

CONTRIBUTOR CONNECTION

A NEWSLETTER FOR AUTHORS, REVIEWERS, EDITORS,
AND THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE MERCK MANUALS.



June 2020

The Manual Is Adding a Health and Wellness Section!

You might think The Manual is the most comprehensive medical text available. What could possibly be missing from our thousands of web pages? But we are always looking for ways to enhance our offerings for both professionals and consumers.

In creating a strategy for the next several years, we've decided the time is right to add a new section. There is a deep and continuing interest on the part of both consumers and professionals for information on Health and Wellness. We plan to provide users with carefully reviewed information on health topics like diet, exercise, and other self-care topics. We want users to be able to find factual, authoritative information on various diets and other self-care practices, and we want health care professionals to have a source of reliable information to help them answer patients' questions. We anticipate a 1Q 2022 launch date for this section.

BY THE NUMBERS

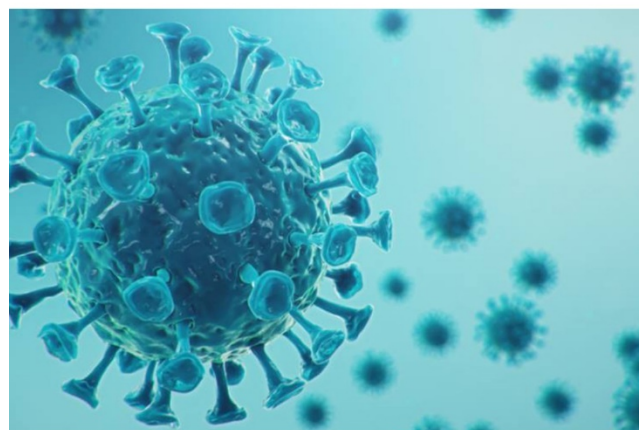
	MAY 2020	2020 TO DATE
WEBSITE USER SESSIONS	47.2 M	197.5 M
TOTAL PAGEVIEWS	71.4 M	298.3 M
CHAPTERS PUBLISHED		
CONSUMER	27	106
PROFESSIONAL	26	103
APP DOWNLOADS	169.6 K	660.2 K

Continuing SARS-CoV-2 Coverage

Does it seem like news about SARS-CoV-2 has taken over? It has, including in the pages of The Manual. We told you about the efforts of Dr. Brenda Tesini and Dr. Matt Levison to keep The Manuals' information on COVID-19 current despite the rapidly changing information. They have both continued this effort. Dr. Tesini's Respiratory Virus chapter has been updated at least 10 times. Dr. Levison has provided 6 editorial updates on various aspects of the pandemic, including a thorough discussion of remdesivir.

We've provided additional content too. The Manual has created a COVID-19 Resources Center, which users can access from our home page and from a yellow "Hello Bar" at the top of each page. The Resource Center contains links to our topic and editorials, plus links to case-counting tools, videos and 3D models of the virus, a Select News page, a page of useful links, and FAQs. The pages are reviewed and updated as necessary. The news page is updated almost daily; we've hired a freelance physician to scour the news and provide synopses of news stories that deserve special attention. Please take a few moments to check out our [resources](#) and share them with your colleagues.

FEATURED CONTENT



COVID-19 Resources

Tech Corner: Please Sign Here...

Signing your name on the dotted line is a part of everyone's life. We don't always give it a second thought, but believe it or not, there are numerous types of signatures, including wet ink, electronic, and digital to name a few. When it comes to having to complete paperwork to be a contributor to The Merck Manuals, you are faced with a decision: How do I complete these forms—and sign them and get them back to The Merck Manuals? The forms can all be filled in electronically, but how do you sign them? Click [here](#) for a few ideas and tips and information.



Extending Our Reach: Meeting in Cyberspace

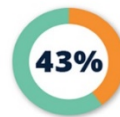
Medical students are an important Manuals audience. And we are committed to reaching out to them regularly. One way we do that is by attending the annual convention of the American Medical Student Association (AMSA). This year, AMSA became a virtual meeting, so we decided to see how med students were faring as their studies also moved online.

We conducted a survey at the virtual AMSA Annual Convention. 169 medical students weighed in on how shelter-in-place has impacted their learning. A hefty 82% of surveyed students confirmed they have had to change their study habits. Learn more about how the pandemic is affecting medical students [here](#).

PANDEMIC IMPACTS MED STUDENT STUDIES



of students said they've had to **change their study habits**



said they have a **harder time following lessons and grasping information** in a remote learning environment



said they **study alone more than before**

Welcome to Our Newest Editorial Board Member

Dr. Adrienne Youdim, MD, FACP, the author of our chapters, “Nutrition: General Considerations” and “Obesity and the Metabolic Syndrome,” has joined the Editorial Board as Reviewer for the new Health and Wellness section. Dr. Youdim, who practices in Beverly Hills, provides medical weight loss, medical nutritional therapy, and nutritional and metabolic support of bariatric surgery patients. She blends lifestyle changes with evidence-based medicine to treat obesity-related diseases.

After receiving her degree from the University of California San Diego School of Medicine, Dr. Youdim completed her residency training and fellowship at Cedars-Sinai. She holds multiple board certifications awarded by the American Board of Internal Medicine, the National Board of Physician Nutrition Specialists, and the American Board of Obesity Medicine. She’s also a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Dr. Youdim founded the Center for Weight Loss and Nutrition at the Lasky Clinic. She holds positions as associate professor of medicine at UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine and clinical associate professor of medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Welcome, Dr. Youdim!



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