Objective: To demonstrate how Clinical Librarians support patient care, education, research, and publishing efforts of physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals as a member of the team.

Methodology: Using SurveyMonkey, a 10-question survey was distributed via email to members of the Psychiatry Service and Nursing Department. The survey was available to users for a month. The response rate was 60% (12 responses) for the Psychiatry Service and 7% (122 responses) for the Nursing staff.

Findings: According to Fig.1 and Fig.4, both the Psychiatry Service and the Nursing Department selected literature searches as the service most utilized. The Psychiatry Service relies on literature searches for patient care issues as well as for publication endeavors. The Nursing staff makes use of literature searches to support Evidence-based practice projects which may result in change in practice.

Fig.2 demonstrates that the greatest impact of the CML program for Psychiatry is research assistance, while for Nursing as illustrated in Fig.5, the greatest impact is broadening knowledge on relevant work. For the former user group, research assistance may be applied to patient care and scholarship. For the latter group, broadening knowledge on relevant work allows for the opportunity to build on the evidence.

The majority of respondents in both user groups selected the “Always on target” choice for results delivered by the Clinical Librarians as shown in Fig.3 and Fig.6. This demonstrates overall satisfaction with the information delivered by the Clinical Librarians.

Future Plans: Additional survey results identified other services desired by both user groups. As a result, the Clinical Librarians will be implementing the following services for each group:

Psychiatry Service:
- alerts on requested topics
- grant support
- TOC alerts, e.g. Psycho-Oncology

Nursing Department:
- one-on-one orientation to Library services
- alerts on requested topics
- TOC alerts, e.g. Oncology Nursing Society publications

Selected Client Comments

“Librarian has been part of our Evidence-based project and has provided enormous support in collection and analysis of the literature.”
–Nursing Staff

“Librarian has been very helpful in formulating search queries in such a way as to pull in relevant resources that otherwise had gone unnoticed during the process of literature review.”
–Psychiatry Fellow

http://library.mskcc.org