies.

- [Epocrates](#)

A point-of-care tool that provides information on health conditions/diseases, clinical guidelines, drug information, drug interaction checkers, medical calculators, and more.

- [Medical Terminology Course through Des Moines University](#)

A free self-paced 15 module online course.

- [Most Trusted Health Websites \(Compiled by MLA\)](#)

The Consumer and Patient Health Information Services Caucus of the Medical Library Association maintains a list of recommended websites on health information.

- [GuidelineCentral](#)

Clinical guidelines for a variety of medical specialties. You can search the library of guidelines for free and upgraded subscriptions, pocket guides, and additional products are available for purchase.

- [National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health](#)

The National Institutes of Health under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services “conducts and supports research and provides information about complementary health products and practices.” From the homepage, you can access information for healthcare professionals and consumers. Consumer educational materials are available in both English and Spanish.

- [PubChem](#)

The world's largest collection of freely accessible chemical information. Search chemicals by name, molecular formula, structure, and other identifiers. Find chemical and physical properties, biological activities, safety and toxicity information, patents, literature citations, and more.

- [PubMed](#)

Contains more than 37 million citations and abstracts of biomedical literature.

- [Teeth: The Story of Beauty, Inequality, and the Struggle for Oral Health in America](#)

This easy, interesting read will get you up to speed on the history of current issues in the dental profession.

- [TRIP Medical Database](#)

A clinical search engine designed to allow users to quickly and easily find and use high-quality research evidence to support their practice and/or care. The basic platform can be accessed for free and upgraded access is available by subscription.

Research Support Resources

- [Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions](#)

Contains methodological guidance for the preparation and maintenance of Cochrane Reviews on the effects of interventions. Cochrane Reviews are published in the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* in the Cochrane Library.

- [**Coursera Course: Understanding Medical Research: Your Facebook Friend Is Wrong**](#)

The course covers study-design, research methods, and statistical interpretation. It also delves into the dark side of medical research by covering fraud, biases, and common misinterpretations of data. Each lesson will highlight case-studies from real-world journal articles.

- [**EQUATOR Network Reporting Guidelines**](#)

The EQUATOR (Enhancing the Quality and Transparency Of Health Research) Network is an international initiative that seeks to improve the reliability and value of published health research literature by promoting transparent and accurate reporting and wider use of robust reporting guidelines. The link is to the guideline search tool on EQUATOR's website.

- [**Evidence-Based Practice for the Medical Librarian**](#)

This 8-week online course from the Medical Library Association is an introduction to the process of evidence-based practice (EBP) and to the supporting roles and opportunities for medical librarians.

- [**Finding What Works in Health Care: Standards for Systematic Reviews**](#)

This downloadable consensus study report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine recommends 21 standards for developing high-quality systematic reviews of comparative effectiveness research addressing the entire systematic review process.

- [**JB1 Manual for Evidence Synthesis**](#)

Guides authors who wish to conduct systematic and scoping reviews following JBI methodologies. Each chapter is devoted to the synthesis of different types of evidence to address different types of clinical and policy-related questions.

- [**Literature Reviews Explained \(LITR-EX\)**](#)

Created by researchers and librarians "To explain, disseminate, and promote different kinds of literature reviews so that academics can harness all these forms of knowledge synthesis to inform their research efforts." Learn the difference between systematic, realist, narrative, scoping, state-of-the-art, meta-ethnographic, critical, and theory integrative reviews.

- [**PRISMA 2020 Statement**](#)

The Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) statement was designed to help systematic reviewers transparently report why the review was done, what the authors did, and what they found.

- [**PubMed Search Strategies Blog**](#)

Provides a place to share and browse PubMed search strategies on specific topics in hope that others will benefit from the work already put into the creation of searches and/or offer suggestions for the improvement of posted searches.

- [**Recommendations from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors**](#)

Provides best practices for the conduct, reporting, editing, and publication of scholarly work in medical journals.

- [**Resources Page from the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine \(University of Oxford\)**](#)

This site contains a wealth of resources for librarians, researchers, clinicians, students, and teachers, including how-to guides, critical appraisal tools, statistical analysis tools, levels of evidence, and more.

- [**The Systematic Review Accelerator \(SRA\)**](#)

The Systematic Review Accelerator project is at the Bond University Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare. The aim is to reduce the time it takes to conduct a systematic review. The website lists best practices for using the accelerator.

