

Need to Know

Utilizing Information in Practice

Is this the TRUTH?

The British Medical Journal reported results of a study investigating the use of ibuprofen plus acetaminophen (paracetamol) for treatment of fever in children.

The Truth

The prevailing practice in the United States has been the use of acetaminophen exclusively for fever in children.

Five earlier studies had conflicting results when using this combination of drugs for fever. The study participants aged 6 months to 6 years and were drawn randomly from an initial pool of 4515 children in England. Many were excluded due to insufficient fever, chronic conditions, dehydration and so on. The final group included 60 children in each of three groups.

Participants, parents and health care providers were not aware of the medication provided to them (double blind study). Dosing was by weight of the child.

Results indicated that acetaminophen and ibuprofen combined resulted in less time with fever in the first four hours, as well as in the first 24 hours, than acetaminophen alone. However, the combined therapy was no different than ibuprofen alone. There was no difference in adverse effects of any of the drugs among the groups.

The researchers conclude that ibuprofen is more effective than acetaminophen at reducing early fever quickly, and avoids the danger of overdose that might occur if using a combination of acetaminophen and ibuprofen.

Source: Hay, A., Costelloe, C., Redmond, N., Montgomery, A., Fletcher, M., Hollinghurst, S., & Peters, T. (2 September, 2008). Paracetamol plus ibuprofen for the treatment of fever: Randomized controlled trial. *British Medical Journal*, 337, 1302.

This announcement just came out on domestic violence

The Maternal and Child Health Library released a new edition of the knowledge path, Domestic Violence. This electronic resource guide has been released in time for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.

The knowledge path points to recent resources about identifying and responding to domestic violence within the home and the community. Separate sections identify resources for families and resources about children exposed to domestic violence; dating violence among adolescents; and violence between gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender partners. The knowledge path is available

at http://mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_domviolence.html.

Knowledge paths on other maternal and child health (MCH) topics are available at <http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/index.html>.



Utilizing Information in Practice
Internet Training for Missouri's
Healthcare Professionals
A National Library of Medicine Grant
(<https://www.phn.missouri.edu/>)

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Historical Spotlight



Leslie Lumsden (1894-1946)

Dr. Leslie Lumsden was born in Virginia in 1894 and educated at University of Virginia. He worked in the US Public Health Service on typhoid epidemics. Working with local officials, the public health survey teams he directed provided education to households about the "safe disposal of human wastes by building sanitary privies, the protection of water supplies by safeguarding wells to prevent surface drainage, and the screening of homes to prevent the entrance of disease-bearing insects, particularly flies and mosquitoes."

His work was aided tremendously by the Civil Works and Work Projects Administrations of the 1930's and the federal privy-building programs.

He died in 1946.

Source: National Library of Medicine
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/phs_history/79.html

Need to Know Utilizing Information in Practice

Searching Tips – Why Bother with MeSH?

MeSH stands for medical subject headings, which are the terms assigned to each citation that is indexed in PubMed. This is similar to ‘tagging’ your photos on Facebook or on flickr.com. Having each article tagged with MeSH terms allows you to search by more than the words in the title and abstract (summary).

When you enter your search, PubMed is scripted to automatically look for MeSH headings that match your search terms. However, it’s only a machine and can use your assistance.

Some of the reasons you need to know about MeSH.

- MeSH helps you get articles only on your topic:

e.g. nursing vs. breastfeeding

If you want articles on the profession or methods of nursing it pays to use the MeSH terms for nurses.

- MeSH brings together articles that use different terms:

e.g. bed sore vs. Pressure Ulcer

Some topics have multiple synonyms. When you search for bed sores in PubMed, PubMed automatically searches for the MeSH term “Pressure Ulcer.” However, while the PubMed search program will pick up synonyms for many terms, it doesn’t always get it right. Using the MeSH term will help ensure that all terms for your topic are included without you having to type them all in the search box.

e.g. ICU vs. Intensive care unit

If you use abbreviations, you may miss key articles. Not all abbreviations have been entered into PubMed. It’s better to spell out your term or to use a matching MeSH term.

For more tips on how to use MeSH, check out the PubMed tutorials at

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmed.html>

Website

What’s Around the House?

Have you ever worried about the variety of products you use in everyday life? What are the contents of Amazing Goop All Purpose Adhesive and Sealant? Who is the manufacturer? What should I do if a child swallows some, or gets some in her eye? What about the bug repellent, or my mascara, or the oil for the car? You can find the answers to all this, and more on one database: Household Products Database. Household Products Database links over 8,000 consumer brands to health effects from Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) provided by manufacturers and allows scientists and consumers to research products based on chemical ingredients. The database is designed to help answer the following typical questions:

- What are the chemical ingredients and their percentage in specific brands?
- Which products contain specific chemical ingredients?
- Who manufactures a specific brand? How do I contact this manufacturer?
- What are the acute and chronic effects of chemical ingredients in a specific brand?
- What other information is available about chemicals in the toxicology-related databases of the National Library of Medicine?

