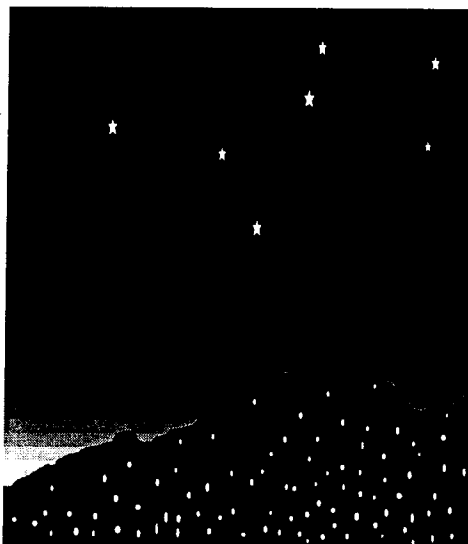




News from the Executive Committee

MLA 1996 planning

The CAPHIS program committee has been successful in its efforts to secure funding for Tom Ferguson's presentation in Kansas City (many thanks to Pat Gibson). Hoeschst Marion Roussel has generously offered \$3,000 towards Dr. Ferguson's expenses so program planning is proceeding on schedule. The CAPHIS program will take place on Tuesday morning, June 4, at 11:00 a.m., and is co-sponsored by the Medical Informatics Section. Tom will discuss the impact of



Partnerships for Networked Health Information for the Public

A conference focusing on health information for the public was held May 14-16, 1995, in Rancho Mirage, California. Sponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the conference provided a rare opportunity for a diverse number of interested parties to jointly explore the apparent potential of network technologies and consumer health information applications, identify problems and issues needing further clarification, and begin to define their respective roles. The morning plenary session of May 15 was teleconferenced to the DHHS in Washington, DC providing an opportunity for additional interested parties to participate in the conference. Presenters included representatives from government, computer software companies, publishing companies, libraries, managed care organizations, citizens' groups, Internet providers, just to name a few.

(Continued on page 5)

Wasn't there a time when consumer health librarians were considered almost cultish?

electronic information resources, including Internet resources, on the delivery of consumer health information. As many of you know, Dr. Ferguson was the first editor of **Medical Self-Care** magazine and has been active in the consumer health field as an author, speaker, and advocate for many years.

Bonnie Chadbourne, who is coordinating the contributed papers session for MLA 1996, and other committee volunteers will begin reviewing abstracts

beginning the first week in December. The contributed papers session is scheduled to be on Sunday, June 2, 1996, 4:00-5:30 p.m. It will be co-sponsored by Hospital Libraries, Nursing and Allied Health, Cancer Librarians and the Federal Librarians Sections. Papers will address the topic of "New and innovative services in health care settings." The abstract deadline was November 18th.

Electronic Communications Task Force

Roz Dudden has constructed a mock-up Homepage for the CAPHIS section which can be viewed on the Web at <http://www.njc.org/caphis/caphis.html>. Much work remains to be

(Continued on page 3)

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Consumer Connections

Editor. Kay Deeney
Special thanks for assistance to
Nancy Calabretta, Claire Hamasu
and Mary Prottsman.

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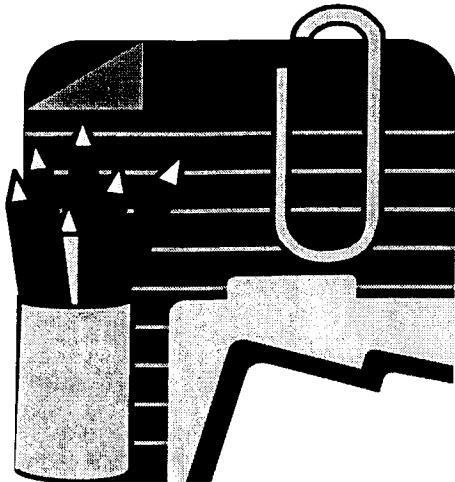
Consumer Connections is
produced three times a year in the
Summer, Winter and Spring.



News from the Executive Committee

(Continued from page 1)

done by the Electronic Communications Task Force, who are sharing the responsibility for content at this site. The logo shown on the page will be replaced by a real section logo as soon as one can be selected and designed.



