



Update

Fall 1999

Volume XIII, No. 3/4

EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE

by Robin Ackley Hassig, MLS, AHIP – Information Services Librarian

Evidence can make or break a case. What do police detectives and clinicians both use to answer questions involving their cases? **Evidence.** The difference, of course, is that the evidence to help a patient is found in the medical literature. Finding medical evidence doesn't require dragging the bottom of the lake or seeking out eyewitnesses! The practice of **Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM)** is the integration of individual clinical expertise with the best available external evidence from systematic research for use in individual patient care. The purpose of using EBM tools and EBM methods is to save time and save lives, as the continual expansion of new medical knowledge makes it impossible for clinicians to keep up with it all. It is the clinician's responsibility to be able to find the right information when the patient's course depends on it. Here are **five basic steps for practicing EBM**:

- Convert information needs into answerable questions.
- Track down with maximum efficiency the best evidence with which to answer them.
- Critically appraise the evidence for its validity and usefulness.
- Apply the results of this appraisal in clinical practice.
- Evaluate your performance.

The first step in applying **EBM** is to develop a clear idea of what type of information you are seeking. Below, a stepwise process named "**PICO**" is described, developed by faculty at McMaster University which has used problem-based learning and evidence-based medicine in their graduate medical curriculum for more than twenty years.

P Patient population – For which group do you need information?

EXAMPLE: Post-Menopausal Women

I Intervention (or Exposure) – What medical event do you need to study the effect of?

EXAMPLE: Estrogen Replacement Therapy

C Comparison - What is the evidence that the proposed intervention produces better or worse results than no intervention, or a different type of intervention?

EXAMPLE: No Estrogen Replacement

O Outcomes - What is the effect of the intervention? EXAMPLE: Effect on Incidence of Osteoporosis and Breast or Endometrial Cancer

The next step in **EBM** is to efficiently locate potentially useful information to evaluate and apply to your patient. The library provides access to several databases and search filters to expedite your search including the **Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews**, **Best Evidence**, **MEDLINE**, **PubMed**, **MD-Consult** and access to **HSTAT** via the National Library of Medicine.

The **Cochrane Database** is published by an international group of clinicians that write systematic reviews of randomized trials on the effects of health care. These systematic reviews, on a wide range of topics, contain detailed descriptions of methodologies, results, discussion and implications for practice. **Best Evidence** is comprised of two journals, ACP Journal Club and Evidence-Based Medicine. Editors screen the top clinical journals and choose those articles that are methodologically sound and clinically relevant. They write enhanced abstracts and provide commentary on the value of each article for clinical practice. Our networked OVID **MEDLINE** makes combining subject terms, searching for particular publication types (i.e. controlled trials) or populations very easy. The "Clinical Query" search filter in **PubMed** allows you to quickly limit a search to articles focusing on etiology, diagnosis, therapy or prognosis. **MD-Consult** contains 600 peer-reviewed practice guidelines that provide evidence-based information, 35 full-text books and 45 full-text journals. **HSTAT** provides access to full-text AHCPR Guidelines and evidence-based clinical information, NIH Studies and Consensus Development Programs and SAMHSA/CSAT Treatment Improvement Protocols.

The last three steps in **EBM** are to appraise the evidence, apply the results and evaluate the outcomes. Help with the appraisal of the evidence can be found on the Internet at the following URL: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/lib/health/hw/ebhc/pubs.html>. On this page are links to the Users' Guides to the Health Care Literature, a series from JAMA, a series from BMJ on How to Read a Paper and more electronic publications on reading and evaluating the information you find.

The sheer volume of new health care information being published in print and electronically each year, doubled with the scant time a clinician has to read it all, makes it impossible to keep up with all the valuable studies. **Using EBM is an efficient and effective way to provide better patient care.** Use the databases accessible from the Library's Web page whenever and wherever a question arises. Information Services librarians offer a two-hour class on searching the **EBM** databases outlined above. To sign up for a training class, or to talk with a librarian about the practice of evidence-based medicine, call Information Services at 860/ 679-2942 or e-mail HASSIG@NSO.UCHC.EDU.



