Health Related Web Site Usage by Persons with Serious Mental Illness: Design and Use of a Heath Literacy Survey Tool

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Health-Related Website Usage by Persons with Serious Mental Illness: Design and Use of a Health Literacy Survey Tool
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THE SURVEY
A literature review identified scholarly research on website design as well as validated health literacy evaluation tools for persons with SMI that formed the basis of the survey.

A survey tool of 64 questions was developed using pre-existing, validated health literacy instruments, e.g., DISCERN (Rees, 02).

Questions sought feedback on format, navigation, visibility and credibility as well as content of each site.

20 health-related websites on topics of physical health issues experienced by persons with SMI (cardiovascular disease, obesity, diabetes and smoking) were chosen using simple searches through the Google search engine.

A survey tool of 64 questions was developed using pre-existing, validated health literacy instruments, e.g., DISCERN (Rees, 02).

The survey was successful in identifying websites that we can use as a template for completion of the project goal.

The websites that obtained highest consistency scores were government websites and Wikipedia, in which less bias may be present.

DISCUSSION
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1. CONSISTENCY

The Smokefree.gov website obtained highest consistency in format. It will serve as the template for the initial formatting of the website we will create.

The Obesity.org website obtained consistent scores for each condition reviewed. Scored high overall for consistency.

Example of the survey
Use the QR code below to view the entire survey

Read more about the project here