
**RESOURCES
FOR
HEALTH SCIENCES
A
GUIDE FOR
AUSTRALIA**

HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY
CAULFIELD GENERAL MEDICAL CENTRE
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**COMPILED AND EDITED BY
VERONICA DELAFOSSE**

REFERENCE

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FOR
LOAN**

To the staff and patrons of the
Health Sciences Library, CMC,

from Veronica Delafosse

15/3/95

RESOURCES FOR HEALTH SCIENCES: A GUIDE FOR AUSTRALIA

compiled and edited by

Veronica Delafosse

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For Samantha

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ANNE HARRISON AWARD - August 1933

I had the good fortune to meet Anne, a truly inspirational librarian, on the occasion of her being awarded a Fellowship of the Australian Library and Information Association in 1989. The Award was established in 1986 to provide financial assistance for the development of health sciences librarianship in Australia.

Anne was in charge at the Brownless Medical School Library at the University of Melbourne from 1948-83. She established the Central Medical Library Organisation (CMLO) in 1953. This was a pioneering effort in library cooperation and resulted in many services including a clearinghouse and exchange system which was invaluable in establishing collections for new medical libraries in the early 1959-60s, and a Union List of Monographs which was an indispensable location tool for scarce resources.

Although Anne passed away in 1992, through this Award, her name and deeds will long be remembered.

ASSIG RESEARCH AWARD - December 1994

The Australian Serials Special Interest Group is part of the Australian Library and Information Association. The Award is for projects of a practical nature that relate to serials librarianship in Australasia and the South Pacific.

I am very grateful to many people for their encouragement and support. It is not possible to name them all but I would like to include the following

- The staff of *Standish Prideaux & Pye* and *DA Information Services* for their assistance with the book and journal prices respectively
- The publishers and journal agents who have sponsored me
- Grahame Manns, *The Write Response*, for his desktop publishing services
- Alan Bundy, *Auslib Press*, for his publishing expertise
- Many of my health sciences library colleagues from all over Australia
- My wonderful family, without whose sacrifices, I would never have succeeded

Veronica Delafosse
February 1995

Preface

The first list, entitled *List of Basic Journals for Hospital libraries* (1) was issued in 1974. It was produced by the Medical Librarians' Group (Victorian Branch). In 1976, the Health Department of Victoria created the position of Regional Medical Librarian. I held this position until 1987 consulting with hospital management in the country areas for the purpose of upgrading their library services. Where collections existed, "supervisors" (usually clerks) were generally expected to "run" the library in their spare time. Professional librarians were gradually appointed to these remote country hospitals. The experienced metropolitan librarians then saw a future need for guidance, particularly in selection.

These lists were used and appreciated by inexperienced librarians who otherwise were unfamiliar with the broad spectrum of subjects essential for the hospital library. Over the years updated lists (2-6) were produced when necessary.

Veronica Delafosse, one of Victoria's more experienced health sciences librarians, won the Anne Harrison Award and the Australian Serials Special Interest Group (ASSIG) Award which enabled her to publish this list. Health sciences librarians, Australia wide, are grateful to Veronica for the purposeful dedication and time which she has devoted to produce it. It will be the essential tool for all health sciences libraries.

Patricia Nakouz
Health Sciences Librarian
Kingston Centre Melbourne

- (1) *List of basic journals for hospital libraries*. Medical librarians' Group (Victorian Branch). 1974.
- (2) *Suggested basic book list for small allied health sciences library*. Medical Librarians' Group (Victorian Branch). 1977.
- (3) *List of journals for the smaller medical or allied health science library: an annotated guide to selection*. Medical Librarians' Group (Victorian Branch). 1979.
- (4) *Suggested basic book list for small allied health sciences library*. Medical Librarians' Group (Victorian Branch). 1980.
- (5) *Recommended list of books, journals and reference material for small health science libraries* / compiled by a Working Group on behalf of the Medical Librarians' Section (Victorian Group), Library Association of Australia. Melbourne: Royal Children's Hospital Library, 1984.
- (6) *Recommended list of books, journals and reference materials for small health science libraries* / compiled by the Publications Sub-Committee of the Medical Libraries Section (Victorian Group), Australian Library and Information Association. 3rd ed. Ultimo, NSW: ALIA, 1987.

