VPAT Accessibility Conformance Report

(Based on ITI VPAT©)

Name of Product	**eBooks+**
Date Last Updated	February 20, 2025
Completed by	Elsevier Digital Accessibility Team
Applicable Standards	This document rates eBooks+ according to the [W3C WCAG 2.1 A and AA](#) requirements.
Contact for More Information	Elsevier Digital Accessibility Team accessibility@elsevier.com
Elsevier ACR Page	https://www.elsevier.com/about/accessibility/acr
Testing Tools and Methods	- Hands-on keyboard operation - DevTools/Code inspection - Mozilla Firefox 115 and Chrome 124 on Windows 11 22H2 - NVDA screen reader 2024.4.2 - WAVE Browser Extension - Color Contrast Analyzer [W3C Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) Pages](#) [Elsevier Accessibility Checklist](#)
Document Sections	This review document includes all WCAG 2.1 A and AA checkpoints, organized into 7 logical sections: - Visuals - Keyboard - Headings and Structure - Labeling - Multimedia - Usability - Mobile User Experience
Pages Covered	Header, Footer, Homepage, Content Library, Redeem Additional Content, Video List, Notes List, Chapter Notes, Video Page, Redirect Page. **Interactive Exercises**: Slideshow, Show-Hide, Quizzes, Assessments, Videos, Slide-line, Test Yourself (hotspot), PopTip..
Related ACRs	**Note:** This ACR covers the eBooks+ web application [ebooks.health.elsevier.com](#) as well as the interactive exercises found within some eBooks. Related applications to eBooks+ have separate user interfaces and ACRs, including: **bookshelf.health.elsevier.com**. (VitalSource, a 3rd Party) **Elsevier ePUB Books** (books and content itself). **NeoID** (common Elsevier registration, login, and account pages on [myaccount.elsevier.com](#).
Terms	**Supports**: The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criteria without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation. **Partially supports**: Some functionality of the product does not meet the criteria. **Does not support**: Majority of functionality of the product does not meet the criteria. **Supports (N/A):** According to W3C on conformance, "If there is no content to which a success criterion applies, the success criterion is satisfied."
Notes/Terminology	"AT" stands for Assistive Technology such as screen readers, voice input, etc. - The UI for the book player is dependent upon VitalSource company https://support.vitalsource.com/hc/en-us/categories/200184597-Accessibility

Conformance Summary

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation
1.1.1: Non-text Content	A	Partially supports
1.2.1: Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	A	Partially supports
1.2.2: Captions (Prerecorded)	A	Supports
1.2.3: Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	A	Does not support
1.2.4: Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.2.5: Audio Description	AA	Does not support
1.3.1: Info and Relationships	A	Partially supports
1.3.2: Meaningful Sequence	A	Supports
1.3.3: Sensory Characteristics	A	Supports
1.3.4: Orientation	AA	Supports
1.3.5: Identify Input Purpose	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.4.1: Use of Color	A	Supports
1.4.2: Audio Control	A	Supports (N/A)
1.4.3: Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Partially supports
1.4.4: Resize text	AA	Supports
1.4.5: Images of Text	AA	Partially supports
1.4.10: Reflow	AA	Supports
1.4.11: Non-Text Contrast	AA	Supports
1.4.12: Text Spacing	AA	Supports
1.4.13: Content on Hover or Focus	AA	Supports
2.1.1: Keyboard	A	Supports
2.1.2: No Keyboard Trap	A	Supports
2.1.4: Character Key Shortcuts	A	Supports (N/A)
2.2.1: Timing Adjustable	A	Supports
2.2.2: Pause, Stop, Hide	A	Supports (N/A)
2.3.1: Three Flashes or Below Threshold	A	Supports (N/A)
2.4.1: Bypass Blocks	A	Partially supports
2.4.2: Page Titled	A	Supports
2.4.3: Focus Order	A	Supports
2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context)	A	Supports
2.4.5: Multiple Ways	AA	Supports
2.4.6: Headings and Labels	AA	Supports
2.4.7: Focus Visible	AA	Supports
2.5.1: Pointer Gestures	A	Supports
2.5.2: Pointer Cancellation	A	Supports
2.5.3: Label in Name	A	Supports
2.5.4: Motion Actuation	A	Supports (N/A)
3.1.1: Language of Page	A	Partially supports
3.1.2: Language of Parts	AA	Partially supports
3.2.1: On Focus	A	Supports

