



Health Literacy and Older Adults

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Making Healthy Ageing a Reality: A Comprehensive Approach to Health Literacy http://www.healthyageing.eu/sites/www.healthyageing.eu/files/IROHLA_Making_healthy_ageing_a_reality_compressed.pdf

This European publication discusses why a comprehensive approach to health literacy is needed, the promise of health literacy-friendly healthcare environments, the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach to health literacy as well as examples of successful initiatives. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

Health Literacy in the Older Population: How it can Contribute to Sustainable Health Systems

http://www.healthyageing.eu/sites/www.healthyageing.eu/files/IROHLA_Policy_Brief_EU_member_states_compressed.pdf

This European publication explains why health literacy is important, what can be done to address health literacy and health literacy policies. Information about the Intervention Research on Health Literacy of the Ageing Population in Europe (IROHLA) project is shared. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

Health Literacy for Healthy Ageing

http://www.healthyageing.eu/sites/www.healthyageing.eu/files/IROHLA_Policy_Brief_Health_organisations_compressed.pdf

This European publication discusses why it is important to focus on health literacy and the need to address health literacy using a comprehensive approach. Recommended steps for health organizations as well as information about the Intervention Research on Health Literacy of the Ageing Population in Europe (IROHLA) project is shared. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

Association Between low Functional Health Literacy and Mortality in Older Adults: Longitudinal Cohort Study <https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/344/bmj.e1602.full.pdf>

This article describes a population based longitudinal cohort study that investigated the association between low functional health literacy (ability to read and understand basic health related information) and mortality in older adults. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

The Impact of Inadequate Health Literacy on Patient Satisfaction, Healthcare Utilization, and Expenditures Among Older Adults

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0197457216302981>

This American article overviews the findings of an analysis of survey data to identify the degree of health literacy and characteristics of those with inadequate health literacy and the impact on patient satisfaction, health care use and costs. The findings suggest that with effective educational interventions patient satisfaction, compliance and outcomes can be greatly improved resulting in reduced healthcare use and spending. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

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Case Studies in Geriatric Health Literacy

https://journals.lww.com/orthopaedicnursing/Abstract/2011/07000/Case_Studies_in_Geriatric_Health_Literacy.15.aspx

The authors describe the challenge of low health literacy among older Americans and the research demonstrating interventions which are useful for offering effective health education including the teach-back method and other strategies. The article provides a case study approach to help illustrate the importance of assessing health literacy and effective communication. **(PAID ACCESS)**

A Nurse's Eye-View on Health Literacy in Older Adults

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3799118/pdf/amia_2012_ni_204.pdf

This research study aimed to identify health literacy-related challenges that older adults experience when managing their health. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

Health Literacy and Older Adults: A Systematic Review

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/2333721416630492>

This publication describes an American systematic review in which the investigators found a need for a standardized and clinically validated health literacy screening tool and to improve health care strategies for older adults with low health literacy. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

Health Literacy Programs for Older Adults: A Systematic Literature Review

<https://academic.oup.com/her/article/27/6/947/656687>

This article describes a study conducted utilizing a systematic literature review to evaluate health literacy programs targeted at older adults. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

Health Literacy Challenges in the Aging Population

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/nuf.12038>

This paper discusses the impacts of low health literacy and interventions to reduce its effects on the older adult population. **(PAID ACCESS)**

Health Literacy and Older Adults: Reshaping the Landscape of a Workshop

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK532464/pdf/Bookshelf_NBK532464.pdf

This report shares the proceedings from an American workshop. Themes explored included what we know about health literacy and older adults, the family and community landscape, the health system landscape and reflections. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

Limited Literacy in Older People and Disparities in Health and Healthcare Access

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16696742>

The findings of this cross-sectional study suggest that limited health literacy may be an independent risk factor for health disparities in older adults. **(PAID ACCESS)**

Aging and Functional Health Literacy: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4834761/>

The authors reviewed the evidence on the association of age and limited health literacy overall and by assessment tool and the mediating role of cognitive function. They found that vocabulary-based health literacy skills appeared more stable with age but cautioned that researchers should choose assessment tools carefully when investigating health literacy of older adults. **(OPEN ACCESS)**

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The Importance of Building Trust and Tailoring Interactions When Meeting Older Adults' Health Literacy Needs

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09638288.2016.1231849>

This qualitative study investigated the experiences and perceptions of older adults with varying health literacy levels who had attended a falls clinic on the overall experience of the clinic, access to service and provider-patient interaction. (PAID ACCESS)

Development of a Communication Intervention for Older Adults With Limited Health Literacy: Photo Stories to Support Doctor-Patient Communication

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10810730.2016.1193918>

The objective of this article was to describe the development of a narrative and photo based health literacy intervention targeted at older adults with low health literacy during communication in a primary care consultation setting. (OPEN ACCESS)

Health Literacy and Health Risk Behaviours Among Older Adults

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0749379706003564?via%3Dihub>

This article describes a study investigating the relationship between health literacy and the prevalence of health risk behaviours among older adults. (PAID ACCESS)

Association Between Health Literacy and Preventative Health Behaviours Among Older Adults: Findings from the Health and Retirement Study

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC27430477/>

This study examined the relationship between health literacy and health behaviours and perceptions in a sample of older adults. (OPEN ACCESS)

