Summary of Responses to Survey of Library Units on Health Information Services
Results compiled 11/16/09

1. My unit regularly receives reference requests for health-related information in the following subject areas:

(AHS) All aspects of health and wellness, including health promotion, health administration/policy, global health, epidemiology, prevention of chronic diseases/conditions, public health, community health, HIV/AIDS, wellness and development over the lifespan, aging, disability, traumatic brain injury, childhood language development and associated disorders, communication disorders caused by stroke and other disabling conditions, aphasia, dysphasia, neuroscience of language and speech, cognition and language/speech, blindness, deafness, cochlear implants, hearing disorders, hearing aids, American Sign Language, stuttering, cerebral palsy, down syndrome, ADHD, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, movement disorders, Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s disease, rehabilitation counseling, disability and education/career opportunities, assistive technology, health statistics, health data, demography of health/aging, Latino/a health literacy, child health, nutrition, sports medicine, athletic training/conditioning, injuries, cardiovascular rehabilitation, human biomechanics, gait analysis, motor control and development, balance, body/bone composition, physical activity, exercise, fitness, obesity, motivation and exercise adherence, role of exercise (relative to menopause, aging, memory, learning, cognition), exercise immunology, exercise psychology, exercise neuroscience, kinesmetrics, exercise psychophysiology, neurocognitive kinesiology, therapeutic recreation, healthy communities, leisure/park planning for health across lifespan, healthy lifestyle, all sports as exercise/for health benefit

From undergraduate students: above subjects in writing a term paper, finding peer-reviewed journal articles
From graduate students: above subjects in literature review, writing a thesis/dissertation, teaching a course
From faculty/staff: above subjects in research, teaching, writing grant proposals
From the general public: Yes, but to a lesser extent than from our primary UIUC academic clientele. Subjects are usually personal health issues, or those of loved ones.

Other libraries
(Commun) From undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty: health communication, drug advertising, birth control comm and advertising

(Reference) Most often from undergraduate students and the general public

(VM) From undergraduate students: Occasionally, 1-2 requests a month
From graduate students: Mainly CVM students
From faculty/staff: Some. Mostly CVM but some ACES (Animal Sci)
From the general public: 1-3 requests a month from veterinarians and the general public

(LIS) From graduate students: medical librarianship, medical/health reference sources

(Chem) Some of our patrons are studying for medicine, pharmacy, and other health-related careers. Other patrons may explore biochemistry or nuclear magnetic resonance related to human health, for example. Their reference requests reflect these interests.
From the general public: These inquiries do not seem to relate directly to health except for toxicity information.
2. My unit provides health-related instruction and instructional materials in the following modes of delivery. Indicate subject areas addressed by each and note modes of delivery where demand is growing:

(AHS) One-on-one: all subject areas above are included in one-on-one instruction in the unit; also using online catalog, databases, library web site, Health Info Portal, other print and online sources; a great deal of one-on-one for undergraduate assignments
Group sessions organized by the library: I occasionally offer a specialized session on a topic, like interlibrary loan; I also have organized sessions on Refworks and Data sources for AHS students (utilizing expertise of other staff in the Library)
Course-integrated sessions: unit provides an average of 30 course-integrated sessions per academic year in kinesiology, community health, speech & hearing science
LibGuides: LibGuides aren’t accessible for people with disabilities, so I don’t use them. Instead, I offer subject guides (via Library CMS) on the unit web page. Topics: aging, audiology, epidemiology, health policy, health promotion/education, kinesiology, public health, recreation/sport/tourism, rehabilitation, speech-language pathology, sports medicine
Handouts: a variety of subject guides, lists of new books, database descriptions, Refworks, etc.
Other approaches: Health Information Portal
One-on-one: A great deal of one-on-one for undergraduate assignments.

Other libraries:
(Undergrad) Overview of library resources for McKinley staff; We have a variety of LibGuides on health topics, as fall under various controversial topics assignments. We also maintain the H1N1 LibGuide.


(VM) One-on-one, group sessions organized by the library, course-integrated sessions, LibGuides, handouts: All handouts have been moved to webpages

(Music) we may create a LibGuide in the future for musicians' health and related topics in the future.

