New York, NY (September 17, 2008)- Librarians often find themselves filling a unique role: that of health information intermediary for the general public. People often visit or call a library soon after they see their doctor - whether it be for a lay translation of the physician's diagnosis, a description of a medical test, or for answers to any post-appointment questions. *Answers to the Health Questions People Ask in Libraries*, to be published by Neal-Schuman Publishers in October 2008, is an easy-to-follow Medical Library Association Guide that will equip librarians with the necessary information to answer health-related questions with confidence.

*Answers to the Health Questions People Ask in Libraries* provides a clear, easy-to-understand explanation to some of today's most frequently asked about medical conditions, including tips, charts, recommended treatment options, and other necessary information to address an array of specific concerns. Each section includes important background information that assists readers in determining the proper steps to take regarding health care inquiries. Readers can also use the handy “ask the experts” information section to find additional, authoritative information and answers to specific questions they may have.

Chapters cover a range of major health concerns like high blood pressure, heart disease and cancer. Other chapters answer commonly asked questions about family health, nutrition and fitness, and traditional and alternative medicines. The breadth of information presented in this book and the fact that the coverage was shaped by input from librarians in diverse settings makes it appealing to many audiences, including librarians, health agencies, and the general public.

Two additional features designed for daily use are a “Glossary of Experts” and an annotated section called “Resources: Where to Go When You Want to Know About Health Care.” The “Glossary of Experts” provides definitions of the various types of health care providers mentioned in the book, as well as Web addresses for online directories to help readers locate doctors or other health care providers in their areas. The Resources section is a valuable guide in itself, because it points readers in the right direction when seeking answers to health related questions not found in the text.

When it comes to consumer-friendly, reliable health information and answers, this new reference work is…that’s right…just what the doctor and the librarian ordered.