

Z- CH # 23

ON-LINE CONTENT (1H)

Review the assignment and place your answers to the questions in the Z-CH # 23 drop box by 0800 on March 27, 2023.

*In order to receive full credit (1H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignment not completed in its entirety will result in missed class time.*

Patients often use the Internet to search for health-related issues. Search the Internet for any health-related issue of your choosing. Evaluate the website by answering the following questions:

-I chose to google "symptoms of cancer" because when you google symptoms you may be having, cancer always seems to be a possibility.

<https://www.webmd.com/cancer/guide/understanding-cancer-symptoms>

1. Do the authors have qualifications listed? What are their qualifications? What is the domain? (.gov, .edu, .org)
  - a. I chose webmd.com since it's an infamous website to browse symptoms, so the domain is .com. The author is listed but they do not have any qualifications following their name. However under the author it states that the article was medically reviewed by a medical professional with the qualifications "MS, DO."
2. When was the site created? When was the site last updated or revised?
  - a. I believe WebMD was created in 2005, and the article was last reviewed March 3, 2022.
3. Who is the targeted audience? Does the web site present facts or opinions?
  - a. The targeted audience seems to be people who are concerned they might have cancer, and are looking for generic signs that they can look out for, and to know when to seek medical treatment. The site seems to list good signs and symptoms to look for, but it is clearly stated at the bottom of the website that "WebMD does not provide medical advice, diagnosis or treatment." I also don't see resources listed so I'm going to say it's stating opinions, even if it is factual information.
4. How complete and accurate is the content information? Does it agree with other expert sources?
  - a. The information seems pretty accurate from what we learned about cancer in MSN in the Lewis Medical-surgical nursing textbook. It also definitely recommends to see your doctor with any concern you may have, which is good advice. It states at the beginning of the article that "treatment works best early on, when a tumor is small and hasn't spread," and in the Lewis book it states on page 239, "early detection and prompt treatment are responsible for increased survival rates in patients with cancer." More similarities between the website and the book when looking for symptoms are the nagging cough and hoarseness, a sore that does not heal, and unusual bleeding.

5. Does the site load quickly? Is it a secured site? Are there graphics, or pictures on the page that serve a purpose? If so what are they and how do they relate to the health issue?
  - a. The site loaded quickly and surprisingly enough it is secured because it has the little lock symbol next to the URL. There aren't any pictures or graphics but there was a pop-up ad asking if I was planning to talk to my doctor about early-stage breast cancer in the next 30 days. There is also an ad for "Rybelsus," a drug for type 2 diabetes at the bottom of the page, and a T-Mobile ad, because the site is funded by paid advertisements. There are also more links to guide someone to "common cancer symptoms in men," "common cancer symptoms in women," and "early signs of cancer."