

## **Category: Health & Medicine**

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There are many subcategories that fall under Health & Medicine:

- General Medicine
- Human Anatomy
- Human Physiology
- Diet and Nutrition
- Physical Fitness
- Substance Abuse
- Birth Control and Reproductive Health
- Women's Health
- Men's Health
- Pandemics
- Prescription Drugs
- Alternative/Natural Medicine
- Diseases
- Body Pain, Repetitive Strain Injuries, Sports Medicine
- Surgery
- Dentistry and Oral Hygiene
- Eye and Ear Health
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- Geriatrics

### **Your Existing Collection**

For any of the subcategories, consider the following points when selecting new material:

- What you have already on your shelves
  - Circulation statistics of existing collection
  - Size and age of existing collection
- Gaps: are there topics you do not have covered but believe there is a demand for?
- Patron feedback and trends in Polaris requests that may indicate what patrons want

SimplyReports allows you to generate a shelf list report for your library that can assist you with evaluating your existing collection. For instructions on how to create the report, please visit <http://www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/Coord-Collection-Dev> and download the document *How to Run a Shelf List Report in SimplyReports*.

### **What to Consider**

Information pertaining to health and medicine can change at a rapid rate, with new discoveries, remedies and treatments made on a daily basis. As a result, it is important to keep this section of your library as current as possible. In some instances, to have books on your shelves that are at least five

years old may be harmful to your patrons. If you find a book is nearing the five year mark but is still popular, look to see if there has been a revised or updated edition published.

It is also extremely important to have Canadian books, as Canada has different regulations pertaining to health and particularly to medicine. For example, certain prescription drugs that are available in the United States may not be available in Canada, and vice versa. Also, the United States measures blood glucose levels differently than Canada, and this would be reflected in the materials on diabetes.

Some topics may be included in more than one category, for example women's health, obstetrics and gynaecology, birth control and reproductive health. There is a considerable amount of overlap in each of these categories. This is likely because it depends on the angle the book is coming from. Consider what the purpose or focus of the book appears to be. Is it to provide general information on aspects of women's health? Is it focused on prevention or treatment? Is it a general explanation or is it technical?

Titles pertaining to diet, nutrition and fitness are by far the most popular of the subcategory, and are heavily based on trends. As interest in a particular diet or fitness regime fades, these titles should be replaced with items that are more current and popular.

For public libraries, it is best to focus on materials that are easy for general adults to understand and avoid overly technical or scholarly items. With medicine and wellness, visuals can also be very important. Consider books that have clear diagrams, photographs or illustrations.

You may also want to do a search for your topic in TRACpac to see what is available throughout TRAC, and specifically in the Peace region. If there are already 50 item records for a title you are considering, you may wish to opt for a title that has fewer holdings.

### **Searching & Selecting Titles**

There are several ways that you can find new titles for your collection. Title Source 3 allows you to perform a search for a specific call number range and specify things such as publication date ranges, audience and physical format. This will help you to find the most current items that are appropriate for your library.

For instructions on how to do a search in Title Source 3 for a specific call number range, please visit <http://www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/Coord-Collection-Dev> and download the document *How to search for books within a specific Dewey range using Title Source 3*.

Another way to find titles is to search by subject. In addition to searching Title Source 3 by subject or call number, you can also try <http://www.chapters.indigo.ca> or <http://www.amazon.ca>. These websites do not allow you to filter your results like Title Source 3, but are great for subject or keyword searches and offer more Canadian content. If you find a title you like, you can then search for it in Title Source 3 and add it to your cart to be sent to ordering.

If the book has been reviewed, the review will be available on Title Source 3, Amazon and Chapters for you to read and help determine if it is appropriate for your library. Amazon and Chapters also offer customer reviews and ratings. These can be helpful as they reflect the public's assessment of the material as opposed to a critical reviewer. Sometimes a "look inside" feature is available so you can view the item's table of contents, index and even portions of chapters if the publisher allows it. Always take the opportunity to look inside and consider the purpose of the item (what is the aim of the book - to instruct, to inform, to provide an overview?), the authority of the author (read their bio – do they have

credentials? Do they seem to have a bias?), the scope (do they try to cover too much or not enough?), the currency (does the book use facts and figures from the 1980s? Is it the latest edition?), the audience (is it written in a readable style or is it too academic?) and format (will it be durable? Does it have too many photographs/illustrations or not enough?).

Another way to find Canadian materials is to register for a free account with ULS at <http://www.uls.com/>. This will give you access to their database of books, which include many Canadian resources. You can perform a quick search if you know the item's title, author or ISBN. However, you may want to do an advanced search to search for subject keywords or browse through subject categories. ULS also allows a "Dewey # range" search, which will allow you to browse through a range of call numbers and specify an audience. If you find some titles you are interested in, please mark them down and place your order through Peace Library System.

Yet another way to find titles on your topic is to see what other libraries outside of TRAC have. Almost every public library has an online catalogue that you can browse. Try seeing what the Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary or Toronto Public Libraries offer to their patrons.

If you need further assistance with searching and selecting titles, please contact your consultant at PLS headquarters.

### **Subcategory Specific Information**

The following Dewey call number ranges are suggestions for searching to help you locate titles on your topic. These ranges are not exclusive – there may be titles that fall outside of the given call numbers or overlap with other topics. If you find a suitable title and would like to find similar items, you can also see how the subject is listed in Title Source 3, Chapters, Amazon and/or TRACpac and do subject searches.

