



The Children's Hospital

Research News

A newsletter dedicated to nursing research at The Children's Hospital

Volume 16, Number 1

Winter 2009

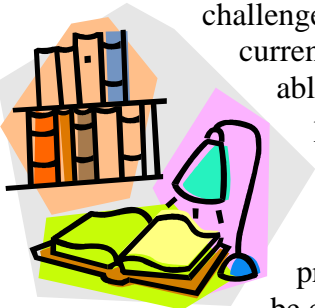
Clinical and Research Library—We've got your evidence right here!

Linda Elinoff, MLS

Health care quality and patient safety are increasingly moving toward front and center stage of every hospital and nurses are expected to play their part by making clinical decisions that are evidence-based. Evidence-based decision making involves searching and obtaining the best empirical research available from various sources and integrating the information with clinical expertise and patient/family preferences and values, and then providing high quality, safe nursing practices based on a synthesis of the best evidence available.

What evidence?

A dictionary definition of evidence is “a thing or things helpful in forming a conclusion or judgment; that which tends to prove or disprove something; ground for belief; proof.” Nurses are challenged to keep abreast of current information and to be able to evaluate it and make practice improvements on a continual basis. The goal of evidence-based analysis is to validate practices that are proven to be effective and eliminate rule of thumb practices and traditions that have little or no scientific support or have been superseded by better evidence.



A recent survey at The Children's Hospital indicated that, although most nurses seek information at least weekly to support their nursing role, they primarily get their information from colleagues, or they “Google” for information on the internet. Given the vast amounts of raw information readily available on the internet, these

sources may not provide very reliable evidence, let alone empirical research. In fact, less than 20% of health care research results are available for free on the internet. Of that number, another 30% of web citations are no longer retrievable over a period of time. Almost all of the full-text systematic medical research is published in respected, peer-reviewed journals and available only through commercial databases.

Quality of Evidence

There are four levels of evidence ranked from highest to lowest on which evidence is evaluated along a continuum from stronger to weaker. These are: meta-analysis; systematic review of a case control or cohort; non-analytic (case study); expert opinion, letters. The only way to find out where a study falls on the levels of evidence is to read and critically analyze the information. Nurses in most patient care settings are very busy taking care of patients and report that they do not have enough time to spend looking for information and even less time to critically analyze it.

Where can you go for help?

Nurses at The Children's Hospital have a huge advantage over those at hospitals without an on-site library. The Clinical and Research Library, located on the second floor of the hospital or accessible from the Planet TCH web page, has paid subscriptions to 4,839 full-text journals online through a number of commercial databases and point of care resources. Recent articles by top researchers published in the most prestigious journals are available at your fingertips. The library has subscriptions to evidence-based databases including Clinical Evidence, EBM Reviews, Stat!Ref, and the Cochrane databases.

Other valuable resources are just a click away on the library's website. The library's Nursing Current Awareness newsletter also will keep you updated on the most recent and best pediatric nursing articles culled from 190 nursing journals.

If you are looking for evidence-based literature, you can completely eliminate one step of the process by requesting your literature searches from the library instead of spending valuable patient care time trying to do them yourself. Library staff is highly trained in conducting specific literature searches that will retrieve exactly the type of information you need, so all

you have to do is use your clinical expertise to evaluate them for levels of evidence and value to TCH patient safety and care.

*For more information or to request a literature search, contact the Clinical and Research Library at 720-777-6400 or send an e-mail to library@tchden.org. Also feel free to contact any member of the Clinical and Research Library staff: Debbie Weaver, MLIS AHIP
Linda Elinoff, MLS
Marie St. Pierre MLIS*

Upcoming Events

NURSING GRAND ROUNDS

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
TCH Conference and Education Center, 2nd Floor

January 28

Childhood Obesity: A New Challenge for the Pediatric Nurse
Jodi Thrasher, MS RN CFNP
Renee Porter, ND RN CPNP

February 25

Research in Your Neighborhood:
How the Clinical Trials Organization Works with You
Sandi Lindahl, MS RN CCRC
Sharolene Goodman, RRT CCRC
Hazel Senz, BSN RN CCRC

March 25

Acknowledging Praxis:
Recognizing Caring in Reflective Narratives of Pediatric Nurses
Jennifer Hagedorn, BSN RN
Mary Enzman (Hagedorn) Hines, PhD RN CNS CPNP AHN-BC

NURSING RESEARCH COUNCIL

Meets quarterly (4th Thursday)
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Mt. Sneffels Conference Room
Next Meeting: January 22

Dissemination Team

Meets every other month
(3rd Thursday) 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Sunlight Peak Conference Room
Next Meeting: January 15
March 19

Evidence-Based Practice Teams

- **Research & QI**
Meets every month except when NRC meets (1st Thursday)
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Sunlight Peak Conference Room
Next Meeting: February 5
March 5
- **Clinical Expertise**
Meets every month except when NRC meets (2nd Thursday)
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Mt. Huron Conference Room
Next Meeting: February 12
March 12
- **Patient/Family Values and Preferences**
Meets every month except when NRC meets (4th Thursday)
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Mt. Huron Conference Room
Next Meeting: February 26
March 26

SAVE THE DATE!

20TH Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Multidisciplinary Research & Evidence-Based Practice Symposium
Improving Patient Outcomes through Evidence-Based Practice

March 12 – 13, 2009
Renaissance Denver Hotel
For information or to register, visit:
<http://www.uch.edu/for-healthcare-professional/professional-resources/continuing-education/2009-symposium.aspx>

Society of Pediatric Nurses 19th Annual Convention
Embracing Children: Our Most Valuable Resource

April 3 – 5, 2009
Atlanta, GA
For information or to register, visit:
www.pedsnurses.org