You can search Household Products Database in a variety of ways. There are tabs at the top of the page linking you to types of Products, Manufacturers, Ingredients and Health Effects. Products, Manufacturers and Ingredients are all listed alphabetically: to search Health Effects, you enter a symptom (for example, rash, bleeding or cough) and you will retrieve a list of all products associated with that symptom. You can then follow the links to see the record for each individual product. If you are interested in further information on the toxicology of the ingredients in the product you are interested in, you can link to TOXNET. When you get to the Material Safety Data Sheet for your compound, scroll down to the bottom of the page, and click on the compound that interests you in the Ingredients from MSDS/Label section. This will take you to links to TOXNET, ChemIDplus and for further research articles to PubMed.

This database does not provide therapeutic or clinical advice. Its function is to provide health and safety information on household products and their ingredients. In case of a poisoning emergency, you should call either 911 or 1-800-222-1222 to contact the National Poison Control Information Center.

Need to Know Utilizing Information in Practice

TEACH IT

Do you have a mix of generations among your agency staff? If so, these tips from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association Office of Diversity may help you understand the various needs of the group.

There are 4 groups in US Society today.
Traditionalists—Parents of the Baby Boomers
Baby Boomers—born between 1947 and 1965
Generation X—born between 1966 and 1977
Nexters or Generation Y—born between 1978 and 1995

Values can collide when members of different generations work and learn together. Having a better understanding of others can make the working and learning environment more productive.

What generations are generally represented in today's society?

Traditionalists
Baby Boomers
Generation Xers
Nexters or Generation Y

The Baby Boomers make up the largest percentage of the population today according to U.S. Census statistics. Boomers consist of people currently between the ages of 37-55 (born between 1947-1965). When we discuss the generations in our society, we can't forget the Boomers' parents. These are the Traditionalists, War Babies or Veterans, who are now older than 55. How about our younger generations? The Generation Xers are people in the 25-36 age group (born between 1966-1977). Last are our youngest citizens, the Nexters or Generation Y, representing people age 7-24 (born between 1978 and 1995). These are the cyber kids who grew up with the Internet, and speed and access to information is something that they are accustomed to.

What Do The Members of Each Generation Value?

Fundamental value differences exist between those of different generations. Understanding these values may help understand differences that may arise in the learning environment. Organizational development scholar, Dr. Morris Massey, began looking at generational values and argues that our behaviors are driven by our value system or our value programming. Let's take a look at do not apply to all members of a particular generation

Traditionalists Value...

- o Privacy
- o Hard Work
- o Trust
- o Formality
- o Authority and institutional leadership.
- o Social Order

Tips for Communicating with Traditionalists...

- o By nature Traditionalists are private, the "silent generation". Don't expect members of this generation to share their thoughts immediately.
- o For the Traditionalist an educator's word is his/her bond, so it's important to focus on words rather than body language or inferences.
- o Face to face or written communication is preferred.
- o Don't waste their time, or let them feel as though their time is being wasted.

Baby Boomers Value...

- o Competition
- o Change
- o Hard Work
- o Success
- o Body Language:
- o Teamwork
- o Anti Rules and Regulations
- o Inclusion
- o Will Fight For A Cause

Announcement!

If you have not completed the NLM surveys, please give us your feedback. Visit our website at <https://www.phn.missouri.edu/survey.aspx> and click on the workshop you attended: Consumer Websites workshop or Professional Databases workshop. If you attended both workshops, please complete both surveys.

Please evaluate our Need to Know newsletter by visiting our website at <https://www.phn.missouri.edu/newsletter.aspx> and clicking on Evaluate Newsletter.

This information is very valuable to us. It helps us report back to our funders and helps us lay the groundwork for additional grants.

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TEACH IT (Cont.)

Tips For Communicating With Baby Boomers...

- o Boomers are the "show me" generation, so your body language is important when communicating.
- o Speak in an open, direct style but avoid controlling language.
- o Answer questions thoroughly and expect to be pressed for the details.
- o Present options to demonstrate flexibility in your thinking.

Generation Xers Value...

- o Entrepreneurial Spirit
- o Loyalty
- o Independence and Creativity
- o Information
- o Feedback
- o Quality of Worklife

Tips for Communicating With Generation X...

- o Use email as a primary communication tool.
- o Talk in short sound bites to keep their attention.
- o Ask them for their feedback and provide them with regular feedback.
- o Share information with them on a regular basis and strive to keep them in the loop.
- o Use an informal communication style.

Generation Y Values...

- o Positive Reinforcement
- o Autonomy
- o Positive Attitudes
- o Diversity
- o Money
- o Technology

Tips for Communicating With Generation Y...

- o Use action words and challenge them at every opportunity.
- o They will resent it if you talk down to them.
- o They prefer email communication.
- o Seek their feedback constantly and provide them with regular feedback..
- o Use humor and create a fun learning environment. Don't take yourself too seriously.
- o Encourage them to take risks and break the rules so that they can explore new ways of learning.

Knowing the differences of each generation may help to promote a better work environment in your agency.

For more information the web site is

<http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/intranet/committees/FacDevCom/guidebk/teachtip/intergencomm.htm>