Section Statement

The section statement, *The Librarian's Role in the Provision of Consumer Health Information and Patient Education*, was distributed by mail to the Section Chairs and Section Council Representatives. It is now scheduled to come before the MLA Board at their mid-winter meeting for official approval before it is published in the MLA News. We are hoping for a March publication date. I believe that the statement accurately reflects the professional commitment of the section members and will serve as a standard for all MLA members. Many thanks to the Ad Hoc Committee to Consider the Hospital Librarian's Role in Consumer/Patient Health Information who wrote the statement—Joanne Marshall,

chair, Margaret Bandy, Kathy Lindner, Lisa McCormick, Alan Rees and Janet Schneider.

Section Listserv

The Executive Committee is working on the design of the section listserv which will allow the members to communicate on consumer health issues and section business. There are administrative issues and paper work yet to be completed but we expect to have the list ready to go by Spring if not before.

Bylaws

The Bylaws committee chairman, David Duggar, is reviewing the section bylaws for revisions to conform to the new MLA Model Bylaws. Any suggested changes will be published in the Spring issue of *Consumer Connections*.

Section Awards

The Awards Committee is working cooperatively with the MLA Awards and Recognition Committee to determine options and make recommendations to the Section concerning section awards. More information will be available in a future issue of *Consumer Connections*. The recommendations will come before the membership at MLA in Kansas City.

by *Sandi Parker*
Chair

from the Midwinter Report

As of November 30, 1995 the section membership totals 480 members and the treasury balance is \$3987.74.

by *Sandi Parker*
Chair

Consumer Connections is published three (3) times a year in the Spring, Summer and Winter, and is the official publication of the **Consumer and Patient Health Information Section (CAPHIS)** of the Medical Library Association.

Deadlines for submitting articles:

Winter issue Nov. 15, 1995
Spring issue Feb. 15, 1996
Summer issue Jul. 15, 1996

How to submit articles to the Newsletter:

Send your articles about CHI programs and successes, interesting experiences, news items, book reviews, exciting tidbits of information, etc., to me:

Kay Deeney
Consumer Connections, Editor
See page 2 for address details.

I prefer receiving materials emailed to me. Or send on IBM compatible floppy diskettes. With floppies—ASCII, WordPerfect or Word for Windows is acceptable. Otherwise, please contact me. Help make this an interesting, relevant and useful newsletter! Participate!

Kay Deeney
Editor



Articles from the Literature

Doyle DJ. Surfing the Internet for patient information - the personal clinical web page. **JAMA-Journal of the American Medical Association**, 1995 Nov 22, 274(20):1586-1586.

Schwartz RH. Surfing the Internet- newsgroups (alt.support.asthma and rec.pets.cats)-asthmatic allergic cat lovers are a special breed. **Pediatric Asthma Allergy & Immunology**, 1995 Summer, 9(2):59-61.

Jimison HB; Sher PP. Consumer health informatics - health information technology for consumers. **Journal of the**

American Society For Information Science. 1995 Dec, 46(10):783-790.

Till JE. Cancer-related Internet discussion groups. **Humane Medicine** 1995 Nov, 11(4):142-143.

Zelinger J. Patient handouts from the Internet. **MD Computing**, 1995 Sep/Oct, 12(5):338+.

Medical hardware and software buying guide. **MD Computing** Nov/Dec 1995 12(6):441-556. Pages 544-556 have tables about the software listing a category for patient education software. The overall article has basic descriptions of software, CDROMs, and other media.

CAPHIS Directory Information

The **1995/96 MLA Directory** which all MLA members receive includes a listing of CAPHIS section members in alphabetical order on page S1. The list is not complete for those members who join after a certain cut-off date.

The **CAPHIS directory** that was produced as of June, 1995 is listed geographically so that members of the Section can locate others in their neighboring areas. If you are a Section member and did not receive the directory with your summer newsletter, please request a copy from Kay Deeney.

CONSUMER HEALTH DATABASE

"**MDX HEALTH DIGEST** is an excellent source... the combination of popular and clinical journals will be of much greater use to nonmedical types than **MEDLINE** ever will."

LIBRARY JOURNAL (April 15, 1994)

MDX HEALTH DIGEST™

An easy-to-use database containing **SUMMARIES** of more than 20,000 health articles written for the general public. Full Boolean search capabilities by text word or **INDEX TERMS**. Updated monthly. Sources include:

Medical Journals - Newsletters - Magazines - Medical School Reports - Newspapers.

