

Recommendations

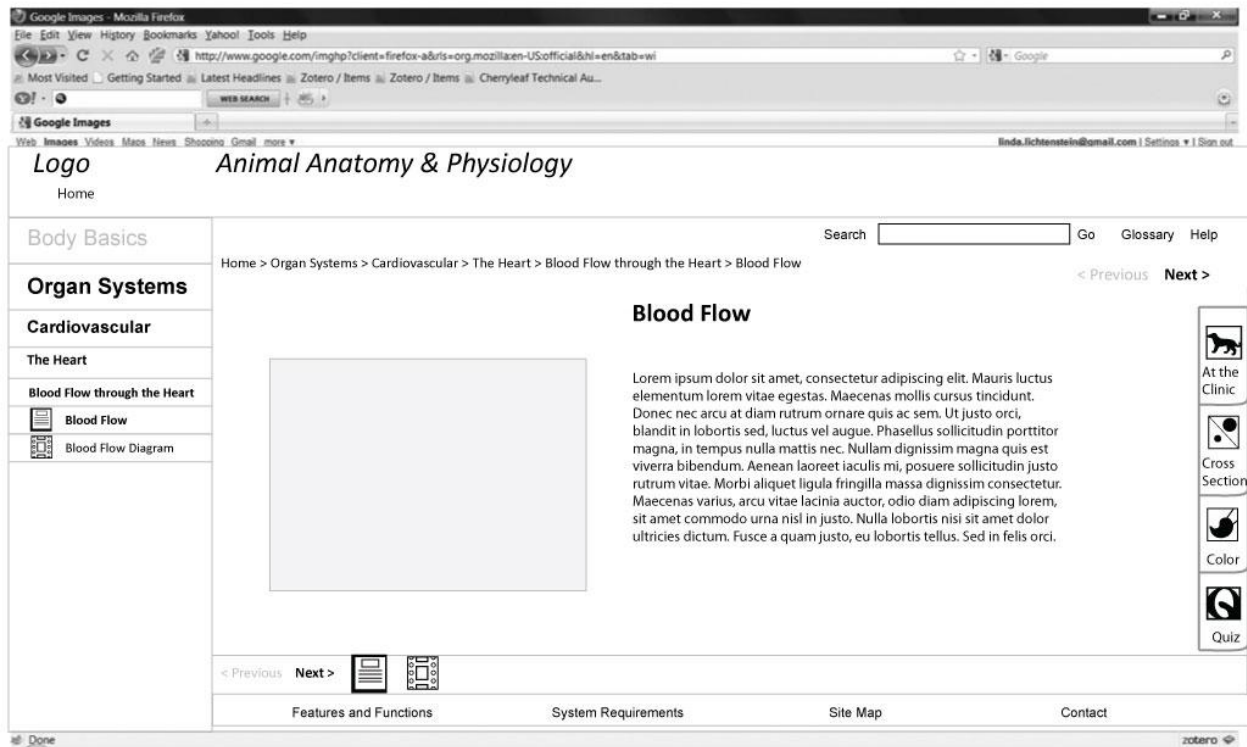
Interview Participants had no problems completing tasks which entailed use of the left side bar. They found the navigation, terms, icons and organization easy to use. Therefore, I recommend that the left sidebar be maintained as designed.

Participants did; however, have difficulty for the first task that required use of the tabs. They paused and looked around the page in search of the functionality. The participants looked down at the tab area only after they determined that the page they were looking for could not be accessed from the left sidebar navigation, or the top horizontal bar. Participant 2 showed some frustration and wrote in the post-evaluation, “The icons at the bottom don’t really stand out.” According to Jakob Nielsen’s eye tracking study, *F-Shaped Pattern For Reading Web Content*, users eyes track roughly in an F pattern when scanning a web page. From my observations of the participants, I found this to be true, they mainly looked across the top of the page and down the left sidebar. Hence, the tabs on my website are located in a ‘dead’ area. My recommendation is move the tabs to different areas of the page and retest each design to determine the best layout. If the tabs were to remain in their current place, I would be concerned that users will not make use of the information in the tabs since they would not be given the task of finding information there as the study participants were. Although the **Features and Functions** link will have training on the use of the tabs, and text on the homepage will highlight the features, it is best if users can find the information intuitively instead. One consideration would be to move the tabs to the right sidebar; in effect, it would mimic notebook tabs as in real life.

The Graphic Designer liked the grid layout. Concerning the icons, the **Color**, **At the Clinic** and **Quiz** icons are good. The discussion icon is “too cryptic”, meaning it looks too much like text and the diagram icon looks like dominos. The **Cross Section** did not read as optimally as it could. This icon was redesigned per the suggestion to have a one-to-one correspondence between the circles for session 2. The diagram icon was also redesigned for session 2 to make it look more like a filmstrip.

The discussion and diagram icons along the bottom were perceived by the Graphic Designer as too much information, and the correspondence between icon and topic is not clear. This design feature requires further analysis as none of the study questions addressed this issue specifically.

A sample of the proposed changes follows:



Proposed location for special function tabs and redesigned icons