

Resources for Hematology on and off the Web

Shirley Sebald-Kinder, MLS, AHIP^a, Janet L. Petty, MLIS, AHIP^{b,*}

KEYWORDS

- Evidence-based practice • Grading scales • Hematology • PICO
- Patient education • Consumer health

KEY POINTS

- The expansion of information, although improving patient outcomes, is hard to keep up with in health care.
- Evidence-based practice has developed as a way to filter out unreliable, low-quality information by providing steps for critically analyzing and grading the information to provide best-practice care.
- Resources for hematology-related information include journal articles, books, databases, and organizations.
- Locating hematology information for patients and family members is one of the most challenging of all health care topics.

INTRODUCTION

According to some estimations, medical information has been doubling every 5 years since 2000.¹ Consequently, as technology continues to advance, allowing easier access to the Internet, it has created a worldwide information “explosion.” This process has contributed to improved patient outcomes because health care information used to diagnose and treat patients is now accessible at the point of care for health care providers.

Physicians currently need to read 7287 articles per month or 29 hours per week to keep up with published literature in the primary care field.² McGrath and colleagues³ projected that more than 500,000 articles would be added to the health care literature during 2012. Evidence-based practice has emerged as the standard for providing quantifiable, reliable clinical care outcomes with randomized controlled trials, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and clinical practice guidelines.⁴⁻⁶

^a Premier Health Learning Institute, Craig Memorial Library, Miami Valley Hospital, One Wyoming Street, Dayton, OH 45409, USA; ^b Patient and Family Education, Premier Health Learning Institute, Craig Memorial Library, Miami Valley Hospital, One Wyoming Street, Dayton, OH 45409, USA

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: jlpetty@premierhealth.com

Accrediting and certification bodies continue to drive standards, ensuring clinicians have access to knowledge-based information resources. The Joint Commission guidelines state that information should be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.⁷ In addition, nursing research and evidence-based practice is a key part of the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet model for new knowledge, innovations and improvements.⁸

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

The nursing literature database, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), contains 4.8 million citations⁹ and the US National Library of Medicine database, PubMed, includes more than 22 million citations and abstracts.¹⁰ The ability to navigate through information from books, journals, point-of-care products, and organizational Web sites presents multiple challenges to health care providers to keep abreast of new technologies and approaches to patient care. Furthermore, evidence-based practice involves multiple elements: (1) the use of current patient-centered research that has been determined to provide the best patient outcomes; (2) the clinician's expertise; and (3) the patient's specific values, preferences, and needs.^{4,6} In order to provide information that is research-based/evidence-based; current; reliable; high quality; and, most important, safe for the patient, information should meet certain requirements, which include the following.

Before searching the literature, the question must first be formulated into the PICO(T) format, which helps clinicians focus on the population/patient/problem being studied, intervention to be used, comparison of the intervention, outcomes and, if needed, time factors. The PICO(T) format assists when questioning cause, diagnosis, therapy, prognosis, and prevention.¹¹ The following example is one approach using PICO(T) related to cause. Are type 2 diabetic patients (P), who take metformin (I), compared with type 2 diabetics who do not take metformin (C), at a greater risk for developing vitamin B₁₂ deficiency (O) over a period of 1 year (T)?^{12,13}

The next step is to search the literature using evidence-based databases (Cochrane Library, Joanna Briggs Institute), guidelines (National Guideline Clearinghouse), point-of-care tools (DynaMed, UpToDate), journal databases (CINAHL, PubMed), and organizations (National Hemophilia Foundation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). Another reliable resource providing lists of evidence-based resources is Essential Nursing Resources from the Interagency Council on Information Resources in Nursing.¹⁴

Once a search of the literature is completed, it is then important to appraise the literature critically to determine whether the information obtained answers the PICO(T) question. Carefully examine the results, validity, and reliability of the studies, as well as benefits to the patient when using this practice. Important factors to evaluate include when the study was completed, the date that the results of the study were published, investigators' credentials, any endorsements by governing bodies or organizations, type of patients studied, type of research (randomized, observational), and how the evidence was graded.¹⁵⁻¹⁷

Specific grading scales can be used when evaluating the literature, such as Joanna Briggs Institute, Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), or the United States Task Force on Community Preventive Services. The levels of recommendations vary depending on the grading scale used to evaluate the literature. Recommendations can be strong; moderate; sufficient; expert opinion; or not supported, being insufficient under research design, consistency of results, number of studies, or effectiveness.¹⁸⁻²⁰

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5636473>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5636473>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)