

#1

Poster Title: An Analysis of Clinical Questions Asked at Professor Rounds: a Retrospective Review

Presenter: Nancy Bianchi

Affiliation: Dana Medical Library, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

Abstract:

Objective: The present study was conducted to analyze clinical questions asked at Pediatric Professor Rounds and to describe their sources of answers.

Methods: Professor Rounds is a biweekly educational conference in Pediatrics attended by residents, academic clinical faculty, community preceptors and a liaison librarian. Each conference highlights a general pediatric, PICU, NICU or outpatient case presentation. The librarian participates by actively listening, noting pertinent patient details, and gathering questions that arise during the case presentations and discussions. Back at the library, she searches the literature for answers to these clinical questions and returns her findings to the chief resident. A four-year retrospective review of these clinical questions and the resources used to answer them was conducted.

Results: The liaison librarian collected 154 clinical questions at Pediatric Professor Rounds during this time period. Of these, ninety-seven (63%) questions were classified as "received" of direct inquiries. The remaining fifty-seven (37%) questions were captured as "perceived" information needs. The questions were further classified using the evidence-based clinical practice model of "background" and "foreground" questions. The 154 clinical questions included 109 (71%) background questions and 44 (29%) foreground questions. Resources that provided the answers included textbooks (8%), journal articles (67%), textbook & journal article (9%) and other (4%).

Conclusions: Clinical questions are frequently encountered at educational conference such as Professor Rounds. Most of these queries can be answered using print and electronic medical knowledge resources available through the library. These questions and the resources used to answer them represent opportunities for clinical case-based learning, library collection development, and library liaison involvement.

Originally displayed at MLA 2008, Chicago, IL

#2

Poster Title: Medical Librarians Uses and Perceptions of Social Tagging

Presenter: Cecile Bianco

Affiliation: Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA

Abstract:

Objectives: To find the level of interest of medical librarians in social tagging, which sites are the most popular, how social tagging is being used, and to determine if there is a relationship between years in the profession and use of tagging.

Methods: A 16 question online survey was administered to a random sample (n=348) of MLA members.

Results: One hundred fifty six surveys were returned for a response rate of 45%. Forty-six percent of the sample used tagging with a 95% confidence interval of 39% to 55%. More experienced librarians appeared to use tagging less. General sites (Del.icio.us and Flickr) were used more than specialized sites. Sixty-seven percent used tagging for organization, 60% for discovery, 11% for outreach, 21% for education, 41% for collaboration, and 48% for personal use only.

Discussion: User tagging is still a new technology for medical librarians; roughly half have used it. The survey methodology is inherently biased towards positive results due to non-response error. Some librarians use tagging as bookmarking and others are using its sophisticated features for discovery or collaboration. Use tagging is a growing trend, but the jury is still out on whether it is useful in advancing the goals of the profession.

This paper has been submitted to JMLA for publication

#3

Poster Title: The Path to Open Access Information: From NIH Publications Policy to Institutional Repositories

Presenter: Megan Bresnahan, Kate Bronstad, Keven Jeffery, David Ginn

Affiliation: Alumni Medical Library, Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA

Abstract:

“Open access” refers to online content that is free for everyone to view. There is a growing movement to allow open access to scholarly information, which traditionally has been published in print journals with restricted access. The open access movement gained traction due to the prohibitive rise of journal costs. Access becomes limited as prices increase. With limited access, researchers worry their work will not be as widely read. Further, since researchers are increasingly accustomed to communicating online, they are a ready audience for open access sites.

The recent National Institute of Health (NIH) funding requirements and the emergence of institutional repositories create the need for medical educators to take active roles in open access. The NIH has mandated that all researchers receiving NIH funding must deposit his or her corresponding published work in PubMed Central, the National Library of Medicine’s free archive. Additionally, an increasing number of universities are building institutional repositories to hold university research and educational materials, allowing the institution to preserve and provide access to information created under its auspices.

Since open access is becoming more of a concern, it is important to inform on the issues of open access and the new policies among financiers, research bodies, and educational institutions that will affect them. The goal of this education is to assist the academic medical community in developing a greater understanding of new regulations and institutional trends of open access, as well as the benefits of these initiatives for researchers and the health care system.

