



Index to Chiropractic Literature: The Year in Review

<https://www.chiroindex.org/>

March 2017 to March 2018

Submitted by Phyllis Harvey, ICL Editor, Anne Taylor-Vaisey, ICL Co-Editor and Web Editor

Overview

The Index to Chiropractic Literature (ICL) and its accompanying ChiroSH (Chiropractic Subject Headings) are produced by the Chiropractic Library Collaboration (CLC), a working group of the Association of Chiropractic Colleges. ICL is a very complex site. It includes a bibliographic database with interactive features, an accompanying user interface (My ICL), a Web site with links to a wealth of health resources, a contact form (*Ask Us*) with an e-mail address that we monitor constantly, and active social media sites (LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter). The Twitter feed is updated frequently and feeds into ICL's home page.

Part of our job as Editors is constant communication with our Internet provider, and we are very fortunate to have had BoomerCo Inc. host and manage our site since 2005. The timeline section of this report documents the frequent interruptions or glitches we experienced over the past year, as well as BoomerCo's quick responses to our pleas for help from Steve Holmes (CEO) and Trevor Bertucci (programmer). Our annual hosting fee includes standard maintenance, but we require additional funds for extensive problems or new features. ICL programming is funded by annual contributions from CLC member libraries. Since 2016 we have purchased blocks of 28 hours of prepaid programming, which free the Editors to request assistance from BoomerCo when necessary. The Editors consult with the Index Committee when new features are under consideration. (See Appendix 2 for a breakdown of programming hours used in 2017. We acknowledge BoomerCo's generosity in waiving many charges.)

We are fortunate to have an active editorial team. The Editor (Phyllis Harvey, Palmer, retired) and Co-Editor and Web Editor (Anne Taylor-Vaisey, CMCC/UOIT) oversee the work of the indexers and interact with BoomerCo. Anne edits all the submitted indexing, updates the Web pages, responds to user inquiries (chiroindex@gmail.com) and posts frequently to LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter. Katie Lockwood (University of Western States) is an Assistant Editor and is part of our frequent consultations with BoomerCo and the Index Committee. Katie helped Anne update many of ICL's pages in 2018, and she is leading the long overdue update of ChiroSH, last updated in 2009. Chris Sheldon (New York Chiropractic College) will assist Katie with ChiroSH. Currently we are investigating putting ChiroSH online as an interactive glossary, a "mini MeSH", possibly using a WordPress plugin called MyInstantGlossary. Monica Howell (Northwestern) is an Assistant Editor charged with maintaining the *Journal Directory*. She updated all the journal entries in February and March of this year. Victoria (Toni) Lyons (Logan) is our new CLC Blogger, and she is going to revitalize the CLC blog (<https://clibcon.wordpress.com/>), where we store our archival materials in a password protected section. The names of all of ICL's contributors, as well as the Chiropractic Library Collaboration Officers, are listed in this report and on the *ICL Contributors* page (<https://www.chiroindex.org/about/contributors/>).

The Editors work closely with the Index Committee, comprised of the Chair, Annette Osenga (Lifewest), Janet Tapper (Western States), Chair of CLC and a member of the Index Committee, and Margaret Butkovic (CMCC). We thank them all for their support throughout the year.

The bibliographic database would not exist without the work of our dedicated group of indexers, from the United States, Canada, and England. They index their assigned journals in a timely fashion and respond very positively to feedback from the Editors. We have lost two indexers, Ari Kleinman (Life West) and Helen Bennet (New Zealand) and we thank them for their contributions to ICL and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Our various statistics packages allow us to monitor the use of ICL's pages (but not the database records). This past year SiteMeter was discontinued, and we will miss the interesting usage maps and details about hits to individual records. But we still have statistics through WordPress and AWStats. In May, BoomerCo completed a security encryption project, converting ICL from http to https and thus making our site very secure. During this time we did lose access to some of our AWStats statistics. In addition, we received a large number of hits from countries like Russia and the Ukraine, but due to our encryption we were not hacked as we have been in past years. A PowerPoint presentation containing screenshots of usage statistics from AWStats, WordPress, and our social media sites accompanies this report (<https://www.chiroindex.org/about/icl-documentation/>).

