



Evidence-based sources

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Overview

The formal definition of evidence-based medicine (EBM) is “the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individual patients.”¹

Evidence-based medicine integrates clinical expertise, patients’ values and preferences, and the best available evidence from the medical literature.²

Content development

Ignite Education Patient ED content is developed from the most recent evidence-based research available to ensure the relevancy, accuracy, and reliability of all health directives. The Research Department maintains a Library of the latest clinical textbooks and journals. Collection development is grounded in the medical specialties that form the foundation of Ignite Education content, and the latest editions of each specialty standard are available in either hard copy or electronic format. Nearly all resources used in the development of Ignite Education Patient ED content are derived from proprietary systems (see at right). Such resources function as evidence-based clinical decision support tools providing a synthesis of the latest on evaluation, diagnosis, clinical management, prognosis, and prevention. Our writers and editors, medical illustrators, designers, and clinicians have access to these materials for the development and maintenance of Ignite Education content. Resources are identified for the development team by the Research Director, our clinicians, and our subject matter experts.

Bibliographies

Copyright and contractual agreements limit how source content can be utilized. Only citations (AMA style) can be legally retained and distributed to entities outside the name of the subscribing organization (WebMD Ignite).

Acceptable sources

- **Proprietary online databases** – These systems are searchable aggregators that pull content from a wide range of sources (journals, textbooks, guidelines, drug directories, and clinical review articles) into a single platform.
 - Clinical Key
 - Clinical Key Nursing
 - Cochrane Library
 - Up to Date
- **Recognized associations and organizations** (public and private) that set the standards of care for their respective fields.

¹ Sackett DL, Rosenberg WM, Gray JA, et al: Evidence based medicine: what it is and what it isn't. BMJ 1996; 312: 71–72.

² Panesar SS, et al. Principles of Evidence Based Medicine. Orthopedic Clinics of North America. 2010;41(2):131–8.





- **Medical journals**
- **Clinical textbooks** (online and hardcopy)
- **US Government sources** (online and hardcopy)
 - [NIH](#), [CDC](#), [FDA](#), [NCHS](#), [NIOSH](#), etc.
- **Pharmaceutical drug information** (i.e. dosage, administration, drug interactions, etc.,)

Unacceptable Sources

- Broad based Google searches
- Content from commercial and for-profit organizations; such as MAYO Clinic, Cleveland Clinic, Intellihealth
- Patient education created by commercial producers
- Private research (i.e. not vetted/published by a recognized organization)

Guidelines

Ignite Education monitors a substantial number of associations and organizations that publish healthcare guidelines. All guidelines are vetted, and those directly applicable to Ignite Education content are taken into consideration and utilized for product development and maintenance.

See below for the list of guidelines currently monitored and distributed to editorial staff and Ignite Education clinicians:

1. Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine
2. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
3. Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
4. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
5. Alzheimer's Association
6. American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
7. American Academy of Audiology
8. American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
9. American Academy of Dermatology
10. American Academy of Emergency Medicine
11. American Academy of Emergency Medicine
12. American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
13. American Academy of Family Physicians
14. American Academy of General Dentistry

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15. American Academy of Neurology
16. American Academy of Ophthalmology
17. American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons
18. American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy
19. American Academy of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery
20. American Academy of Pain Medicine
21. American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
22. American Academy of Pediatrics
23. American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
24. American Academy of Sleep Medicine
25. American Association for Respiratory Care
26. American Association for Thoracic Surgery
27. American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation
28. American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
29. American Association of Diabetes Educators
30. American Association of Endodontists
31. American Association of Neurological Surgeons
32. American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
33. American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
34. American Association of Orthodontists
35. American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons
36. American Association of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus
37. American Cancer Society
38. American Chronic Pain Association
39. American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
40. American College of Cardiology
41. American College of Chest Physicians
42. American College of Clinical Pharmacy
43. American College of Critical Care Medicine
44. American College of Echocardiography
45. American College of Emergency Physicians
46. American College of Endocrinology
47. American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons
48. American College of Gastroenterology
49. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
50. American College of Physicians
51. American College of Preventive Medicine
52. American College of Prosthodontists
53. American College of Radiology
54. American College of Rheumatology
55. American College of Sports Medicine
56. American College of Surgeons