Originally displayed at Medical Education Day, Boston University, Boston, MA

#4

Poster Title: Information Rx as Patient-Physician Communication Tool and Community Outreach Program

Presenter: Marianne Burke, Alan Lampson, Peggy Carey MD, Laura Haines, Fred Pond

Affiliation: Dana Medical Library, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

Abstract:

The Information Prescription Program (Information Rx) developed by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and the American College of Physicians (ACP) Foundation promotes a way for the physician to recommend quality information about health and empower patients to seek and use information on their own. The study describes a collaborative University of Vermont project funded by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine New England Region (NNLM-NER).

Objectives: The project sought to: 1) integrate the Information Rx program into a family medicine practice, and 2) develop the capacity of the nearby public library to provide health information services, and follow up on information prescriptions.

Methods included 1) Education and advocacy about Information Rx and MedlinePlus at physician, resident, and nursing staff meetings; 2) Installation of 2 internet accessible computers/printers: one for patients and one for providers; 3) Display of informational materials on MedlinePlus and InfoRx in all exam rooms at the practice; 4) Education sessions on MedlinePlus and consumer health information held for public library staff and patrons; 5) Distribution and display of informational materials on MedlinePlus at the public library

Results: In the pre-project surveys, most (3 out of 5) physicians professed proficiency at using the Internet and at finding information for patients, but some acknowledged uncertainty of quality websites or lack of ready computer/printer access. All said that lack of time is the major factor

preventing them from discussing or using consumer health information in the practice. Some Public Library staff admitted discomfort answering health related questions from patrons. Post project survey changes will be reported.

Originally displayed at MLA 2008, Chicago, IL (amended with new results).

#5

Poster Title: Collaborative Outreach to Rhode Island Residents by the Association of Rhode Island Health Sciences Libraries (ARIHSL).

Presenter: Barbara B. Davis

Affiliation: Carnegie Abbey Health Sciences Library & Resource Center, Newport Hospital/Lifespan, Newport, RI

Abstract:

The Association of Rhode Island Health Sciences Libraries has purchased a display board to use for collaboratively marketing health sciences libraries to state health professional and consumer health organizations. These organizations include but are not limited to the Rhode Island Medical Society; the Rhode Island State Nurses Association; the Rhode Island Library Association; and various health consumer groups that are hosting state, regional or national conferences in Rhode Island. ARIHSL members collaborate by taking turns representing ARIHSL and health sciences libraries at these meetings of community events. The overall display includes information about the history of ARIHSL, lists the institutional members, and describes what health sciences libraries do. A bookmark that names institutional members is available for visitors to take with them, along with various pamphlets about National Library of Medicine products and services. ARIHSL members may also borrow the display board to use in marketing their libraries within their individual institutions. It is hoped that this display board will increase visibility of ARIHSL, its members, and health sciences library services.

#6

Poster Title: Levels Program: A Career Ladder for Support Staff

Presenter: Jane Fama, James F. Comes, Vivian (Frempong) Okyere, Barbara Ingrassia, Kerry Mayotte, Lisa A. Palmer, Mary E. Piorun

Affiliation: Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA

Abstract:

Objective: How do we manage support staff development in the modern health sciences library? Increasingly, the need for more highly skilled staff is evident. This poster describes a three phase project encompassing the development, approval, and implementation processes necessary to make a career ladder a reality in a medium-sized academic health sciences library.

Results and Conclusions: Competencies, education, and years of service formed the promotion plan's basis. Managers identified task-based areas of responsibility, divided into achievement stages with frameworks detailed for objective employee evaluation. A policy for advancement, based of performance in multiple areas of responsibility, was developed. The plan allows for growth and promotion, and encourages staff to build a knowledge base across library departments.

Throughout the planning process, the team met with human resources, the union, and administration to explain program goals, as well as to address their concerns and incorporate their input as we developed the program details, resulting in a smooth approval process.

For implementation, one manager assumed responsibility for coordinating orientation and training development. The team was surprised by initial negative staff reaction to increased responsibility and the certification/testing requirements. The team continues to face implementation challenges and issues.

