Diagnosing and Treating Medicus Incomphensibilis: Case Studies in Revising Medical Writing

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Book Info

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Diagnosing and Treating Medicus Incomprehensibilis

Case Studies in Revising Medical Writing

Oscar Linares, David T. Daly, AND Gertrude A. Daly

OXFORD

Short Book Description

Diagnosing and Treating Medicus Incomphensibilis is a book of 12 case studies on revising medical writing into plain English. It is based on the writing tips from Plain English for Doctors. Each case study guides the reader through the process of analyzing and revising a medical journal excerpt.

Long Book Description

Diagnosing and Treating Medicus Incomphensibilis is a book of case studies on revising medical writing into plain English. It is a companion to Plain English for Doctors and Other Medical Scientists (Oxford University Press, 2017). It gives more practice to help the reader master skills in plain English medical writing.

The 12 case studies are based on excerpts from articles published in leading medical journals. The excerpts cover a wide range of medical topics. Each case study looks at one excerpt, between 56 and 308 words long, that shows many classic symptoms of medicus incomprehensibilis – those overused writing habits that make medical writing hard to read. The case study asks questions, and gives short exercises, to guide the reader through the process of diagnosing the symptoms of medicus incomprehensibilis. The reader writes their prescription and revises to treat the symptoms. After each case study, the authors give their answers, prescription and revision.

This book is intended for doctors and other medical scientists who write for medical journals, and anyone who aspires to do so. It is intended for writers at all levels, from veteran authors to students. It includes writers in related fields such as public health, pharmacology, nursing and life sciences. It is designed for self-study, seminar or classroom use.

Author Bios

Oscar Linares MD

Oscar Linares, MD is a Cuban-born internist and geriatrician (Ret. 2016). He completed fellowship training at the University of Michigan Geriatrics Center. He studied mathematical modeling under Dr. Loren Zech, a senior scientist at the National Institutes of Health. He is an experienced medical researcher and author of over 40 peer-reviewed scientific articles.

David Daly

David Daly is a lawyer experienced in drafting and negotiating international automotive contracts in plain English. He has won three awards from the State Bar of Michigan for clear legal writing. He has worked with Dr. Linares to write medical articles, medical opinions and legal briefs in medical cases in plain English.

Gertrude Daly

Gertrude Daly is a technical writer and editor with experience writing for an international audience.

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