Produced by healthcare professionals, used by public and hospital libraries, universities, U.S. military and VA facilities, regional and national networks. Available on **CD-ROM** by SilverPlatter & **CD PLUS** - **ONLINE** with OCLC & **CD PLUS**.



MEDICAL DATA EXCHANGE

4730 Galice Road, Merlin, Oregon 97532
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MDX



Partnerships for Networked Health. . .

(Continued from page 1)

A very interesting presentation given by John Harris, Vice President, Reference Point Foundation described CHI demand and delivery. He noted that 35% of Americans report a mental or physical problem in their household. Of those people, 86% have attempted to obtain health information. Harris suggested that continued study be made of barriers affecting access to health care as well as health care information.

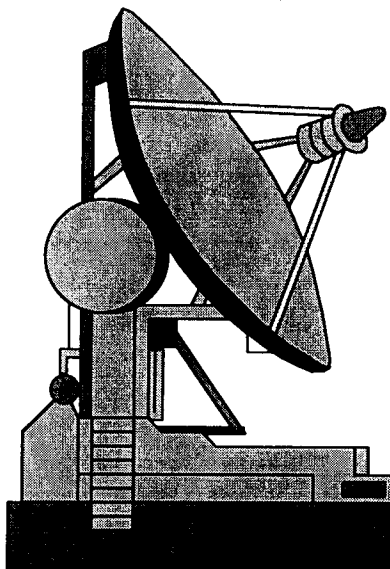
Reed Tuckson, MD, President, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, proposed that there needs to be a better understanding between patients and health care professionals. We must define the appropriate and evolving physician-patient relationship. He emphasized the need for quality information that can be understood by consumers, noting the continued existence of the information rich and the information poor.

A large focus of the conference was on new technologies and how they might be employed to contribute to better health. The importance of networked health information, reflected in the Clinton Administration's creation of a Health Information and Applications Subworking Group as part of its Information Infrastructure Task Force, poses a variety of issues including authenticity, accuracy, and integrity of data, and the resulting risks to the health of people who rely on that information. In addition, electronic publication and dissemination of health

information involve copyright and intellectual property issues. Many of the presenters reflected on these and other concerns regarding electronic mediums.

The Conference proved to be a dynamic and exciting opportunity for those involved in providing CHI to go beyond their individual background and profession and network with others working on pieces of the same puzzle.

For more information about the conference visit the Conference's Home Page at



<http://nhic-nt.health.org/nmp/conf.htm>. While librarians were represented on the dais, very few librarians, particularly medical librarians, were in attendance at the Conference. This could have been due to the limited advertising directed to librarians and the closeness in date to the MLA's Annual Meeting. Members of CAPHIS should seriously consider attending this year's conference scheduled for May 12-14, 1996 at the Annenberg Center at Eisenhower, Rancho Mirage, California. Other professionals involved with health information need to know what librarians are doing in the area of health information for the public. To be put on the mailing

list to receive further information, send your name, academic degrees, organization, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address via fax (301) 984- 4256 or email llopex@health.org. or mail to Partnerships Conference, National Health Information Center, PO Box 1133, Washington, DC 20013-1133.

by Andrea Kenyon

Developing A Consumer Health Information Service: A Practical Guide

is designed as a "how-to" manual that should be of value to librarian, community groups, and others interested in the provision of health information.

This practical guide:

- highlights key concepts for a CHI service
 - provides "tips" to point out particularly useful sources and to offer practical advice about service and collection issues
 - leads the reader via an extensive bibliography to a wealth of information relevant to the establishment and operation of an effective CHI service
- It includes sample disclaimers, statistics forms, evaluation questionnaires and other practical aids.

Cost is \$96.25 Canadian (includes GST and first class mail) or \$69.95 U.S. (includes first class mail) Prepayment is required. For an order form or more information, please contact Susan Murray, Consumer Health Information Service, Toronto, at 416-393-7168 or smurray@mtrl.toronto.on.ca.



