SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
HERSCHEL S. HOROWITZ CENTER FOR HEALTH LITERACY

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Healthy People and Health Literacy

Cynthia Baur, Ph.D.
Healthy People Objective Timeline

2010
• Adult literacy survey
• Individual skills

2020
• Healthcare survey
• People’s experiences with providers

2030
• TBD
• Emerging focus: system and provider performance
2030 Draft Framework

• Health literacy one of foundational principles and overarching goals
• Topic areas and objectives still to be determined

• [www.healthypeople.gov](http://www.healthypeople.gov)
National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy

• 7 goals

• Goal 4 specifically mentions health information and library professionals
  – Proposed actions include
    • training librarians to help build patrons health literacy skills
    • medical and public librarians collaborating on health information spaces
Libraries for Health Programs

• Clinicians, consumers, & librarians led free workshops on online health information
  – Gray, Elliott, and Wale, 2013 (Australia)

• Librarian-led classes in online health information seeking
  – Pomerantz et al, 2010 (Washington, D.C.)

• Computer and information seeking skills classes for older adults
  – Xie 2011 (Maryland)
Plain Language Health Materials

• Tools to evaluate materials
  – CDC Clear Communication Index
  – Federal Plain Language Guidelines

• Online library of easy to read materials
  – GSU Center for the Study of Adult Literacy
  – [http://csal.gsu.edu/content/library](http://csal.gsu.edu/content/library)
Other Resources

- CDC health literacy web site, www.cdc.gov/healthliteracy