

Pregnancy tops list of most google-searched symptoms

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Donna Marbury notes that, according to one study, 59 percent of adults search for [health information](#) online, and about one-third (35 percent) have tried to diagnose a medical condition based on information from the Internet. According to the results of a 2011 Wolters Kluwer survey, 53 percent of physicians felt that patients knowing more about symptoms from the Internet was positive, while 20 percent reported that increased access to information led to misinformation and incorrect self-diagnosis.

The most Google-searched symptoms of 2013 included symptoms of pregnancy, influenza, diabetes, anxiety, thyroid, HIV, mononucleosis, lupus, herpes, and pneumonia. Heart attack, which was in the top 10 in 2012, and cancer, two of the leading causes of death, were not in the top 10 most searched symptoms.

"Some doctors even admit to turning to the web when diagnosing a particularly challenging case," Marbury writes. "Up to 63 percent of physicians reported that online resources change their initial decisions about patient care."

More information: [More Information](#)

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