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57. American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
58. American Dental Association
59. American Diabetes Association
60. American Epilepsy Society
61. American Gastroenterological Association
62. American Geriatric Society
63. American Head and Neck Society
64. American Heart Association
65. American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine
66. American Laryngological, Rhinological and Otological Society
67. American Lung Association
68. American Lung Foundation
69. American Medical Association
70. American Occupational Therapy Association Inc
71. American Optometric Association
72. American Osteopathic Association
73. American Pain Society
74. American Physical Therapy Association
75. American Podiatric Medical Association
76. American Psychiatric Association
77. American Psychological Association
78. American Rhinologic Society
79. American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology
80. American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
81. American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
82. American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
83. American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition
84. American Society of Anesthesiologists
85. American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
86. American Society of Clinical Oncology
87. American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons
88. American Society of Echocardiography
89. American Society of Hematology
90. American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians
91. American Society of Nephrology
92. American Society of Neuroradiology
93. American Society of Nuclear Cardiology
94. American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology (ASPO)
95. American Society of Plastic Surgeons
96. American Society of Reproductive Medicine
97. American Society of Temporomandibular Joint Surgeons (ASTMJS)
98. American Stroke Association

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99. American Thoracic Society
100. American Thyroid Association
101. American Urological Association
102. American Venous Forum
103. Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
104. Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
105. Brain Trauma Foundation
106. British Association of Dermatologists
107. British Menopause Society
108. British Society for Rheumatology
109. British Society of Gastroenterology
110. British Thoracic Society
111. Canadian Academy of Sports Medicine
112. Canadian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
113. Canadian Association of Radiologists
114. Canadian Cardiovascular Society
115. Canadian Diabetes Association
116. Canadian Headache Society
117. Canadian Heart Rhythm Society
118. Canadian Interventional Radiology Association
119. Canadian Medical Association
120. Canadian Pediatric Society
121. Canadian Pain Society
122. Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care
123. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
124. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
125. Concussion in Sport Group
126. Department of Defense
127. Department of Health and Human Services
128. Department of Justice
129. Department of Veterans Affairs
130. Emergency Nurses Association
131. Endocrine Society
132. Environmental Protection Agency
133. Eye Surgery Education Council
134. Food and Drug Administration
135. GINA: Global Initiative for Asthma
136. Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease
137. Heart Rhythm Society
138. Infectious Diseases Society of America
139. Institute of Medicine
140. Joint Commission

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141. Joint Council of Allergy Asthma and Immunology
142. Multi Society Task Force on Colorectal Cancer
143. National Academy of Family Physicians
144. National Association for Sport and Physical Education
145. National Asthma Education and Prevention Program
146. National Cancer institute
147. National Cholesterol Education Program
148. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
149. National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)
150. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
151. National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
152. National Institute of Mental Health
153. National Institute on Aging
154. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
155. National Institute on Drug Abuse
156. National Institutes of Health
157. National Kidney Foundation
158. National Lipid Association
159. National Osteoporosis Foundation
160. National Stroke Foundation
161. North American Menopause Society
162. North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
163. Obesity Society
164. Oncology Nursing Society
165. Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society
166. Preventive Services Task Force
167. Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
168. Royal College of Radiologists
169. Society for Vascular Surgery
170. Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons
171. Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists
172. Society of Critical Care Medicine
173. Society of Interventional Radiology
174. Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada
175. Society of Thoracic Surgeons
176. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
177. US Public Health Service
178. USDA
179. Veterans' Health Administration
180. World Health Organization WHO
181. World Heart Federation
182. Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

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