INTRODUCTION

Aim

My main aim is to cite resources for the major relevant health sciences subjects. The list is restricted to print media, arranged by subject, and includes bibliographic details and approximate prices. As there is a wealth of literature in this area it is advisable to use a selection aid in order to guide you in deciding what to buy. Many aids exist (1-9,11,13,15-19) but are biased towards British or American publications. This book combines a mixture of overseas publications with relevant Australian ones and a range of prices. As many Australian authors use overseas publishers I have specifically stated when the book is Australian. The prices included are there as a guide. They are subject to change, particularly for the overseas publications, which are dependent on the fluctuations of the Australian dollar.

As collection development is mostly driven by users' needs and budgets are never adequate I suggest you take advantage of the opportunity to see books on approval and sample copies of journals. Many vendors offer this type of service. Factors to consider include: authorship, readability, subject content, style, relevance, level, arrangement, design, indexes, and price. Some lists asterisk items suggested for initial purchase, but I have found this too difficult to do. I would prefer the reader to try and see the items before purchasing them.

Collection evaluation involves assessing the strengths and weaknesses of a collection. While collection development is often subjective, evaluation should give an objective understanding and provide a guide for budgeting and decision making. One way is to compare the collection against a subject selection aid. Many large academic and research libraries are using a formal procedure for describing their collections called *Conspectus* (10,12). As this is too detailed and uneconomic for the smaller health sciences library I have prepared a template to assist with decision making.

Market

Although it is presumed that health sciences librarians will be the main users, it will still be relevant to other groups eg staff of hospitals which do not have a library, medical centres, community health centres, nursing homes, hostels, educational institutions, associations for specialised diseases (arthritis, cancer, multiple sclerosis, to name a few) and clinics for other therapies. The distinguishing factor between this and other published selection aids is the emphasis on Australian publications.

Contents

There are 3 main sections for books, journals and reference materials.

1 Books are listed in alphabetical order by subject and then by author or editor. Each entry includes bibliographic details and the approximate Australian price. Additional information, for example notes on books about to be released in a new edition, notes on those that are regularly revised, and the word Aust to denote that at least one of the authors is from Australia, are included where relevant.

Of the 1022 books listed, 82% have been published within the last 5 years and 17.6% were published in the 1980s. 31% are Australian and 79% of these were published in the 1990s. Items not generally included are: series eg annual reviews, instructors' guides, examination questions, student textbooks, and patient education materials. Although there are many excellent audiovisual programs and interactive software packages for the health sciences I have also excluded these. I believe I can neither do justice to this area nor is it warranted. The majority of health sciences libraries either borrow these from larger collections in educational institutions or use the preview facilities vendors offer in order to see the programs before buying them.

The Author Index is followed by a Subject Index and then a list of the descriptors used. Each book has been entered only once under the most relevant descriptor. I have given special subheadings ie *General, Nursing, Specialties and Surgery* to further define the subjects. However, related *Nursing* topics in the following areas have not been further separated: ethics, history, humour, incontinence, infection control, law, nutrition and dietetics, psychology, quality assurance, research, sociology, and writing. 'See references' are listed in the main subject area.

This sample entry includes:

Authors, Title, Edition, Place of Publication, Publisher, Year,
Series, International Standard Book Number, Price, and Note

<p>910. Bates E and Linder-Pelz S <i>Health care issues</i> 2nd ed. St. Leonard's, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 1990. (Studies in Society) ISBN: 0044421087 \$24.95 Note: Aust.</p>

2 Journals are listed in alphabetical order by subject and title. My aim has been to include a range of Australian, American, English and international titles. The number included is dependent on the nature of the subject. Areas covering clinical subjects have more journals compared to the theoretical subjects of, for example, anatomy and physiology. There would be more for these in the libraries of medical schools.