What's that new look ? LYMAN ON THE WEB

by Lorna Wright, MLS - Head, Technical Services

Here's something that has changed over the summer-- Web access to the **UCHC library catalog!** Throughout June and July, library staff has been hard at work preparing and installing a new Web interface onto the UCHC library's online catalog. During the Fall semester, you will see LYMAN become a Web link from our library homepage... and you'll find extensive instructions and help screens to you get started. Live, clickable links from the online catalog connect directly to Internet resources (which may include graphics, full-text or live video). Here is an example: Current Bibliographies in Medicine: "Multicultural Aspects of Breast Cancer Etiology", Vol. 99:1, (Jan.1993—Dec. 1998). From LYMAN, to view the full-text and/or print this bibliography, click on <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/resources.html>

- ✓ You can view **your own patron information online** to review titles of library material which have been charged out to your card. You can even renew these materials without having to come into the library by sending a request through LYMAN on the Web!
- ✓ **Special requests** such as placing a "hold" on library materials can be performed easily--by you! Go into LYMAN, search for the item and then follow the online instructions for placing a "hold".
- ✓ **Search other library catalogs simultaneously.** For example, once the UCONN-Storrs Library holdings have been linked to LYMAN, you can do one search to find holdings in both catalogs.
- ✓ The National Library of Medicine has recently installed the same Web interface for their online catalog, at this URL: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/> The graphics are different, but the methods of searching are the same as on our new LYMAN.

Please direct questions about the "new Lyman" to Information Services staff at 860/ 679-2942 or e-mail LIBRARY@NSO.UCHC.EDU.

WEB OF SCIENCE is HERE !

THANKS TO THE UCONN-STORRS LIBRARY, HEALTH CENTER STAFF CAN NOW ACCESS THE WEB VERSION OF SCIENCE CITATION INDEX and TWO OTHER DATABASES AT THIS URL:

<http://webofscience.com>

DOCVIEW

by Dorothy Kalahan, UCHC Interlibrary Loan

In the spring of 1998, a doctor in England contacted the University of Connecticut Health Center Library. He needed articles from medical journals that we owned, and he needed them quickly. There was no fax available to him but he had excellent Internet connections. He used the Internet to connect to **PubMed**, National Library of Medicine's free MEDLINE, in order to locate citations from clinical journals pertinent to his patient. Then he used the Internet to search LYMAN to determine which serials the Health Center owned. Finally, he e-mailed his interlibrary loan requests to us, where Health Center library staff created a file containing all the information the doctor wanted. Using a scanner and software to create multi-page TIFF files of the articles requested, staff transmitted the journal articles electronically via e-mail to the physician using an application called **DOCVIEW** to "read" the documents. **DOCVIEW**, a software program created by the National Library of Medicine, works in 16-bit or 32-bit Windows environment (that means it will work with Windows 95 or Windows 98). The software is easy to install and use. Both the program and instructions are available for FREE downloading from the National Library of Medicine Web site, at: <http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/docview/project.htm>

DOCVIEW allows the user to receive multi-page TIFF documents via FTP (File Transfer Protocol) or MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) via e-mail. Once the documents are received, they can be viewed, zoomed, shrunk, rotated, marked and printed. Since 1998, UCHC Interlibrary Loan staff has successfully transmitted health science information to places such as Japan and Oman -- as well as literally across campus. Transmittal time takes place in less time than it takes to walk across the room! What are minimum hardware and system requirements for running **DOCVIEW**? The user will need a 386 computer or higher with a speed of at least 33 Mhz, 8 megabytes of available memory and an Internet connection. A dedicated Internet connection is required to receive documents

by FTP. A dial-up connection is sufficient to receive documents by e-mail or MIME compatible e-mail client software, and sufficient memory to receive (and print) large graphics files. Currently only black & white bitmapped TIFF images are supported. Staff at the Health Center is presently discussing ways to use **DOCVIEW** to the greatest benefit for our Library users. If you have comments or questions about this program, or would like to experiment with **DOCVIEW** in your office, please contact Interlibrary Loan at 860/ 679-2940 or e-mail ILL@NSO.UCHC.EDU.