- [**Systematic Reviews: A Comprehensive Overview Video Series**](#)

This collection of videos is a self-paced instruction tool for those just starting out learning about systematic reviews (what they are, steps to conducting, etc.) and experienced individuals seeking a refresher on a particular systematic review topic. Each video is accompanied by a pdf handout of the slides as well as "test your knowledge" exercises.

- [**Systematic Review Libguide from the University of Michigan Library**](#)

This page includes resources and continuing education opportunities related to expert searching and evidence syntheses that were created by informationists at the U-M Taubman Health Sciences Library.

- [**Systematic Reviews Workshop from the University of Michigan Library**](#)

This multi-day intensive workshop is designed to teach librarians how to plan, conduct, and communicate the results of a systematic review. The workshop is offered twice a year.

- [**UCLA's Guide to Choosing the Correct Statistical Test**](#)

Provides guidance for use in SAS, STAT, SPSS, and R.

Consumer Health Resources

- [CDC Refugee Health Profiles](#)

This information helps clinicians, public health providers, and resettlement agencies facilitate medical screening, and determine appropriate interventions and services for individuals of a specific refugee group. Each profile is a comprehensive resource describing the demographic, cultural, and health characteristics of specific populations.

- [Consumer and Patient Health Information Services Caucus](#)

The Consumer and Patient Health Information Services Caucus connects health sciences librarians and other consumer health information specialists with a forum, educational opportunities, and specific resources for patients, their families, and other consumer health information users.

- [Ethnomed](#)

Developed at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, the webpage includes information about cultural beliefs and medical issues related to the healthcare of immigrant and refugee populations in the greater Seattle area, though much of the information is applicable to other geographic areas in the US.

- [Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center](#)

The NIH Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center (GARD) webpage provides free access to reliable and easy-to-understand information for the rare disease community. Users can browse or search by disease, find reliable external resources, connect with patient organizations, or connect with an information specialist through GARD directly.

- [Mayo Clinic Resources-Diseases & Conditions](#)

By browsing or keyword searching for a disease or condition, you can easily find images, texts, and resources related to symptoms & causes; diagnosis & treatment; doctors & departments (to request an appointment); and care at Mayo Clinic (information on visiting a Mayo Clinic location, cost, and insurance).

- [MedlinePlus](#)

“An online health information resource for patients and their families and friends”. It provides free, reliable, easy-to-understand health and wellness information in English and Spanish, and features health topics (diseases, illnesses, and health conditions); medical tests; genes and genetic conditions; the Medical Encyclopedia from A.D.A.M; drugs and supplements; and healthy recipes.

- [Nemours KidsHealth](#)

Nemours KidsHealth includes information for parents, kids, teens, and educators. The Parents site, linked here, provides advice on the health, behavior, and development of children from

before birth through the teen years, and has easy-to-follow articles, videos, animations, publications, and health instructions.

- [National Organization for Rare Disorders](#)

The National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) is “dedicated to individuals with rare diseases and the organizations that serve them”. The webpage, which is available in English and Spanish, has a comprehensive rare disease database and can also connect patients, families, and caregivers with assistance programs.

Tools & Technology Resources

Disclaimer: We understand that some of these resources require an active paid subscription. Please check with your institution to see if you can use these recommended software.

- [Canva](#)

A free-to-use online graphic design tool. Use it to create social media posts, presentations, posters, videos, logos, and more.

Citation Management Software

- [EndNote](#)

EndNote is a citation and reference tool that provides a centralized and searchable library, can sync across devices, allows for collaboration, and can be integrated with a word processor.

- [Mendeley](#)

A reference management software that helps you create, organize, and share references, citations, and bibliographies.

- [RefWorks](#)

A reference management and writing tool to help users “organize and create a personal database online”.

- [Zotero](#)

“A free, easy-to-use tool to help you collect, organize, annotate, cite, and share research”.

Evidence Synthesis Software

- [Covidence](#)

“The world’s leading software for managing and streamlining your systematic review.” For people new to the software, one MCMLA member found the following [support videos](#) helpful.

- [DistillerSR](#)

A literature review software that “automates the management of literature collection, screening, and assessment using AI and intelligent workflows.”

- [Rayyan](#)

A free research collaboration platform, Rayyan is an AI-assisted systematic literature review tool that simplifies and expedites tasks. For new users, one MCMLA member recommended the following [tutorial](#).

