

# Web Sitings

## The Caring Place Makes Grieving Virtual

The Highmark Caring Place—a Pennsylvania facility that offers peer support groups and educational programs for families coping with the loss of a loved one—recently updated their Web site (<http://www.highmarkcaringplace.com>) to provide support virtually anywhere. The site offers support to adults, teens, and children experiencing grief. It is designed to inform the audience of the different stages of grief they will experience and how to come to terms with their loss.

The “Get Support” section of the site acts as a guide for those seeking assistance in helping others with grief. Brochures, such as “Coping with Grief at the Holidays,” “Questions Grieving Children Ask,” and “Creating Connections When a Parent is Diagnosed with a Terminal Illness,” are available to print.

The Web site also offers a section called, “In Their Words,” where participants at the facility share their experiences and the story that brought them to the Caring Place. This feature helps viewers see that they are not alone in their grief. Rabbi Dr. Earl A. Grollman also offers his advice in this section, detailing how he has helped others while spending time at the facility.

## Quick and Easy Educational Resource

Health Education Solutions, the leading provider of continuing education solutions for health care professionals, has announced the launch of a new interactive Web site ([.healthedsolutions.com\). The site offers remote access to educational resources for busy health care professionals as well as individuals seeking preparation for a medical emergency.](http://www</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

The site hosts an interactive portal, “My HES,” where the user can manage his/her courses and certifications. Each course offers interactive quizzes to enforce comprehension of the material as well as immediate scoring upon submission. Many of the courses offered through the Web site also allow professionals to earn CME credits.

A new research library provides important facts about Health Education Solutions’ courses, personal success stories from professionals, career advice, and other resources related to emergency medical training.

The “Licensing and Continuing Education” section of the site displays a chart containing information

about each course and the accrediting agency.

Health Education Solutions currently offers online certification and recertification for advanced cardiac life support and pediatric advanced life support with courses that follow the American Heart Association guidelines. The site also offers Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers Online Part 1, Heartsaver®, and Stroke courses.

## Slo-Niacin Gets to the “Heart” of the Matter

Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc.—maker of Slo-Niacin®, a nonprescription dietary niacin supplement containing nicotinic acid—launched a new Web site (<http://www.slo-niacin.com>) providing the latest information on heart health. The site offers

The screenshot displays the Health Education Solutions website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About', 'Contact', 'FAQs', and 'View Cart (0)'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with 'Home', 'Course Catalog', 'American Heart Association', 'Union College', 'Licensing & Continuing Ed', and 'Resources'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Select a Course' and features a dropdown menu showing 'ACLS Certification - \$170.00' with a '1' in a blue arrow pointing right. The right column is titled 'Register' and includes a '+ Add To Cart' button with a '2' in a grey arrow pointing left. Below these columns, there are two sections: 'ACLS Online and PALS Online from Health Education Solutions' which lists features like interactive quizzes, review of missed questions, free retakes, pharmacology guides, continuing education credits, expedited shipping, and 100% online certification; and 'Learn About Our Courses' which lists 'ACLS Certification', 'ACLS Recertification', and 'BLS for Healthcare Providers Online Part 1'. At the bottom of the page, a purple banner contains the URL <http://www.healthedsolutions.com>.

credible information about cholesterol management and educates visitors about heart disease.

The site is divided into 2 versions: 1 for community users and 1 for health care professionals. Community users will find it helpful to see that every component of this drug is explained regarding what it does and how to use it. There also is a glossary that defines the medical terms used throughout the site.

The section of the site for health care professionals offers important safety information for physicians to pass on to their patients, including adverse effects and cost-effectiveness.

In addition to the abundance of information, the Web site offers a section called, "Stay Connected," where users can request information from the company. If they have previously used Slo-Niacin, they may e-mail their personal experience with the possibility of being featured in future promotions.

## MedlinePlus Makes the World of Medicine More Relatable

The National Library of Medicine has redesigned their Web site, MedlinePlus (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus>); a site consumers can use to access free, authoritative information about diseases, conditions, and wellness issues.

The site offers 3 main categories for easy browsing: "Health Topics," "Drugs & Supplements," and "Videos & Cool Tools."

When clicking on the "Health Topics" button, users will be directed to a library of health topics that offers information about various diseases. Users can search by the body location or system that is affected or by a specific topic, such as substance abuse problems.



The "Drugs & Supplements" section of MedlinePlus allows users to search for any medication they may be taking and retrieve more detailed information than what is printed on the bottle. Users also have the ability to search medical treatments, such as cancer chemotherapy, for a description and how it affects the body.

The "Videos & Cool Tools" section offers live Webcasts of surgeries performed at various hospitals around the country. This may be useful to ease the nerves of some patients, allowing them to see exactly what will happen if they, or a loved one, need to have that surgery.

## The Ins and Outs of Psoriasis

Abbott, a global, broad-based health care company, has launched a new educational Web site, Psoriasis Answers (<http://www.psoriasisanswers.com>), created to clear up the myths and provide tools for people living with psoriasis.

The site offers numerous pages loaded with information for visitors

who are unfamiliar with the condition as well as those who continuously experience the discomfort it causes. For example, the "Understanding Psoriasis" section of the Web site offers 3 areas where the patient can learn more about the disorder. Various types of psoriasis are detailed, including the symptoms of each and a picture of what it looks like.

The "Tips and Tools" area allows visitors to complete a short form, offering their contact information and a short description of their skin. After submitting this form, they will be able to receive a 2-part answer kit consisting of Q&A cards and a Symptom Tracker Pad. The Q&A cards provide useful tips, facts, and advice, whereas the Symptom Tracker Pad allows patients to track symptoms and determine whether they are getting better or worse, or if there is no change over time. This kit, which also is offered virtually through a download from the Web site, will benefit both the patient and physician when it comes time to re-evaluate treatment.