Originally displayed at MLA 2008, Chicago, IL

#7

Poster Title: Trends in Health Sciences Library and Information Science Research

Presenter: Sally A. Gore, Judith M. Nordberg, Lisa A. Palmer, Mary E. Piorun

Affiliation: Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA

Abstract:

Objective: Determine if the profession of health librarianship has matured over recent years as defined by the level of sophistication found in the published research in the leading peer-reviewed, professional journal.

Method: A content analysis of research articles published in Bulletin of the Medical Library Association and Journal of the Medical Library Association during the time span of 1991-2007 will be performed. For those articles that are classified as research, the subjects, research methodologies and analytical techniques employed will be identified, as well as bibliometric characteristics, institutional affiliation, and research funding source. The data will be analyzed using descriptive and quantitative inferential statistics to identify trends and/or gaps in the literature. The subject, research method, and analytical classification schema used throughout the study will be based on the work of Alexandra Dimitroff.

Results & Conclusion: Preliminary findings reflect articles published from 1991-1996 (n = 310). Forty six percent of the articles reviewed were defined as research. The most predominant research methodology employed was survey (47%) and the most prevalent techniques used to analyze findings were quantitative descriptive statistics (62%). Studies examining subjects related to library users accounted for the greatest number of published research articles (20%), followed in popularity by public services (15%), and materials and/or collection development (9%). Sixty five percent of articles were authored by individuals affiliated with an academic health sciences library. The majority of studies (65%) stated no funding source, while 17% reported government support for the research carried out. New areas of research observed to date include consumer health, outreach, and the internet; an emerging research method is focus groups.

#8

Poster Title: A Seat at the Table: The Librarian's Role of the Evidence-Based Practice/Research Council and the Nursing Survey Process

Presenter: Claire LaForce

Affiliation: Health Sciences Library, Rutland Regional Medical Center, Rutland, VT 05701

Abstract:

The librarian at Rutland Regional Medical Center was invited by the Magnet Coordinator to join the EBP/Research Council upon its formation in 2005. The Council is comprised of a multi-disciplinary group of nursing staff with the stated goal of "...advancing the practice of nursing through the promotion and dissemination of nursing research and evidence based practice which is integrated into the delivery of care."

In 2007, a subcommittee of three individuals was formed to begin creation of educational tools to introduce concepts of Evidence-Based Practice to nursing staff, and to begin to install competency in the use of research resources, research analysis and utilization of research.

Through a search of the literature, the subcommittee discovered that a survey to determine the current level of EBP readiness, and to identify barriers to utilization of research practice, would be the correct first step.

Utilizing a survey tool in the published literature, with permission of the author, a survey of nursing staff was conducted, and the results analyzed. Results of the survey will help us identify or construct educational modules for the staff, including use of the EBM Page Generator tool.

#9

Poster Title: Teaching Evidence-Based Literature Retrieval to Medical Students and Residents

Presenter: Len Levin, Megan Bresnahan, Lauren Maggio, Kerry O'Rourke, Donna O'Malley

Affiliation: Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA / Alumni Medical Library, Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA / Library of the Health Sciences University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ / Dana Medical Library, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

Abstract:

With the growth on the emphasis on the importance of Evidence-Based Practice in the 1980s and 90s also came the need for clinicians to have a better understanding of how to find information about best-evidence outcomes in the medical literature. Academic medical librarians responded to this need by creating educational opportunities designed to instruct clinicians in how to most effectively use literature databases to find "the best-evidence needles" in what is often a very-large haystack. Many of these educational opportunities have been directed specifically towards medical students and residents with the goal of providing them with tools that will assist them in using best-evidence in the medical literature as they begin their clinical careers. This poster will demonstrate examples of educational programs focusing upon evidence-based literature retrieval that are in place at many NEGEA affiliated medical school libraries.

Originally displayed at NEGEA (Northeast Group on Education Affairs) 2008, Burlington, VT.

#10

Poster Title: Grad Student Perceptions of PubMed, OVID, MEDLINE, and Google Scholar

Presenter: Tom Mead

Affiliation: Biomedical Libraries, Dartmouth College

Abstract:

In a class where students learn to do a systematic review, an assignment was to use PubMed, OVID MEDLINE, and Google Scholar, and then compare the interfaces. This exercise provides us with some wonderful feedback about student assumptions, preferences, and confusions.

