



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION TRT INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTH INFORMATION

ABOUT THE KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

The Centre supports the Technical Cooperation activities of the Representation, through timely provision of relevant, up-to-date documents and information to meet the needs of internal and external users. The Centre is available for use by PAHO/WHO staff and is also open to external clients by appointment.



THE COLLECTION

The Centre is the key source of PAHO/WHO resources at the country level, providing access to an up-to-date collection of technical and scientific health information. The Collection includes:-

- PAHO/WHO documents and reports
- PAHO/WHO journals and periodicals
- PAHO/WHO Consultants reports
- PAHO/WHO Posters, Pamphlets and Multimedia
- Selected Government and non-Government documents
- Selected Caribbean Health reports

Clients

- The PAHO/WHO Representative
- Technical and other staff of the Representation
- PAHO/WHO Consultants
- PAHO/WHO fellows studying in the country
- Personnel from the Ministry of Health and its various Divisions
- Other Ministries
- Libraries, including the National Library and UWI Main Library
- Regional Health Authorities
- County Medical Offices of Health
- Public Health Inspectors
- Health Educators
- Health Professionals

SERVICES

- Use of the Centre for consultation and research and access to PAHO/WHO resources including knowledge assets and online resources
- Publications and multimedia loans
- Reference and research services
- Personal Knowledge Management for staff
- Alerting services for staff and key stakeholders
- Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI)



LOANS

All resources are available for consultation. Books are loaned for four weeks to the key clientele listed

CURRENT AWARENESS

The Centre displays a collection of current scientific and technical publications, updated regularly. New books published by PAHO and WHO and non PAHO/WHO publications are also displayed. The Centre also maintains a listing of recent additions and alerts to key PAHO/WHO publications.

Staff may obtain photocopies of articles in periodicals which are not available, via the WHO Library Global Access to Full Text (GIFT)

PHOTOCOPIES/ SCANNING

Photocopy and scanning machines are available for clients of the Knowledge Centre.

ACCESS TO INTERNET RESOURCES

Two desktop workstations are provided for access to PAHO/WHO resources and relevant public health online resources such as PUBMED, and Knowledge assets of the Representation.

- **DATABASES**

A WINISIS database is available to facilitate searching and access to resources in the Collection. An additional database is available for STC reports.

- **ONLINE JOURNALS**

Access to more than 1100 online journals with full text is available via WHO GIFT, Global Access Full Text



INITIATIVES (VHL)

The Virtual Health Library (VHL) is a network of health information sources in the Latin American and Caribbean Region, universally accessible on the Internet and compatible with international databases. It is envisioned as a broad base of scientific and technical knowledge in health, entered, organized and stored in electronic format in each country of the Region.

The National Initiative is sanctioned by the Ministry of Health, and is supported by the PAHO/Center for Health Sciences Information (BIREME) in Brazil, in collaboration with major stakeholders, the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) and the Medical Sciences Library of the University of the West Indies at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex. The VHL may be accessed via the following website-:

<http://www.vhl.org.tt/php/index.php>

CONTACT THE KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

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