

Health Literacy Newsletter

News & Updates from the BC Health Literacy Network Steering Committee

Health Literacy Updates

- The **Public Health Agency of Canada has a new online health literacy course**, available for \$175. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/php-ppsp/ccph-cesp/descriptions-eng.php#literacy>
- A **new health literacy listserv has been created called the Canadian Health Literacy and Patient Education Network (CHLPEN)**. This network is for Canadians working in patient education to discuss adult learning, health literacy, self-management and other core principles of patient education. To subscribe, Network members can send an email to chlpn-subscribe@uhnresearch.ca and to message the group once you're subscribed, email chlpn@uhnresearch.ca
- A **new health literacy resource, ABC Health Matters**, is now available. The resource was developed by ABC Life Literacy Canada, with the support of AbbVie Corporation, to empower Canadians to manage their health more effectively by increasing their confidence when talking about and making decisions regarding health matters. Visit ABCHealthMatters.ca for more information and to download the workbook for free.

Journals, Reports & Articles

- The **Journal of Knowledge Management and e-Learning has published a new special journal issue on e-health literacy**: <http://www.kmel-journal.org/ojs/index.php/online-publication>.
Description: Health literacy has become an important area of study that focuses on studying how health information can be understood and applied to improve health. In recent years the concept of eHealth literacy has also emerged, that sits at the intersection of health literacy and information technology literacy. In this special issue, a range of papers are presented that focus on the emerging concept of eHealth literacy. The papers in the special issue focus on basic conceptual issues as well as methodological approaches to studying health and eHealth literacy. A special focus of the issue is on how these concepts apply and can be adapted for improving health information technologies and applications.
- The **National Academy of Medicine published an article on palliative care and health literacy**. <http://nam.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/HealthLiteracyPalliativeCare.pdf>
- A **systematic review related to aging and health literacy** was recently released in Europe: <http://www.healthyageing.eu/eurohealthnets-healthy-ageing-website>

Interested in more
Health Literacy
News & Events?

Check out the Health
Literacy pages on the
Public Health
Association of BC's
website:
<http://phabc.org/about-us/partners-and-collaborators/health-literacy/>

Health Literacy Network Webinars:

Upcoming *FREE* BC Health Literacy Network Webinar: Health Literacy and Adolescents: Some Novel Approaches

Date: April 13, 2016 at 12pm (PST)

Description: Children and young people (ages: 7-18) need support in staying healthy. This is especially true when it comes to how they understand health information and when they think about what it means to be “healthy”. We call this their “health literacy”. Health literacy means their ability to understand and use information about their health.

Professor Deborah Begoray (University of Victoria) and Assistant Professor Patti Ranahan (Concordia University) invite you to join them for a webinar conversation about new perspectives on health literacy and innovative programs to help young people and youth-serving professionals use and understand health information.

This webinar will be of interest to people working in health, education, child and youth care, social work and other interested groups.

Please Register at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1626405666023735297> After registering, you will get a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



The BC Health Literacy Network’s webinar, “The More We Get Together: A Conversation about Health Literacy”, has been posted and can be viewed here: <http://www.centrecmi.ca/learn/health-literacy/>

Description: These days it seems that the term Health Literacy is everywhere. But what is Health Literacy and why is it important? In this webinar recorded on November 5th, 2015, we explore these questions and engage in a conversation that looked at how a Health Literacy lens can improve health work. Through concrete, practical examples we also describe how Health Literacy can be incorporated into health and literacy work. This webinar will be of interest to practitioners in health and literacy fields as well as anyone interested in how Health Literacy affects and can improve practice.

The webinar was presented through a partnership between the [BC Health Literacy Network](#) , [The Centre for Collaboration, Motivation and Innovation](#); and [Decoda Literacy Solutions](#).

Presenters: Connie Davis, MN, ARNP & Leona Gadsby, Decoda Literacy Solutions

*The BC Health Literacy Network is open to new members!
Email meredith.deFreitas@cw.bc.ca to be added to the distribution list!*

Requests:

1. The BC Health Literacy Network Steering Committee has been contacted by the Ontario Ministry of Health, asking for best practices and evaluation results of health literacy efforts within the province. The Steering Committee is currently compiling available reports and data to share with Ontario. ***If you are aware of any best practices or evaluation data or reports that could be shared***, please let us know!
2. The BC Health Literacy Network Steering Committee is considering holding a **Health Literacy Roundtable in 2016**. Suggestions or ideas for the Roundtable are welcome!
3. If you have any information related to Health Literacy that you would like to share with recipients of this newsletter please feel free to submit it for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Please email Meredith de Freitas (Meredith.deFreitas@cw.bc.ca) or Irv Rootman (irootman@telus.net) in response to these requests.

THE BC HEALTH LITERACY NETWORK

The BC Health Literacy Network was established in 2011 following two Roundtables on health literacy organized by a multi-sectoral planning committee of people and organizations interested in the issue. It was established to pursue the goals articulated in the *BC Health Literacy Strategy* paper developed by the planning committee. In order to pursue these goals, a number of networks and organizations from various sectors committed to health literacy agreed to a structure consisting of a Steering Committee of representatives from the various types of networks and organizations interested in health literacy and a broader Network open to membership to individuals and organizations interested in or working in the area of health literacy. Opportunities for potential projects and partnerships are shared and supported.

Steering Committee Members:

Sherry Bar (Ministry of Health)
Sam Burnett (CentreCMI)
Jennifer Cordeiro (UBC e-health strategy office)
Connie Davis (CentreCMI)
Meredith de Freitas (Network Project Manager - BC Children's Hospital)
Leona Gadsby (Decoda Literacy Solutions)
Kelly McQuillen (Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation)
Marina Niks (Evaluation Consultant)
Helen Novak Lauscher (UBC e-health Strategy Office)
Irv Rootman (Network Chair - PHABC)
Elizabeth Stacy (UBC e-health Strategy Office)
Andrew Tugwell (BC Children's Hospital)

The Network's Steering Committee meets on the third Wednesday of every month. Network members are welcome to attend meetings of the Steering Committee.

If interested in attending a future Steering Committee meeting, please email the Network chair, Irv Rootman (irootman@telus.net) or Meredith de Freitas (Meredith.deFreitas@cw.bc.ca)