Sources

Professional Materials

Karen Antell, Editor

ALA Guide to Medical & Health Sciences Reference

Assistive Technologies in the Library

Be a Great Boss: One Year to Success

Numeric Data Services and Sources for the General Reference Librarian

Reference Sources and Services for Youth

A Strong Future for Public Library Use and Employment

Workplace Learning & Leadership: A Handbook for Library and Nonprofit Trainers


This compact paperback is a comprehensive, one-stop reference for librarians needing sources in the health sciences. It is the print version of the ALA Medical and Health Sciences Section’s online subscription product, “Guide to Reference: Medical and Health Sciences.” It will find a home at most reference desks in public, academic, and medical libraries but will be most useful to health sciences librarians. No glossary is provided, so general librarians may have to look up some terms elsewhere. Similarly, there is no legend explaining the layout and abbreviations used in each entry—it is assumed that the user is an experienced reference librarian familiar with the abbreviated style of print reference books. Although the style is attractive and readable, the page layout is slightly unconventional. Rather than print the book title on the top of each page and the page number on the bottom, the publisher has chosen to print the page numbers in the center of the left and right margins, with the book title on the left margin and the chapter title on the right. The page headers list the beginning and ending entry numbers, similar to a dictionary.

ALA Guide to Medical and Health Sciences Reference provides an annotated list of reference resources in the following areas: medicine, bioethics, consumer health, dentistry, health care, international and global health, medical jurisprudence, nursing, nutrition, pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences, psychiatry, public health, and toxicology. Each entry is numbered (1–1,587), but there are many duplicate entries with no cross-referencing. Both print and online sources (free and subscription) are covered, and most entries are up-to-date. If a print reference book is also available as an e-book, it is indicated. Historically important reference works are also included, even if out of print.

Comparable sources include ARBA In-Depth: Health and Medicine (Libraries Unlimited, 2004) and Medical and Health Care Books and Serials in Print (Bowker, 2007), but this title is the most up-to-date of the three.—Denise Brush, Public Services Librarian, Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey.


At a time when baby boomers are becoming senior citizens, Assistive Technologies in the Library is a resource brimming with practical advice and step-by-step ideas for implementing the recommended tools needed to provide patrons with the best possible access to library materials, resources, and services. With a combined 35 years of experience with the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, as well as a history of active participation in ALA’s Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA), Mates and Reed have a firm grasp of the issues facing patrons and are well versed in the resources that may help them.

Starting with chapter 1, “The Library’s Mission to Serve