Many of the call numbers below have an asterisk (\*). This is often referred to as a "wildcard" and represents any other numbers that follow. Therefore, 616.7\* represents 616.7, 616.73, 616.756, 616.78586, and so on. The more numbers after the decimal point the more specific the call number is. These wildcards can be used in Polaris and Title Source 3.

#### **General Medicine**

**Call number range:** 610 – 610.99999

**Some keywords/subjects:** medical dictionary, medical encyclopedia, history of medicine, doctor(s), family health, medicine as a profession, nurses/nursing, paramedics

#### **Human Anatomy**

**Call number range:** 611 – 611.99999

**Some keywords/subjects:** human body, circulatory system, muscular system, skeleton, genome/genetics

## **Human Physiology**

**Call number range:** 612 – 612.99999

**Some keywords/subjects:** five senses (sight, hearing, taste, touch, smell), various parts of the body, puberty, nervous system, digestive system, endocrine system, respiratory system, aging, development

## **Diet and Nutrition**

**Call number range:** 613 – 613.0\* and 613.2\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** diet, nutrition, health(y), weight, weight loss, specific names of diets (i.e. Weight Watchers)

## **Physical Fitness**

**Call number range:** 613 – 613.0\* and 613.7\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** training, yoga, specific names of fitness plans (i.e. Pilates), sculpting, toning, strength or weight training

## **Substance Abuse**

**Call number range:** 613.8\* and 616.8\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** smoking, tobacco, nicotine, drinking, alcohol, illegal drugs, specific names of drugs (i.e. cocaine, crack, marijuana, ecstasy), inhalants, addiction

## **Birth Control and Reproductive Health**

**Call number range:** 612.6\* and 613.9\* and

**Some keywords/subjects:** see Obstetrics & Gynecology and Women's Health, reproduction, reproductive system, fertility, conception, birth, contraception, growth, babies, human lifecycle, pregnancy, sexual health, puberty, menstruation

## **Women's Health**

**Call number range:** 612.6\* and 613 – 613.7 and 616 – 616.1\* and 618 – 618.1\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** see Birth Control and Reproductive Health & Obstetrics and Gynecology; aging, general guides, "women's guide to...", "...for women", menopause, perimenopause, prenatal and postpartum depression, breast health/surgery, premenstrual syndrome, estrogen, female body, heart health

## **Men's Health**

**Call number range:** 613.04\* and 613 – 613.7 and 616.6\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** see Birth Control and Reproductive Health; man's body, "men's guide to...", "...for men", men's health, prostate, testosterone

## **Pandemics**

**Call number range:** 614.5\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** influenza, bird flu, swine flu, HIV, AIDS, malaria, plague(s)

## **Prescription Drugs**

**Call number range:** 615 – 615.7\* (except 615.5\*)

**Some keywords/subjects:** prescription, pharmaceutical(s), pharmacy, pharmacists, over-the-counter, pill, specific drugs (i.e. tranquilizers)

## **Alternative/Natural Medicine**

**Call number range:** 615.3\* and 615.5\* - 615.8\* and 616 – 616.9\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** herbs, herbology, herbal remedies, home remedies, folk remedies, healing, aromatherapy, homeopathy, reflexology, Reiki, acupuncture, vitamins, minerals, massage, complementary medicine, specific herbs or vitamins (i.e. ginseng), alternative treatments, alternative medicine, alternative cures

## **Diseases**

**Call number range:** 616 – 616.99999

**Some keywords/subjects:** cancers, diabetes, arthritis, asthma, eating disorders, heart disease, Alzheimer's, osteoporosis, AIDS, allergies, anxiety disorders, phobias, panic attacks, autism, headaches, celiac disease, stroke, illness, Crohn's & \*colitis, acid reflux, hepatitis, thyroid, Parkinson's, fibromyalgia, multiple sclerosis

## **Body Pain, Repetitive Strain Injuries, Sports Medicine**

**Call number range:** 617 – 617.5\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** joints, knee(s), back, spinal cord injury, foot/feet, hip(s), sport medicine, sport injuries

## **Surgery**

**Call number range:** 617 – 617.5\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** surgery, surgeons, transplant

## **Dentistry and Oral Hygiene**

**Call number range:** 617.6\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** teeth/tooth, orthodontics, dentists

## **Eye and Ear Health**

**Call number range:** 617.7\* and 617.8\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** pinkeye, cataracts, sight, vision, macular degeneration, glaucoma, glasses, Lasik, hearing, deafness, tinnitus, hearing loss, hearing aids

## **Obstetrics and Gynecology**

**Call number range:** 618 – 618.8\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** see Birth Control and Reproductive Health & Women's Health; sexual health, hysterectomy, pregnancy, birth, menopause, gynecological disorders, gynaecology, hormone/hormonal, polycystic ovarian syndrome, endometriosis, period/menstruation, premenstrual syndrome, fertility, breast health, child birth, fetal alcohol syndrome, miscarriage, Cesarean section, postpartum depression

## **Pediatrics**

**Call number range:** 618.9 -618.96\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** sudden infant death syndrome, baby care, sleep, colic, first aid, ear infections, premature, preemies, hyperactivity, Down syndrome, cleft, eating disorders, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, learning disabilities, autism, children's health, Tourette syndrome, allergies

## **Geriatrics**

**Call number range:** 618.97\*

**Some keywords/subjects:** Alzheimer's, geriatrics, osteoporosis, caregiver, seniors, senility