

# Pediatric Infectious Diseases

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From the monthly newspaper *Infectious Diseases in Children* to "Rotavirus Online," several interesting Web sites deal with pediatric infectious disease issues. [Infect Med 14(3):245-247, 1997]

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With the wealth of information available on the Net, it's always a surprise to find that a particular niche has yet to be filled. Although there is no single

Web site devoted exclusively to pediatric infectious diseases, specialists in this field will find many pertinent Internet resources. Perhaps some enterprising reader will soon

create a site to bring all these resources together in one place. In the meantime, you can point your browser to the following useful cyberspace locations.

## *WHO Division of Child Health and Development*

This World Health Organization site (Fig. 1) points out that globally, 5 diseases are responsible for 7 out of 10 childhood deaths: diarrhea, pneumonia, measles, malaria, and malnutrition. The site provides information about WHO programs devoted to the integrated management of childhood illness, an approach that tackles acute respiratory infections and diarrheal diseases by focusing on the child rather than a specific disease. The site provides statistics, information about policy and health care strategies, and lists of publications and videos on acute respiratory infections and diarrheal diseases. The site also provides access to the division's UPDATE Newsletter and its back issues, which discuss topics from hepatitis B and breast-feeding to the outpatient management of bloody diarrhea in children. Information about the division's staff, the Associate Professional Officer Program, and a wealth of cholera-related topics round out this site.

## *Rotavirus Online*

This Web resource is dedicated to presenting the latest information about rotavirus disease and vaccine development. The site includes an online searchable database of relevant citations, online discussion

### Internet Addresses for Sites Mentioned in This Article

- The ABCs of Safe and Healthy Child Care  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/abc/abc.htm>
- A Doctor's Guide to Medical Conferences: Infectious/Parasitic Diseases  
<http://www.pslgroup.com/dg/infectious.htm>
- ElectricAirway: Upper Airway Problems in Children  
<http://indy.radiology.uiowa.edu/Providers/Textbooks/peds/books/ElectricAirway/ElectricAirway.html>
- EthnoMed  
<http://www.hslib.washington.edu/clinical/ethnomed/index.html>
- Infectious Disease Reviews for Primary Care Providers  
<http://www.mcphu.edu/libraries/resources/reviews/id.htm>
- Infectious Diseases in Children  
<http://www.slackinc.com/child/idc/idchome.htm>
- Medscape  
<http://www.medscape.com>
- National Center for Infectious Disease Homepage  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/ncid.htm>
- NCID Selected Prevention and Control Areas  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/diseases.htm>
- Pediatric Internet Directory  
<http://www.slackinc.com/child/pednet-x.htm>
- Pediatric Pharmacotherapy  
<http://galen.med.virginia.edu/~smb4v/pedpharm/pedpharm.html>
- Pediatrics Reviews for Primary Care Providers  
<http://www.mcphu.edu/libraries/resources/reviews/peds.htm>
- PEDINFO: A Pediatrics Web Server  
<http://WWW.UAB.EDU/pedinfo/>
- Rotavirus Online  
<http://rotavirus.com/>
- Vaccine Weekly  
<http://www.newsfile.com/x1v.htm>
- WHO Division of Child Health and Development  
<http://cdrwww.who.ch/default.htm>

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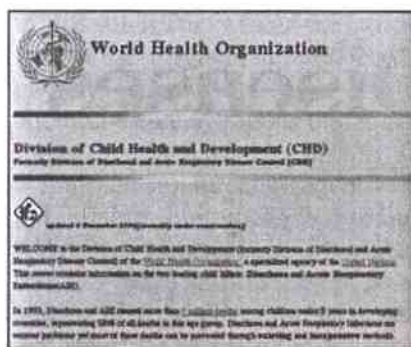


Figure 1. World Health Organization site.



Figure 2. The Virtual Hospital's ElectricAirway: Haemophilus Influenza Gram Stain.

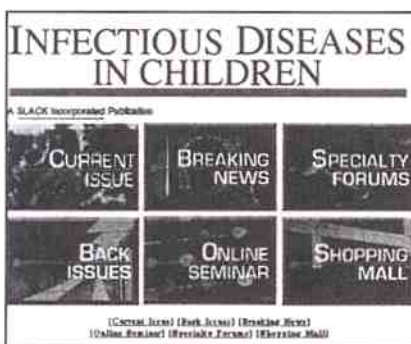


Figure 3. Infectious Diseases in Children homepage.



Figure 4. Medscape's Pediatric homepage.

groups intended to foster global discussion among health care professionals, researchers, and others who would not otherwise meet, and an FAQ (frequently asked questions) Section about the impact of rotavirus infection and the possible outcomes of mass immunization for rotaviruses. The online conference hall, which is not yet up and running, will provide live online presentations and question-and-answer sessions.

*Pediatric Pharmacotherapy*

The Children's Medical Center at the University of Virginia brings you this monthly newsletter devoted to the initiation and monitoring of medications in the primary care setting. Back issues starting from January 1995 are available and include

such topics as "A Comparison of the Oral Cephalosporins" and "Macrolide Antibiotics."

*ElectricAirway: Upper Airway Problems in Children*

This multimedia textbook from the Virtual Hospital at the University of Iowa (Fig. 2) describes the causes of airway obstruction in children, ranging from acquired viral syndromes to congenital malformations. The textbook looks at typical clinical presentations and the differential diagnosis for each disease, pathophysiology, the evaluation process, medical and surgical treatment options, and possible complications. The main text is supplemented with graphics, video, and sound segments as well as detailed discussion sections.

Related Articles on . . .



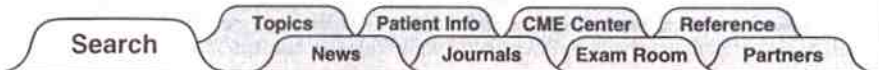
Here are some of the most recent articles about pediatric infectious diseases on Medscape (<http://www.medscape.com/>):

- Conjugate Vaccines and the Carriage of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type b, by ML Barbour.
- Exclusion of Mildly Ill Children From Out-of-Home Child Care Facilities, by RL Cordell, SL Solomon, CM Hale.
- Prevention of Varicella: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), by SJ Holmes, S Reef, SC Hadler, et al.
- Diagnosis of Tuberculosis in Children: Increased Need for Better Methods, by EA Khan, JR Starke.
- New Orleans Citywide Rounds: A Premature Neonate With Respiratory Failure, by A Mirza, RW Steele, R Oberhelman.
- New Orleans Citywide Rounds: A 4-Month-Old With Hypotonia, by JM Quinonez, RW Steele, D Sokol, et al.

You can find these and related articles by clicking on the "search" tab on the Medscape homepage.

Medscape also offers convenient, preconfigured key-word searching of the thousands of full-text articles on the site. From within an article, simply click on a key word to initiate a search.

Free MEDLINE and AIDSLINE access is also available.



### *The ABCs of Safe and Healthy Child Care*

Produced by the Hospital Infections Program of the National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and aimed at child care providers, this handbook contains a thorough alphabetical set of fact sheets on childhood diseases and conditions. The fact sheets should prove a useful review for students, and a good source of primary information for parents and child care providers alike. For more clinically oriented information on specific diseases without the pediatric focus, see the section called "Selected Prevention and Control Areas" on the NCID homepage.

### *Infectious Diseases in Children*

The Web site for this publication (Fig. 3) provides selected full-text articles from current and past issues of the monthly newspaper. The site also provides access to breaking news bulletins and the following specialty forums: Otitis Media, Immunizations, Day-care Infections, Drugs, Kawasaki Disease, Lyme Disease, and Miscellaneous. Current discussion threads are about hepatitis A immunization and communicable diseases. An online seminar area is under construction. The homepage also gives you access to a Pediatric Internet Directory, where a click on "Other Internet Resources" will lead you to a list of email mailing lists and Internet newsgroups specializing in pediatric issues.

### *EthnoMed*

While not specifically a pediatric site, this site is so interesting that I have to mention it. Certainly anyone treat-

ing an immigrant child or adult from one of the ethnic groups covered will find the cultural and medical information pertinent. The project members are still compiling data on many ethnic groups with large immigrant populations in the US, including the Amharic, Eritrean, Oromo, Somali, Tigréan, Cambodian, and Vietnamese peoples. The site provides information about cultural topics, symptoms, health and illness, community resources, and patient education materials for each ethnic group.

### *Medscape Pediatrics*

Medscape has recently added a pediatrics topic area (Fig. 4). This website features articles that are related to children's health from many clinical journals, including *INFECTIONS in MEDICINE*. Regular features include the Pediatric AIDS Bulletin and relevant New Orleans Citywide Rounds articles.

### *Additional Resources*

There are a variety of additional pediatric sites on the Internet that clinicians may find useful. These include such publications as "Vaccine Weekly," which is a summary of articles from other journals, and reviews including "Pediatrics Reviews for Primary Care Providers," which provides links to reviews, abstracts, and full-text articles when available. A list of upcoming conferences and meetings can be accessed by clicking on "A Doctor's Guide to Medical Conferences: Infectious/Parasitic Diseases."

From online publications to an international chat room, the PEDINFO site serves up a comprehensive list of resources on the Web. □

*continued from page 209*

mate goal would be to develop a vaccine that protects the individual without the potential dangers of an attenuated virus or a DNA vaccine.

The group is now using mice as a model to test its first batch of HSV-peptide heteroconjugate candidates.

### *The Future*

Near the conclusion of a comprehensive 1996 review of herpes vaccines published in *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology* (394:67-83, 1996), Robin McKenzie, then of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and Stephen Straus, Chief of Laboratory and Clinical Investigation at NIAID, wrote:

over the next 3 years the results of these competing international efforts will decide the reality of recombinant glycoprotein vaccines for genital herpes,

referring to the recombinant protein vaccines of SmithKline and Chiron. With the halting of the Chiron study and the results of the SmithKline trials still unknown, the next generation of vaccines is already well into development and testing. Perhaps one of these will finally give relief to the growing segment of the population with herpes, and satisfaction to the scientists who strive to produce an effective vaccine. □