
Sources Professional Materials

Karen Antell, Editor

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RUSQ considers for review reference books and professional materials of interest to reference and user services librarians. Serials and subscription titles normally are not reviewed unless a major change in purpose, scope, format, or audience has occurred. Reviews usually are three hundred to five hundred words in length. Views expressed are those of the reviewers and do not necessarily represent those of ALA. Please refer to standard directories for publishers' addresses.

Individuals interested in reviewing professional materials should contact the "Professional Materials" editor, Karen Antell, Head of Reference and Outreach Services, Bizzell Memorial Library, University of Oklahoma, 401 West Brooks St., Room 146, Norman, OK 73019; e-mail: kantell@ou.edu.

ALA Guide to Medical & Health Sciences Reference. American Library Association. Chicago: ALA, 2011. 760p. paper \$75 (ISBN: 978-0-8389-1023-8).

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.

Assistive Technologies in the Library. By Barbara T. Mates, with contributions by William R. Reed IV. Chicago: ALA, 2011. 206p. paper \$55 (ISBN: 978-0-8389-1070-2).

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