Professional Development Resources

- [Carrie Price's Youtube Channel](#)

Carrie Price has been in the medical/health science librarian profession for more than a decade. Her videos provide information on how to use databases, and what is a systematic review vs. a literature review, and are short and to the point. It is a great quick way for both professionals and students to quickly learn materials.

- [Code4Lib](#)

A volunteer-driven collective of hackers, designers, architects, curators, catalogers, artists and instigators from around the world, who largely work for and with libraries, archives and museums on technology “stuff.” It started in the fall of 2003 as a mailing list when a group of library programmers decided to create an overarching community agnostic towards any particular language or technology.

- [Consumer Health Information Specialization](#)

The CHIS, as it is known, is offered by the Medical Library Association to encourage training in providing health information to the general public, especially patients and caregivers. Add the CHIS to your resume or include it in your performance documentation.

- [Doody LIS Core Titles](#)

Every year in the Spring, Doody Enterprises, Inc. produces an original selected list of Doody's Core Titles. Over 200 healthcare professionals and medical librarians collaborate to create the yearly edition of this collection development resource which rates core book titles in 121 specialty areas in health sciences, basic sciences, clinical medicine, allied health, associated health professions, and nursing.

- [Electronic Resources and Libraries](#)

ER&L is a friendly niche conference made through the efforts of a fleet of library land volunteers and a small but mighty team led by Bonnie Tijerina, our founder. With a focus on a comfortable and inclusive environment with ample opportunities to network.

- [Health Sciences Collection Development: An Overview of Fundamental Knowledge and Practices \(2nd Edition\)](#)

This work was created by members of the Medical Library Association's Collection Development Caucus to provide librarians with key concepts about health sciences collection development. The chapters provide an overview of the knowledge, responsibilities, and tasks involved in the development and management of health sciences collections; it is recommended that readers refer to the references and further reading sections in each chapter for a more detailed look at each topic.

- [Krafty Librarian](#)

A blog site where medical librarians can share their ideas and findings, and ask each other questions.

- [LibTech Insights](#)

A helpful resource to stay abreast of changes in technology.

- [MedLib-ED](#)

An online environment with integrated tools and resources for all MLA learners, instructors, and administrators and for all health information professionals around the globe. It is accessible anytime and from anywhere on any device.

- [Medlibs Miscellany Podcast](#)

A collection of musings from a medical librarian's perspective. Has tons of resources to support new and seasoned med librarians with information retrieval, systematic reviews, knowledge management, and much more.

- [MLA Hospital Library Caucus](#)

The caucus maintains its list of "New Hospital Librarian Resources" that are useful for both early-career librarians and others.

- [MLA's User Experience Caucus Database Tips](#)

Provides bite-sized tips for expert searchers on how to search more efficiently.

- [New to Health Sciences Librarianship: Strategies, Tips, and Tricks](#)

Three new librarians highlight their varied pathways into health sciences librarianship and offer insight into how they are navigating the challenges and successes of being new to the profession. This commentary provides strategies, trips, and tricks that new health sciences librarians can use to hone their craft and explore opportunities for professional development.

- [NNLM Training Calendar](#)

The Network of the National Library of Medicine hosts free training for those working in a health science/medical profession. Courses typically offer Medical Library Association (MLA) credit. You can learn about topics like MedlinePlus, PubMed, ClinicalTrials.gov, and more!

- [SCC/MLA Early Career Librarian Webinar Series](#)

This webinar series was developed with early career librarians in mind. Learn professional development tips like how to get a job, promotion, tenure, research, and more!

- [University of Michigan Taubman Librarian Talks](#)

Taubman Library Talks are online events, webinars, and videos created or hosted by Informationists at the University of Michigan's Taubman Health Sciences Library.

Further MLA & NNLM Resources

- [DOCLINE](#)

The National Library of Medicine's interlibrary loan request routing system.

- [LocatorPlus](#)

The search interface for the catalog of the National Library of Medicine

- [MLA Communities](#)

This page explains the MLA community structure and links to the landing pages for the association's 41 caucuses.

- [NNLM Book Discussion](#)

NNLM Book Discussion offers librarians, health professionals, and public health workers interested in better understanding health issues faced by their communities an opportunity to explore topics with other professionals and earn Continuing Education Credit.

- [NNLM Guides and Resources](#)

NNLM maintains more than 40 guides to resources on health-related topics. Find a list of them here.

- [NNLM Reading Club](#)

Need some leads on general-interest books related to health topics for a book club? The NNLM Reading Club lists three titles on a different topic every month and includes suggested discussion questions and related resources for the general user.

