Evaluating Health Information Worksheet

Consider these five criteria when you evaluate health information online...

1. **Accuracy:**
   Is the information based on sound medical research?

   Can the information be verified by another source?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Sort of

   Are there reliable sources listed? If so, what makes the sources reliable?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Sort of

2. **Authority:**
   Who published the page?

   Can you easily find contact information? If so, where did you find this information?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Sort of

   Is the author an expert on this topic?

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The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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Bias:
Does the information show just one point of view?

Can you judge the author’s purpose in posting the information? If so, what is the purpose?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sort of ________________________________

Do the graphics, fonts, and words play to the reader’s emotions? (Hint: CAPITAL LETTERS, exclamation points!!! And words like MIRACLE CURE!!!)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sort of ________________________________

Currency:
When was the information published or posted?

Has the information been updated or revised since publication?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sort of ________________________________

Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well?

Coverage:
How does this information compare with other sources on the same topic?

Does this source provide information that meets your needs? Why or why not?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sort of ________________________________

Is a better source available? If so, which one?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sort of ________________________________