



NANOS 2009 Annual Meeting Current Awareness Tools

RSS Feeds



What is an RSS Feed?

An RSS Feed (Really Simple Syndication or Rich Site Summary) is a format for delivering regularly changing Web content. This is especially helpful for news-related sites that update frequently. It allows the user to stay informed by retrieving the latest content from sites of interest (e.g. CNN, The Weather Channel, PubMed). An RSS Reader is required (e.g. Google Reader).

RSS Feeds function as a “current awareness service.” For example, you can set up an RSS Feed to receive the table of contents from the *Journal of Pediatrics* at the time of publication; or you can receive regular updates for PubMed searches.

RSS Readers include:

- Google Reader (will be demonstrated in class)
 - Login to your **Google Groups** account
 - Click **My Account** in the upper right hand corner
 - Click on **Reader** from the list
- My Yahoo
- Firefox
- Bloglines



Creating an RSS Feed for a PubMed Search

- Perform a PubMed search on a topic of interest
- Use the **Send To** pull down menu and choose **RSS Feed**
- Accept the default name or rename the feed
- Click the **Create Feed** button
- Click the **XML icon** to the right of the feed name
- In the new window, copy the URL
- Paste the URL into your RSS reader (in Google Reader its **Add subscription**)
- PubMed RSS feeds not accessed for 6 months will be automatically deleted.
- **Note:** the process for creating feeds varies for readers, as well as for browsers. So it can be tricky.
- Try it!

Creating and RSS Feed for a Journal Table of Contents (TOC)

- **Note:** not every journal allows for an RSS feed
- Go to **Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology** (or title of your choice)
- Look for the RSS icon and click on it
- Add and manage subscriptions within the reader
- Try it!

How this looks: Adding an RSS Feed for Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology

1. Search for the Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology through your library, or Google
2. Click on the link to the publisher's home page
3. Locate the **RSS feed button** and click on it.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology. At the top, it features the publisher logos for Wolters Kluwer Health, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, and the journal title. A navigation bar includes links for Home, Search, Current Issue, and Archive. A 'Quick Search' box is on the left. The main content area has a paragraph about the journal's focus, followed by a section for 'Journal subscribers' and 'Guests'. On the right, there is a small image of the journal cover, ISSN information (ISSN: 1070-8022, Online ISSN: 1536-5166, Frequency: 4 issues per year), and the Editor's name and affiliation (Jonathan D. Trobe, MD, University of Michigan). A red arrow points to the 'Subscribe to our Feed' link in the 'SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES' section.

4. Click on the "Current Table of Contents" RSS link.

The screenshot shows an RSS feed page with the title 'RSS (Really Simple Syndication)'. On the left, there is a list of links: 'What is RSS?', 'Why should I use RSS?', 'How do I subscribe to RSS feeds?', 'Which aggregator/news reader should I pick?', and 'How can I use my web browser as a news reader?'. On the right, a box titled 'Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology provides the following feed(s):' contains a link for 'Current Table of Contents'. A red arrow points to this link.

5. Select the reader you prefer (Google or other).

The screenshot shows the 'Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology - Current Table Of Contents' page, syndicated content powered by FeedBurner. It includes a 'Subscribe Now!' section with options for web-based news readers. Under 'Subscribe in Rojo', there are buttons for MY YAHOO!, NewsGator, MY AOL, Google, and Pageflakes. A red arrow points to the 'Google' button. Below this, there is a dropdown menu for 'Choose Your Reader' and a 'View Feed XML' link.

6. Click Add to Google or Add to Google Reader.

Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology - Current Table Of Contents

Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology - September 2008, Volume 28, Issue 3
<http://feeds.feedburner.com/wolterskluwer/jneuroophth/toccurrentrss>

Google offers two different ways to keep up-to-date with your favorite sites:

Your Google homepage brings together Google functionality and content from across the web, on a single page.

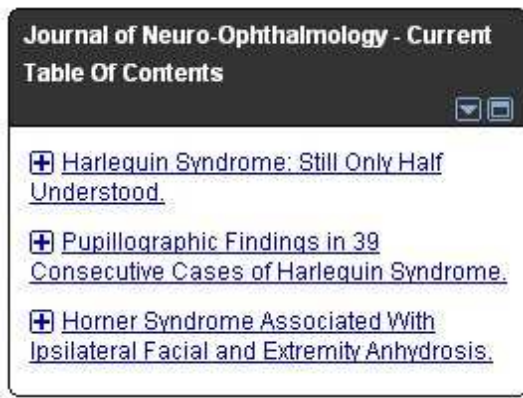
Google Reader makes it easy to keep up with the latest content from a large number of sites, all on a single reading list.

Add to Google homepage

or

Add to Google Reader

RSS Feed in Google Homepage



RSS Feed in Google Reader

