Wiki Project Med

"Wikimedia Medicine"

There is a global lack of access to accurate, empowering healthcare information, in a language most people can understand, and in a format that they can benefit from.

Wikipedia's medical articles are one of the leading sources of health information online, with 5 billion pageviews per year. They address the public health needs of a literate, English-speaking population with reliable internet access; however, this is still the minority of the world.

Since 2012, Wiki Project Med Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit and Thematic Organization within the Wikimedia Movement, has been leading educational, technical, and outreach initiatives to make medical information accessible to people around the world, in their own language, online and offline.

This information improves health outcomes and even saves lives.

MDWiki

MDWiki (MDWiki.org) is a content fork of Wikipedia's medical content created to enhance health information in new and meaningful ways. MDWiki is written by several of the top-10 most prolific medical editors on Wikipedia over the last decade.

Content flows into the WikiMed app used by more than 100,00 people around the world, including many health care providers and learners.
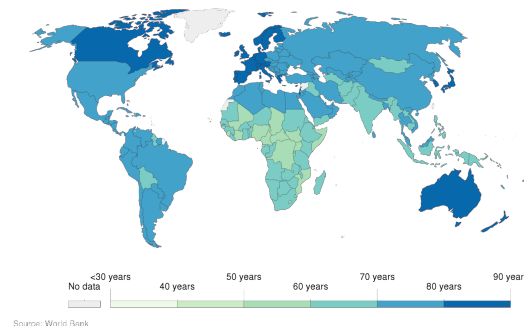
MDWiki differs from Wikipedia:
- Content pages have improved multimedia interaction and are geared for offline use.
- Encourages inclusion of video, including Non-Commercial (NC) and Non-Derivative (ND) licenses.
- Editing is restricted to registered, approved individuals, and there is a clear code of conduct.
- Paid conflict-of-interest editing is prohibited.
- Medication costs and dosages are permitted and encouraged.
- Written for a general audience, including non-native English speakers.

IMPACT: In 2024, we'll import the complete history of all articles, add language links to other versions of Wikipedia, build in Wikidata functionality, and improve the viewer for CT and MRI images.

Life expectancy, 2016
The average number of years a newborn would live if age-specific mortality rates in the current year were to stay the same throughout its life.

Source: World Bank

Leadership

Wiki Project Med is run by Chair James Heilman, with a talented and globally diverse board and numerous expert advisors, all of whom are unpaid volunteers.
Board Members:

- James Heilman, MD
- Anjna Harrar, MD
- Alaa Najjar, MD
- Stuart Ray, MD
- Diptanshu Das, MD
- Mossab Banat, MD
- Tim Moody, PhD

IMPACT: In 2024, we'll bring on a technical project manager, translation coordinator, new developers, and fundraiser. We'll also add an Executive Committee with Operations and Copyright Law expertise.

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Language Empowerment

- The majority of healthcare content in the world is not in native speakers' languages.

- English Wikipedia has ample healthcare content but it's not designed for translation.

MDWiki.org enhances Wikipedia, adds a layer of medical review, and makes stable versions of articles ready for translation into multiple languages. With 18 million page views in 2023, MDWiki is serving content also used in our offline app and translation projects.

The Translation Task Force addresses the needs of the other 300 languages in which Wikipedia exists. Since 2011 we have created over 20,000 translations, worked in 150 languages, and created over 22 million words of text. This content has received more than 3.7 billion pageviews since 2015.

IMPACT: In 2024 we'll have 3,000 articles translated, with work in 50 languages, and they'll be viewed 3 million times.

Donate and Support our Work

mdwiki.org/wiki/WPM:Donations

Wiki Project Med is a 501(c)3 nonprofit. Your charitable contribution is 100% tax deductible in the United States.

Global Access

- Half the globe doesn't have reliable internet access to medical content.

- Libraries and schools in many regions lack health info due to poor infrastructure.

The WikiMed App allows anyone to download medical content when the internet is present and save it for future offline use. Our apps are available for free in multiple languages on Android and iOS. With over 100,000 active installs, the apps are being used around the world, including in Pakistan, Ethiopia, India, Nepal, and the United States. Many users are health care providers or doctors-in-training and community health workers.

Internet-in-a-Box (IIAB) is a device containing all of MDWiki and customizable versions of Wikipedia. The small, inexpensive unit creates a WiFi hotspot and gives access for up to 32 people within 100 meters to read, watch, learn and download. If we could scale regional production and distribution, millions more could benefit.

IMPACT: In 2024, we'll update the Apple iOS app and reach 75,000 active installs. We'll ship 50 Internet-in-a-Box at a cost of $40 to 50 per unit.

Rich Content

- Healthcare professionals around the world need access to more medical images and other multimedia to diagnose and treat illnesses.

NCCommons.org collects and curates Non-Commercial (NC) and Non-Derivative (ND) licensed images, which currently can't be used on Wikimedia Commons. With over 1 million files, many of them high-quality medical images, we've created a central repository for all NC and ND licensed content.

VideoWiki allows the collaborative creation of videos from a mediawiki-based script. Text and media files are combined into full, final video, with automatic and appropriate copyright attribution. Videos are also easily updated and translated to recreate content in multiple languages.

Our World in Data (OWID) provides modular, interactive, integrated graphs and visualizations directly into MDWiki and other mediawiki sites.

IMPACT: In 2024, we'll work with Wikimedia Foundation to clarify use of NC content, and add export of NC and ND licensed material from Commons to NCCommons.org, which will reach 2 million images. VideoWiki will become functional in English. OWID graphs will become multilingual and roll out to 1 Wikimedia project.