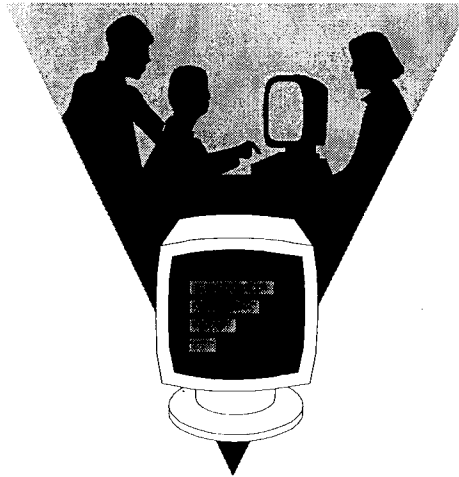
Library Contributes HIV/AIDS Information to USCweb

Access to HIV/AIDS resources has been enhanced by the University of Southern California Norris Medical Library contribution to the health sciences component of the USCweb (http://www.usc.edu/hsc/resources/hiv_aids). The page serves as an entry point to the multitude of resources on the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome scattered throughout the Internet and the World Wide Web.

The impetus for creating the page occurred last spring when Elliot Johnson, administrator of the Los Angeles County and USC Medical Center Rand Schrader Clinic, approached Bill Clintworth, associate director for information resources at the Norris Medical Library. He was looking for assistance in providing the clinic's patients with direct Internet access. The Rand Schrader Clinic is one of the largest HIV/AIDS clinics in the United States, treating up to 3,000 individuals per week. With a patient population known for their proactive participation in their treatment, Mr. Johnson was eager to direct these individuals to the vast amount of current information available through the World Wide Web.

The resulting home page, created by Mr. Clintworth and Melissa Just, Norris Library information specialist, focuses on AIDS resources with particular relevance to patients and health care providers in the Los Angeles area. Included are links to Los Angeles community resources,

U.S. government information, much of which is updated daily, and key web sites throughout the world focusing on treatment and prevention. Patients may now use the USCweb to locate information from such sources as the CDC National AIDS Clearinghouse, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the World Health Organization.



Additional World Wide Web resources will be added to the HIV/AIDS home page as they become available. Because approximately 40% of Rand Schrader Clinic patients are Spanish-speaking, particular emphasis will be placed upon identifying Spanish language resources. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and AIDS Project Los Angeles are currently in the process of mounting their Spanish language materials on the Web and these important resources will be added to the HIV/AIDS home page as soon as they are available.

by Bill Clintworth

For further information on the HIV/AIDS home page, contact Bill Clintworth, (213) 342-1483.

WCLINTWO@HSC.USC.EDU.

Missives from the Internet

Compiled from MEDLIB-L messages during Winter, 1995

Jenny Reiswig posted a question in MEDIB-L about CHI in hospitals. She received 12 separate replies that she sent out at the end of August. Because the replies are so long, we have chosen not to reproduce them here. You can obtain the message either by contacting Jenny or by using your computer resources to get a copy of that message from the archives of Medlib-L.

by Nancy Calabretta and Kay Deeney

Personal Health Journal

For those who want a paperless record of their medical records, Parsons Technology produces Personal Health Journal for Windows. It tracks health histories, insurance payments, immunizations and can generate reports. The system requirements are: IBM or compatible, 2 MB RAM, 2MB hard drive space, and Windows version 3.1 or higher. For the first 250,000 orders, Personal Health Journal is free except for the cost of shipping and handling (\$8.95). Regular retail price is \$69.00. Call 1-800-243-6169 or Fax 1-319-395-7449 or write to Parsons Technology, Product Development Center, One Parsons Drive, Hiawatha, IA 52233. The priority code is 839295H.

by Claire Hamasu



Book Reviews

Encyclopedia of Natural Medicine. By Michael T. Murray and Joseph E. Pizzorno. Rocklin, CA: Prima Publishing, 1991. 622p. \$18.95 ISBN:1-55958-091-7.

This book was written to explain how natural medicines can be used to maintain health and treat disease, as well as to dispel the myth that natural medicines are 'unscientific.' The authors, who have both written extensively on the subject of naturopathic medicine, state: "This is without question the most thoroughly researched and referenced book on the use of natural medicines ever written for the public."

The work is organized into three parts: a brief introduction to natural medicine; principles of health, such as immune support and pain control; and a discussion of approximately 60 specific health problems from acne to varicose veins. A scientific approach is followed. Under health problems, the format includes a definition, general considerations, therapy, and treatment. The work is extensively referenced with approximately 60 pages of bibliographical references citing works from naturopathic and mainstream medicine. There is also a glossary of medical terms and an index.

Health problems discussed, such as chronic fatigue and migraine, are conditions for which mainstream medicine has not offered very successful treatment options. The natural medicine treatments suggested in this work emphasize a multifaceted therapeutic approach. For example, treatment for psoriasis includes dietary modification as well as

vitamin supplements, botanical medicines, exercise, exposure to sunlight, stress reduction, and topical treatment to provide symptomatic relief.

