

11-2000

## Information Interface - Volume 28, Issue 5 - November/December 2000

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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### Recommended Citation

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, "Information Interface - Volume 28, Issue 5 - November/December 2000" (2000). *Information Interface (1999 - 2009)*. Paper 15.  
<https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/ii/15>

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# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### From the Director's Desk

The Library staff works hard to collect the materials that faculty, staff and students of the Medical Center need to support their educational, clinical, and research activities. Over the last few years, collection development has expanded into the electronic arena with the introduction of e-textbooks and e-journals.

The Library staff also works hard to ensure that users know what we have and, perhaps more importantly in this electronic era, how to access and use those materials most effectively! To that end, Himmelfarb librarians have conducted over 109 educational sessions and taught a total of 2389 individuals for 5080 contact hours. These educational sessions have ranged from broad overviews of resources taught during academic orientations to in-depth instructional classes such as those held at the SMHS Faculty Retreat to specialized seminars on specific course topics.

Sessions have been both well-attended and well-received. Librarians especially enjoy teaching these sessions and helping users learn about new databases or enhance research skills. If you would like to schedule an educational session for your staff or class, please contact Patricia Wilson, Associate Director for Outreach Services at 202-994-2853 or [mlbphw@gwumc.edu](mailto:mlbphw@gwumc.edu).

*Anne Linton, Director,  
Library Services*



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### New Staff

Richard (Rick) Billingsley has rejoined the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library staff as Coordinator of Information and Instruction Services. Some of the faculty and staff may remember Rick from his time here in 1998 when he served as a Reference Assistant. He comes to us from a position as Program Analyst at the National Institutes of Health, Office of AIDS Research. Rick has an extensive background in nursing, legal studies, public health and medical reference. Please stop by and welcome Rick home!



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calendar](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### MD Consult

The Library is offering MD CONSULT, a comprehensive online resource for finding clinical information. MD CONSULT provides both clinical content and current awareness tools.

Clinical content and features available from MD CONSULT include the following:

- › Over 38 standard medical texts that can be browsed individually or searched collectively
- › Interface for searching citations in MEDLINE, AIDSLINE, HealthSTAR, and CANCERLIT
- › Full-text clinical information from over 50 medical journals
- › Over 600 clinical practice guidelines compiled by medical societies and government agencies
- › Nearly 3,000 patient education handouts that can be customized to include special instructions/information for a particular patient
- › Full-text, searchable version of Mosby's *GenRX* (for finding drug information)

To assist clinicians in keeping up-to-date with the latest medical news, MD CONSULT offers the following:

- › Daily medical news headlines from Reuter's Health
- › Medical headlines from popular news sources (that patients might be reading)
- › Summaries of the latest articles published in major medical journals
- › Summaries and current bibliographies on various clinical topics
- › Updates on newly approved drugs
- › Opportunities for earning CME credit

You must be on campus to sign up to use MD CONSULT. Once you have signed up you will be able to access MD CONSULT from off campus as well. For more information about signing up, ask a librarian at the Reference Desk.



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### New Software in BAVSC

Over the past several months the Library has acquired several new software programs. Purchases have been made in a variety of subjects including Microbiology (GermWare), Board Review (Kaplan Step 1 USMLE Review and Practice Exam), Radiology (American College of Radiology's Learning Files in Genitourinary and Colon Cancer & Polyp Detection), Case-based programs (Diagnostic Reasoning Cases-20 different patient cases encompassing a range of ages and diagnoses, Clinical Competency Exam-interactive case building software), Biostatistics and Epidemiology (EpiInfo 2000), Anatomy (Netter's Interactive Atlas of Clinical Anatomy), Obstetrics/Gynecology (The Art and Science of Contraception, Fetal Ultrasound Simulator, Classical Approach to Vulvar Disease), as well as productivity software including Stedman's Medical Spellchecker, Adobe PageMaker (desktop publishing), and NUD\*IST (qualitative statistical analysis software).