#11

Poster Title: Thinking Outside of the Recycling Bin: Designing and Implementing Green Practices

Presenter: Vivian Okyere, Susan Garron, Jeffrey Long, Charles Labonte, June Gasperski, Julia Powell

Affiliation: Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA

Abstract:

Objective: In order to keep in step with growing concerns about Global Warming and the degradation of the environment, it is necessary for libraries to initiate efforts to "Go Green." This poster describes the research methods and short term and long term implementation steps taken by a mid-sized health science library investigating environmentally friendly practices.

Method

A team of six people was formed to develop a plan to investigate and implement environmentally friendly practices for the library. The team identified ways in which the library/staff are already environmentally conscious and issues for potential implementation. In addition, the team investigated ways to repair previous environmentally unfriendly practices. Questions raised included: How can we increase recycling? How can we practice Green computing? How can we recycle used supplies? How can we purchase non-toxic cleaning supplies? How might plants help clean the air in the library?

For long term goals, the team brainstormed ways in which the library might go above and beyond everyday practices and think "outside of the recycling bin." How can we make our travel to conferences more eco-friendly? Could we partner with an organization to install solar panels on our roof? The team conducted research about Green practices in libraries, using web resources and environmental literature.

Results & Conclusions

There are many ways in which the Library can reduce its impact on the environment. Our library seeks to be a model for our surrounding institutions in adopting Green practices. Librarians have access to up-to-date information about environmental issues and are best equipped to put that information into practice.

#12

Poster Title: Information Literacy (HIL) Research Project

Presenter: Martha Prescott

Affiliation: Health Science Library, Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield, MA

Abstract:

This poster will highlight Berkshire Medical Center's experience as a pilot site for the Health Information Literacy Research Project, a project of the Medical Library Association with funding from the National Library of Medicine. Over the past year, the project focused on developing and testing a health information literacy curriculum to raise health care provider awareness of health literacy issues, increase patient and provider use of NLM resources including MedlinePlus and the information referral tool known as Information Rx, and promote the role of librarians as key providers of health information literacy resources and support. Nine hospital-based libraries from around the country and Canada were selected as pilot training sites. The pilot sites met in April 2008 in Indianapolis to review and develop the curriculum. We offered health literacy training at our institutions May through July 2008. A total of 910 health care providers participated in the trainings. After an initial review of the data some consistent themes emerged

- the majority of providers had not heard of the Information Rx referral tool
- many did not know their hospital library provided consumer health information services and had never referred a patient to the library
- implementing the pilot within the three month time frame was a challenge as was scheduling a full hour training session with many provider groups

The curriculum will be revised based on pilot site feedback and available via the Medical Library Association website. An article detailing the pilot results will be submitted for publication in the Journal of the Medical Library Association.

#13

Poster Title: Vital Pathways for Hospital Librarians: A Project of the Medical Library Association

Presenter: Katherine Stemmer Frumento

Affiliation: Sackler Medical Library, Greenwich Hospital, Greenwich, CT

Abstract:

The Vital Pathways for Hospital Librarians project was one of M.J. Tooley's priorities during her MLA presidential year (2005-2006). The purpose of the Project was to address the concerns and conflicting reports about the status of hospital librarians. The poster will display the major accomplishments (Statistics Group; Health Libraries in Education Group; and Documents Group) of the project, with their accomplishments to date, as well as future projects.

#14

Poster Title: Information Marathon – The Race to Knowledge – Start at the Health Center Library

Presenter: Kandace Yuen

Affiliation: Library, Waterbury Hospital Health Center, Waterbury, CT

Abstract:

My poster will focus on the Waterbury Hospital Health Center Library's annual publicity day which coincides with the National Library Week. The poster showcases our most recent event: "Information Marathon – The Race to Knowledge – Start at the Health Center Library." The poster will cover the details of preparation, collaboration with the high school's graphics department, and distribution of notices and coupon entries for the event. The set up utilized help from the hospital's information services department and library volunteers. We demonstrated the library resource to our colleagues on laptops and answered their questions. We also invited visitors to come to the library in person or online to see how we can assist them to accomplish their information needs. The

motivation behind this library promotion was to get the hospital community acquainted with the library's resources and services through the health center library's Intranet site.