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation
3.2.2: On Input	A	Supports
3.2.3: Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
3.2.4: Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
3.3.1: Error Identification	A	Supports
3.3.2: Labels or Instructions	A	Supports
3.3.3: Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
3.3.4: Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
4.1.1: Parsing	A	Supports
4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	A	Partially supports
4.1.3: Status Messages	AA	Does not support

WCAG 2.1 A and AA Success Criteria

Visuals

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.1.1: Non-Text Content (A) Provide text alternatives for non-text content (e.g. images)	Partially supports	Most images and icons have appropriate text equivalents. **Notes on image alt text** Some content images are part of interactive exercises (Test Yourself – Show Labels). These images will have alt text such as: "labelled graphic of Plate 9 Cutaneous Nerves of Head and Neck". While the image alt text does not describe the full nature of the anatomy, there are descriptions of the regions which are to be labelled by users. For example, in a Plate for Cutaneous Nerves of Head and Neck: "From ophthalmic division of trigeminal nerve (CN V1)", "Medial branches of posterior rami of cervical spinal nerves". Some images are used for quizzing users. These images provide alt text but do not provide enough detail to answer questions such as interpreting graphs of heart rate.
1.3.3: Sensory Characteristics (A) Do not rely on sensory characteristics of components such as shape, size, visual location, orientation, or sound	Supports	There are no instructions or areas of content which rely solely on sensory characteristics.
1.4.1: Use of Color (A) Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying info	Supports	Color is not used as the only means of conveying information.
1.4.3: Color Contrast (Minimum) (AA) Text has enough	Partially supports	Text has enough contrast with its corresponding background in almost all areas.

contrast with the background (4.5:1 for small text and 3:1 for large text)		**Supporting Remarks:** Form labels use a dark gray on white with a 13.6 contrast ratio. Text links are blue on white with a 5.4 contrast ratio. **Exceptions:** Redirect Site: The orange link text does not have enough contrast at 3.15:1. Light gray footer text does not have enough contrast at 3.4:1.
1.4.4: Resize Text (AA) Text can be enlarged up to 200% without loss of functionality.	Supports	Text can be enlarged to 200% and content remains functional.
1.4.5: Images of Text (AA) Text is used rather than images of text, except where the presentation of text is essential, such as logos	Partially supports	No images of text are used other than for Logos or essential presentation. **Exceptions:** Redirect Site: The footer is an image of text.
1.4.10: Reflow (AA) Content can be presented without loss of information or functionality, and without requiring scrolling in two dimensions for: Vertical scrolling content at a width equivalent to 320 CSS pixels; Horizontal scrolling content at a height equivalent to 256 CSS pixels.	Supports	eBooks+ uses a responsive view that properly scrolls in only one direction once width reaches low CSS pixels.
1.4.11: Non-Text Contrast (AA) User interact components and graphical objects have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 against adjacent color(s).	Supports	Non-text UI components and graphical objects have at least a 3:1 contrast ratio. **Supporting Remarks:** Blue buttons on white have a 5.37:1 contrast ratio. Text input boxes have a dark gray on white 4.7:1 contrast ratio.
1.4.12: Text Spacing (AA) In content implemented using markup languages that	Supports	The site allows users to adjust the text spacing without causing loss of content or functionality.

support the following text style properties, no loss of content or functionality occurs by setting all the following and by changing no other style property: Line height (line spacing) to at least 1.5 times the font size; Spacing following paragraphs to at least 2 times the font size; Letter spacing (tracking) to at least 0.12 times the font size; Word spacing to at least 0.16 times the font size.		
1.4.13: Content on Hover or Focus (AA) Where receiving and then removing pointer hover or keyboard focus triggers additional content to become visible and then hidden, the following are true: • Dismissable • Hoverable • Persistent	Supports	Content that appears on hover or focus is dismissable, hoverable, and persistent.
2.3.1: Three Flashes or Below Threshold (A) No more than three flashes in a 1-second period, or the flashes are below the defined thresholds	Supports (N/A)	No flashing content exists.

Keyboard

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.2: Meaningful Sequence (A) The correct reading sequence can be programmatically determined	Supports	The correct reading sequence is usually logical with the DOM order matching the visual order.