The Encyclopedia outlines the safe and effective use of natural medicine, rejecting the fads and fiction that are often associated with non-traditional healing. The authors have excellent credentials. Both are on the staff (Pizzorno is a co-founder) of Bastyr College, an accredited four year graduate program leading to the Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine degree.

The only shortcoming of this book is that it doesn't cover more health problems! I hope that a future edition will be enlarged to include chapters on conditions such as fibromyalgia and temporomandibular joint disease.

by Susan Murray

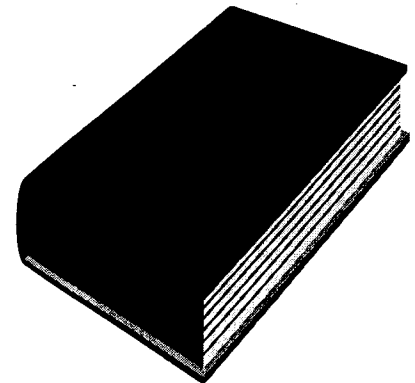
Susan Murray is at the Consumer Health Information Service, Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M4W2G8.

Book Reviewers Needed

Anyone interested in doing consumer health/patient education related book reviews, should contact either **Janet Coggan**, book review editor for **Medical Reference Services Quarterly**, or **Connie Poole**, book review editor for the **MLA Bulletin** or **Ruth Gustafson**, for **CAPHIS** at the Elizabeth Public Library, 11 South Broad Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202, 908-354-6060.

Managing Your Migraine: a Migraine Sufferer's Practical Guide. By Susan L. Burks. Totowa, NJ: Humana Press, 1994. 248p. Index. \$22.50 ISBN 0-89603-277-9.

Managing Your Migraine is a comprehensive, easy-to-read guide for migraine sufferers, providing detailed information to enable victims to better understand and cope with their conditions. The author, Susan L. Burks, is a migraine sufferer who was assisted in her writing by Fred D. Sheftell, MD, Cofounder



and Codirector of the New England Center for Headache in Stamford, Connecticut. The book is based on extensive research and the author's personal experience.

Throughout the book, the author stresses the importance of forming a cooperative relationship with a competent physician, assuming primary responsibility for managing the condition, and staying informed of developments in the field. Writing in a positive, friendly manner, the author advocates a combination of practices involving lifestyle, diet, and drug

(Continued on page 8)



Book Reviews. . .

(Continued from page 7)

therapy, often referring readers to sources of information and support.

The book is organized according to specific aspects of migraine. Each chapter ends with a useful summary of chapter highlights. The first two chapters present helpful introductory advice and information concerning diagnosis, the roles of the doctor and patient, obstacles and controversies in the history of migraine research, and a recent growing consensus among researchers. The next five chapters discuss the ways "triggers" and "threshold setters" work; lifestyle factors such as stress, smoking and environmental hazards; dietary aspects of migraine; and hormonal aspects of migraine. The remaining chapters present conditions that may be mistaken for migraine such as allergy, sinus infection and inner-ear disorders; conditions that complicate migraine such as depression and thyroid disorders; non-headache drugs that improve or worsen symptoms; guidelines for effective drug therapy; and coping issues.

Eight appendices of useful outlines, charts and summaries assist the reader in untangling the somewhat overwhelming and confusing mass of information on migraine. Included are an outline for a headache diary, a self-evaluation of migraine-related experiences, recipes from the author's kitchen, detailed food charts showing safe and unsafe foods, and a summary of popular migraine medications. Serious readers will appreciate the eight-page list of suggested readings and references for each chapter.

Readers interested in a more technical approach to the topic of migraine are referred to Oliver Sacks' *Migraine* (University of California Press, 1992). Susan Burks' *Managing Your Migraine* is recommended for consumer health and patient information collections.

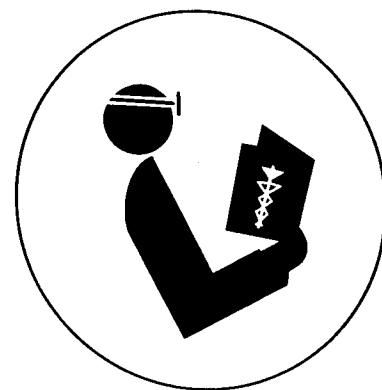
by *Laura Sklansky*



Health Care Choices for Today's Consumer: The Families USA Guide to Quality & Cost. Edited by Marc S. Miller, Ph.D. Living Planet Press, 1995. 1-879326-23-X \$14.95 342 p.

