

RECENT REVIEWS

The Complete Directory for People with Chronic Illness

Winner of a Bronze National Health Information Award
Sponsored by Consumer Health Publishers AssociationSM

"This well-organized and complete resource provides access to immediate information useful to patients, families, caregivers, and more. Recommended."

-ARBA

"Now in its 11th edition (1st ed., CH, May'94, 31-4670), this volume is among the most useful of directories, with its goal of helping people with long-term medical conditions find helpful resources. It provides valuable information on some 90 illnesses, ranging from Addison's Disease to Wilson's Disease. Arranged alphabetically by disorder, each section begins with a very brief description of the illness, probable causes, symptoms, and treatment options. Following are listings with contact information for national associations, state agencies, libraries and resource centers, publications for adults and children, research centers, support groups and hotlines, audio and video resources, and websites. Included is a section titled "General Resources" for all types of chronic illness, a list of Wish Foundations, and a section titled "Death and Bereavement," along with indexes by entry and geography. Prefatory matter includes "Next Steps after Your Diagnosis: Finding Information and Support"--a rudimentary but relevant brake on patient emotions, advising patients to take a breath, see a doctor, and the like.

A directory like this is a Herculean effort, whose contents can only be as current as the responses to update requests make it. A few omissions and errors are evident. The section titled "War Syndromes" mentions neither the *National Center for PTSD* (CH, Jul'05, 42-6230) nor its *PILOTS Database*. The directory includes the National Association for the Visually Handicapped and its publications, although the organization was acquired by Lighthouse International in 2010. Nevertheless, this directory is a good starting point for those seeking more information on particular conditions. It is also available online via *G.O.L.D.: Grey House Online Database Collection* (CH, Nov'09, 47-1208). **Summing Up:** Recommended. Lower-level undergraduates and above; general readers."

-CHOICE

"DESCRIPTION-This reference contains a wide range of information resrouces and support services for 89 specific chronic illness, including national and state agencies and associations, libraries and resource centers, magazines, newsletters, pamphlets, books for adults and childrena, support groups and hotlines, audio and video resources, research centers, and websites. The precious edition was published in 2011. PURPOSE- The perpose is to provide an overview of each chronic illness in an easy-to-understand manner while directing readers to resources that are able to provide additional information and support. The book meets the objective of providing, 'comprehensive, critical, immediate information' all in one source.AUDIENCE-

Grey House Publishing

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This is a resource for any person who lives with a chronic illness or cares for someone with a chronic illness, as well as those who support the chronic illness community. It is written in layman's terms so that it is accessible to the general public, but the wide variety of authoritative resources that are included will be useful to healthcare professionals, librarians, and social workers. FEATURES- The book is arranged alphabetically by name of the chronic illness and includes a helpful chart that cross-references each chronic illness to its body system or disorder category. An article also outlines the five key steps people should take after being diagnosed with a chronic illness. The advice offered is appropriate and presented in an uplifting, positive manner. One shortcoming of the book is that it contains a noticeable amount of typographical errors, such as missing spaces and commas. ASSESSMENT- This would make an excellent addition to any medical, public or academic library. The information is easy to understand, accurate, and useful. It is worthwhile to have the updated edition of this book to ensure that the information is current."

-DOODY Book Review

"This volume is recommended for public, medical, and university science libraries."

-ARBA

"... A practical tool for librarians in public, academic, and medical libraries, and for health and social workers, physicians and patients seeking help."

-Choice

"A "one stop" source for general information on...chronic conditions... The directory information is most helpful ...This is the place to start for general information on chronic illness... it contains the kind of information that any public library would use regularly ..."

-Booklist

"The strong points of [the directory] are the comprehensiveness of the resources and the services...[it] unites much of the information represented in three different directories: Encyclopedia of Associations, Research Centers, and The Self-Help Directory... The cost and space effectiveness of purchasing a single rather than multiple directories is obvious. This directory is important for people with chronic illness, their families, health care personnel, and librarians and fits in health care collections of hospitals and health center libraries."

-Bulletin of the Medical Library Association

"Illness entries are easy for a non-medical person to understand and the entries for the resources are concise...The reference tool is a solid purchase for any library needing to provide information to users on chronic illnesses. It is particularly well suited for consumer health and public libraries."

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“... combine[s] pertinent support and resource information about...commonly occurring chronic diseases and conditions in one practical volume...Summing Up: General readers; undergraduates and technical program students; health care professionals.”

-Choice

“...The book is easy to use...This comprehensive reference tool is a valuable resource for physicians, their patients, and their families, as well as librarians and those in the social work field. Recommended for all collections.”

-Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet

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