Besides the home page, the most accessed section of ICL is the *Journal Directory* and its individual journal descriptions (<https://www.chiroindex.org/journals/>). The next most accessed are the *Open Access Library* pages, particularly *Free Electronic Books* (<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/electronic-books/>) and *Free Research Articles* (<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/free-articles/>). All of the pages on the ICL site have been updated recently; see Appendix 1 for details on these updates.

Over the past year we lost *Topics in Integrative Health Care*, which ceased publication with volume 7 (2016). The McCoy journals have recently moved to a new server, which means all our links to those articles will soon be dead. As of 2018, the *Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association (JCCA)* published three times a year rather than four.

Despite the losses mentioned above, we had a very successful year, and we look forward to working with our team and BoomerCo in 2018-2019.

The Numbers [as of March 4, 2018]

Records: 25, 125

Journals indexed: 16

Indexers: 11 (from 3 countries)

Subscribers to My ICL: 1,494

LinkedIn group: 3,517 members

Facebook: 1,207 followers

Twitter: 564 followers

Indexers & Other Contributors to ICL

Bennet, Helen (New Zealand): Indexer [retiring in 2018]

Briand, Simone (Cleveland): Indexer

Butkovic, Margaret (CMCC): Index Committee member

Harvey, Phyllis (Palmer, retired): ICL Editor, Index Committee member

Heath, Tish (AECC): Indexer

Howell, Monica (Northwestern): ICL Assistant Editor (Journal Directory)

Iwami, Russ (NUHS): Indexer

Kleinman, Ari (Life West): Indexer [left position in 2017]

Lockwood, Katie (UWS): Indexer; ICL Assistant Editor, Index Committee member, Subject Headings Committee Chair

Lyons, Victoria (Toni) (Logan): CLC Blogger

Osenga, Annette (Life West): CLC Vice Chair, Indexer, Index Committee Chair

Shadrix, Pam (Life): Indexer

Sheldon, Chris (NYCC): Subject Headings Committee member

Tapper, Janet (UWS): CLC Chair, Index Committee member

Taylor-Vaisey, Anne (CMCC/UOIT): ICL Co-Editor, Web Editor, Indexer, Social Media Developer, Index Committee member

Vossberg, Susan (NW Health): Indexer

Walters, Sheryl (Logan): Indexer

Journals Currently Indexed ~ 16

Annals of Vertebral Subluxation Research (SW)

Chiropractic Dialogues (SW)

Chiropractic History (SB)

Chiropractic & Manual Therapies (SV)

Chiropractic Journal of Australia (TH) [ceased 2013; resumed 2016]

DC Tracts (TBA)

Journal of the Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedists (JACO)(KL)

JCCA: Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association (AT-V)

Journal of Chiropractic Education (SB)

Journal of Chiropractic Humanities (RI)

Journal of Chiropractic Medicine (PS)

Journal of Clinical Chiropractic Pediatrics (AO)

Journal of Manipulative & Physiological Therapeutics (RI & KL)

Journal of Pediatric, Maternal & Family Health – Chiropractic (PS)

Journal of Upper Cervical Chiropractic Research (SW)

Nutritional Perspectives (SV)

Topics in Integrative Health Care (SW) [ceased publication]

Timeline, March 2017 – March 2018

March 2017

- The Editors worked hard to update the ICL pages and blog, and to prepare the ICL Annual Report for 2016-2017 to be presented at the annual meeting at ACC-RAC.
- We identified irregularities in the citation download feature, specifically the author display. BoomerCo addressed the problem and fixed it immediately.
- Life West experienced problems accessing ICL. BoomerCo asked Life West to have their IT department work with them to clear any blocked addresses. Our programmers respond immediately to such stoppages and ask us to send messages to trevor@boomer.co and include IP addresses.
- Library of Congress was notified of the latest link to ChiroSH, to be displayed on this page: <http://www.loc.gov/standards/sourcelist/subject.html>.
- Annette Osenga prepared a draft *Invitation to Participate* letter to be sent to library Directors to remind them of available CLC resources.
- A 30 hour \$2400 prepaid programming package was approved by the Executive Committee and the library Directors, for ICL updates in 2017-2018. The immediate task for BoomerCo was a critical update to the site's entire SSL certification (http to https).

April 2017

- Through chiroindex@gmail.org and queries to member librarians, the Editors occasionally receive requests from various interests for ICL to link to their sites in our *Selected Health Topics* section. Currently we include the statement *Web links are made at the discretion of the ICL Editors*. After receiving a user request, we

acknowledged the need for a policy for such linking, rather than making subjective decisions or *reacting to moving stories*, as one librarian described it.