All of these programs are available for use in the Bloedorn Audio Visual Study Center on the third floor. For additional information about the software collection, please contact Alexandra Gomes at (202) 994-1825.



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Does the Bloedorn AV Study Center have the equipment for showing PowerPoint presentations? What do you call the equipment that projects?**

A: Yes, we do! The equipment is called an LCD projector. It displays the image from your computer screen so that everyone in the room can see it. You will need to make reservations for it in advance by calling us at 994-2856.

**Q: I think I left my diskette in the Computer Lab. Would you have it?**

A: Most likely! We have a Lost-and-Found diskette holder in the AV office. Diskettes are held for a month once we receive them.

**Q: Does the AV Study Center have a scanner I can use?**

A: No.

**Q: Why isn't Microsoft Office available in the carrel PC's?**

A: We load medical software in the carrel PC's. Much of it is required for the curriculum of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and of the School of Public Health and Health Services. Students must be provided constant access to these programs, and the presence of MS Office would hinder that access.



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)



# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### The New GW Email System

After a bumpy start, the new GW Webmail system is up and running. Users can now access email through a web-based graphical interface with new and improved features. Using the GWMail Management Console, users can easily set their account to forward email to another account, or set up an automatic message notifying others when they are on vacation. It is also easier to send and receive attachments using the new Webmail system. Information about the new Webmail system can be found at <http://www.gwu.edu/~gwmail>.

For information about creating new accounts, go to <http://www.helpdesk.gwu.edu/helpdesk/accounts/index.html>. Select your status (student, staff, faculty, etc) and then follow the instructions provided. For information about switching your old GWIS account to the new Webmail system, follow the instructions located at <http://www.gwu.edu/~gwmail/subpages/pass.html>.

If you are having problems with your email account call the ISS Data Help Desk at (202) 994-5530, option 2, or e-mail [ithelp@gwu.edu](mailto:ithelp@gwu.edu).



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### Journal Subscriptions Changes

In January 2001, we will no longer subscribe to the following titles:

- > Clinical electroencephalography
- > Contemporary drug problems
- > Guide to Canadian health care facilities
- > Health
- > Nuclear medicine and biology
- > Peptides
- > Pharmacologist
- > Physicians' travel and meeting guide
- > Xenobiotica

In 2001, the following titles will begin:

- > Acta tropica
- > Cancer, epidemiology, biomarkers, and prevention
- > Controlled clinical trials
- > International journal of parasitology
- > Parasite immunity
- > Vaccine

Please let me know if you have any questions.

*Beth Layton, Deputy Director*



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)



# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### Microsoft Office Classes Offered

Do you need to learn how to build a database or create an electronic presentation? Each semester the library offers a variety of computer software classes including classes on Microsoft Word, Access, PowerPoint, and Excel. Each class is offered multiple times during the semester and covers the basic skills required to use the program. The Microsoft Word class covers how to create, edit and save a document, as well as add graphics and tables. The Access class includes building tables of data, creating queries to search the data, and formatting the final reports of the data found. The Excel class describes how to enter data and formulas into a spreadsheet, as well as graph the data entered. The PowerPoint class delineates how to create electronic text and graphical slides, as well as providing advice on color combinations and layout options.

All classes are taught in the Himmelfarb Library and do not require advance reservations. The schedule of classes is [available on the Web](#) or in the print version of the Library's newsletter.



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### New Collections & Acquisitions

