

UpToDate Patient Education



NEW: UpToDate now offers patient education resources in 19 languages

All 'Basics' patient education leaflets are now available in English, Spanish and Arabic.

The **400 most-used leaflets** are available in an additional **16 languages:**

- Chinese (simplified)
- Chinese (traditional)
- Creole
- French
- German
- Greek
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Tagalog
- Turkish
- Vietnamese

"The strongest correlation to ill health – stronger than education level, deprivation, age or ethnicity – is health literacy."

National Voices

Health Literacy Matters

It's estimated that up to **61% of adults**¹ don't understand the health information they're given. This lack of understanding can result in health inequalities, leading to poor outcomes.

Patients may find the information being presented to them too complex, or it may not be in their preferred language.

Those with low health literacy are more likely to:

- be disengaged
- have higher rates of hospital admission
- experience more drug and treatment errors
- access fewer preventative services

Accessed more than one million times annually, UpToDate® Patient Education, available in 19 languages, is helping to improve health literacy and improve health outcomes, globally.

Patient engagement relies on health literacy

For patients to make informed personal choices about their care, healthcare providers must provide information in a way patients can understand.



Resources written at an appropriate reading age and delivered in the patient's preferred language can help them understand their treatment options, possible outcomes, and risks.



Patient education has many benefits, including better compliance with appointments and treatment, reducing their uncertainty about decisions, and ensuring their choices match their personal values better.

1. [4b_Health_Literacy-Briefing.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)