

RESPIRATORY CARE

Pathfinder

Your guide to finding information on Respiratory Care topics in the PTC Library

Finding Books

Begin your research by locating books in the library collection on your topic.

How to Do a Basic Search

Visit the Library Web site at <http://www.ptc.edu/library> and click on the **Library Catalog** link. Begin your search on the **Basic Search** page. Here, you can do different types of searches and access all types of information.

- To begin, type a term in the search box.
- To narrow a search, select one of the following options before clicking the **Search** button:
 - Keyword (word or phrase)
 - Author
 - Title
 - Subject
 - Series
 - Periodical title
- Select a library to search in the **Library** box, or select **Piedmont Technical College Libraries** to include all branches in the search.
- Select **PTC Libraries and E_RESOURCES** to search for electronic books in addition to print books.

Remember to write down the whole call number!

Big Tip

Write down words that show up again and again during your research!

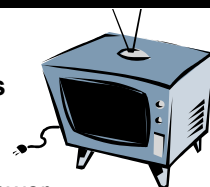
DVDs & Videos

The Library loans most of its DVDs and VHS tapes to students; those that may not be loaned are clearly marked.

Students may borrow up to 2 of these items at a time and keep them for one week.

DVD/VHS players are available for use in the Library's Viewing Rooms and at the Laurens County Higher Education Center's LRC on a first

To find DVDs or Videos:



- Use the Power Search option in the library catalog.
- Select either *DVD* or *VHS Video* format before submitting your search.

Evaluating Web Sites

A recent *Consumer Reports* article states that up to 90% of online health information may be incomplete or inaccurate.

Source: "Expertise online: finding reliable information." *Consumer Reports*. Sept. 2005, p. 48.

Before using a source, consider each of the following:

- Does the Web address indicate that the site is commercial (.com), government (.gov), educational (.edu), or other?
- Have I heard of the people who offer this site?
- Am I expected to do, believe, or buy something?
- Is the source current?
- Is the information professionally presented?
- Does the provider acknowledge his sources?

If you are still in doubt after considering each of these points, then find other sources that back up what the site is saying.

Health-Related Databases

Visit <http://www.ptc.edu/library> to access 49 article databases, including those devoted to health topics. Many are full-text.

Academic Search Pre-miere. More health articles than any other PTC database.

CINAHL. Covers 1,700+ nursing and health journals and publications.

Clinical Pharmacology. Covers prescription drugs, herbal and nutritional supplements, OTC products, new and trial drugs.

Health Reference Center Academic. Scholarly articles on a wide range of health topics.

Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition. Full text access to 550+ scholarly journals and abstracts for 800+ titles. Strong coverage for nursing and allied health.

Health & Wellness Resource Center. Offers current reference materials as well as full-text articles and pamphlets from respected medical sources.

Medline. References biomedical lit including research, clinical practice, administration, policy issues and healthcare services. Offers citations for articles from 4,600 journals from the U.S. and internationally.

Access databases from home with passwords!

Good Web Sites

National Board for Respiratory Care
[Http://www.nbrc.org](http://www.nbrc.org)

American Lung Association
<http://www.lungusa.com>

National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute (NIH)
<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov>

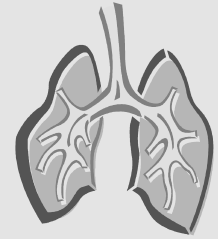
American Association for Respiratory Care
<http://www.aarc.org> & <http://www.rcjournal.com>

Mayo Clinic
<http://www.mayoclinic.com>

Medicine Net
<http://www.medicinenet.com>

Medscape
<http://www.medscape.com>

WebMD
<http://www.webmd.com>



Magazines & Journals

Magazines and journals that are likely to print articles about respiratory issues include:

American Journal of Nursing
E: The Environmental Magazine
Current Health 2
FDA Consumer
Geriatric Nursing
Harvard Health Letter
JAMA
Journal of Gerontological Nursing
Journal of Pediatric Health Care
AWHONN Lifelines
LPN
MCN
Mother Earth News
Nation's Health
Nursing
Nursing Made Incredibly Easy
Nursing Outlook
Parenting
Pediatric Nursing
Prevention
Respiratory Care
RN

Don't forget to also check our online database for articles!

Current magazines and journal issues are kept in the sitting area near the large windows. Older issues are housed on the short shelves at the back of the library.

Checklist

Have you done all that you can do to find information on your topic?

- Encyclopedias
- Books
- DVDs
- Video Tapes
- E-Books
- Online Databases
- Print Magazines and Journals
- Newspapers
- Vertical File (Pamphlets)
- Web Sites
- Interviews