#### New Brandon/Hill Titles

- ANDREOLI, THOMAS E. CECIL ESSENTIALS OF MEDICINE (5TH ED)  
*RC46 .C42 2000*
- BEHRMAN, RICHARD E. NELSON TEXTBOOK OF PEDIATRICS (18TH ED)  
*RJ45 .N42 2000*
- BERNARD, LO. RESOLVING ETHICAL DILEMMAS: A GUIDE FOR CLINICIANS (2ND ED)  
*R724 .L59 2000*
- GEORGE, RONALD B. CHEST MEDICINE: ESSENTIALS OF PULMONARY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE (4TH ED)  
*RC941 .C5675 2000*
- GUYTON, ARTHUR C. TEXTBOOKS OF MEDICAL PHYSIOLOGY (10TH ED)  
*QP34.5 .G9 2001*
- HOSKINS, WILLIAM J. PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGY (3RD ED)  
*RC280.G5 .P75 2000*
- MARRINER-TOMEY, ANN. GUIDE TO NURSING MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP (6TH ED)  
*RT89.3 .M37 2000*
- MENKES, JOHN H. CHILD NEUROLOGY (6TH ED)  
*RJ486 .M45 2000*
- MERCIER, LONNIE R. PRACTICAL ORTHOPEDICS (5TH ED)  
*RD731 .M43 2000*
- MURRAY, JOHN F. TEXTBOOK OF RESPIRATORY MEDICINE (3RD ED)  
*RC731 .T48 2000*
- SABA, VIRGINIA K. ESSENTIALS OF COMPUTERS FOR NURSES: INFORMATICS FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM (3RD ED)  
*RT50.5 .523 2000*
- SANDERS, MICK J. MOSBY'S PARAMEDIC TEXTBOOKS (2ND ED)  
*RC86.7 .S26 2000*
- SELDIN, DONALD W. THE KIDNEY: PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOPHYSIOLOGY (3RD ED)  
*QP249 .K525 2000*
- STRICKLAND, G. THOMAS. HUNTER'S TROPICAL MEDICINE AND EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (8th ED)  
*RC961 .H84 2000*
- STOUDEMIRE, ALAN. PSYCHIATRIC CARE OF THE MEDICAL PATIENT (2ND ED)  
*RC454.4 .P735 2000*

#### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)



[Comments](#) | [About](#) | [Intranet](#) | [SMHS](#) | [SoN](#) | [GWSPH](#) | [GWU](#)

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# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### Did You Know ...

The Himmelfarb Library Online Public Catalog has a number of features useful to faculty, staff and students. One of the less well known features in the "Bibliographies" button which appears at the top of all screens in the catalog. Currently there are 5 bibliography links listed. When you click on the bibliography title, the catalog automatically gathers a citation list without your having to enter any search terms. Any suggestions for new bibliographies are welcome! Email Patricia Wilson at [mlbphw@gwumc.edu](mailto:mlbphw@gwumc.edu).

First on the bibliography list is "New Public Health Titles". This bibliography contains Public Health titles purchased over the last 12 months. Especially useful to Public Health students to keep up with new publication in their field, the titles are useful to other students when their research includes issues related to health policy, community health and health economics.

Medical students will find the bibliography entitled "Current Board Review Titles" an efficient way to plan their studying for the USMLE exams. Himmelfarb has a wide variety of materials to assist in your preparation. The catalog gives the name of the exam and the library location of the material.

Did you know that you can link directly to an electronic full text journal directly from the catalog? Sure, you can look up a journal title individually. It's just as easy to click on the bibliography "Full Text Journals" and get a complete list. There is a link in each journal's record to the internet web site for that title.

Learning how to take a medical history and perform a physical examination is a top priority for medical students. Himmelfarb has many resources, books and audio-visual resources, to assist in that effort. Use the "Current Medical History Taking and Physical Exam Book Titles" and "Medical History Taking and Physical Exam AV Titles" bibliographies to get started.

Check out the bibliographies button in the Himmelfarb catalog. Let us know what topics to add.



### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

### Did You Know

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### Savvy Searcher

#### MeSH Terms

MeSH terms and other systems of controlled vocabulary are integral to database construction and database searching. By understanding what MeSH terms are and how they are used, you can become a better database searcher and find information more quickly and effectively.

#### What are MeSH terms?

MeSH stands for Medical Subject Heading. MeSH terms are used to describe individual journal articles so that each time a particular topic is discussed, the same MeSH term is used to describe it. By using MeSH terms, you can be certain that you will find every article on a particular subject, because each article will be associated with the same MeSH term. For example, if you are interested in breast cancer, you would search using the MeSH term "Breast Neoplasms" to retrieve every article on this topic no matter what terminology the author used to describe the topic (breast neoplasms, breast cancer, cancer of the breast, breast carcinoma, etc.).