2.1.1: Keyboard (A) All functionality is available from a keyboard, except for tasks such as drawing	Supports	All links, buttons, and interactive elements are usable by keyboard. **Supporting Remarks:** Interactive exercises such as Test Yourself have question mark buttons which reveal text tooltips. These are fully supported by keyboard.
2.1.2: No Keyboard Trap (A) The user can use the keyboard to move through page elements and is not trapped on a particular element	Supports	No pages have a keyboard trap.
2.1.4: Character Key Shortcuts (A) If a keyboard shortcut is implemented in content using only letter (including upper- and lower-case letters), punctuation, number, or symbol characters, then at least one of the following is true: • Turn off • Remap • Active only on focus	Supports (N/A)	The site does not use any character key shortcuts.
2.4.3: Focus Order (A) Users can tab through the elements of a page in a logical order	Supports	Focus order is logical on the site following the visual order. Focus tracks from left to right, top to bottom order. **Supporting Remarks:** Focus order on the content library page starts at the top left and goes left to right across the global nav, down to the search, and then across the book links in a logical order.
2.4.7: Focus Visible (AA) The page element with the current keyboard focus has a visible focus indicator	Supports	Many elements use a custom visible focus. **Supporting Remarks:** Links and buttons which are part of quizzes and show/hide buttons provide a 2px square border focus ring.
3.2.1: On Focus (A) When a UI component receives focus, this does not trigger unexpected actions.	Supports	Focusable elements do not cause unexpected actions when receiving focus.

Headings and Structure

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.1: Information and Relationships (A) Info, structure, and relationships can be programmatically determined	Partially supports	Good use of heading in some places to help distinguish content. Lists are typically used to group related links or text. Landmarks are sometimes used in good places. **Exceptions:** Header: The navigation links should be in an unordered list. Video List: The navigation landmark for the breadcrumb should just be "Breadcrumb". Notes List: The navigation landmark for the breadcrumb should just be "Breadcrumb". Redirect Site: The page is structured using tables, which need to be removed or use role="presentation". The Online Access Confirmation Website text should be an h1.
2.4.1: Bypass Blocks (A) Users can bypass repeated blocks of content.	Partially supports	Headings and landmarks exist, which allow users using Assistive Technology to jump to the different areas of content quickly. **Exceptions:** There is no visible "Skip to Main Content" to bypass the top nav.
2.4.6: Headings and Labels (AA) Headings and labels are clear and consistent.	Supports	Headings and labels used are clear and descriptive.
3.1.1: Language of Page (A) The language of the page is specified	Partially supports	The language is defined as lang="en" on most pages. **Exceptions:** Redirect Site: The page language is not defined.
3.1.2: Language of Parts (AA) Specify the language of text passages that are in a different language than the default language of the page.	Partially supports	There is almost no text that is in a different language than the page default. **Exceptions:** Redirect Site: There is Spanish text that is not marked with a lang attribute.
4.1.1: Parsing (A) Use valid, error-free HTML	Supports	HTML and CSS passes concerning these 4 specific criteria: (i) elements have complete start and end tags, (ii) elements are nested according to their specifications (iii) elements do not contain duplicate attributes (iv) any IDs are unique, except where the specifications allow these features. Note: There are other general HTML validation errors outside the scope of this criterion.

Labeling

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.5: Identify Input Purpose (AA) The purpose of each input field collecting information about the user can be programmatically determined when: The input field serves a purpose identified in the Input Purposes for User Interface Components section; and the content is implemented using technologies with support for identifying the expected meaning for form input data.	Supports (N/A)	There are no input fields that collect personal information about the user.
2.4.2: Page Titled (A) The page has a title describing its topic or purpose	Supports	The title changes dynamically and is typically descriptive. **Supporting Remarks:** The page title for the home page is: "Home | Elsevier eBooks+".
2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context) (A) The purpose of each link can be determined from the link text or surrounding context.	Supports	Links used have an identifiable purpose from the link text or surrounding context.
2.5.3: Label in Name (A) For user interface components with labels that include text or images of text, the name contains the text that is presented visually.	Supports	User interface components that have visible text contain that text consistently within the accessible name
3.2.4: Consistent Identification (AA) UI components used across the web site are identified consistently on every page.	Supports	UI components are consistent across the site.
3.3.1: Error Identification (A)	Supports	Error identification happens and is presented well visually. Errors are connected to their inputs.

