Prompted in part by the spring 2009 worldwide outbreak of H1N1 influenza, the National Library of Medicine recently created Rapid Research Notes (RRN), a new tool for quickly sharing research information about emerging public health threats.

For details, see: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/rrn/

H1N1 Flu Resources

For detailed information about the H1N1 flu, go to flu.gov. You will find a flu shot locator, a “myths and facts” feature, information about the virus, vaccinations, prevention and treatment. Quick links to automatic PubMed searches also provide an easy way to keep up-to-date about the latest H1N1 research developments. The site also has a range of audio and video podcasts for children and adults, and is intended to be a helpful resource for individuals and families, as well as for communities, schools and businesses.

New! PubMed Redesign!

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is pleased to announce a redesign of the PubMed database. While retaining its functionality, the new interface is intended to be easier to use.

According to recent reports from the NLM, the changes will not affect search processing, and automatic term mapping will remain an important PubMed searching feature. PubMed’s new interface includes several search aid features, such as search term suggestions, links to articles with similar titles, and a less cluttered header menu.

Access to the popular tools and resources previously found on the PubMed homepage sidebar may be found under PubMed Tools, and an extensive footer includes links to many NCBI resources.

Learn more at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/so09/so09_pm_redesign.html#fig1

Try the new PubMed interface at: http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/resolve?cpmc.pubmed

Book Study Rooms in The Hammer Building

Do you need a quiet space or a room where you can have a group discussion or work on a project? Our new online booking system allows you to reserve the newly renovated study and collaboration rooms on Lower Level 1 of Hammer Building. Use the following link to login to the room booking site.

(UNI authentication is required.)

http://vesta.cumc.columbia.edu/library/web/

Once you log in online help is available if you need it. For any questions you may email us at hs-library@columbia.edu or visit the reference desk.
Happy Halloween!

Early October saw a massive phishing scam that affected Yahoo!, Gmail and Hotmail email accounts. Details and passwords for many of these accounts were even posted online.

While phishing can be an issue for any kind of email account, using a free email account adds additional risks that are not to be taken lightly - especially for anyone dealing with sensitive patient health information. Although Columbia allows forwarding of your columbia.edu email to any other account, we do not recommend that Medical Center students, faculty or staff use this service to forward to a free email account. Companies providing the free accounts are not as obligated to protect the messages and information as securely, while the convenience of accessing the accounts and volume of people using them makes them an easier target for hackers.

The best security precautions for email are still having a strong password that you change frequently and never opening attachments or visiting links that you weren’t soliciting or expecting. As part of a community that regularly accesses highly sensitive information, it’s even better to make it a regular part of your practice to keep your school and work email messages off of free accounts.

Green Computing Web Site

Tips on saving paper and links to information on being an environmentally conscious computer user have been published on our web site at http://www.cumc.columbia.edu/it/green.edu

We’re always looking for more information and help with spreading the word — please email us at help@columbia.edu with any suggestions, and look for regular updates about green computing.

Lynda.com Free training

Need to brush up on your PowerPoint skills? Did you just switch from a Mac to a PC, or vice versa? Just getting into digital photography, or Twitter, or SQL even? The acclaimed Lynda.com online video tutorials are accessible with your Columbia UNI account at http://www.lynda.com/portal/columbia

A huge variety of programs and subjects are covered, with each tutorial broken into easily recognizable sections and topics. Even if you just need to figure out how to do one task within a specific software program, check out Lynda.com to find easy-to-understand information on current technologies.

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