- [NNLM Training Office](#)

NNLM aims to deliver free, high-quality training to diverse audiences nationwide in support of the effective use of the National Library of Medicine information products and services. The curriculum includes classes on consumer health information, how to use NLM resources, research data management, and other topics. Here you will be able to find a class, learn about specializations, or communicate with a member of the training staff.

Professional Associations and Organizations

- [Medical Library Association](#)

The Medical Library Association (MLA) is a global, nonprofit educational organization, with a membership of more than 400 institutions and 3,000 professionals in the health information field.

- [Network of the National Library of Medicine](#)

The NNLM is the outreach arm of the world's largest biomedical research library. It seeks to advance the progress of medicine and improve public health through equal access to biomedical information. Find out about NNLM's offerings of funding, training, and other resources.

MLA Chapters & NNLM Regions

This subsection contains regional chapters of the Medical Library Association and regional offices of the NNLM. If you want to join a professional association with health science/medical librarians in your chapter/region we recommend looking into where you fall in.

Your State/Territory	Your MLA Chapter	Your NNLM Region
Alabama	<u>Southern Chapter</u>	<u>Region 2</u>
Alberta	<u>Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNC-MLA)</u>	
Alaska	<u>Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNC-MLA)</u>	<u>Region 5</u>
Arizona	<u>MLGSCA</u>	<u>Region 4</u>
Arkansas	<u>South Central Chapter (SCCMLA)</u>	<u>Region 3</u>
British Columbia	<u>Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNC-MLA)</u>	

California	Southern: MLGSCA Northern: Northern California & Nevada Medical Group	Region 5
Colorado	Midcontinental Chapter (MCMLA)	Region 4
Connecticut	North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc. (NAHSL)	Region 7
Delaware	Liberty Chapter	Region 1
District of Columbia	Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Region 1
Florida	Southern Chapter	Region 2
Georgia	Southern Chapter	Region 2
Hawaii	Hawaii-Pacific Chapter	Region 5
Idaho	Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNC-MLA)	Region 4
Illinois	Midwest Chapter	Region 6
Indiana	Midwest Chapter	Region 6
Iowa	Midwest Chapter	Region 6
Kansas	Midcontinental Chapter (MCMLA)	Region 3
Kentucky	Midwest Chapter	Region 1
Louisiana	South Central Chapter (SCCMLA)	Region 3
Maine	North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc. (NAHSL)	Region 7
Maryland	Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Region 1

Massachusetts	North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc. (NAHSL)	Region 7
Michigan	Midwest Chapter	Region 6
Minnesota	Midwest Chapter	Region 6
Mississippi	Southern Chapter	Region 2
Missouri	Midcontinental Chapter (MCMLA)	Region 3
Montana	Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNC-MLA)	Region 4
Nebraska	Midcontinental Chapter (MCMLA)	Region 3
Nevada	Northern California & Nevada Medical Group	Region 5
New Hampshire	North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc. (NAHSL)	Region 7
New Jersey	Liberty Chapter	Region 1
New Mexico	South Central Chapter (SCCMLA)	Region 4
New York	Upstate New York and Ontario Chapter	Region 7
North Carolina	Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Region 1
North Dakota	Midwest Chapter	Region 4
Ohio	Midwest Chapter	Region 6
Oklahoma	South Central Chapter (SCCMLA)	Region 3
Ontario	Upstate New York and Ontario Chapter	

Oregon	Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNC-MLA)	Region 5
Pacific Territories	Hawaii-Pacific Chapter	Region 5
Pennsylvania	East: Liberty Chapter West: Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Region 1
Puerto Rico	Southern Chapter	Region 2
Rhode Island	North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc. (NAHSL)	Region 7
South Carolina	Southern Chapter	Region 2
South Dakota	Midcontinental Chapter (MCMLA)	Region 4
Tennessee	Southern Chapter	Region 2
Texas	South Central Chapter (SCCMLA)	Region 3
U.S. Virgin Islands	Southern Chapter	Region 2
Utah	Midcontinental Chapter (MCMLA)	Region 4
Vermont	North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc. (NAHSL)	Region 7
Virginia	Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Region 1
Washington	Pacific Northwest Chapter (PNC-MLA)	Region 5
West Virginia	Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Region 1
Wisconsin	Midwest Chapter	Region 6
Wyoming	Midcontinental Chapter (MCMLA)	Region 4