This is the only section where I have felt it necessary to place entries in more than one subject area. In order to include specialised nursing journals with their respective subjects I have placed them in at least two areas eg operating room nursing is under *Surgery-General* and *Nursing-Specialties*. Similarly, with the journal *Medicine, Science and the Law* I have put it under three headings viz *Medicine, Science, and Law*. Therefore the total number of journals is much higher than the actual number.

Of the 411 journals listed 27% are Australian, 55% originate from the United States of America and 17% are from the United Kingdom. It must be stressed that the prices are approximate and are given as a guide only. I have chosen the institutional rates for the cheapest method of delivery. Some publishers insist on air mail delivery for overseas countries and the price will reflect this policy. The three-letter abbreviation before each

price denotes the country of origin of the journal. This can sometimes be misleading in cases where the journal has an international coverage but I have also included notes which give more information.

The abbreviations are:

AUD	Australia
AUD Gratis	Australia free on request
CAD	Canada
CHF	Switzerland
FIM	Finland
GBP	Great Britain
IRP	Ireland
NLG	The Netherlands
NOK	Norway
NZD	New Zealand
NZD Gratis	New Zealand free on request
USD	United States of America

The Title Index refers the reader to the numbers beside each journal and includes the additional numbers where a journal is entered under more than one subject heading. This is followed by a list of the descriptors used. 'See references' are listed in the main subject area.

This sample entry includes:

Title, Note, International Standard Serial Number, Frequency
(number of issues per annum), Currency abbreviation, and Price

94. *Journal of gastroenterology and hepatology*
Note: Official journal of the Asian-Pacific
Association for the Study of the Liver, the
Asian-Pacific Association for
Gastroenterology, the Gastroenterological
Society of Australia and the Hong Kong
Society of Gastroenterology
ISSN: 08159319 6pa AUD 279.00

3 Reference materials. These are arranged similarly to the books section. Almost half (49%) are Australian publications. I have included a few titles that are no longer in print (but are available in large health sciences libraries) because of their historical importance. Several of the indexes are now available via non-print media and I have noted this. I mistakenly omitted one important local index (14) to medical journals. Large libraries are more likely to hold many of the reference publications cited in the bibliography (11,17,19). As these items, especially the directories, tend to be rather expensive and are updated more frequently than books, you may need to reconsider how much you are likely to use them to justify the price. An Author Index and list of descriptors follows.

Template

Although I have endeavoured to make the print large enough in order to leave room for notes I would like to suggest that the reader make copies of the template on the following page to place on either side of the columns. This will allow room to write decisions made with respect to the books and journals and follows the quality assurance cycle of identifying,, assessing, describing actions, and monitoring them for further assessment. I have included examples for books and journals below.

BOOKS

IDENTIFY	ASSESS	DESCRIBE ACTIONS	MONITOR ACTIONS
call number	held; not held; requested by client	check against other lists <i>ie</i> reading lists, selection aids; obtain current prices	order; wait for next edition; already held; heavily used: buy another copy

JOURNALS

IDENTIFY	ASSESS	DESCRIBE ACTIONS	MONITOR ACTIONS
held	requested by client	supplier to quote price; check against other lists	order; consider sharing within group/ area/ network

To save space you could establish a code of guidelines eg A - already held; B - order; C - consider again next year/edition' D - make arrangements with another department/library/hospital to obtain copies of contents pages; E - donated by (name)

IDENTIFY	ASSESS	DESCRIBE ACTIONS	MONITOR ACTIONS	IDENTIFY	ASSESS	DESCRIBE ACTIONS	MONITOR ACTIONS

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