



# Web Sitings

## Medicine in Pictures

Looking for an online resource for clinical and anatomic images? If so, these two sites are sure to find their way onto your “favorites” list.

First, there’s the University of California, San Diego’s Catalog of Clinical Images ([www.medicine.ucsd.edu/clinicalimg](http://www.medicine.ucsd.edu/clinicalimg)), a collection of photographs and diagnostic images that represent a myriad of common and uncommon physical exam findings. Images are arranged by anatomic location: head and neck, eyes, thorax, upper extremities, abdomen, genital and rectal, lower extremities, and skin. The site offers numerous links to related

sites where such information as pathophysiology, diagnostics, and treatment can be found. Images are available for free download for educational and professional use, but the site owners ask that you provide appropriate credit to the author and the site upon use. The collection is growing continually as more photographs are added, so be sure to check the site periodically.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) brings you another helpful visual resource, AnatQuest: Anatomic Images Online ([anatline.nlm.nih.gov](http://anatline.nlm.nih.gov)). Powered by the NLM’s Visible Human Project and supported by the Lister Hill National Center for Bio-medical Communica-

tions, the site features high resolution, color, cryosectional images of the human male anatomy. Visit AnatLine, where you can query and retrieve image records from the prototype anatomical image database and on-line browser. Currently, four image file format types are available: cross section files, volume of interest, segmented byte masks, and rendered images. Image record data can be displayed using VHDdisplay software or extracted using VHPParser, both available from the NLM.

## Foot Fundamentals

Mosey on over to the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons’ new web site, FootPhysicians.com ([www.footphysicians.com](http://www.footphysicians.com)) to learn how you and your patients can have “healthy feet for an active life.” The site features an “In the News” section, which highlights important issues, new procedures, and the latest research in foot and ankle health. In the “Foot and Ankle Information” sec-

tion, you can find facts about everything from ankle sprains and bunions to tips on how to use crutches correctly—all available in both English and Spanish. To learn more about podiatry and the types of conditions podiatrists treat, check out the “What is a Podiatric Surgeon?” section. And if your patient is looking for a local foot and ankle surgeon, try the “Find a Physician” section, which allows you to search for society members by city and state, zip code, or last name.

## Comparing Quality of Care

Would you like to see how your hospital stands up against others in measures of quality? You can do just that at Quality Check ([www.qualitycheck.org](http://www.qualitycheck.org)), a new web site from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). Here, you’ll find the name, address, accreditation decision, current accreditation status and effective date, and most recent quality report for

[anatline.nlm.nih.gov](http://anatline.nlm.nih.gov)

The U.S. National Library of Medicine's Visible Human Project has produced high resolution (4096 x 2048 x 24 bits) cryosectional color images of human anatomy. The Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, an R&D division of the NLM, through its Communications Engineering Branch, has created a database for this image dataset as well as for 3D rendered images of anatomic objects created from cryosectional images (cross-sections or slices).

**Viewing Options**

**Anatomic objects from the male chest area**  
The images are produced from the high resolution male cross-section images. To improve the transmission time, the images are JPEG compressed.

**Cut-away views**  
Cut-away views of the front, side and top of the entire male body. Enlarged views from user selected areas are displayed in detailed windows.

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every JCAHO-accredited health care institution. (JCAHO has made participation in the Quality Check program compulsory for accreditation for more than 3,500 hospitals.) Consumers and clinicians alike can compare National Patient Safety Goals and National Quality Improvement Goals for each of these organizations.

The site provides easy-to-follow steps for searching institutions by type of provider, type of care, and location and explains how to interpret the comparison data. Quality measures are available for only a few conditions, such as heart attack and pregnancy. But as more data are collected, they'll be made available through the JCAHO and the web site.

## Multimedia Senior Health

Jointly developed by the National Institute on Aging and the National Library of Medicine (both parts of the National Institutes of Health [NIH]), the NIH Senior Health web site ([www.nihseniorhealth.gov](http://www.nihseniorhealth.gov)) is tailored specifically for your older patients—in both form and content.

This unique site offers free information on com-



mon conditions affecting elderly patients—such as Alzheimer's disease, arthritis, balance problems, hearing loss, and cancer—written in simple language and available in formats that make it easier for elders to access. Using the toolbar located at the top of each page, users can enhance the readability of the page by enlarging the text or switching to a high contrast background. There's also an audio option, or "talking web," which allows you to click words on the page to be read aloud—without installing new software.

## AMEDD Best Practices

Click over to the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Best Practices Network (<https://ke.army.mil/bp>) to read up on what's

working for your fellow army health care professionals. Sponsored by the medical command's quality management division, this new feature of the AMEDD's web site provides access to improved or innovative processes that are producing significantly better results.

Clinicians and managers throughout the AMEDD can review the ideas of other providers or submit their own success stories of innovative methods that have proven beneficial not only in theory but in practice. All submissions undergo a peer review process before being posted.

The secure section of this site is protected by Army Knowledge Online (AKO) authentication, so some content may be restricted to active duty army personnel, reservists, retirees, and government employees with AKO accounts. But anyone can access the best practices memo, frequently asked questions, best practices definitions, and electronic best practices submission form that are posted on the site. ●

**What Are Your Favorite Web Sites?**

Let us know which health care web sites you find most useful to your federal practice. Send the web address and a brief description to:

Web Sitings  
Federal Practitioner  
26 Main Street  
Chatham, NJ 07928-2402

Or e-mail us at [fedprac@qhc.com](mailto:fedprac@qhc.com) using the subject line "Web Sitings."