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# CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN MEDICINE



## Public Health Informatics



January 1996  
through  
December 2000

441 Citations

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# Public Health Informatics

January 1996 through December 2000

441 Citations

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## INTRODUCTION

Public Health Informatics is defined as the systematic application of information and computer sciences to public health practice, research, and learning. It is the discipline that integrates public health with information technology. The development of this field and dissemination of informatics knowledge and expertise to public health professionals is the key to unlocking the potential of information systems to improve the health of the nation.

In 1996 the National Library of Medicine (NLM) compiled a bibliography that provided a review of the literature of this newly emerging field. That work, *CBM 96-4 Public Health Informatics* (fully cited within), included 471 citations covering the time period of 1980 to 1995. The current bibliography includes 441 citations covering only five years --1996 through 2000. This reflects a nearly three-fold increase in the publication rate compared to the previous period.

The bibliography focuses on the use of computers and communications to support population-based public health functions. As in the prior bibliography, we have excluded the primary care services often provided by public health authorities. The literature on consumer health informatics issues is also excluded. However, we have included selected population-based health promotion material.

Topics covered reflect major public health functions: population surveillance, population screening, registries, health promotion, information systems and services, data linking and mining, and workforce education and assessment. Articles on all aspects of immunization (including immunization registries) are grouped together under Immunization Programs and Issues. Also, we added bioterrorism to the Emergency/Disaster category. Publications increased in this area after the public health community was given a mandate to develop emergency plans and treatment procedures in case of bioterrorist attacks. Finally, we added the new category of Genetics Programs and Counseling.

The selected references in the bibliography include journal titles and articles, books and book chapters, technical reports, dissertations, conference proceedings and papers, and CD-ROMs as well as Internet sites. In general, editorials and letters have been omitted. Both English and foreign language publications are cited. References are arranged by subject and appear under only one topic.

At the end of the references we have included a brief section of Internet resources. These include organizational and program homepages. Monographs, slide shows, and articles available on the Internet appear under the appropriate subject category.

The compilers wish to thank Dora Smith, NLM, for her production assistance.

## SAMPLE CITATIONS

Citations are formatted according to the rules established for Index Medicus®\*. Sample journal and monograph citations appear below. For journal articles written in a foreign language, the English translation of the title displays in brackets; for monographs, the title is given in the original language. In both cases the language of publication is shown by a three-letter abbreviation appearing at the end of the citation.

Note also for journal articles that an availability statement follows many citations. This statement contains the identification number (UI) for the citation in the PubMed retrieval system. The user may enter this number in PubMed on the NLM Web site (<http://pubmed.gov/>) to retrieve the record, which includes an abstract for most articles and may also provide a link to the publisher's Internet site.

### Journal Article:

*Authors*

*Article Title*

Chute CG. Public health, clinical data, and common cause: information standards as mediating foci. MD Comput 2000 Sep-Oct;17(5):15-6.

*Abbreviated Journal Title    Date    Volume    Issue    Pages*

### Monograph:

*Authors/Editors*

National Research Council (US), Committee on Enhancing the Internet for Health and Biomedical Applications, Technical Requirements, and Implementation Strategies. Networking health: prescriptions for the Internet. Washington: National Academy Press; 2000. 358 p.

*Title                      Place of Publication                      Publisher                      Date                      Total No. of Pages*

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\*For details of the formats used for references, see the following publication:

Patrias, Karen. National Library of Medicine recommended formats for bibliographic citation. Bethesda (MD): The Library; 1991 Apr. Available from: NTIS, Springfield, VA; PB91-182030.

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## **Appendix: Organization and Program Internet Resources**

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