Today's health care options are complex and confusing. **Health Care Choices** guides one through the health care maze with an encyclopedia of useful information about health care issues: consumer rights; selecting health plans, providers, and hospitals; services for women, children, and elders; alternative health care, long-term care, and home care. Each chapter is written by an expert in the field in simple, straightforward language. The final chapter, "Partners in Health,"

emphasizes the importance of support groups and self-help clearinghouses. The compilation of electronic resources (America On Line, CompuServe, and various bulletin boards) and information brokers (Health Resource, Planetree) is not easily found elsewhere. A major strength of **Health Care Choices** is its layout which presents complex information in a comprehensible format. Each page contains sidebars which emphasize key points and cross-reference additional information in other chapters. Charts and tables are used effectively to display comparative data on insurance plans and graphically summarize complications of Medicare coverage. The excellent selection of organizations and publications listed at the end of each chapter points to additional resources for the consumer. Families USA, a national health care reform consumer advocacy organization, has served its mission well with the production of this book. A must for every library serving health care consumers and indeed for every consumer.





The Best Guide to Allergy. By Schultz, Nathan D. et al. 3rd ed. Totowa, NJ: Humana Press, 1994. 224p. Glossary, index. \$24.50 ISBN 0-89603-283-3

The Best Guide to Allergy is a concise, easy-to-understand guide to preventing and treating the numerous forms of allergy suffered by millions of Americans. Written by three physicians from the University of California and a nuclear medical technologist who is also an allergy patient, the book presents information in a straightforward question-and-answer format.

The guide consists of ten chapters covering different types of allergies and allergy-related issues, including hay fever, asthma, skin allergy, food allergy, insect allergy, allergy shots, and drug allergies. In their answers to frequently asked questions, the authors address common concerns of allergy sufferers by providing useful tips and advice and by simplifying complex processes, such as the mechanism of an allergic reaction. Helpful illustrations, charts and lists appear throughout the guide.

A detailed chapter on asthma discusses the relationship between allergy and asthma; numerous asthma triggers such as respiratory infections, stress, smoke, and sulfites; and various forms of drug therapy. Some of the questions the authors answer are "Can I take asthma medications if I am pregnant?" and "Which drugs must I avoid if I have asthma?" Many useful charts with titles such as "Irritants in the Work Environment" and "Tips for Controlling Your Exercise-Induced Wheezing" are provided. A chart showing the NIH Consensus Guidelines for the Drug Therapy of Asthma is also included. Examples of interesting

questions from other chapters are "Can I have allergies when all my tests are negative?" "How do I choose from the hundreds of allergy medications at Walgreens?" "Can I go sunbathing and swimming with eczema?" "May I use peanut oil if I am allergic to peanuts?"

The chapters on food allergy and drug allergies are especially helpful for sufferers who have questions about elimination diets, diets to follow during pregnancy and infancy, and medications



that can cause allergies. In a chapter on new and controversial issues, several debatable topics are discussed, including "cerebral allergy" and hyperactivity. In a final chapter, the authors present helpful advice for prevention and control of allergies including various types of environmental control; choosing an allergist; and a list of associations dealing with allergy.

The authors of The Best Guide to Allergy refer to many research studies, but do not provide a bibliography or references to document them. In spite of this drawback, because of its wealth of useful information and unusually easy and informative style, The Best Guide to Allergy is recommended for consumer health information and patient education collections.

by Laura Sklansky

Book Reviews from the Literature

Croom, Philip. **Alternative Healing: The Complete A-Z to over 100 Different Alternative Therapies**, by Mark Kastner and Hugh Burroughs. **Medical Reference Services Quarterly** 1995 Fall, 14(3): 94.

Coggan, Janet M. **Consumer Health Information Source Book**, 4th ed., edited by Alan Rees. **Medical Reference Services Quarterly** 1995 Fall, 14(3): 96.

Schneider E **Consumer Health USA - Essential information from the federal health network**, by Rees, AM. **Bulletin of the Medical Library Association**, 1995 Oct, 83(4):521-522.

Schneider E. **The Consumer Health Information Source Book**, 4th ed., edited by Alan Rees. **Bulletin of the Medical Library Association**, 1995 Oct, 83(4):521-522.