- BoomerCo inquired about an invoice that had not yet been paid. Having our account out of our immediate jurisdiction continues to be a problem.

May 2017

- The SSL encryption project was completed, and BoomerCo wrote (22/05/2017): *The site is completely SSL secured, all pages and sections, all features are now encrypted!*
- In subject subheadings, the ICL subject index was not consistent in its use of *and* or *&*, and we corrected this by following PubMed's use of *and*. The Editors replaced *&* with *and* in the following subheadings: *anatomy & histology; anatomy & physiology; legislation & jurisprudence; organization & administration; prevention & control; statistics & numerical data; supply & distribution.*

June 2017

- The Editors wrote to the ICL Executive and Index Committee members re Open URL (2/06/2017) ... *about OpenURL/link resolvers, which has been a feature that has been mentioned in recent years as a desirable addition to ICL. Please offer your feedback about whether this is something we should pursue for ICL.* There was no feedback and this year we will not include this in our *Recommendations for the Future* section.
- The Editors identified a problem with SiteMeter and asked BoomerCo to investigate. The problem concerned https tracking but was no longer relevant because SiteMeter announced its impending closing on July 1, 2017.
- The Editors tried to remove the now useless SiteMeter code from the ChiroSearch page, causing the search function to disappear. BoomerCo discovered that the code provided by Google has changed, so they updated this code and the ChiroSearch function was restored.
- The Editors asked BoomerCo whether the notation *#results* could be removed from the ICL site when users enter the site (<https://www.chiroindex.org/#results>). BoomerCo wrote (26/06/2017): *#results is an anchor – basically, what happens behind the scenes, say you've made a few searches, when you come back to the site, there is a history of those searches ... I can try to investigate if there is an option to not have it display in the address bar, but I'm not sure technologically that'd be possible.* We decided not to spend the money to eliminate the *#results* notation.

July 2017

- The Editors asked BoomerCo to remove the Sitemeter icon from the mobile site. We are not able to make edits on the mobile site, but need BoomerCo to do this.

August 2017

- A question arose as to whether ICL could be added as a link in EBSCO's Discovery Service. Due to this interest, an EBSCO representative submitted a targeting request for the ICL on their Discovery Service, scored it high and wanted to get it quickly pushed through. Both the Editors and some members of the ICL Executive expressed reservations about having ICL's records included. The ICL Chair wrote (8/08/2017): *But prior to approval, EBSCO has to provide lots more information about how their system will interact with our data and bib[liographic] information. The chiropractic librarians have worked too long and too hard to have our data be corrupted or subsumed by this major corporation.* There was no further discussion and the issue appeared to die at this time.

- The Editors asked the editor of *JCCA* to have article titles translated into French, so that these can be included in ICL records along with the French abstracts. Dr. Stuber now regularly sends us translated titles.

September 2017

- The issue of retroactive indexing of ICL journals arose. One Editor wrote (9/09/2017): *I feel that indexing time might be better spent indexing older issues of peer reviewed journals such as JMPT or JCCA. Users would have difficulty finding full text for older issues of JACA and similar publications, but will be able to immediately read full text of the JCCA articles, and be able to locate older articles from JMPT through chiropractic libraries ... I would love to see our indexers continue this work and take on retroactive indexing of peer reviewed journals such as JMPT, JCCA, the European Journal of Chiropractic, and others.*
We need to establish a policy about retroactive indexing and set up a schedule to tackle the backlog.
- Our annual Web hosting invoice from BoomerCo was received and sent to the Association of Chiropractic Colleges for payment from the CLC account.

October 2017

- Life West indexer Ari Kleinman announced that she is leaving for a new position. We sent a request for a new indexer and Susan Vossberg (Northwestern) agreed to index *Nutritional Perspectives*.

