

Parent Education Materials Rating Tool (Handout 2)

Title: _____ Date of Publication: _____

Type of Resource: Brochure Developed by: _____ Source: Parent Advocacy Group

Criteria	Questions	Score				
		Low	Mid		Hi	
Quality	Is the information accurate, and trustworthy?	1	2	3	4	5
Expertise	Does the author or group have experience and/or expertise?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accuracy/Consistency	Does the info correspond with what other materials you have read? Is it correct?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sponsor/ funder	Is there an obvious bias or financial interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Source	Are citations or sources listed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date	Are materials more than a few years old?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usability	Is the information accessible and easy to understand and?	1	2	3	4	5
Reading Level	Is the reading level around 5 th grade?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Format	Is information easy to find? (Question and answer is an example of a good format)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key Ideas	Are there too many key ideas covered? (More than a few is generally too many)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Language	Are common words used? Too much jargon?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Length of sentences and paragraphs	Are sentences too long? Do paragraphs cover too many points?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Practical examples	Are relevant examples used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organization	Is the information presented logically?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of graphics	Are graphics helpful and/or attractive?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of white space	Is the design too cluttered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Print size/readability	Is text size, color, font easy to read?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emphasis	Are the key points clear? Do they jump out?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent involvement	Did parents review materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Translations	Is the material available in other languages?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usability (Websites)	Additional questions for websites	1	2	3	4	5
Easy to find	Were you able to find the website or webpage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean and uncluttered	Was the overall design cluttered or confusing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easy to use	Was the page easy to navigate?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site is up to date	Links work and info is updated regularly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Content	Are the right topics covered? Are the topics important to parents?	1	2	3	4	5
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reviewing Materials - Research

QUALITY PRESENTATION TOOLBOX http://geneticalliance.org/ws_display.asp?filter=index

Three tools have been developed as part of the Access To Credible Genetics (ATCG) Resource Network to help families and health professionals assess the quality of currently available educational materials about rare, single-gene disorders. These tools will also help individuals and groups to create quality materials for their own purposes. The tools are listed below with the overarching questions they are designed to address. Click on each of the tools to view them and learn more about how to use them.

1. **Content Scale**: Is the information complete or are there topics not covered?
 2. **Quality Scale**: Is the information right?
 3. **Usability Scale**: Is the information presented in a way that is understandable and accessible?
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Usability - Written Materials (*Fact Sheet: Strategies to Improve Patient Education Materials (Center for Health Care Strategies, Inc.)*)

Tips and Suggestions for Improving Materials:

- Pictures, diagrams, and videotapes help communicate information to patients, especially those with low literacy skills.
 - Most people, even those who read well, rely on visual clues to reinforce learning.
 - Oral and visual tools help patients absorb new information, which increases learning.
 - Videotaped patient education materials increase knowledge, encourage positive attitudes, and change behavior
 - Most written health care materials are too difficult to read for nearly half the population (should be about fifth grade level)
 - Use clear captions, ample “white space,” and pictures or diagrams to attract the reader’s attention and reinforce the message.
 - Use common words. For example, they replace “chemotherapeutic agent” with “a drug that fights cancer.”
 - Materials should be prepared in cooperation with the intended audience.
 - Materials should be limited to one or two educational objectives. What the reader will learn and do after reading the information.
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Website Usability (*Five Guidelines for Developing Customer Friendly Websites (Prepared by Covering Kids & Families November 2006)*)

A good website will have these features:

- Clients can find all program information easily and in one place.
- New information is easy to insert and highly visible
- Forms can be completed on-line
- Provider directories and other moving targets are always current
- Visitor finds out about other services they may qualify for and find links

Five guidelines for developing customer-friendly websites:

1. Make your site easy to find
2. Create a clean and uncluttered design
3. Write for your clients
4. Provide clear pathways for user tasks
5. Conduct usability testing throughout development