A quality analysis of internet patient information for immediate, sequential, bilateral cataract surgery (ISBCS).

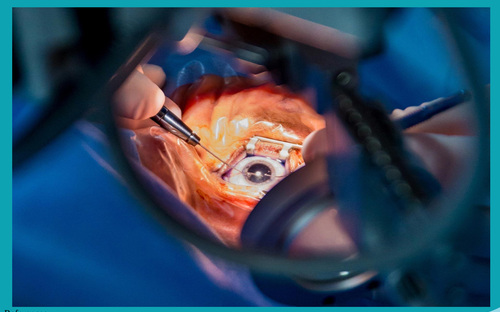
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This study aims to assess the quality of available internet information for ISBCS.

BACKGROUND

- The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has accelerated surgical capacity pressures due to demand on secondary care services and immediate bilateral simultaneous cataract surgery (ISBCS) has been utilised increasingly through the U.K.
- It should be noted ISBCS is a controversial area and in appropriate patients, it aims to streamline their experience.
- There is an increasing trend for patients to use the internet as an adjunctive source of healthcare information.[1]



KEY FINDING

1. **The average DISCERN score was 41.3, meaning a "fair" quality which is below what many patients would anticipate discovering when trying to find information.**

2. **The readability of material was deemed appropriate for someone of 10-11 years of reading. The average reading age in the UK is 9 years old. [2]**

Group	JAMA	DISCERN	FRE	FKG	GF
NHS	2.14	42.35	55.77	8.52	10.77
Commercial	1.67	40.85	53.44	9.01	11.52
HONcode	1.75	41.52	54.09	8.92	11.36

FRE score = readability ease of a text from 0 to 100.

FKG score = weighs the syllables, words, and sentences to compute an overall readability score. The higher the score, the easier the passage is to read for both scores.

GF score = estimates the number of years of education required to read the proposed text

METHODS

- From the total of 150 URLs, there were 46 applicable search results that matched the inclusion criteria.
- Assessment of readability achieved via FRE Score, FKG score and GF score
- Assessment of quality of content achieved via JAMA and DISCERN score

TAKE-AWAY CONCLUSION

- It is critical that information is available at a reasonable level for the public, when patients are increasingly relying on the internet to facilitate their decision-making process for ISBCS.
- This may improve the consenting procedure and allow for the expansion of ISBCS.

References
1) Tan, S. and Goonawardene, N., 2022. *Internet Health Information Seeking and the Patient-Physician Relationship: A Systematic Review.*
2) Taylor, S., 2022. *Are you aware of how literate your employees are?*. [online] Ascento.co.uk. Available at: <https://www.ascento.co.uk/blog/are-you-aware-of-how-literate-your-employees-are#:~:text=Readability%20data%20suggest%20that%20the,a%20reading%20age%20of%208.> [Accessed 3 May 2022].