MeSH is a controlled vocabulary system. This means that the terms used to describe different concepts have been determined in advance and are carefully defined. The MeSH system is used in databases such as MEDLINE and HealthSTAR. Additional databases such as CINAHL use their own controlled vocabulary systems.

MeSH terms are arranged in a 'tree' from broadest to most specific. For instance, Breast Neoplasms appears in the part of the MeSH tree where Neoplasms by Site is a broader term and Male Breast Neoplasms, Mammary Neoplasms, and Experimental Mammary Neoplasms are narrower terms.

#### Selecting a MeSH Term

When you're trying to decide which MeSH term to use for a particular topic, you should always try to find the most specific term available. For example, if you search for articles on "Breast Cancer" you will get articles that are on breast cancer in general but you will not retrieve articles that discuss the more specific forms of breast cancer listed in the MeSH tree above (for example, Male Breast Neoplasms). You should always try to locate the MeSH term that most specifically describes your topic.

MeSH terms are assigned to individual articles by professional indexers who work for the National Library of Medicine. These expert indexers read each article and determine which MeSH terms best describe its contents. Each article has several MeSH terms associated with it. For instance, an article on the use of tamoxifen to treat breast cancer would include the following MeSH terms:

\*Breast Neoplasms

#### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calendar](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

\*Tamoxifen  
\*Hormonal Antineoplastic Agents  
Human  
Female  
Adult

Some of these MeSH terms describe the main topics of the article (Breast Neoplasms, Tamoxifen, and Hormonal Antineoplastic Agents). These MeSH terms are denoted by an asterisk (\*) next to them and are known as Major MeSH terms.

Other MeSH terms describe more peripheral aspects of the article (Human, Female, and Adult), and are known as Minor MeSH terms. While these MeSH terms don't describe the primary subjects of the article, these terms contain important information to help you find research relevant to your patients.

### What is term mapping?

Term mapping is a feature offered by some databases including Himmelfarb Library's Ovid databases (MEDLINE, HealthSTAR, CINAHL, etc.). This database feature is a built-in function where you provide a topic and the system will suggest which MeSH terms or terms are available to describe that topic. The term mapping features allows you to read about each MeSH term through scope notes (definitions), and then choose the one(s) that best describe your interests.

For example, if you type the topic "health care proxy", the system would match health care proxy against its thesaurus of MeSH terms and provide you with a list of MeSH terms:

You could look through this list, clicking on the "i" icon to read the scope notes of any terms in which you're interested, to decide which term or terms best describes your interests.

### How are MeSH subheadings used?

Subheadings are terms that are added to MeSH terms to further describe a topic. Subheadings describe the type of information an article contains on a particular topic. A subheading will indicate whether an article discusses diagnosing, treating, or preventing a particular condition. As an example, look at the following MeSH term with subheading:  
\*Breast Neoplasms / Drug Therapy

In this case, the subheading "Drug Therapy" specifies the type of information on Breast Neoplasms that the article contains. Commonly used subheadings for clinical concepts include:

Diagnosis  
Etiology  
Drug Therapy  
Nursing  
Prevention and Control  
Therapy  
Surgery  
Transmission

Subheadings can be extremely helpful in focusing a search on the type of information that you want. You can choose more than one subheading to describe the type of information that you want to find. The system will return articles that contain any of those subheadings.

For instance, if you're looking for information on treating breast cancer, you might choose the subheadings Diet Therapy, Drug Therapy, Radiotherapy, Surgery, and Therapy to retrieve articles where any of these subheadings appear with the MeSH term Breast Neoplasms.

### Tips

Now that you know a bit more about MeSH terms and how they are used, here are a few tips for more effective searches.

