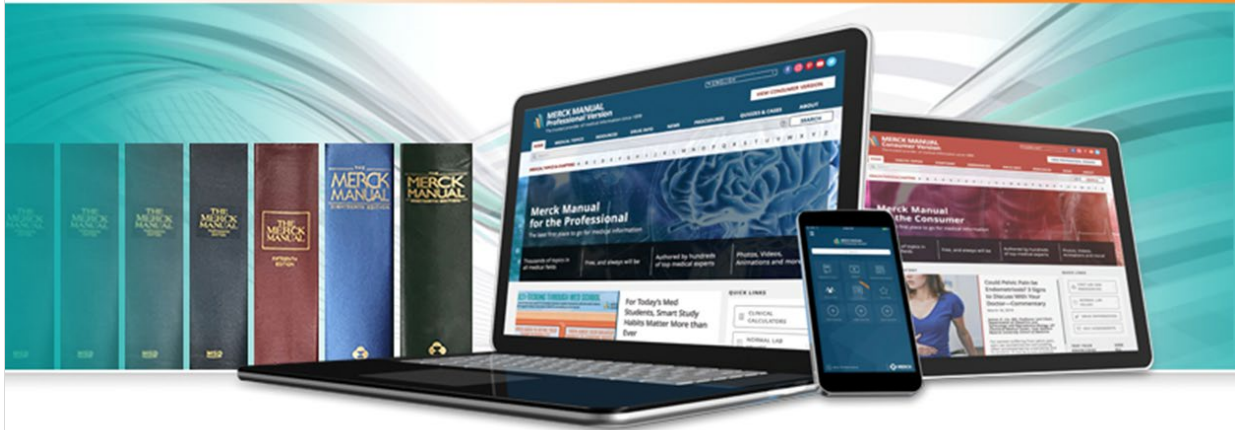


CONTRIBUTOR CONNECTION

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



December 2023

A Busy 2023 at The Manuals!

Thank you for all the work you do. The expertise you so generously share keeps The Manuals thriving. Here are some highlights from this extraordinary year:

- **Broke usage records – again!** Our pageviews continue to climb. We reached 1 billion (yes, with a “b”) pageviews this year! Our users come from all around the world. Traffic increases from Russia, India, and China were notable.



- **Won an award!** Our website was awarded the Grand Award for the 2023 APEX Awards for Publication Excellence. APEX is the Annual Awards for Publication Excellence Competition. APEX is sponsored by the editors of Writer's Web Watch, an e-newsletter for communicators who write, edit, and manage business publications.
- **Welcomed our Editorial Board members to Philadelphia:** Just before Halloween, we had the treat of visiting with many of our Editorial Board Members in Philadelphia. We spent time exploring topics that will enhance how we work together and will continue to expand our global reach.
- **Launched a new website:** We added [a website](#) with our consumer version content translated into Hindi.
- **Launched an app:** Our consumer version app content is now translated into Arabic.
- **Ran many successful social media campaigns:** For one campaign about [zoonoses](#), we collaborated with our colleagues at the Veterinary Manual to share information for patients, caregivers, and pet owners.
- **Launched more podcasts:** We have added [season five of the Medical Myths podcast](#). Thank you to those who were featured guests for an episode!
- **Appointed a new Deputy Editor-in-Chief:** Monica Curtis, MD, who joined us last year, has been appointed Deputy Editor-in-Chief. Monica has quickly become an integral part of our team, delving into all aspects of our editing and already making her mark on our content.

We wish you all a very happy holiday season, and we look forward to collaborating with you in 2024!

2023 IN PERSON Editorial Board Meeting

During the last weekend of October while other people were stocking up on chocolate, members of The Manuals' Editorial Board met in Philadelphia. COVID-19 restrictions required the cancellation of in-person meetings for the past few years, so this was the Board's first opportunity to meet our new Editor-in-Chief, Sandy Falk, MD, in person.

The Manuals team wanted Board input on specific questions, including streamlining ways to facilitate content currency, enhancing use of evidence-based content, optimizing our reach, especially through digital platforms, and managing content for global audiences. The meeting was incredibly productive, and our team came home with numerous outstanding ideas. Over the next several months, you'll start to see how we are implementing some of the Board's recommendations.

Thank you, Editorial Board members!



Now playing: Merck Manuals Medical Myths podcast Season 5

The Merck Manuals Medical Myths podcast series has returned with new episodes. The episodes launched late September. Now in its fifth season, the engaging series addresses myths and misconceptions around a new set of common medical conditions.

Season 5 topics include:

- **Heart Attack Myths** featuring Dr. Ranya N. Sweis, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
- **Halitosis Myths** featuring Dr. Bernard Hennessy, Texas AM University, College of Dentistry
- **RSV Myths** featuring Dr. Brenda Tesini, University of Rochester Medical Center

Stay tuned for the release of additional episodes challenging myths around osteoporosis, ear infections, and eye conditions. Listen online at www.merckmanuals.com/podcasts or download from Apple Podcasts.

If you are interested in being featured on a future podcast episode, please contact melissa.adams@merck.com.

Winter Break

Our office will be closed from Friday, December 22, 2023 to Monday, January 1, 2024. We will resume regular operating hours on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

Remember that the editing portal is always available. However, we may take a little longer to respond to email queries during this period.



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