Evaluating Health Information Worksheet

Is There a Doctor in the HOUSE? Your Prescription for Finding Quality Health Information

Consider these five criteria when you evaluate health information online...

1. **Accuracy:**
   Is the information based on sound medical research?

   Can the information be verified by another source?
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No  
   - [ ] Sort of

   Is there a bibliography with reliable sources? If so, what makes the sources reliable?
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No  
   - [ ] Sort of

2. **Authority:**
   Who published the page?

   Can you easily find contact information? If so, where did you find this information?
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No  
   - [ ] Sort of

   What are the person's credentials?

   ____________________________________________

   ____________________________________________

   ____________________________________________
**Bias:**
Does the information show just one point of view?

Can you judge the author’s purpose in posting the information? If so, what is the purpose?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Sort of

Do the graphics, fonts, and words play to the reader’s emotions? (Hint: CAPITAL LETTERS, exclamation points!!! And words like MIRACLE CURE!!)

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Sort of

**Currency:**
When was the information published or posted?

Has the information been updated or revised since publication?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Sort of

Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well?

**Coverage:**
How does this information compare with other sources on the same topic?

Does this source provide information that is relevant to your needs? Why or why not?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Sort of

Is a better source available? If so, which one?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Sort of