they probably haven’t read this book.

Nancy Whitten Zinn
University of California, San Francisco

References


Like most core lists, Resources for Health Sciences: A Guide for Australia serves as a collection development tool for the librarian. Delafosse states that her main aim is to cite resources for the major relevant health sciences subjects. She combines Australian works with overseas ones, highlighting those with Australian authors or contributors. Of the 1,022 books listed, 31% are Australian, 426 (42%) are from the United States (or are British versions of a U.S. edition), and the rest are United Kingdom imprints, mostly British. Of the U.S. book titles, 227 (53%) are from the three Brandon/Hill lists: nursing [1], allied health [2], and the small medical library [3]. Like her U.S. counterparts, Delafosse does not include audiovisuals or software.

Delafosse does not weight titles, recommending that the librarian try to see the titles before purchasing them. This approach would be difficult for even a fraction of so many titles, particularly the older ones. Judging from the Brandon/Hill rating of the U.S. titles included in Resources, the list is fairly selective. One hundred thirty-nine titles are from the Brandon/Hill small medical library list. More than half of them are asterisked by Brandon and Hill (eighty-nine, or 61%); forty-seven of those eighty-nine are minimal core titles. Fifty-two Brandon/Hill nursing list titles show up in the Resources guide, twenty-seven designated as initial purchase by the U.S. bibliographers. Thirty-six Brandon/Hill allied health list titles (twenty-two initial purchase) also appear on the Australian bibliography.

There are 157 subject headings in the Resources list, with 12 more under the separate “Reference Books” section. Seventy-two of the headings have a direct or extremely close equivalent on at least one of the three Brandon/Hill lists. For example, “Psychiatry” on the Australian list equals “Psychiatry” on the U.S. list, while “Communicable Diseases” equals “Infectious Diseases.” Eighteen headings have no direct equivalent to any Brandon/Hill heading, although the interpretation is clear. “Nephrology” on Resources is found under Brandon/Hill’s “Urology.” “Nursing Care” (Resources) correlates to “Medical-Surgical Nursing” (Brandon/Hill). The distinction between “Nursing Care” and “Nursing—General” on the Australian list is not obvious.

Sixty-seven Resources headings have no direct or approximate Brandon/Hill equivalent. Many are more specific and would be quite useful to the North American audience. “Diabetes” has its own heading in Resources, but is found under “Endocrinology and Metabolism” in Brandon/Hill. “Dementia,” “Computers,” and “Pain” are three headings that are more specific than Brandon/Hill and that U.S. librarians would appreciate. Two headings, “Aborigines” and “Immigrants,” are probably more appropriate for the Australian health sciences librarian.

Delafosse often lumps together under one category something that is broken out across the three Brandon/Hill lists based on intended audience; that is, “Electrocardiology,” “Physiology,” and “Anatomy.” Surgical specialties such as “Paediatrics—Surgery” and “Gastroenterology—Surgery” are not listed under “Surgery—General,” but are broken out from the “parent” specialties “Paediatrics” and “Gastroenterology” in this instance. Reference works are listed in a separate section at the end, after the books and the journals. At first glance, this arrangement makes Resources appear incomplete, with the apparent omission of such necessary works as medical dictionaries. These different approaches to the subject divisions can make using Delafosse’s list a challenge for U.S. librarians.

This Australian core list includes 411 journals. Table 1 shows the overlap with the three different Brandon/Hill lists. Fifty-five percent of the titles listed are from the United States, although not all of these titles appear on the Brandon/Hill lists. Delafosse emphasizes clinical health sciences journals titles. Yet, she does list some basic science, management, and counseling psychology titles.

| Table 1
<p>| Percentage of Brandon/Hill journals found in Resources for Health Sciences |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brandon/Hill list</th>
<th>Brandon/Hill journals</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small medical library</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied health sciences</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
among her recommendations. U.S. health sciences librarians will find this list useful in identifying core titles from Australia and New Zealand. 

*Resources for Health Sciences* will have only marginal value for collection-development librarians in U.S. health sciences libraries. It was designed for an Australian audience and must be evaluated in that context. We did find it interesting to learn how a librarian in another country approached the challenge of creating a core list of journals and books.

Susan Gerding Bader  
*Major Scientific Books, Inc.*  
*Dallas, Texas*

Jonathan Eldredge  
*University of New Mexico*  
*Albuquerque*  

**References**

1. BRANDON AN, HILL DR. Selected list of nursing books and journals. *Nurs Outlook* 1994 Mar/Apr;42(2):71-82.