November 2017

- The Editors identified problems with downloading large numbers of ICL records to EndNote and requested help from BoomerCo. ICL programming limits downloading to 1000 records, which is the maximum amount desirable.
- There was a discussion about “chiropractic science” on the *Evidence Based Chiropractors* Facebook group, and ICL was mentioned:
 - *I want the ICL to thrive but feel so long as it is indexing junk science journals alongside high quality ones, the waters are muddied. We [need] scientific standard[s] to rule them all.*
 - *Similarly, we should petition the ICL to drop them [journal publisher name omitted here] from their index...no need to give the fake journal any sign of legitimacy, such as being indexed.*
 One of the Editors wrote to one of the commenters (known to her) and said she would write to the Index Committee about this issue. We received some very thoughtful feedback and have decided (for now) to continue indexing all peer-reviewed chiropractic publications, as per our original policy for inclusion, at least until this policy is revised. We do not critically appraise the journals we index, but provide indexing as a service to the profession as a whole. It is up to the user to determine the quality of the journals and/or articles indexed. This conversation makes it clear that the Editors and Index Committee members need to revise the inclusion policy and include this in our priorities for 2018-2019.
- The Editors reported to BoomerCo that authors are not being imported in the Excel download file. BoomerCo corrected this problem immediately.
- The Editors proposed that we add a new author affiliation field to ICL's bibliographic records, similar to the author information fields included in PubMed and the EBSCO databases. They sent screenshots of how this might look to BoomerCo and requested an estimate for programming. Steve Holmes wrote (12/11/2017): *I've researched this request with Trevor and our programmers, and we can definitely accomplish what you've requested, but it requires a fair amount of complex programming. We estimate 35 hours of labor.*

December 2017

- ICL went down briefly and Steve Holmes wrote (4/12/2017): *Thanks for notifying us. There is a server issue this morning that we are actively looking into right now, and hope to have it resolved quickly. We have also acquired new faster servers in a new data center, and hope to have everyone migrated to that this week in order to*

eliminate these recent issues.

January 2018

- Further to the proposed author affiliation field, an Editor began to add affiliations to all new indexing. Once the new index is built, this task will be less labour intensive and will provide users with richer data about researchers. (Example: https://www.chiroindex.org/?search_page=articles&action&articleId=25100)
The Editors have received positive feedback on the proposal from ICL's Index Committee, as well as from Dr. Kent Stuber, editor of JCCA: *I believe that your idea of listing author affiliations will be quite beneficial for the JCCA. As an Editor I manually track where submissions to the Journal come from. Your proposal would certainly make my life easier. I have been asked by institutions to report on the number of their researchers publishing in the Journal and the number of publications, etc. Given your proposal, they can either track this information themselves or I can do it much more easily myself.*
The Editors have requested that this proposal be considered for funding at our annual meeting at ACC-RAC on March 8.

February 2018

- The Editors started to prepare the ICL annual report and discovered that it will be more difficult to report statistics this year. Because of the SSL security update completed last year, the statistics are divided into pre and post security update. In addition, some critical information previously included in AWStats has been removed from the reporting tool.
- In response to a question from Annette Osenga about advertising on the CLC blog, the Editors purchased an upgrade from WordPress that blocks advertising. This prompted the Editors to review the blog and explore ways to make it more relevant for CLC. Victoria Lyons (Logan) volunteered to assume the management of the blog and is now listed as CLC Blogger on our *Contributors* page.
- The Editors and Co-Editors worked on updating all the Web pages on the ICL site. All links and content are reviewed annually at a minimum; heavily accessed pages are updated as required. (See Appendix 1.)
- The Editors revisited the issue of ICL being included in EBSCO's Discovery Service (see August 2017). Phyllis contacted Kathleen Smith (SCUHS) and will follow up with EBSCO to try to discover just how Discovery interacts with the databases to which it links. All responses will be forwarded to the Index Committee for discussion.
- Monica Howell (Co-Editor, Journal Directory) updated all the entries on the *Journal Directory* pages. After completing some of the updates, she identified a problem with the updates not being saved. Our programmer wrote (16/02/2018): *The issue was in the amount of data being stored in a single table in the database. As the Journals and other content grows in size, it starts to reach the upper limits of some of the original programming... It's been expanded to the point where you'll likely never have to worry about it again!*
- Monica reported seeing a message on all the McCoy journal sites: *Reminder: This site will soon be unavailable.* It is unclear how this will affect our current links to McCoy records and our future indexing of these journals.

March 2018

- The McCoy journals migrated to their new locations and Monica updated the entries in our *Journal Directory*.
- BoomerCo provided programming estimates for a number of improvements, including bolding of searched words in search results and creating an online version of ChiroSH.

Recommendations for the Future

Programming bundle of hours: BoomerCo has written, these hours never expire, they always get priority project assignment, and are locked in at today's prices regardless of whether our future hourly rates rise higher. In 2017 we

purchased 28 hours; as of March 2018 we have 9.25 hours remaining. BoomerCo has sent us an invoice for a 30 hour retainer for \$2,400, for 2018-2019.

