

ic data from any source, the genes mentioned in this chapter may be valuable in further personal research. The expanded glossary assists in understanding the terms in this and the aforementioned diagnosis and treatment chapters.

Despite the complexity, the authors have tried to explain the treatments and the genetics underlying the major progress in remission and recurrence resulting from the targeted therapies. Other consumer health books on melanoma have not attempted such comprehensive explanations. The authors are to be commended on this attempt.

Additionally, the book covers the four types of melanoma and causes, risk factors, staging, prognosis, guidelines for prevention, and tools for self-care. In these sections, the writing is less technical. For instance, the authors clearly define "in situ." They include numerous helpful illustrations, such as body site maps for men and women, pictures distinguishing melanoma and other skin cancer types, lymphatic system maps, Mohs surgery step by step, skin coloring types, and historical graphs. The self-examination chapter provides clear instructions, including sizing charts for moles and diagrams for monthly self-exams. In the chapter on early warning systems, the authors include not only the "ABCDE" scale, but also the "Ugly Duckling Sign." Authors provide illustrations on how to determine which mole or other skin lesion could be an ugly duckling, defined as a lesion that presents either initially or evolves over time to be different from the patient's other skin lesions. Other additions are the "CUBED Guide for Nail Melanomas" and the "EFG Rule for Nodular Melanomas." Discussion of how a lesion might evolve and details on early

signs can increase the patient's confidence in opening a discussion with a health care provider. In the section on numbers, the authors describe patterns for the development of melanoma according to different gender, racial, age, and geographic factors. They focus on the increasing risk of developing melanoma both historically and over a lifetime.

The last three chapters engage the reader with suggestions for coping, prevention, and support organizations. Strong emphasis on the value of support groups, keeping a positive attitude, and keeping up with research provide the patient with means for self-care. The safe in the sun chapter emphasizes the value of protective clothing, sunscreens, the UV Index, and avoidance of all tanning. The guide to information sources and support groups contains up-to-date links and contact information for reputable organizations. A new section on the twenty-five most frequently asked questions (FAQs) provides abbreviated answers to material already covered in the book. Along with the cross-reference index, these FAQs enhance understanding of the more detailed treatment and diagnosis sections.

The authors cite the sources for their photographs and illustrations, most of which originate from their website or previous works. Robins has also written consumer health guides on *Understanding Actinic Keratoses* (Physicians Continuing Education Corporation; 2002. ISBN: 978-0971315150), *Understanding Squamous Cell Carcinoma* (Skin Cancer Foundation; 2006. ISBN: 978-0962768859), and *Understanding Basal Cell Carcinoma* (Skin Cancer Foundation; 2006. ISBN: 978-0962768866). Besides these citations for illustrations, no other citations are provided for content.

The authors clearly express a strong desire to educate patients about their options, their opportunities to prevent and manage the disease, and their choices in treatment and coping with the illness. Quotes by celebrity melanoma survivors, Tom Selleck and Sam Donaldson, adorn the back cover.

This book is recommended for consumer health collections in health sciences libraries and for health collections in public libraries. Undergraduate and secondary school libraries may also find it valuable. This new edition complements Catharine M. Poole's *Melanoma: Not Just Skin Cancer* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing; 2015. ISBN: 978-1502446558).

*Martha F. Earl, AHIP, mearl@utmck.edu, Preston Medical Library, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN*

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3163/1536-5050.104.3.018>

---

Vardell, Emily, ed. **The Medical Library Association Guide to Answering Questions about the Affordable Care Act.** Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield; 2015. (Medical Library Association Books.) 96 p. \$32.00. ISBN: 978-1-4422-5537-1. ⊕

*The Medical Library Association Guide to Answering Questions about the Affordable Care Act (ACA)* is a brief guide on the topic of providing reference on the ACA for librarians. While put out by the Medical Library Association, its focus is mainly on public and consumer health librarians, although health sciences and aca-

demic librarians are addressed at certain points in the book.

After a brief introduction, chapter 1 gives a history of US health care, then an overview of the ACA law itself. Some of the topics covered vary from support by librarians for electronic health records to the implications of the personal mandate for purchasing health insurance.

Chapter 2 discusses the role of the librarian in three main areas: management of ACA information resources, instruction in the use of those resources, and community building. Unfortunately, the author stresses the use of LibGuides for managing and instructing about ACA resources to the exclusion of just about everything else. The resource pages at the Regional Medical Libraries' web pages are mentioned. The community-building section suggests faith-based organizations, cultural organizations, and community colleges among those with which the library might want to partner.

Chapter 3 goes over health literacy in general and health insurance literacy in particular. Of note is assessing the reading level of health insurance information and forms. A table at the end of the chapter "Evidence-Based Strategies for Addressing Health Insurance Information Needs" includes strategies and supporting articles.

Chapter 4 considers the health insurance reference question with ten guidelines for health insurance reference and four steps for breaking down a health insurance reference question. Both the guidelines and the steps are ones with which any reference librarian is familiar, but the text provides a nice refresher. Librarians who do not usually work in reference will benefit from these guidelines and steps, but as the author states, they must have training. A short section for staff training addresses the often emotional nature of the work when dealing with patrons' medical and personal information.

Chapter 5 covers current practices and some of the current research in the field. The author conducted a study, and the questionnaire is included in the appendix for this chapter. Chapter 6 is a profile of six librarians who participated in the study and who all provide health insurance reference or do other types of health insurance information work.

Chapters 7 and 8 are recommended resources for consumers and practitioners, respectively. Both chapters provide excellent resources in print and electronic formats. Chapter 8 includes legal resources. And yes, *Affordable Care Act for Dummies*, is listed (included in the practitioners list, not the consumers list, which I thought

was curious, but at least it is in there).

Full disclosure: I am not a fan of the ACA. So I was curious to see how this book dealt with the political and other distractions surrounding the ACA. While it is decidedly pro-ACA in tone, it does a good job of stressing that librarians must remain neutral when dealing with patrons and must make sure that any bias they feel does not interfere with what materials they provide. They must also be aware of the community that they serve and of the sensibilities of their patrons.

There are also some short discussions in various places throughout the book about meaningful use, documentation of community benefit, and other ways librarians can support their institutions and provide evidence of their value. All the chapters include a list of references, and there is an index. Most any librarian will find it a helpful beginning guide to providing reference and finding information on the ACA.

*Mina Davenport, MLS,*  
[mdavenport@mail.cho.org](mailto:mdavenport@mail.cho.org), *Health Sciences Library, University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, Oakland, CA*

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3163/1536-5050.104.3.019>