WEB OF SCIENCE - Search Tips

by Jill Livingston, MLS - Information Services Librarian and Webmaster

- TIP 1** Case is irrelevant. Upper, lower, or mixed case can be used.
- TIP 2** Search operators that can be used include:
AND all terms joined by AND must appear in the record
OR any of the terms joined by OR must appear in the record
NOT the term following NOT must not appear in the record
SAME terms joined by SAME must occur within the same sentence
- TIP 3** Parentheses can be to distinguish relationships in multi-operator statements.
EXAMPLE: (Osteoporosis OR Skeletal Status) AND Male
- TIP 4** Asterisks can be used to truncate words or names. An **asterisk** represents any number of characters, including zero characters. A **question mark** represents a single character.
EXAMPLE: Searching for the term **digest*** retrieves digest, digesting, digestion
EXAMPLE: Searching for the term **s*ark** retrieves shark, spark, stark
- TIP 5** To conduct a search by source, type the full journal title-- not abbreviations.
- TIP 6** Words that appear in author addresses are frequently abbreviated. Use the proper abbreviations (check the HELP screens). U.S. states are abbreviated using the standard two-character abbreviations.

EXAMPLE: For articles authored by UCHC staff, enter **Univ SAME Farmington**

For more complete instructions go to WOS's help page:

<http://webofscience.com/help/helpquik.html>

UCHC LIBRARY IS AWARDED A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE'S "PARTNERS IN INFORMATION ACCESS" PROGRAM

By Kathleen Crea, MLS, 6th Year, AHIP – Information Services Librarian and Editor

In 1997, a survey conducted by the Connecticut Department of Public Health queried professional staff from 114 Connecticut district or town departments of public health about their access to the Internet. The results of the survey found that currently there are 22 district or municipal departments of public health, and 14 part-time health departments, without means of accessing health data via the Internet. Last summer, Marion Levine, Associate Library Director, applied for funding from National Library of Medicine's "Partners in Information Access" program. **Her application was approved!** Announced on May 3, 1999, by the National Library of Medicine, the grant was funded for \$44,859.

This money will be used to provide each of these Connecticut public health agencies with modems and the means to establish ISP (Internet Service Provider) accounts. The time period runs from May 1999 to April 2001. Ms. Levine will be the principal project director. After the first phase of installation is completed, Ms. Levine plans on conducting outreach training programs over the next two years. The training will be targeted toward teaching public health professional staff to effectively search the Internet for the vast amounts of public health and biostatistical information published electronically by world or U.S. agencies. Her goal is to provide outreach and training for at least 90% of full-time, and 80% of part-time, public health professionals in these selected towns. The Connecticut Dept. of Public Health and other state organizations will actively conduct publicity for the grant. An exhibit on this "Partners in Information Access" award is planned for each annual conference of the Connecticut Public Health Association. For further information on this exciting outreach project, please contact Marion Holena Levine at 860/ 679-2840 or email LEVINE@NSO.UCHC.EDU.



PLEASE WELCOME... TWO NEW LIBRARIANS

GEOFFREY GERRIETTS is now Network Coordinator for Region 8 of the National Networks of Libraries of Medicine. He received an MS in Library & Information Science degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in August of 1998. **DANIELLE CUMMINGS**, Network Systems Librarian, graduated from Southern Connecticut State University in May 1999, with a Masters in Library Science and worked previously as a network administrator at a law firm in Waterbury.