- Select the most specific MeSH term available for your topic. Read the scope notes



- to determine if the MeSH term really describes your topic.
- › Read the subheadings carefully, and choose the one(s) that best describe what you want to know about that topic.
  - › Read the subheadings carefully, and choose the one(s) that best describe what you want to know about that topic.



[Comments](#) | [About](#) | [Intranet](#) | [SMHS](#) | [SoN](#) | [GWSPH](#) | [GWU](#)

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# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

## Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources  
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

### Faculty Publications

The George Washington University Medical Center

Compiled by the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library from MEDLINE through November 2000 and other sources

Attiga, F. A., P. M. Fernandez, et al. (15). "Inhibitors of prostaglandin synthesis inhibit human prostate tumor cell invasiveness and reduce the release of matrix metalloproteinases." Cancer Res 2000 Aug **60** (16): 4629-37.

Bloom, A. S. (Jun). "When academic performance is higher than WISC-III IQs, is the sequential-processing model of intelligence the preferred approach to assessment?" Percept Mot Skills 2000 **90** (3 Pt 1): 883-4.

Carlisle, D. L., D. E. Pritchard, et al. (Jun). "Chromium(VI) induces p53-dependent apoptosis in diploid human lung and mouse dermal fibroblasts." Mol Carcinog 2000 **28** (2): 111-8.

Carreno, O. J., W. R. Wilson, et al. (1999). "Exploring endoscopic neck surgery in a porcine model." Laryngoscope **109** (2 Pt 1): 236-40.

Cassidy, M. M. (Sep). "Introduction: Forum on Responsible Conduct in Biomedical Research." Proc Soc Exp Biol Med 2000 **224** (4): 203-4.

Cheng, T. L., L. Greenberg, et al. (Jul). "Teaching prevention in pediatrics. [Review] [36 refs]." Acad Med 2000 **75** (7 Suppl): S66-71.

Darr, K. (1999). "Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) update, Part 1."

Darr, K. (2000). "Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) update, Part 2."

Finkelstein, J. D. (Jul). "Homocysteine: a history in progress. [Review] [91 refs]." Nutr Rev 2000 **58** (7): 193-204.

Goldsmith, D. F. (2000). "Linking environmental cancer with occupational epidemiology research: the role of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)." J Environ Pathol Toxicol Oncol **19** (1-2): 171-5.

Kimmel, P. L., R. A. Peterson, et al. (Aug). "Dyadic relationship conflict, gender, and mortality in urban hemodialysis patients." J Am Soc Nephrol 2000 **11** (8): 1518-25.

Lecchi, P. and F. P. Abramson (May). "An innovative method for measuring hydrogen and deuterium: chemical reaction interface mass spectrometry with nitrogen reactant gas." J Am Soc Mass Spectrom 2000 **11** (5): 400-6.

### Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[From the Director's Desk](#)

[New Staff Members](#)

[MD Consult](#)

[New Software in BAVSC](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[The New GW E-mail System](#)

[Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)

[Microsoft Classes Offered](#)

[Collections and Acquisitions](#)

[Did You Know](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Faculty Publications](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

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November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

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- [Information Interface Home](#)
- [From the Director's Desk](#)
- [New Staff Members](#)
- [MD Consult](#)
- [New Software in BAVSC](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [The New GW E-mail System](#)
- [Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)
- [Microsoft Classes Offered](#)
- [Collections and Acquisitions](#)
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- [Faculty Publications](#)
- [Library Hours](#)
- [Library Assistance](#)

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[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

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School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences  
School of Public Health and Health Services

November/December 2000

Volume 28/Issue 4

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### Inside this issue...

- [Information Interface Home](#)
- [From the Director's Desk](#)
- [New Staff Members](#)
- [MD Consult](#)
- [New Software in BAVSC](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [The New GW E-mail System](#)
- [Journal Subscriptions Changes](#)
- [Microsoft Classes Offered](#)
- [Collections and Acquisitions](#)
- [Did You Know](#)
- [Savvy Searcher](#)
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- [Faculty Publications](#)
- [Library Hours](#)
- [Library Assistance](#)