



## Significance and Background

As health care institutions strive to develop a 'spirit on inquiry' among their nurses, a support system must also be in place to maintain and fulfill this mission.

Nurses working clinically are interested in research and evidence-based practice but often struggle with the process of asking and answering a clinical question.

At our institution, a survey of nurses revealed that most (96%) think research and EBP should guide practice and that 63% of nurses would be interested in doing a research or EBP project but only about half feel supported to participate in this endeavor.

## Purpose

To discuss a successful partnership between medical library services, a designated clinical librarian and nursing staff at a large comprehensive cancer center.

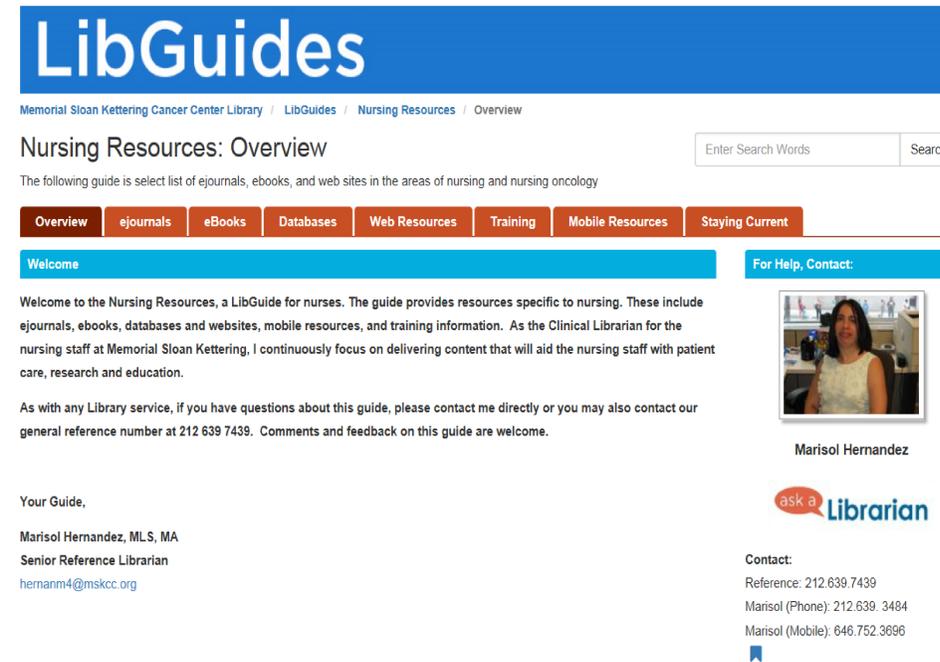
## Intervention

A clinical librarian (CL), dedicated to the Department of Nursing, serves as a 'primary point' of contact to library resources, services and training.

The CL provides in-depth literature searches that address specific clinical questions as well as provides ready reference, quick fact checking, and citation verification.

The CL also provides customized training on evidence-based practice information resources, highlights new resources, and maintains specific Nursing guides on the Library's website.

## LibGuide from MSK Library Website



**LibGuides**  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Library / LibGuides / Nursing Resources / Overview

Nursing Resources: Overview

The following guide is select list of eJournals, ebooks, and web sites in the areas of nursing and nursing oncology

Overview | eJournals | eBooks | Databases | Web Resources | Training | Mobile Resources | Staying Current

Welcome

Welcome to the Nursing Resources, a LibGuide for nurses. The guide provides resources specific to nursing. These include eJournals, eBooks, databases and websites, mobile resources, and training information. As the Clinical Librarian for the nursing staff at Memorial Sloan Kettering, I continuously focus on delivering content that will aid the nursing staff with patient care, research and education.

As with any Library service, if you have questions about this guide, please contact me directly or you may also contact our general reference number at 212 639 7439. Comments and feedback on this guide are welcome.

Your Guide,  
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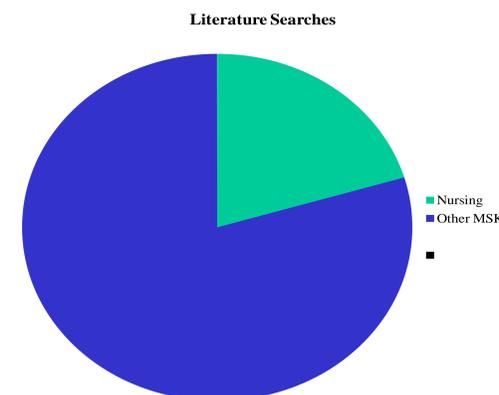
For Help, Contact

Marisol Hernandez

ask a Librarian

Contact:  
Reference: 212.639.7439  
Marisol (Phone): 212.639.3484  
Marisol (Mobile): 646.752.3696

## Library Literature Searches in 2015



## Integration within the Department of Nursing

CL is a member of the Nursing Research Committee (along with other committees and councils)

- Attends meetings to share expertise during 'works in progress' presentations
- Provides guidance to staff as needed

## Evaluation

Our CL is integrated and visible within our department and is an often mentioned as a significant benefit by nurses. Annually our CL conducts approximately 200 literature searches for nurses.

## Case Study

A clinical nurse in outpatient Radiation Oncology noticed a gap in practice in that she did not have evidence-based recommendations for skin care for her patients who were receiving post mastectomy radiation therapy to the chest wall.

She reached out to our CL for a literature search. Following a review of the literature she identified that no standard guidelines existed and reached out to a Nurse Scientist and her physician colleagues to develop a research protocol aimed at identifying the optimal skin care regimen for these patients.

Collaboration continues as a manuscript is being prepared and abstracts are being submitted.

## Implications for Nursing

Clinical nurses are in the ideal position to ask relevant questions about patient care and nursing practice.

A strategic and ongoing partnership between medical library services and nursing can support these nurses as they embark on the process of answering these questions and ultimately improving patient care and clinical outcomes.