NEW SOFTWARE IN THE COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTER

by Lynn White, MLS – Head, Computer Education Center

Genetic Sonogram. Farmington, CT: Univ. of Connecticut School of Medicine, 1999. **WQ 209 G358 1999 CAI**

Written and produced by UCHC's own Dr. James Egan, this searchable electronic atlas covers all aspects of genitourinary pathology including histology for a broad range of disease and non-disease states for 700+ images (with supporting text).

Atlas of Blood Pathology. New York: Chapman & Hall, 1997.

WH140 A881c 1997 CAI

Central Nervous System. Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven, 1996.

WL 300 C397n 1996 CAI

A teaching and reference tool for radiologists, containing images, animated sequences, video, together with text and audio commentary.

CA: ADAM Software and Benjamin/Cummings Publishers, 1999. **QT 104 A198 1999**

Animation, sound, narration and video are used to explain the most challenging physiological concepts and processes of the muscular system of the human body.

Cardiac Auscultation. Los Angeles, CA: MedTech USA, 1998.

WG 141.5 .A9 C267 1998

Interactive Atlas of Clinical Anatomy. Summit, NJ: Novartis, 1997. **QS 17**

N474b 1997 CAI

Combines the illustrations of Frank H. Netter, M.D., with software containing 900 illustrations of normal anatomy plus clinical correlations.

A.D.A.M. Interactive Physiology: Fluids and Electrolytes. Menlo Park,

Hypertension. Summit, NJ: Novartis, 1997. **WG 340 H998H 1997 CAI**

Sedation Simulator. Univ. of Washington Dept. of Anesthesiology. Issaquah, WA: Anesoft, 1997. **WO 300 S447 1998 CAI**

Neuroanatomy Interactive Syllabus.

Seattle, WA: University of Washington, 1998. **WL 300 N494f 1998 CAI**

This program is a comprehensive atlas and image-based tutorial on the human central nervous system designed for both laboratory presentations and as an independent study aid on the nervous system.

CD-Atlas of Ophthalmology. London: Mosby International, 1998. **WW 140 C414 1998 CA**

Clinical Medicine. Baltimore, MD: Mosby, 1997. **WB 115 C752 1997 CAI**
Students are able to experience the full spectrum of clinical abnormalities through a multimedia database, supplemented by ultrasound, radiologic and endoscopic images.

CD Atlas of Allergies. St. Louis, MO: Mosby, 1997. **WD 300 C415 1997 CAI**

CD-ROM Pathology of the Skin. Baltimore, MD: Mosby, 1997. **WR 105 M154a 1997 CAI**

Please contact Lynn White, Head, Computer Education Center for comments or suggestions on educational software, at 860/ 679-4253 or email WHITE@NSO.UCHC.EDU.

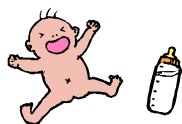
UCHC Library Adds Two New Online Databases

by Hongjie Wang, MLS, MA – Head, Information Services

The UCHC library recently purchased two databases, **MD-Consult** and **Web of Science**.

- **MD-Consult** is a full-text medical database which offers access to 35 leading medical texts and over 45 key clinical journals. This online full-text resource is designed to answer clinical questions, stay up-to-date with the latest in medicine and is accessible to all UCHC faculty, staff and students after filling out an online registration form.
- **Web of Science** is a multidisciplinary database for searching recent citations in the sciences, social sciences, humanities and arts. This database allows users to locate those scholarly works that have cited earlier published articles. The coverage is from 1994 to 1999. Web of Science is accessible from any computer connected to UCHC's computer network. No password is necessary.

Just go to the library's home page at <http://www3.uchc.edu/~uchclib> to access these resources (reserved for UCHC staff only). Information Services librarians will offer training classes on these new databases starting in September. For more information or to get help searching **MD-Consult** or **Web of Science**, contact Information Services at 860/ 679-2942 or email WANG@NSO.UCHC.EDU.



