Nursing Research Tips and Hints

Mount Saint Mary College

Prof. Sagar’s NUR 402 September 9, 2011
Learning Objectives

• review research resources
• review effective strategies for searching and accessing nursing resources
• live demo
Research resources

- Books
- Databases of journal articles

![Bookshelf](image1.png)
![PubMed](image2.png)
![ProQuest](image3.png)
![EBSCO](image4.png)
![Nursing](image5.png)

3
Why not Google?

• Anyone can publish anything on the Internet
• Millions and millions of hits
  – Which are accurate and valid?
  – Requires your time to evaluate
• Does not include information found in library databases of *scholarly journals*
Databases are key

- Premium information resources
  - journal and newspaper articles
  - scholarly information from published works
- Searchable
- Often contain full-text articles
How to start?

• Put the problem in the form of a question
• Search
• Examine your results
• Revise your search question if needed
# Question-based literature review strategy

## What is the problem?

“I need some research stuff on kids and handwashing.”

## What is the question?

“Are there any evidence-based research studies on the benefits of teaching handwashing to children?”

## What are the question’s concepts?

1: handwashing  
2: children  
3: research  
4: evidence-based
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?
## Other Resources

### Library Databases
- Nursing Center
- ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Resource
- Health Source Nursing/Academic edition

### Search Engines & Sites
- Medstory
  [www.medstory.com](http://www.medstory.com)
- Virginia Henderson Nursing Library
- Open Access Journals
- Medscape
Review

- Search databases (not Google)
- Overview of nursing resources
- Turn problem into question
- On to the live demo!!!
Thank you!

Denise A. Garofalo
Systems & Catalog Services
Librarian

This presentation available online at http://libraryguides.msmc.edu/garofalo_classes