Prottzman, Mary. **The Lupus Book: A Guide for Patients and Their Families**. **Library Journal** 1995 Oct 15, 120(17):81.

Prottzman, Mary. **The Center for Medical Consumers Ultimate Medical Answerbook**. **Library Journal** 1995 Aug, 120(13):66.

Prottzman, Mary. **Genetic Connections: A Guide to Documenting Your Individual and Family Health History**. **Library Journal** 1995 Jul, 120(12):113.



AV Reviews

The HIV Test: Who Should Take It? What Does It Show?

Produced by Milner-Fenwick, 1993. 25:36 minutes. \$150. 1-800-432-8433

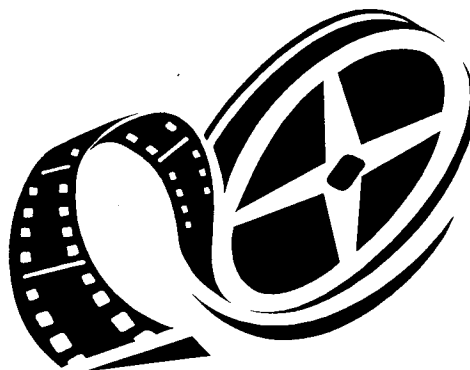
This multiethnic video provides an overview of the physical and psychosocial effects of HIV and AIDS in non-technical terms. The information is presented in a logical format and follows the order set forth by the host at the beginning of the film. Interviews with health care professionals as well as persons that are HIV-positive compliment the general narration.

The host explains what HIV is, how it is transmitted, the tests that are used to detect the virus, and ways to prevent its transmission. Viewers know who should be tested, what questions to ask a health care professional, and the privacy issues that are involved in testing. Additional information can be obtained from the national toll-free numbers that are listed on the screen (in English and Spanish). Viewers are encouraged to contact state and local agencies that test for and counsel persons with HIV and AIDS.

The film could have been improved by including more interviews with persons who are HIV positive and who have AIDS. The film should also de-emphasize New York City landmarks. Viewers of the tape should be made aware that although New York City and city dwellers are emphasized, the information presented is for any community. The phone numbers for HIV/AIDS hotlines should be listed before the credits at the end of the tape, rather than after them.

"The HIV Test" is recommended for consumer health and patient education collections, public libraries, and HIV/AIDS education and testing centers. Free preview is available.

by Cynthia Burke



In the Beginning: Parenting Skills from Birth to Two Years. Kidsrights, 1993 15 minutes. \$99. 1-800-892-KIDS

This video is for first-time adult and teen parents. It identifies the stresses of first-time parenthood and the factors that can lead to child abuse. "In the Beginning" provides practical suggestions for the parent to take in order to reduce stress, such as:

- * child-proofing the home
- * establishing a regular bed time for the child
- * allowing the child to potty train at his or her own pace and
- * maintaining a calm disposition through a child's temper tantrum.

Additional information is available through the toll-free numbers listed on the screen (Parents Anonymous and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children).

The video is logically arranged, but the information is not presented consistently. For example, the only place where the narrator's words scroll rapidly across the screen is when discussing a child's temper tantrum. Some of the state

agency numbers are only for the state of Kentucky. More numbers for national agencies should be included. If Kidsrights updates this film, the narrator should definitely speak slower.

This video can be used in consumer health and patient education collections, public libraries, and childbirth/first-time parenting classes. Free preview is available.

by Cynthia Burke

Alcohol and Pregnancy: Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effects. Distributed by Milner-Fenwick, produced by AIMS Media, 1992. 20:42 min. \$150. 1-800-432-8433

After seeing this film, viewers will understand what FAS (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome) and FAE (Fetal Alcohol Effects) are, as well as the short- and long-term consequences of each. The strongest points of this film are its time (20 minutes) and its interviews.

Interviews with FAS/FAE children and their parents comprise most of the program. A more logical progression would have been to begin the interviews with the youngest FAS child and end with the 19 year old youth. The struggles of the children in accomplishing tasks such as swallowing food or tying a shoelace are demonstrated. The father's genetic contribution in producing an FAS/FAE child is also discussed. The film transcends racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Despite its age, this tape would be useful in consumer health and patient education collections, childbirth education classes, and drug rehabilitation centers. Free preview is available from Milner-Fenwick.

by Cynthia Burke



Profile: India's First Health Education Library

We are a non-profit organization of health care professionals. In order to improve the care we provide to our community, we have started India's first Health Education Library for Patients. It was first described in the World Health Forum 14(3):295-6 in 1993. One of our priorities is patient and health education, since we firmly believe that the best patients are well informed patients who can take care of their own health.