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
Input errors are clearly marked and described to the user.		
3.3.2: Labels or Instructions (A) Items requiring user input are clearly labeled or have clear instructions.	Supports	Input areas have clear labels which are programmatically assigned.
3.3.3: Error Suggestion (AA) When the user makes an input error, give suggestions for valid input.	Supports	The error messages given are valid suggestions for the inputs.
4.1.2: Name, Role, Value (A) For all UI components, the name, value, and role can be programmatically determined.	Partially supports	Some UI components communicate their state programmatically. **Exceptions:** Header: The mobile navigation button should have aria-haspopup="dialog". Content Library: The book title buttons should have aria-haspopup="dialog".
4.1.3: Status Messages (AA) In content implemented using markup languages, status messages can be programmatically determined through role or properties such that they can be presented to the user by assistive technologies without receiving focus.	Does not support	Error messages are not communicated automatically to assistive technology. **Exceptions:** Content Library: Redemption access code errors are not automatically communicated to AT on submission. Redeem Additional Content: Redemption access code errors are not automatically communicated to AT on submission.

Multimedia

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.2.1: Audio-only or Video-only (Prerecorded) (A) Provide alternatives for pre-recorded audio-only or video-only content.	Partially supports	Some books provide audio-only clips. There are typically text descriptions of the audio in the adjacent book content. Some audio clips provide a transcript next to the audio clip itself.
1.2.2: Captions (Prerecorded) (A) Provide captions for pre-recorded audio	Supports	Closed captions are provided for videos with sound. For example, procedures which are narrated and synchronized with the audio.

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.2.3: Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (A) Provide alternatives for pre-recorded synchronized audio/video	Does not support	Videos currently do not provide Audio Description, nor a media alternative. Note: A research project is in place to explore this for newly Elsevier published titles.
1.2.4: Captions (Live) (AA) Provide captions for live audio in synchronized audio/video.	Supports (N/A)	There is no live audio in synchronized audio/video.
1.2.5: Audio Description (Prerecorded) (AA) Provide an audio description of pre-recorded video.	Does not support	Videos currently do not provide Audio Description. Note: A research project is in place to explore this for newly Elsevier published titles.
1.4.2: Audio Control (A) Audio can be paused and stopped, or the audio volume can be changed.	Supports (N/A)	There is no audio that plays automatically on the site.
2.2.2: Pause, Stop, Hide (A) Users can stop, pause, or hide moving, blinking, scrolling, or auto-updating information.	Supports (N/A)	There is no moving, scrolling, or auto-updating information.

Usability

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
2.2.1: Timing Adjustable (A) Users are warned of time limits shorter than 20 hours and time limits can be turned off or extended	Supports	There is no session timeout.
2.4.5: Multiple Ways (AA) More than one way is available to navigate to other web pages.	Supports	Users can reach all book content pages in a variety of ways: **Supporting Remarks:** Users can reach book content through the left side TOC, through the bottom slider, through the go to page text input, and by using the My

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
		Bookmarks feature. Additionally, a browser find or the Search will allow someone to pinpoint specific words in a book.
3.2.2: On Input (A) Changing the setting of a checkbox, radio button, or other UI component does not trigger unexpected changes in context.	Supports	User inputs do not cause unexpected actions.
3.2.3: Consistent Navigation (AA) Navigation menus are in the same location and order on every web page.	Supports	Navigation menus are consistently in the same place and in same order.
3.3.4: Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (AA) For web pages with legal or financial commitments, input can be reviewed and corrected before final submission, and submissions can be reverted.	Supports	There are financial commitments where the order can be reviewed and corrected before final submission.

Mobile User Experience

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.4: Orientation (AA) Content does not restrict its view and operation to a single display orientation, such as portrait or landscape, unless a specific display orientation is essential.	Supports	eBooks+ does not restrict its view to a single orientation.
2.5.1: Pointer Gestures (A) All functionality that uses multipoint or path-based gestures for operation can be operated with a single pointer without a path-based gesture, unless a multipoint or path-based gesture is essential.	Supports	eBooks+ does not use any multipoint or path-based gestures.

2.5.2: Pointer Cancellation (A) For functionality that can be operated using a single pointer, at least one of the following is true: • No Down-Event • Abort or Undo • Up Reversal • Essential	Supports	All interactive content functions through the Up-Event, allowing users to potentially move their pointer off the component to cancel.
2.5.4: Motion Actuation (A) Functionality that can be operated by device motion or user motion can also be operated by user interface components and responding to the motion can be disabled to prevent accidental actuation, except when: • Supported Interface • Essential	Supports (N/A)	There is no content on eBooks+ that utilizes device or user motion.