Proposed new feature in ICL's database: The Editors have proposed that we create an author affiliation field and index in ICL. BoomerCo estimates 35 programming hours for this feature. Alternatively, we will investigate ways to integrate author affiliations into the existing subject index.

ChiroSH: Our thesaurus has not been updated since 2009. BoomerCo has provided a programming estimate for creating an online, interactive version of ChiroSH, using a WordPress plugin (My InstantGlossary). This could be an exciting direction for ChiroSH and we recommend that the Subject Heading and Index Committees explore this opportunity.

Retroactive indexing: ICL would be enhanced as a research resource if indexing were to be completed for older issues of peer reviewed journals such as *JCCA* and *JMPT*. We propose that we set up a schedule for indexing past issues, and recruit a manager for this project.

Journal inclusion policy: This has not been updated since 2006, and is badly in need of revision. The Editors have done some work on this; we recommend that the Index Committee update the policy in 2018.

Communication: Ever since we lost our listserv of many years (chirolib-l through Palmer), communication among the chiropractic librarians has diminished. We propose that we encourage use of the ChiroLC (our Google Group) and explore ways that the CLC blog can contribute to communication among our members.

Appendix 1: Latest Updates of Index to Chiropractic Literature Web Pages

About Us

About Us Feb. 11, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/about/>

ICL Contributors Feb. 11, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/about/contributors/>

CLC Member Libraries Dec. 20, 2017

<https://www.chiroindex.org/about/participating-libraries/>

ICL Documentation Feb. 11, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/about/icl-documentation/>

Journal Directory

Journal Directory March 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/journals/>

Browse Recent Issues Feb. 11, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/journals/recent-issues/>

Free Journal Repositories Feb. 11, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/journals/repositories/>

Journal Impact Factor Feb. 11, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/journals/journal-impact-factor/>

Open Access Library

Free Research Articles Feb. 22, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/free-articles/>

Free Electronic Books Feb. 14, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/electronic-books/>

Free Peer Reviewed Journals Feb. 14, 2018

<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/peer-reviewed-journals/>

Free Magazines & Newspapers Feb. 15, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/magazines-newspapers/>
 Patient Education Handouts Feb. 14, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/patient-handouts/>
 Continuing Health Education Feb. 15, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/free-articles/continuing-health-education/>
 Interprofessional Collaboration/Care/Education Feb. 15, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/free-articles/interprofessional-collaborationcareeducation/>
 Sports Chiropractic Feb. 15, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/open-access-library/free-articles/sports-chiropractic/>

More Resources

Getting Published Feb. 15, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/get-published/>
 Evidence-Based Health Care Feb. 14, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/evidence-based-health-care/>
 Systematic Review Resources Feb. 14, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/systematic-review-resources/>
 OPTIMa Reviews & Guidelines Feb. 27, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/optima/>
 Indexes, Databases & Search Engines Feb. 6, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/article-databases/>
 Chiropractic Organizations Feb. 11, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/organizations/>
 Practice Guidelines Feb. 14, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/practice-guidelines/>
 More Chiropractic / Medical Web Sites Feb. 20, 2018
<https://www.chiroindex.org/web-resources/more-health-sites/>

Appendix 2: Prepaid Programming Hours, BoomerCo Inc, 2017

Date	Description	Payment	Bought	Worked	Waived	Charged	Balance
	Approved 28-Hour Prepaid Retainer	\$2,500.00	28.00				28.00
05/01 to 05/31/2017	Security Encryption Project			10.00		10.00	18.00
06/01 to 06/30/2017	Assist With SiteMeter and Google Search Integration			2.25		2.25	15.75
11/01 to 11/30/2017	Fix Authors Column in Excel Download			0.50		0.50	15.25
11/24 to 12/11/2017	Research How to Add Author Affiliations Feature			2.00		2.00	13.25
02/07 to 02/16/2018	Assist With Google Analytics and AWStats Reporting			1.25		1.25	12.00
02/13 to 02/16/2018	Research How to Bold Keywords in Search Results			0.75		0.75	11.25
02/13 to 02/16/2018	Research How to Mask/Hide Inactive Journals			1.25		1.25	10.00
2/16/18	Fix Issue with Updating Journals			0.75		0.75	9.25