

Medical information abounds on the World Wide Web – but much that’s available is not reliable or is intended to help sell a product. Beware of glowing testimonials and promises of miraculous results.

Using a search engine to find medical information on the entire Web usually results in questionable information retrieval. It’s almost always better to visit a reputable site to be sure the information is truly valid.

This list contains reliable sites sponsored by credible organizations and government agencies. Most of these are searchable and contain links to additional sites.

Criteria considered for inclusion in this list are:

- Free access
- Reliable content
- Non-technical reading level
- Reputable sponsor
- Currency: site is updated regularly
- No apparent commercial bias

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## Useful General Web Sites

[www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) Searchable local and nationwide weather forecasts

[www.nd.gov](http://www.nd.gov) North Dakota state home page: road information, links to communities, state agencies & officials

[www.state.sd.us](http://www.state.sd.us) Official South Dakota state home page

[www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov) U.S. government’s official web portal: massive site: federal agencies, consumer help, almost everything U.S. citizens need to know

[www.nal.usda.gov](http://www.nal.usda.gov) National Agricultural Library, USDA: USDA services and programs; AgNIC, Agricola online info

[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov) Library of Congress: an awesome site – something for everyone: text, audio, video

[www.wrhs.com](http://www.wrhs.com) West River Health Services: Info on services & professional staff; events & classes, baby book, patient greetings, employment opportunities. Updated & expanded frequently.

## Recommended Medical Internet Sites For the Public



Medical Library  
West River Regional  
Medical Center

[www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) Alzheimer's Assn

[www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org) American Heart Assn

[www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org) Arthritis Foundation

[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov) National Cancer Institute

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) American Cancer Society

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: broad-based site: health, safety, diseases, injuries, emergency preparedness, traveler health

[www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov) Current information about clinical research studies for patients, family members & the public

[www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org) American Diabetes Assn

[www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org) American Dietetic Assn: food & nutrition information

[www.entnet.org](http://www.entnet.org) American Academy of Otolaryngology: >Health info

<http://familydoctor.org> American Academy of Family Physicians: searchable medical & health info for the public

[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov) Food & Drug Administration: drug news & info, product recalls, safety alerts

[www.ghr.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.ghr.nlm.nih.gov) Genetics Home Reference: consumer info about genetic conditions

[www.health.state.nd.us](http://www.health.state.nd.us) North Dakota State Health Dept

[www.healthfinder.gov](http://www.healthfinder.gov) U.S. Dept HHS consumer "gateway" site; simple to

navigate: health promotion, health library, news, consumer guides

[www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov) Dept Health & Human Services: searchable, very inclusive, user friendly

[www.kumc.edu/gec/support](http://www.kumc.edu/gec/support) Genetic & rare conditions site, University of Kansas Medical Center; info and links to support organizations

[www.labtestsonline.org](http://www.labtestsonline.org) American Assn for Clinical Chemistry & participants: explanations of clinical laboratory tests

[www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org) American Lung Assn

[www.mayoclinic.com](http://www.mayoclinic.com) Mayo's fine consumer site; includes drug & dietary supplement information

[www.medem.com](http://www.medem.com) Patient education resources: sponsored by 45 medical organizations

[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) Official U.S. govt site for people with Medicare

[www.medicinenet.com](http://www.medicinenet.com) This is a commercial site with advertising, but good info at >Procedures & Tests

[www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov) U.S. government's National Institutes of Health: >Institutes for 28 specific agencies, including:

[www.niams.nih.gov](http://www.niams.nih.gov) National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases

[www.niddk.nih.gov](http://www.niddk.nih.gov) National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases: >Health information

<http://nccam.nih.gov> National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine: objective info on therapies &

supplements; no advertising

[www.nhlbi.nih.gov](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov) National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute

[www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov) National Institute of Mental Health: >Health Information

[www.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.nlm.nih.gov) National Library of Medicine: >PubMed searches MEDLINE, index to professional biomedical journal articles (most are very technical)

[www.medlineplus.gov](http://www.medlineplus.gov) Comprehensive consumer health database of National Library of Medicine with multitudes of links; probably the best all-around site for non-professionals; drug info, medical dictionary, encyclopedia, news, interactive tutorials

[www.ods.od.nih.gov](http://www.ods.od.nih.gov) Office of Dietary Supplements: unbiased; no ads

[www.quackwatch.com](http://www.quackwatch.com) Guide to health fraud & quackery

[www.rheumatology.org](http://www.rheumatology.org) American College of Rheumatology: >Patients & Public; >Patient Education

[www.safemedication.com](http://www.safemedication.com) American Society of Health-System Pharmacists: Drug info for consumers

[www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com) This is a highly commercial site, full of advertising & complicated to navigate -- but excellent info on medical tests at: >Health A-Z, >medical tests & tools

(NOTE: > indicates "click on")

