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UW MEDICINE | ETHNOMED NEWSLETTER



UPDATE: Summer 2012

INAUGURAL EDITION

A Message from Medical Director, J. Carey Jackson, MD, MA, MPH



This inaugural newsletter for EthnoMed is designed with you in mind. This will be a vehicle to let you know what is new on EthnoMed and to highlight resources that pertain to certain events, such as Ramadan, that may have health care considerations for refugee and immigrant patients.

EthnoMed aims to address disparities in care through enhancing understanding between the medical culture and the culture of the patient. We hope that every newsletter edition (approximately 6 a year) will lead you to something helpful to your work, and will also help EthnoMed become more widely used and evolve in ways that we couldn't have imagined in 1994 when the site was founded and the Internet was young.

Please sign up for our newsletter -- if you haven't already -- and help us spread the word about this new feature by forwarding this newsletter to a colleague or two. Use the buttons at the bottom of this newsletter.

If you have any comments or suggestions for future newsletters or new EthnoMed content, please [contact us](#).

We wish to thank the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Pacific Northwest Region (NN/LM PNR) for funding the development of this newsletter.

Best,

Carey

OF INTEREST ON ETHNOMED

Cultural Relevance in End-of-Life Care

Written by a community health and hospice clinician, with over 30 years' experience with hospice care, this resource addresses three major areas of cultural relevance in end-of-life care: cultural competency in clinical practice; advance directives; and pain management.

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Toolkit for Primary Care Providers Treating Refugees

The Toolkit for Primary Care is designed to provide your clinic with:

- **Information** about medical assessments and interventions that occur as part of the refugee resettlement process.
- **Tips** on accessing your patient's previous medical information.
- **Suggestions** on health screening priorities in the primary care setting.
- **Links, referrals** and other relevant information to provide health care to refugee patients.

The Toolkit was created by the Pathways to Wellness Program (a program of Lutheran Community Services Northwest, Asian Counseling and Referral Service, and Public Health Seattle & King County) in conjunction with medical staff from Harborview Medical Center.

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Iraqi Refugee Health Cultural Profile

To date, little has been written about the American health care experience of Iraqi refugees who have arrived since the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. This cultural profile provides information about the American health care experiences of a small group of Iraqi refugees in the Seattle area and health-related beliefs and expectations they understand to be common in their community; the health care system in Iraq; historical context pertinent to the physical and psychological needs of recent refugees; and refugee resettlement in the United States.

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Resources for Cancer Information and Support

Resource lists in English and Spanish including organizations, websites, and phone lines with information and support services available for cancer patients and their families.

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Translated Handouts: Smoking Cessation and Cancer

PDFs in multiple languages with information about ways that quitting smoking can help in cancer recovery, and quitline resources with contact information for different language lines. Handouts are geared to cancer survivors, but contains information useful to a general audience.

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CALENDAR ITEMS OF INTEREST

Tuberculosis Clinical Intensive: Seattle, October 3-4, 2012

A course for clinicians and other medical care providers who manage patients with or at risk for tuberculosis.

National Refugee and Immigrant Conference, Chicago, October 18-19, 2012

The goal of this conference is to identify issues, emphasize best practices, and highlight innovations by providing those who work with refugees and immigrants an opportunity to learn from and network with one another.

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ABOUT ETHNOMED

EthnoMed was founded in 1994 and is a joint program of the University of Washington Health Sciences Library and Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Washington. EthnoMed grew out of another hospital program, [Community House Calls](#), which was successfully bridging cultural and language barriers during medical visits, through interpretation, cultural mediation and advocacy with immigrant patients, families and communities. The website was created to reflect and support

that experience. In recent years, our content has expanded to reflect many new communities that have settled in the Seattle area.

EthnoMed is grounded in relationships established with local ethnic communities and the providers who care for them. Our contributors come from a wide range of disciplines and experiences and include nurses, physicians, nutritionists, psychologists, academic faculty, medical interpreters, librarians, community members, and students. Health care providers and community members review content for clinical accuracy and cultural relevance.

We invite you to share your knowledge and educational materials with the EthnoMed audience. Consider being a content contributor, collaborator or reviewer. [Contact EthnoMed](#).

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DrCareyJackson

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