Dreaming to Extend Services, Daring to Expand Our Roles: Embedded Librarians on a Nursing Research Subcommittee

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Abstract

In line with the Mayo Clinic Nursing Professional Practice Model emphasizing relationship-centered nursing practice, Librarians and the Nursing Research subcommittee (NRS) created a partnership to achieve the subcommittee’s main purpose:

- to provide leadership and direction for nursing research
- evidence-based practice activities at Mayo Clinic Arizona

Objectives

To describe the partnership between library services and nursing research:

- By enhancing nurses’ literature searching skills
- Improve awareness of library resources including:
  - Librarians
  - Databases
  - Books and journals

Professional Practice Model Roles

- **Teacher**: teaching the ins and outs of literature searching and library resources
- **Navigator**: navigating the literature for use with research projects

Collaboration

Librarians and members of the NRS collaborated on several learning initiatives:

- Librarians are members of NRS and regularly participate in meetings

- Librarians are faculty members of the “Stepping Stones to Evidence Based Practice (EBP)” full day workshop

- Librarians are a part of the EBP mentoring team assisting nurses on their research project journeys

This collaboration led to additional outreach opportunities:

- Librarians were invited to present at a noon series “Ideas to Action” on leveraging library resources

- Librarians were invited faculty to teach literature searching skills to nursing students in an Arizona State University course

Resources

- EBSCOhost

Results and Evaluation

Based on evaluations, nurses feel:

- More comfortable using library resources
- Feel better prepared to conduct literature searches
  - “I will conduct library/literature searches with greater confidence”
  - “I am much more confident and less intimidated by EBP and research”

- This partnership is leading to other opportunities to work collaboratively with nursing staff