

Proposal: Add Article Gallery Template

Change ID: `add-article-gallery-template`

Status: Draft

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Problem Statement

The Renalinfoolk theme currently lacks a dedicated template for displaying educational articles in a filterable, searchable gallery format. Healthcare organizations need an organized way to present medical articles with:

- Search functionality to find articles by keyword
- Category filters (Condition, Treatment, Research, For Families)
- Sortable views (Most Recent, Most Popular, Alphabetical)
- Responsive card-based layout with featured images
- Pagination for large article collections

Proposed Solution

Add a new WordPress block theme template `page-article-gallery.html` that provides:

1. Search & Filters Section

- Full-width search input with icon
- Dropdown for sort order selection
- Category filter pills (All, Condition, Treatment, Research, For Families)
- Clear filters button

2. Article Cards Grid

- 3-column responsive grid (1 column mobile, 2 tablet, 3 desktop)
- Each card displays: featured image, title, excerpt, date
- Hover effects with lift animation
- Rounded corners and subtle shadows

3. Pagination

- Centered navigation with Previous/Next buttons
- Page number buttons
- Active state indicator

The template will use existing theme colors, typography, and spacing from `theme.json` to maintain design consistency.

Scope

In Scope:

- Create `templates/page-article-gallery.html` template
- Use existing header/footer template parts
- Implement search, filter, and card components using core blocks
- Apply theme styles via `theme.json` color and spacing tokens
- Add pagination navigation

Out of Scope:

- Header/footer modifications (using existing parts)
- Backend functionality for search/filter logic (client-side only)
- Custom JavaScript for dynamic filtering
- New color palette additions
- Custom post types or taxonomies

Benefits

- **User Experience:** Visitors can easily browse and find relevant medical articles
- **Content Organization:** Clear categorization and filtering improves discoverability
- **Professional Design:** Polished gallery layout matches medical institution standards
- **Maintainability:** Uses WordPress core blocks and `theme.json` styling
- **Accessibility:** Built with semantic HTML and WCAG AA compliance

Risks & Mitigation

Risk: Search/filter UI is non-functional without JavaScript

Mitigation: Template provides visual structure; site can add JavaScript later or use WordPress search

Risk: Large article collections may have performance issues

Mitigation: Pagination limits displayed items; WordPress handles query optimization

Alternatives Considered

1. **Use existing archive template** - Rejected: lacks dedicated search/filter UI
2. **Create custom post type archive** - Rejected: adds complexity, standard posts suffice
3. **Build as reusable pattern** - Considered: template provides better page-level control

Dependencies

- WordPress 6.7+ (Full Site Editing support)
- Existing `theme.json` color palette and spacing scale
- Existing header/footer template parts

Testing Strategy

1. Validate HTML template syntax with WordPress block parser
2. Test in WordPress Site Editor (Appearance > Editor)
3. Verify responsive behavior at mobile, tablet, desktop breakpoints

4. Check color contrast ratios for accessibility (WCAG AA)
5. Ensure no JavaScript errors in browser console

Success Criteria

- ☐ Template loads without errors in Site Editor
- ☐ Layout matches reference design (excluding header/footer)
- ☐ Responsive grid adapts to mobile, tablet, desktop
- ☐ All colors use theme.json CSS custom properties
- ☐ Accessible markup with proper ARIA labels where needed
- ☐ Template can be assigned to pages via Template dropdown