Congratulations to Nancy Putnam and her husband, Dennis, on the birth of their baby, a daughter named Emma, on the Fourth of July! Nancy is Outreach Coordinator for Region 8 of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

ELECTRONIC REQUEST FORMS

UCHC Library has made available – from the Library Home Page – **electronic forms** for the submission of interlibrary loan, document delivery or photocopy requests. Patrons who are already familiar with this convenient means of requesting documents may be happy to learn that the forms have been revised to allow you to "copy and paste" from other online sources, such as citations from MEDLINE, PubMed, Web of Science, etc. Find instruction on how to best use this service at: <http://www3.uchc.edu/~uchclib/departm/ill/instruct.html>



NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

by Helen Madden, MLS – Catalog Librarian

TRUST MATTERS: New Directions in Health Care Leadership. Authors: Michael Annison, Dan Wilford. San Francisco : Jossey-Bass, 1998. **WA 540 AA1 A615t 1998**
Offers practical information and tools to help health care managers and professionals invigorate their institutions, develop trust, gain the confidence of the people they work with and the patients they serve, and create an atmosphere in which people believe in each other and enjoy working together.

THE PERSON AS PATIENT: Psychosocial Perspectives for the Health Care Professional. Editor: Elisa Ramsden. London: WB Saunders, 1999. **W 62 P467 1999**
Examines psychosocial aspects of health care focused on the needs of the health care professional. Both caregiver and patient make judgements based on psychosocial factors in their own personal experience. When these judgements influence the administration and course of treatment, it is important that health professionals have an awareness of the factors involved in order to achieve successful outcomes in the management of their clients.

HANDBOOK FOR MORTALS: Guidance for People Facing Serious Illness. Authors: Joanne Lynn and Joan Harrold & Staff at Center to Improve Care of the Dying, George Washington University. New York : Oxford Univ. Press, 1999. **BF 789 D4 H236 1999**

LEGAL ASPECTS OF HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION (7th ed). Author: George Pozgar. Gaithersburg, MD: Aspen Publishers, 1999. **W 44 P893 1999**
An overview of major issues in health law, discussed using a commonly understood vocabulary rather than complex legal jargon. Explanations, definitions, and case examples are used to arm health care professionals with the knowledge necessary to perform their jobs within legally defined parameters.

WEB WATCHER : EPIDEMIOLOGY and PUBLIC HEALTH INFO

by Kathleen Crea, MLS, 6th Year, AHIP - Information Services Librarian and Editor

Created as an instructional handout for "Health Informatics", a 3-credit graduate course for Masters in Public Health students at UCHC, this latest Web-bibliography is entitled "**Epidemiology & Public Health Sites**". If you are in need of online access to an ever-growing collection of U.S. and international public health data, biostatistics, environmental or occupational health concerns, check these links out by turning your browser to: <http://www3.uchc.edu/~uchclib/eduoff/episites.html>.



LYMAN MAYNARD STOWE LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER
P.O. BOX 4003
FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06034-4003

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID
Permit No. 13
Farmington, CT

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? PLEASE E-MAIL THEM TO THE EDITOR AT CREA@NSO.UCHC.EDU

Update

FALL 1999
Volume XIII, No. 3/4

Library Director:	Ralph D. Arcari	ARCARI@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Associate Director:	Marion Holena Levine	LEVINE@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Computer Education Center:	Lynn White	WHITE@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Head, Circulation and ILL:	Jackie Lewis	JLEWIS@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Head, Information Services:	Hongjie Wang	WANG@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Head, Technical Services:	Lorna Wright	WRIGHT@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Healthnet:	Alberta Richetelle	RICHELLE@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Network Systems Librarian:	Sheryl Bai	BAI@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Region 8 - Assoc. Director, NN/LM:	John Stey	STEY@NSO.UCHC.EDU
Collection Management and Serials:	Arta Dobbs	DOBBS@NSO.UCHC.EDU
UPDATE Editor:	Kathleen Crea	CREA@NSO.UCHC.EDU