Learning Objectives

- review evidence-based nursing literature concepts and resources
- review effective strategies for searching and accessing nursing research resources
- live demo
Primary evidence includes *original reports* of research studies and are included in journal citation databases:

- MEDLINE: randomized controlled trials
- CINAHL: research
Secondary evidence = analysis of research studies

- MEDLINE: meta-analysis, practice guidelines, consensus development conferences
- CINAHL: meta-analysis, practice guidelines, research based nursing practice
Information ‘Pyramid’

- Journals
- Systemic reviews
- Clinical Practice
- Guidelines
- primary research articles
- CINAHL, Medline
- Associated websites, textbooks

Evolution of Literature

**Evidence Pyramid**
- Information starts at the base
- As ideas turn into drugs and diagnostic tools they are tested
- Testing may go through several phases of clinical trials
- Further trials are then done
- **As you move up the pyramid the amount of available literature decreases, but increases in its relevance to the clinical setting.**

**Type of Study**
- Meta-Analysis
- Systematic Review
- Randomized Controlled Trial
- Cohort studies
- Case Control studies
- Case Series/Case Reports
- Animal research/Laboratory studies
Which Database?

The question dictates the appropriate database

CINAHL
PubMed

Nursing Center
Health & Wellness

ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Resource
What is the problem?
“Children with autism are difficult to treat and their parents are weird/demanding.”

What is the question?
“Are there unique orientation, patient education, & treatment information needs of the child and family impacted by autism?”

What are the question’s concepts?
1: autism
2: information
Q: “Are there unique orientation, patient education, & treatment information needs of the child and family impacted by autism?”

Areas: Health related, Children, Psychiatric

Databases: Nursing, Medical, Education
General Rule

Start big
then
narrow down

Is the reason for 0 results because there is nothing in the _______ database or (more likely) were the wrong words used?
Medical Databases

- **CINAHL**
  - Access from library dbs
  - Help available from [http://support.epnet.com/training/tutorials.php](http://support.epnet.com/training/tutorials.php)

- **Medline**
  - Access from library dbs
  - PubMed
Examples

CINAHL

Autism

Limits

Peer-review Reviews Protocols

Meta-analysis Research CEUs

Guidelines

- Explore results for patient education concepts
- Cited reference searching
Examples

**Medline**
Autistic disorder

**CINAHL**
Autism, Asperger, Pervasive Developmental Disorder

What are the available **limits**?
Evidence in MEDLINE

- formulate a clinical question
- run a subject search
  - Ex. heart disease and aspirin
- select a strategy to retrieve literature related to therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, harm/etiology.
Evidence in CINAHL

- formulate a clinical question
- run a subject search
- use the
  Publication Type=Research
  (limit found on Main Search page)

This is a very effective way to limit retrieval to research studies in CINAHL.
What is Systemic Review?

- highest level of evidence in clinical research
- medical guidelines are based on the information provided by systematic reviews of effectiveness.
- all professionals involved in the delivery of healthcare need to reach a good understanding about systematic reviews.
- This web site offers information about what systematic reviews are, and how to conduct them.

http://ssrc.tums.ac.ir/SystematicReview/
The National Guidelines Clearinghouse (<http://www.guideline.gov/>) includes evidence-based practice guidelines from various health centers and organizations. It can be searched by disease, treatment or organization. The Clearinghouse includes a feature comparing attributes of two or more guidelines.
Other Resources

Library Databases
- Nursing Center
- ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Resource
- Health and Wellness Resource Center
- LexisNexis Academic
- Wilson Select Plus

Search Engines & Sites
- Medstory  
  <www.medstory.com>
- MedlinePlus  
  <medlineplus.gov>
- KosmionHealth  
  <www.righthealth.com>
- Relemed  
  <www.relemed.com>
- Medscape  
  <www.medscape.com>
Steps to answering Clinical Questions using the Medical Literature

Anatomy of the Clinical Question:
1. Formulate a clinical question ("PICO" approach):
   - Patient characteristics
   - Intervention being considered
   - Comparison intervention (if any)
   - Outcome of clinical interest
Clinical Question

2. Conduct a subject search.

3. Select a strategy to answer the question:

*Therapy, Diagnosis, Prognosis, Harm/Etiology*
4. Locate other sources as needed
5. Examine the evidence, critically appraise/evaluate the literature.
6. Apply the evidence + clinical experience + the patient's preferences
7. Evaluate patient outcomes
Review

- Overview of evidence-based nursing literature concepts and resources
- Overview of effective strategies for searching and accessing nursing research resources
- On to the live demo!!!
Thank you

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This presentation available online at
http://faculty.msmc.edu/garofalo/presentations.html