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The August release of RxNorm includes a new source - Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification System (ATC). The World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Drug Statistics Methodology maintains ATC. ATC classifies chemical substances into fourteen anatomical groups, which are divided into three levels of pharmacological, chemical, and therapeutic subgroups. Members of these groups and subgroups include approximately 4,500 ingredients.

For more information about ATC, visit the WHO ATC page: http://www.whocc.no/atc/structure_and_principles/.
The July 2013 International Release of SNOMED CT® is available for download. The download contains SNOMED CT files in both Release Format 1 (RF1) and Release Format 2 (RF2) versions. Additionally, updated RF2 to RF1 compatibility tools are available for download from the same Web page.
Veterinary Science Subset Strategy Updated

The Veterinary Science subset strategy was updated to improve search performance by removing status subsets (e.g., [in process]). Please see the new strategy at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/services/queries/veterinarymed_details.html.
Some local documentation used by NLM catalogers when creating Resource Description and Access (RDA) records is now available on from the NLM Cataloging Section homepage. As a member of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), NLM follows the BIBCO and CONSER guidelines developed for RDA. The NLM Metadata Application Profile (MAP) is based on the MAPs developed by the Library of Congress and the PCC as a quick reference tool for catalogers and provides guidance on recording all RDA elements considered to be "core" by NLM. There is a great deal of similarity between the PCC RDA BIBCO Standard Record (BSR) Metadata Application Profile and the NLM Metadata Application Profile. However, the NLM MAP includes instructions for serials as well as monographs and also records some local practices that may be unique to NLM. The MAP is intended to be used in conjunction with the document MARC 21 Coding to Accommodate RDA Elements while catalogers are still working in a MARC environment.
Apply to Attend the Online Class “Fundamentals of Bioinformatics and Searching”


2013 August 13 [posted]

Health science librarians are invited to participate in an online bioinformatics training course, Fundamentals of Bioinformatics and Searching, sponsored by the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, NLM Training Center (NTC). The course provides basic knowledge and skills for librarians interested in helping patrons use online molecular databases and tools from the NCBI. Attending this course will improve your ability to initiate or extend bioinformatics services at your institution. Prior knowledge of molecular biology and genetics is not required.

The major goal of this course is to provide an introduction to bioinformatics theory and practice in support of developing and implementing library-based bioinformatics products and services. This material is essential for decision-making and implementation of these programs, particularly instructional and reference services. The course encompasses visualizing bioinformatics end-user practice, places a strong emphasis on hands-on acquisition of NCBI search competencies, and a working molecular biology vocabulary, through self-paced hands-on exercises.

This course is offered online (asynchronous) from October 21 - December 2, 2013. The course format includes video lectures, readings, a molecular vocabulary exercise, an NCBI discovery exercise, and other hands-on exercises. The instructor is Diane Rein, Ph.D., MLS, Bioinformatics and Molecular Biology Liaison from the Health Science Library, University at Buffalo.

Due to limited enrollment, interested participants are required to complete an application form. The deadline for completing the application is September 9, 2013; participants will be notified of acceptance on September 23, 2013.

The course is offered at no cost to participants. Participants who complete all assignments and the course evaluation by the due dates within the course will receive 15 hours of MLA CE credit. No partial CE credit is granted.

This course is a prerequisite for the face-to-face workshop, Librarian’s Guide to NCBI. Participants who complete the required coursework and earn full continuing education credit will be eligible to apply to attend the 5-day Librarian’s Guide that will be offered in April of 2014 if they so choose.

For more information and to apply, visit: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/fundamentals_fall_2013

Questions? E-mail the course organizers at ncbi_course@lists.utah.edu.

By Sharon Dennis
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PubMed for Trainers: Free Hybrid Classes Open for Registration


2013 July 15 [posted]

"This was definitely one of the best-run and most thorough training sessions I have ever attended. Their seminar-long assignment of having us think-through how we would approach the pedagogy (an [sic] not just the content) of PubMed sessions was a nice addition. I would not hesitate to recommend this session for any trainer."

"This was one of the best training sessions that I've ever attended! The instructors are extremely knowledgeable, friendly, and terrific teachers. Offering this course as a hybrid (with both online and in-person sessions) was a great experience, in that, it was a terrific balance between presentations, group work and assignments to complete on our own."

-- Comments from recent "PubMed for Trainers" class participants

Would you like to gain new skills, brush up on existing PubMed skills and collaborate with colleagues to help create effective training strategies? Join the National Library of Medicine Training Center (NTC) for the hybrid class "PubMed for Trainers" (PMT), offered at various locations across the country from September 2013 through April 2014. PMT is held in four sessions: three online sessions and one in-person session (attendance in all is expected). Upon completion, the participants are eligible for 15 hours of MLA CE credit. The class is offered at no cost to participants.

This hands-on class consists of eight presentations created by the National Library of Medicine, live demonstrations, hands-on exercises, group work and discussions, and networking opportunities over the course of four sessions. You can expect an additional 2-3 hours of independent homework.

The objectives of the class are for current and future PubMed trainers to:
1. Enhance your knowledge of the MEDLINE database
2. Improve your ability to analyze and implement Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)
3. Employ the features and functions of PubMed for use in searching and training
4. Discuss instruction techniques with fellow trainers
5. Experience peer collaboration and learning

The in-person portion of the class will be taught in the following locations:
- Salt Lake City, UT (September 2013)
- Tulsa, OK (October 2013)
- Bethesda, MD (October 2013)
- Savannah, GA (November 2013)
- Bethesda, MD (January/February 2014)
- San Francisco, CA (February 2014)
- Bethesda, MD (March 2014)
- Seattle, WA (March 2014)
- Detroit, MI (April 2014)
- Bethesda, MD (June 2014)

Class space is limited, so register now at http://nnlm.gov/ntcc/classes/schedule.html.

Questions? Contact Sharon Dennis, Assistant Director, National Library of Medicine Training Center, at Sharon.dennis@utah.edu or (800) 338-7657, press 2.
National Library of Medicine (NLM) TOXLINE users will notice that their searches no longer include records from the CRISP subfile. The CRISP subfile of toxicology-related research projects has been removed from the National Library of Medicine (NLM) TOXNET version of TOXLINE and replaced with RePORTERTOX.

TOXLINE now provides access to projects from the NIH RePORTER system (http://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm), a searchable database of federally funded biomedical research projects conducted at universities, hospitals, and other research institutions, maintained by the NIH, and a replacement for CRISP. This TOXLINE subfile name has been changed to RePORTERTOX.

Users can limit their searches to the new grant and project information by selecting RePORTERTOX from the pull-down menu of subfiles (see Figure 1) on the TOXLINE “Limits” search page.

RePORTERTOX records in TOXLINE provide an “Award Type” field which contains the grant type (e.g., R01); the “Document Number” field provides a link to the grant in the full NIH RePORTER database; a new “Link to PubMed” field provides PubMed citations related to the grant (see Figure 2).

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Figure 1: RePORTERTOX subset selection.
Figure 2: RePORTERTOX record fields (partial record display).

By Colette Hochstein
Specialized Information Services Division