The CRAAP Test

The CRAAP Test is used to evaluate the quality and relevance of information sources. Keep the following questions in mind when deciding whether or not to include a source in your research.

For more information, visit the Library’s Online Privacy & Tech Etiquette guide: http://library.nshealth.ca/Online

Currency
The timeliness of the information

1. Is there a clear date posted to indicate when the information was published/posted?

2. Is there a note or date to indicate if the information has been updated?

3. Is the information current enough? Is it OK if the resource is more than 5 years old?

Relevance
The value of the information in relation to your needs

1. Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
2. Who is the audience?

3. Is the information at an appropriate level—not too simple, not too advanced, etc.?

4. How does it compare with other trusted sources on the topic?

Authority
The source of the information

1. Who is the author and/or producer of the information?

2. Are the credentials and/or affiliations of the author appropriate?

3. Does the author provide contact information?
4. Does the URL (web address) reveal anything about the source?¹

Accuracy
The reliability of the content

1. Where does the information come from?

2. Is the information supported by evidence?

3. Has the information been peer reviewed?

4. Is the tone unbiased and free from emotion?

5. Are there spelling, grammatical, or typographical errors?

¹ See https://goo.gl/bXlpzH for more details.
Purpose/Point of View
The reason the information exists

1. What is the purpose of the information—inform, teach, sell, entertain, or persuade?

2. Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purposes clear?

3. Is the point of view objective and impartial?

4. Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional, or personal biases?

Questions? Comments?
E-mail Hospital Library Services at asklibrary@nshealth.ca or telephone 902-473-8497.