We are a 1000 square foot facility in the heart of Bombay and a free access public service. We have over 3000 books, 7000 brochures and videos and CDROMs on consumer health.

However, we are still short of funds (for example, we need a xerox machine) and we are looking for details on organizations who provide funding. We also need books, magazines and newsletters on consumer health and would be grateful if anyone could send these.

by Dr A. N. Malpani, MD

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Creative Connections: Canadian Health Libraries Association/Associatio n des bibliotheques de la sante du Canada 1996 Annual Meeting

WHEN: Wednesday, June 12 -
Monday, June 17, 1996

WHERE: Delta Chelsea Inn,
Toronto



The theme of the conference, Creative Connections, will allow you to explore the concurrent themes of Technology, Community, Education and Clinical Care within the context of today's expanding global neighbourhood and the realities of shrinking distances between health science information professionals, their suppliers, and their customers. This challenge is magnified by the requirement to

create new connections and personalize new technologies against a backdrop of changing policies, new priorities and fiscal restraint.

If you would like to contribute a paper for presentation, or if you have a topic that you would like to suggest for a discussion forum, contact Madeline Grant (Baycrest Hospital) at grantm@library.utoronto.ca or Jennifer Reiswig (Toronto East General Hospital) at reiswig@library.utoronto.ca

For more information, visit their Web site at <http://www.imr.on.ca/contact/chla96.htm>.

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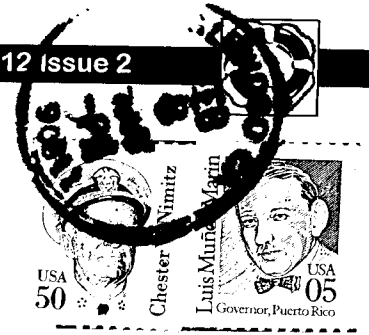
Consumer Connections is available to non-MLA members for \$10.00 for three issues per year. Please send a check or money order made out to CAPHIS to the newsletter editor. See page two for address information.

The CAPHIS Section Webpage is at:
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Consumer Connections

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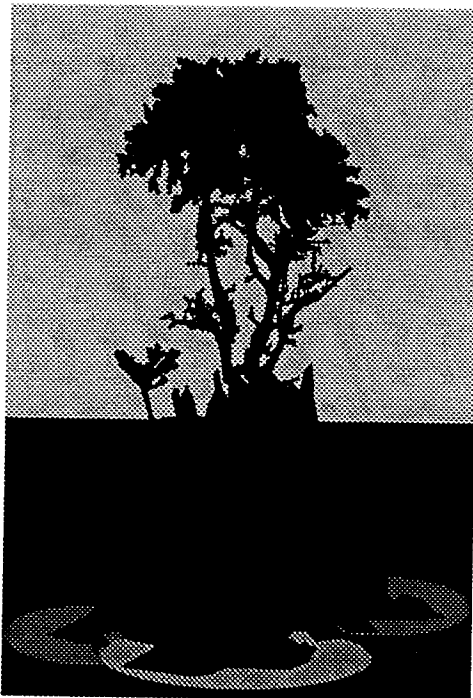
Kathleen A. Moeller
 5 Harvey Drive
 Summit, NJ 07901

Dates of Interest

**February 9, 1996, MLGSCA
 and NCNMLG Joint Meeting,**
 CE Class, Consumer Health
 Information Resources,
 Instructor, Kay Deeney

**May 12-14, 1996, Partnerships
 for Networked Health
 Information for the Public**
 Hosted by the Annenberg Center
 at Eisenhower, Rancho Mirage,
 California

June 1-5, 1996
**96th Annual Meeting of the
 Medical Library Association,**
 Kansas City, MO.



**June 2, 1996, Sunday 4:00-5:30
 pm. CAPHIS Contributed papers**
**"New and innovative services
 in health care settings."**

**June 4, 1996, Tuesday 11:00
 am. CAPHIS Program, speaker,**
Tom Ferguson

June 12-17, 1996
Creative Connections:
 Canadian Health Libraries
 Association 1996 Annual
 Meeting, Toronto.