(Comm) One-on-one: Reference assistance in health comm, advertising of drugs, birth control, especially condom use and advertising

(Biotech) I frequently give sessions to grad student classes or lab groups where the topic is "how to use RefWorks", but in reality I use this as a ploy to also teach them a bit about how to search PubMed effectively, and how to set up alerts from PubMed. These are usually Food Science department affiliates, but have also been neuroscience researchers in Entomology, or sociology grad students who are working on public health issues!

(Chem) We provide one-on-one and group instructional sessions on SciFinder Web and Web of Science (Science Citation Index Expanded), multidisciplinary databases that include information on health-related subjects mentioned previously (e.g., biochemistry, organic chemistry)

(Reference) One-on-one: General - usually course-related - delivery could be by phone, chat, e-mail or in person - note: we don't give out health related information - we only let people know how to find the info
they need - whether it is through journal articles, books, libguides, etc. LibGuides: URL's may be sent to patrons via e-mail or chat

3. My unit provides other services to respond to health information needs on campus. Specific examples include:

(Undergrad) maintains the H1N1/Swine Flu libguide, under current events awareness. As other health topics come to the fore, we would do the same.

(VM) Animal health-related library displays, web pages, links to relevant resources in veterinary medicine

(Reference) Referrals to McKinley or Health Sciences Library for information,

4. Does your unit anticipate changes in the level of interest in health-related information due to the following (provide specific examples):

(AHS)
1. Trends in research – growing need/demand for health research, grant seeking in health; obesity, aging, neuroscience
2. Developments in degree programs – new MPH, iHealth programs
3. Outreach initiatives – could expand with appropriate staffing

(VM)
1. Trends in research - Yes - translational medicine initiatives; one medicine/one health programs
2. Developments in degree programs - Dual DVM/MPH degree programs
3. Outreach initiatives - Yes - there's a new Chicago Center for Veterinary Medicine which is an extension of the CVM-Urbana

(Business) Trends in research --translational research, discovery in life sciences as related to health

(Education & Social Science) Developments in degree programs: as additional degree programs are developed, a health component is often relevant. For example, the new bachelor's degree in social work is likely to have a health aspect.

(Comm) If the Communications Library incorporates the Speech Comm Collection from ESSL, we would collect and house more materials in this area since there are faculty in the Comm Dept (LAS) who do health comm research.

5. My unit faces the following challenges in responding to requests for health-related information:

(AHS) Undergraduate students usually need instruction on how to use the online catalog and article databases in general, in order to find health-related information. Not enough staff to serve the growing number of students interested in health information; need more librarians for specialized instruction and course-integrated instruction

(VM) Access to clinical medical resources. Particularly MDConsult. We do not have enough simultaneous user accesses, nor do we have access to the complete version of MDConsult. While it's not
the critical tool for UIUC that is is for UIC, many new resources would be open to our users if it were made available to the Urbana campus.

(LIS) Students studying medical librarianship occasionally seek access to online resources (such as commercial web-based information tools aimed at practicing physicians or nurses) to which the University Library doesn't subscribe.

(Business) not having databases that have good pipelines for the discovery process, such as Life Science Analytics, Emerging Medical Technology, Health Devices International Sourcebase, and Medical e-Track.

(Reference) New GA's often don't realize that books and journals related to medicine at Urbana Health Sciences are only found through UIC catalog.

6. Are you aware of potential audiences for health information resources and services provided by the library that are currently not being reached?

(AHS) The local community; Students who are not finding the information they need, but don't know where to go.

(LIS) Possibly we could be doing more to share information/resources with public libraries that in turn provide health information to local residents. The LIS Library has always been a passive provider of services and content to support the professional development of local librarians, but we have not targeted them or their patrons as an audience for outreach.

(Business) Scientists learning how to run businesses, technology transfer, and chemists who are doing discovery work. Even kinesiologists are looking at trends in product development for therapy. We do quite a bit on sports promotion too.

(Undergrad) Outreach to McKinley Health Center, dorms, counseling center, Campus Recreation, community.