



Pathfinder: Diseases

This pathfinder will help you research diseases.

Search Tools: Use the search stations in the library (or any computer in the school by using the URL 10.1.9.75:8080) to access the library's catalog to find materials in the library's collection.

Introductory Materials: Encyclopedias are a great way to start your research if you are not familiar with your subject. This will give you a quick explanation and other terms and ideas to expand your search terms.

Terms and Keywords: Use the computer search stations to look for your book sources. You may try general words to find your subject like "disease." This is a broad category so you may want to get more specific. Instead of just "disease" try searching for the specific disease you are researching such as "cancer" or "AIDS." Use the index in the back of the book for your specific, more detailed subject.

- disease
- illness
- health
- healthcare
- name of the disease
- medicine
- treatments
- mental health
- viruses



Dewey Numbers: The KHS Drew Library Media Center uses the Dewey Decimal System to catalog and organize materials. Begin your search for your disease by using the following Dewey numbers:

- 362 – These books are about the effects of disease on society.
- 610 – 613 – This section has books about human anatomy, body systems, healthy living and diet. These can help you understand what the disease does and how to prevent it.
- 614 – 616 – The books found in this section are about the disease itself and how it affects the body.

Reference Materials to Use: The books marked with reference stickers cannot be checked out. However, you may make copies of the pages you need in them. Don't forget to copy the title page to use for your works cited page. Here are just a few of the books we have in the reference section that could help you out:

- REF 610 The Oxford illustrated companion to medicine
- REF 616 Diseases – 8 volume encyclopedia on disease
- REF 616.003 Sick! Diseases and Disorders, Injuries and Infections – 4 volumes
- REF 616. Health Reference Series – this series has volumes on many diseases, disorders and medical issues.

Internet Resources: There are millions of websites with information on disease. This can be a great source, however, make sure that the site you use has reliable, credible information. Here are some good sites to look at:

www.cdc.gov - Center for Disease Control

www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/ - New York State Department of Health

www.who.int/topics/en/ - World Health Organization

Fiction Reading: You may want to read a fiction book to supplement your research. Reading fiction books can give you a personal perspective of someone living with a disease or having a loved one with a disease. Here are some fiction books about this subject:

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult

The Eagle Kite by Paula Fox

Night Kites by M.E. Kerr

Letters for Emily by Camron Wright

Deadline by Chris Crutcher

Wintergirls by Laurie Halse Anderson

Still Alice by Lisa Genova

Code Orange by Caroline Cooney

Going Bovine by Libba Bray