Collaboration between healthcare professionals and librarians can significantly affect quality improvement initiatives. The Penn State Hershey Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Council (NREBP) consists of members from each nursing unit and a medical librarian. In the summer of 2013, the council established a goal to develop the means for translating research and/or evidence into practice at the point of care. To help achieve this goal the NREBP Council, with the librarian’s assistance, introduced and promoted the Nursing Reference Center (NRC) at the Point of Care throughout the Department of Nursing via the shared governance Council structure.

Over 150 nurses received an overview of NRC during in-service training on the clinical units. Another 60 nurses were trained during regular scheduled council meetings. The NRC was also integrated into the hospital’s electronic medical record system which allowed for easier access. Council members developed tools and templates to gather information related to utilization of NRC on their units. Responses were received from over 40 clinical nursing units, with an overall 22% response rate. Nurses were asked if they were using NRC to assist in patient care during their shifts; 33% of those who answered the question accessed it at the point of care. When asked to what extent they found NRC information helpful for patient care, 30.9% found it very helpful, 51.9% found it somewhat helpful and 17.2% found it not helpful at all. Not all who answered the survey had received training.

Introducing and promoting library resources that help translate research and/or evidence into practice remains a challenge. Creating a partnership between the library and the Department of Nursing via the shared governance Council structure has shown to help raise awareness and increase use of NRC at the point of care. Council members will continue to identify specific strategies to implement NRC on their clinical units and promote use of Nursing Reference Center to guide competency, education, nursing interventions, policy development and product evaluation.

Read the full success story at: http://support.ebsco.com/knowledge_base/detail.php?id=7294

In 2013, the Medical Center implemented NRC, EBSCO Health’s clinical information resource designed specifically for nurses. By integrating NRC with its Electronic Health Record (EHR) system, the Medical Center has enabled 1,700 clinical nurses to quickly acquire relevant, evidence-based content at the point of care.

For What Purpose Did You Use NRC?

Nurses’ Comments about NRC

- Informative, clear, and current.
- I like the in depth info you can find on diseases or meds I’m unfamiliar with.
- User friendly, easy to navigate.
- Concise clinical info.
- Very helpful for our policy writing!
- I use the continuing education links frequently - really appreciate having that as a resource.
- Easy to use and comprehensive.
- Enjoy the free CEU’s.
- Great resource/refresher for all kinds of nursing information.

Usage Report


NRC icon located on the Electronic Medical Record