

Contents

ix

PART ONE - GETTING STARTED

CHAPTER ONE

Getting started

Starting at the beginning	2
What do I need to get started?	3

CHAPTER TWO

Choosing a computer system

The system unit	4
Removable disks	8
The keyboard and mouse	8
Display monitor	9
Printing	10
Software	11
PC versus Macintosh	12
Notebook versus desktop	13
*Not included	14

CHAPTER THREE

Choosing a modem

Hayes compatibility	15
Inside or outside?	15
The need for speed	15
Handshaking	17
What are compression protocols for?	17
What does error correction do?	17
Communications software	18
S-Registers	18
Fax capability	19

CHAPTER FOUR

Choosing communications software

Terminal emulation	20
Client software	21
File-transfer protocols	22
Scripting	23
Macros	24
Phonebooks	24
Scroll-back buffer	24
Keyboard buffer	25
Capture log	25

PART TWO - GOING ONLINE

CHAPTER FIVE
Going online

Bulletin board services	28
Commercial online services	28
Where to start?	30
Getting help	30

CHAPTER SIX
Using a bulletin-board service

Public messages	32
Private messages	33
Download areas	34
Understanding file suffixes	35
ASCII vs binary files	36
File transfer protocols	38
Computer viruses	38
Upload areas	38
Chat	39
Bulletin-board networks	39

CHAPTER SEVEN
Making contact

Configuring your software	41
Configuring your modem	44
Making contact	45
More communications jargon	47

CHAPTER EIGHT
Online ethics

General ethics	49
Medical ethics	50
Flaming doctors	52
Copyright and citation of online sources	52
Bibliography	59

CHAPTER NINE
Selected online services

Andy's Clinic BBS	60
DataStar and DIALOG	62
Medicine on CIX	63
Medicine on CompuServe	63
NHS Viewdata Information Services	68
UK Healthlink	69

PART THREE - INTERNET INTRODUCED

CHAPTER TEN

Internet introduced

A network of networks	72
The Internet versus the online service	73

CHAPTER ELEVEN

What is the Internet?

How does the Internet work?	75
Internet Services overview	77
Finding your way about	79
How do I locate usable material?	81
Learning more	82

CHAPTER TWELVE

What use is the Internet in medicine?

A tool for the individual	85
A tool for health-care organizations	88
Electronic journals	90
Learning medicine on the Internet	92
A tool for research	94
A means of delivering health care	94

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

How do I get on the Internet?

What are my options?	98
Online service Internet gateways	99
JANET	100
Dial-up modem access (SLIP and PPP)	101

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

Selected Internet providers

Choosing an Internet provider	105
BBC Networking Club	106
CityScape Internet Services	107
Compulink Information eXchange (CIX)	107
CompuServe Information Service (CIS)	109
Delphi Internet	100
Demon Internet	111

PART FOUR - UTILIZING THE INTERNET

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

Utilizing the Internet

Electronic messages	114
File transfer	117

Using other computers	118
Information retrieval tools	119
Becoming an information provider	120

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

Electronic mail

The structure of e-mail messages	121
Using an e-mail client	123
Contacting users on other networks	124
Finding someone's e-mail address	125
Binary files by e-mail	126
Other ways to use e-mail	127

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

Mailing lists

What is a mailing list?	128
Using mail servers	129
Medical mailing lists	132

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

Usenet news

How is Usenet organized?	135
Using a news reader	136
Medical Usenet news	136
Health-related FAQs and periodicals	138
Other ways to read the news	139

CHAPTER NINETEEN

File Transfer Protocol

Anonymous FTP	141
Using an FTP client	141
Mirror sites and medical software	142
FTP by e-mail	143
Other ways to use FTP	144

CHAPTER TWENTY

Telnet

What is Telnet?	148
Using a Telnet client	148
Medical Telnet sites	149
Other ways to use Telnet	150

CHAPTER TWENTY ONE

Archie

What is Archie?	151
Using an Archie client	151
Using an Archie mail server	152
Other ways to use Archie	153

CHAPTER TWENTY TWO

Gopher

What is Gopher?	154
Using a Gopher client	154
What is Veronica?	156
Gopher Jewels	157
Medical Gophers	157
Gopher and Veronica by e-mail	158
Other ways to use Gopher	158

CHAPTER TWENTY THREE

Wide Area Information Servers

What is WAIS?	159
Using a WAIS client	159
Medical WAIS databases	161
Other ways to use WAIS	161

CHAPTER TWENTY FOUR

The World-Wide Web

What is the WWW?	163
Using a WWW client	164
Medical WWW sites	167
Medical education on the Web	170
Writing your own home page	174
WWW-based Internet catalogues	176
WWW-based Internet search engines	177
The WWW by e-mail	178
Other ways to use the WWW	178

PART FIVE - MEDLINE BY MODEM

CHAPTER TWENTY FIVE

MEDLINE by modem

British Medical Association MEDLINE service	182
US National Library of Medicine services	184
PaperChase	185
SilverPlatter Information MEDLINE	186

The last page

Medicine and the Internet on the World-Wide Web

Glossary

Index

Quick Reference Card