Health Literacy, Pedometer, and Self-Reported Walking Among Older Adults

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4815562/pdf/AJPH.2015.302901.pdf>

The authors utilized cross-sectional study data assessing health literacy and its association with physical activity and physical activity guideline adherence among older adults. (OPEN ACCESS)

The Association of Health Literacy with Adherence in Older Adults, and its Role in Interventions: A Systematic Meta-Review

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4573285/pdf/12889_2015_Article_2251.pdf

The investigators found that the evidence on the association between health literacy and adherence in older adults is relatively weak and the evidence on health literacy interventions for vulnerable populations of older adults was limited. (OPEN ACCESS)

Impact of Health Literacy on Medication Adherence in Older People with Chronic Diseases

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1322769615000773>

This study investigated the effect of health literacy on medication compliance to offer information for improving health outcomes for older adults with chronic disease. (PAID ACCESS)

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Health Literacy and the Digital Divide Among Older Americans

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs11606-014-3069-5.pdf>

This publication describes a retrospective study undertaken to quantify the relationship between health literacy and use of the internet for obtaining health information among older Americans. (OPEN ACCESS)

Promoting eHealth Literacy in Older Adults: Key Informant Perspectives

<https://dcjournal.ca/doi/10.3148/74.1.2013.37>

This article describes the development, implementation and evaluation of an eHealth literacy tool called eSEARCH, targeted at older adults. (PAID ACCESS)

Improving Older Adults' E-Health Literacy Through Computer Training Using NIH Online Resources <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3358785/pdf/nihms343120.pdf>

The research described in this article aimed to address the gap in the literature regarding the efficacy of public library-based e-health literacy interventions designed specifically for older adults. (OPEN ACCESS)

eHealth Literacy Interventions for Older Adults: A Systematic Review of the Literature <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4260003/>

This article describes a systematic review that aimed to evaluate the research design, methods and findings of eHealth literacy interventions for older adults. The findings of the review pointed to a gap in evidence for eHealth literacy evaluating health outcomes targeting older adults. (OPEN ACCESS)

Low Health Literacy and Older Adults: Meanings, Problems, and Recommendations for Social Work

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00981389.2014.966882>

This article discusses seven areas related to health literacy with a specific focus on how social workers can best empower older adults. (PAID ACCESS)

Validation of a Single Question Health Literacy Screening Tool for Older Adults

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/2333721417713095>

The authors suggest using the Single Item Screening (SIS) as a quick assessment of health literacy to gain key information to accurately identify older adults who require person centred communication strategies for health education. (OPEN ACCESS)

The Effectiveness of Health Literacy Oriented Programs on Physical Activity Behaviour in Middle Aged and Older Adults with Type 2 Diabetes: A Systematic Review

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4926030/pdf/hpr-2016-1-5595.pdf>

This article examined the effectiveness of health literacy oriented programs on physical activity behaviour among middle aged and older adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus. (OPEN ACCESS)

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Cognition and Health Literacy in Older Adults' Recall of Self-Care Information

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5881765/pdf/gnv091.pdf>

The authors investigated the relationship between a commonly used measure of health literacy and comprehension of health information among older adults. (OPEN ACCESS)

Health Literacy and Cognitive Performance in Older Adults

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/j.1532-5415.2009.02347.x>

The authors conducted a cross-sectional cohort study to investigate the relationship between health literacy and memory and verbal fluency in older adults. (PAID ACCESS)

Health Literacy Among Older Adults is Associated with Their 10-Years' Cognitive Functioning and Decline - the Doetinchem Cohort Study

<https://bmcegeriatr.biomedcentral.com/track/pdf/10.1186/s12877-018-0766-7>

This study sought to assess the associations of cognitive functioning and 10-years' cognitive decline with health literacy in older adults. (OPEN ACCESS)

A Life Course Approach to Health Literacy: The Role of Gender, Educational Attainment and Lifetime Cognitive Capability

<https://academic.oup.com/ageing/article/46/3/493/2661786>

This study reported on risk factors across the life course which are correlated with health literacy later in life. The authors include possible interventions. (OPEN ACCESS)

Health Literacy and Fear of Cancer Progression in Elderly Women Newly Diagnosed with Breast Cancer - A Longitudinal Analysis

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0738399115301683>

This German study found that the elderly women studied with limited health literacy had a higher degree of fear regarding cancer progression. (PAID ACCESS)

Development of Patient Education for Older Adults Receiving Chemotherapy

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/4d41/35a76ea8ada763b4d85e9876cf85bbd2f7ff.pdf>

This publication discusses the need for tailored education for older adult audiences specific to cancer treatment. (OPEN ACCESS)

Health Literacy in Older Adults With and Without Low Vision

<https://ajot.aota.org/article.aspx?articleid=2512717>

The aim of the study described in this article was to investigate whether older adults with low vision demonstrated lower functional health literacy than those without low vision. (OPEN ACCESS)

Health Literacy and Older Adults: Fall Prevention and Health Literacy in a Midwestern State

<https://openaccesspub.org/article/674/jarh-17-1911.pdf>

The authors argue that understanding how health literacy and demographic factors contribute to the rate of falls is key to modifying fall prevention interventions to be more effective among those older adults with low health literacy. (OPEN ACCESS)