

Nursing Class

Searching for Articles on Evidence Based Practice

1/20/09

Broad topic: evidence based practice

Topic is slightly different from database to database. For example, in the CINAHL database, the term used is *Nursing practice, evidence-based*. Other databases might use Evidence-based medicine.

When searching for journal articles dealing with this subject, you will also be combining another topic with the evidence based practice subject. I asked for some examples and was given the following:

Reducing medication errors
Reducing falls
Hourly nursing rounds
Accuracy of vital signs
[or more specifically: pulse, blood pressure, respiration, temperature]
Reducing urinary tract infections

I'll use these or slight variations of these in the database search examples. You need to be on the Health Sciences page in the Temple College databases.

StatRef! Due to limits on simultaneous use, we can't all look at StatRef! at the same time, but I would like to point it out to you as a good reference book database, which does have many book sections dealing with evidence-based nursing practice.

CINAHL

Type blood pressure in the search box
In the limit your results section, click on linked full text and evidence based practice. Find the Published date from section, and enter 2005 and 2009. Click on search. 79 articles should be in this set, all full text.

Another way to select articles would be from journals that the library subscribes to. They may or may not be full text through the database, but the articles will be available in the library if not full text in the database.

To try this look on the right side of the screen, find the column that has Limit Your Results, click on search

options, the search options page will display, click on Temple college nursing journals, uncheck linked full text, click on the blue search button at the top. You should see 54 articles in this search.

One more possible set could be found by searching this way: once more click on search options, uncheck Temple College Nursing Journals, click on Ovid Nursing Full text plus. Search. 12 articles this way.

And, finally it is possible to search all 3 limiters in one search. Click on search options, click on Temple College Nursing Journals and Linked Full text, keeping the Ovid one selected, click on search, you should have 135 articles now. This time, there is a mix of all the limits with some not being full text, but they should have a note line saying the title is available at Temple College.

CINAHL #2

Another way to search the CINAHL database is by using the Major Heading for this subject, which is Nursing Practice, Evidence-based.

Start a new search.

Type MH nursing practice, evidence-based in the first search box.

Click on Temple College Nursing Journals, Ovid Full text, and Linked full text limits.

Enter the year range in the Publication Year from boxes on the right side, 2005, 2009.

Search. 938 articles in the search results.

At this point, you could browse the articles, and see what is there, or add a further subject term, like we did with blood pressure. To compare this with our earlier search, enter blood pressure in an empty search box and search. 5 articles in search result. We found 135 in the earlier search.

So, there is a difference when using the Major Heading compared to the first search where we clicked on the

evidence-based practice limit in the limits section. It is possible these 5 are included in the earlier search results, or it is possible that the MH is more specific and excludes articles that don't have that subject heading.

It is another option, which may or may not be necessary, but I wanted you to be aware of the choice and apparent difference.

You should recall how to cite the articles, if you forgot, the way this is found is by clicking on an article title, then clicking on the icon that looks like a brown sheet of paper, a box will display, and among the citations will be one for APA. You should be able to copy and paste that into your works cited page in your word document. Be sure the spacing is correct, the content should be, and you have the citation.

Next database search in **Ovid Nursing Journals**

This one can be a bit tricky, so follow these directions carefully...

Click on the checkbox to the left of Search Temple College Full text journals, then click on the Open selected resources button.

In the search box click on multi-field search

In the top search box type *evidence-based* (use hyphen)

to the right you see a toggle menu, click on the down arrow and choose *outline headings*

Click in the empty box below and type in blood pressure, in the toggle menu to the right, change to *full text*.

Click on Limits and to the right of Publication year you have toggle menus for starting and ending year, choose 2005 and then 2009.

Should have 19 results.

Link to full text view of article is on right side of screen. Click on Find Citing articles box for citation.

Next database **Health Reference Center Academic**

Click on Advanced Search

type Evidence-based nursing, change toggle to the left to Subject. Select full text. Enter date range 2005-2009.

This database is different than the others but more limited in number of articles, useful for overall subject of evidence-based nursing, but not as useful for other topics combined with it.