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# Public Health Information Access Project: Providing Information Access through a Digital Library

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# Public Health Information Access Project

*Providing information access through a digital library*

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PHPartners Steering Committee Meeting  
National Library of Medicine



# Highlights

- Objectives
- Description
- Challenges
- Lessons Learned
- Discussion and Questions

# Objectives

- Reinforce understanding of NLM products and services
- Expand access to trusted licensed information resources
- Provide free article delivery
- Provide access to information management software
- Train participants
- Assess use of resources

# Initial Site Visit Findings: New England States

- Limited or no access to full-text journal articles
- Few had in-house libraries
- Some health departments had no Intranet
- Need for evidence-based public health (EBPH) information to write grants, reports, etc.

# Description: Current Model

- Site visit to introduce project, answer questions, and recruit team members
- Assess public health department environment; gather information about their access and interests
- Identify key stakeholders at each site
- Identify project contact person at each site
- Initial all site project meeting at UMMS
- Identify libraries to provide article delivery services to each public health department



UMMS = University of Massachusetts Medical School



# Current Model Continued

- Project Consultant negotiates with publishers and vendors
- Resources provided via Digital Library Page on customized Intranet site
- NER staff provide PubMed and EBPH training
- LSL staff provide Endnote training
- State contact librarians provide article delivery services and reimbursed
- LSL provides article delivery as the Library of Last Resort



NER = New England Region, National Network of Libraries of Medicine

EBPH= Evidence-based public health

LSL = Lamar Soutter Library, UMass Medical School



# Current Partners

## Public Health Departments

- Boston Public Health Commission
- Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment
- Connecticut Department of Public Health
- Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services
- Rhode Island Department of Health
- Vermont Department of Health

## Library Partners

- University of Massachusetts Lamar Soutter Library (MA)
- Poudre Valley Health System (CO)
- University of Connecticut Lyman Maynard Stowe Library (CT)
- Maine Medical Center (ME)
- Maine State Library (ME)
- Massachusetts State Laboratory Institute Medical Library (MA)
- Lemuel Shattuck Hospital (MA)
- New Hampshire DHHS Library (NH)
- Rhode Island/Lifespan Hospital (RI)
- University of Vermont Dana Medical Library (VT)



# E-Resources on Current Platform

## Databases

- PubMed
- Cochrane Library
- STAT!Ref
- Global Health

## Online Resources

- PHPartners.org
- The Community Guide
- National Agricultural Library

## E-Journals

- *New England Journal of Medicine*
- *Public Health Reports*
- Annual Review Series (12)
- Oxford University Press (15)
- Springer (21)
- University of Chicago Press (7)

# Maine Digital Library Page



Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention

## Maine CDC

Department of Health and Human Services

Search DHHS:

Go

[DHHS Home](#) | [Intranet Agencies](#) | [State Homepage](#) | [DHHS Internet](#) | [Site Map](#)

### INFORMATION

<a href="#">Home</a>
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[CDC Home](#) > Digital Library

## Maine CDC New Digital Library

*This project is being sponsored in part by the New England Region National Network, Libraries of Medicine (NER, NN/LM)*

### E-Journals to be tested...

- [New England Journal of Medicine](#)

### University of Chicago Press titles

- [American Journal of Sociology](#)
- [Clinical Infectious Diseases \(CID\)](#)
- [Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology](#)
- [Journal of Infectious Diseases](#)
- [Journal of Law and Economics](#)
- [Journal of Labor Economics](#)
- [Social Service Review](#)

### New Licensed Databases and Traditional Resources



Ask a Librarian

[Ask-a-Librarian](#) at the Maine State Library

# Vermont Digital Library Page



### QUICK LINKS

[Procedures and Guidelines](#)  
[Conference Rooms](#)  
[Emergency Preparedness](#)  
[Help Desk](#)  
[Logos & Templates](#)  
[Phone List \(XLS\)](#)  
[Reserve a Car](#)

[Commissioner's Office](#)

[VDH Organization](#)

[Digital Library, Journals, Newspapers](#)

[Governor's Office and State Legislature](#)

[Graphics, News, Web](#)

[IT Services](#)

[Meetings and Events](#)

[Healthvermont.gov](#)

[AHS Intranet](#)



## Digital Library

The Digital Library provides Health Department staff with free access to electronic public health journals, books, and databases. The Digital Library Project is sponsored in part by the [National Network of Libraries of Medicine: New England Region](#).

- [Databases](#)
- [E-Journals](#)
- [Journal Article Delivery](#)
- [Academic Websites](#)
- [Association Websites](#)
- [Government Websites](#)
- [Global Health Websites](#)
- [Citation Management](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

### Databases

- [Cochrane Library](#) - a collection of six databases that contain different types of high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making, and a seventh database that provides information about groups in The Cochrane Collaboration.
  - [Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews](#)
  - [Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials](#)
  - [Cochrane Methodology Register](#)
  - [Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects](#)
  - [Health Technology Assessment Database](#)
  - [NHS Economic Evaluation Database](#)

### RELATED INFORMATION

[Journals & Library](#)

[Staff Resources](#)

# Information Management

- Provided purchased copies of Endnote software for selected desktops
- Citation management software to save, store, and manage bibliographic references and files
- Ability to import citations from PubMed and other bibliographic databases
- Transfer and organize PDFs
- Insert citations into Microsoft Word documents

# Training

- Hands-on training at each health department
- Emphasize content and functionality of resources
- Skill development tied to Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals:
  - Identify sources of public health data and information
  - Use information technology to collect, store, and retrieve data and information
  - Retrieve and review scientific evidence related to public health issues, concerns and interventions

# Project Evaluation

*To advance information resource access, there is a need to know:*

- What resources are most needed?
  - What journals are core to the work?
  - How can this information effectively be accessed?
  - How much will these resources cost?
- Usage data
  - Journal survey
  - Pre & post training surveys
  - Evaluation Consultant to conduct individual interviews and focus groups at each site
  - Project-end survey
  - Purpose of this evaluation is to assess what has been the perceived value of the resources and services provided

# Digital Library Database Usage

Database	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	YTD Total
Global Health	270	198	97	108	67	82	54	33	909
STAT!Ref	4944	4122	778	510	588	784	421	345	12492
Cochrane Abstracts	6	33	33	26	52	51	48	37	286
Cochrane Full Text	5	15	21	13	60	14	13	22	163
Cochrane Systematic Reviews Full Text	3	13	16	10	28	13	12	21	116

# Digital Library E-Journal Usage

## Jan-Aug 2011

Publisher	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	YTD Total
Annual Reviews	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	10	55	39	119
NEJM	791	655	1172	863	421	762	1002	1112	6778
Oxford University Press	86	224	499	470	492	413	547	727	3458
Springer	0	0	27	84	159	160	159	191	780
UC Press	N/A	N/A	66	38	156	111	60	54	485
<b>Totals</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>1764</b>	<b>1455</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>1456</b>	<b>1823</b>	<b>2123</b>	<b>11620</b>



# Project Challenges

- Pricing of electronic resources
- Vendor license agreements
- Technology issues - installation Digital Library pages
- IT security issues

# Lessons Learned

- There are some vendors willing to work within new pricing models
- Need a project consultant for ongoing communication with all parties
- Need library partners
- Need committed liaison in each PHD
- There is interest in project expansion

# Project Expansion

- Multi-year project
- Expand beyond the New England (Arkansas & Kentucky); others to be determined
- Explore alternative models for training and article delivery services
- Continue fostering collaborations between NN/LM, NLM, NAL, CDC and other partners to build a sustainable model