

Web Site Evaluation Form

URL of web site: _____

Date of evaluation: _____

Type:

What type of web site is this? (advocacy, business/marketing/commercial, informational, news, entertainment, personal, professional, etc.)

Authority:

Who wrote the information?

What are the writer's credentials/qualifications in the subject s/he is writing on?

Who funds the web site?

Are the writer and funder the same?

Is it hard to find that information? Is it not even there?

Do the funder and the information match? How?

Is there an **about us** section? Can you access it from the main page? Is it informative or written in a way that it could apply to many organizations?

Is there a **mission statement**? Is the mission statement confusing? Uninformative?

Does it match the site content?

Does your organization support their mission? Does this matter?

Is their contact information on every page? (organization, web designer, etc.)

Accuracy:

When was the site created? Is it still current?

Is there a copyright date on the main page?

Is there a “last updated” date on each page/section?

Does each article have a date?

Is the information on the site correct? How do you know?

Is the information **peer reviewed**?

Is the information presented in an objective, balanced manner? OR is there bias? An “agenda”. Can you tell?

How does the site compare with other sites on the same subject?

Does this site present unique information on the subject? (something MedlinePlus.gov **does not** cover?)

Audience:

Who is the site made for? (patients, health care professional, clinicians, etc.)

Is the information written appropriately for its audience?

Is the material on the site covered adequately for its intended user? (too basic; too advanced?)

Quality:

Are the sources well-documented? (states author, journal/web site, date, etc.)

Is the information well-written? (no grammatical problems, etc.)

If there are links, do you know who, when, where, what **BEFORE** you click on it? Do they work?

How stable is the connection to the site? Does it take a long time to download? Here today, gone tomorrow?

Can you navigate back to the home page and other sections from every page?

Are there **printer-friendly** options?

Is there information in languages other than English?

Is the site hard to search for you or your patrons/patients?

Does the site require additional software or hardware to be downloaded?

If this site contains multimedia, do the illustrations, video, or audio add value to the site?

Are there advertisements? Are they separate from the information? Non-flashy? Something your organization supports? Stated as a source of funding? Do they have a stated advertising policy?

Are there any disclaimers? (medical, etc.)

Do other sites use it? (check medlineplus.gov, lii.org, and caphis.mlanet.org/consumer)

Overall evaluation: is this site worth using? ___yes ___no

Comments: