

Health Information Websites Evaluation Checklist

Website Title _____ Sponsor _____ URL _____

Apparent conflicts of interest

- Does the website allow advertising? Yes No
- If yes, does the owner/sponsor market (a) specific product(s)? Yes No
 - If yes, is the owner/sponsor the inventor/creator of the product? Yes No
 - If yes, be very wary of any health information that may be provided and cross-check with other more reliable sources.

Credibility

- If an individual(s), does the author(s) list their qualifications? Yes No
- Does the author(s) of the website have a relevant doctoral degree? Yes No
- If no, does the author of the website have any relevant degree? Yes No
 - If no, is there any other validation of the author's credibility? Yes No
 - If no, be very wary of any health information that may be provided and cross-check with other more reliable sources.
- If an organization is involved, does it appear to be legitimate? Yes No
- Does the organization have an adequate number of members? Yes No
 - Is the organization national or statewide? Yes No

References

- Is a list of references in support of the website's opinions provided? Yes No
- If yes, are they relevant to the health topic being covered? Yes No
 - Are the references from reliable sources? Yes No
 - If no, is any other valid evidence presented that supports the opinions that are presented? Yes No
 - If no, be very wary of any health information that may be provided and cross-check with other more reliable sources.

Content

- Does the website cover the health issue(s) adequately? Yes No
- Does the website have a professional appearance? Yes No
- Are there more than a few grammatical errors? Yes No
- Is the information accurate? Yes No
- Is the information presented in a consistent manner? Yes No
- Are there contradictions? Yes No
- Are readers advised to contact a health professional with questions? Yes No
- Is the information current? Yes No

Applicability

- Does the website provide relevant health information? Yes No
- Is the information relevant to the target population? Yes No
- Does the website provide important information? Yes No

Overall impression about the trustworthiness of this website

- Good** – Accept almost all of the material that is presented.
- Fair** – Accept some material, but exclude: _____
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- Poor** – Do not accept any of the material.