Guide to Planning your Research – NURSING - RN

Step 1: Define subject:

Handbooks:
- Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy REF. RC 55 .M4 2011
- *Patient safety and quality: an evidence-based handbook for nurses* ed. (Online)

Encyclopedias:
- Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing & Allied Health REF. RT 21 .G353

Step 2: Vocabulary or Thesaurus

Dictionaries:
- Mosby's Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing & Health Professions REF. R 121 .M89 2013
- Stedman's Medical Dictionary REF. R 121 .S8
- Taber’s Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary R 121 .T18 2013 (R)

Step 3: Sources of information: collections of books & videos (library catalog)

**Davis's NCLEX-RN Success**
- **Author:** Lagerquist, Sally L., ed.
- **Call Number:** RT 55 .D386 2012
- **Location:** STACKS/CAREERS
- **Publisher:** Philadelphia, PA : F.A. Davis Company, 2012.
- **Availability:** Available for Circulation

**Physical Examination & Health Assessment Series [Videorecording]**
- **Author:** Jarvis, Carolyn
- **Call Number:** RC 76 .J37 2008
- **Location:** INQUIRE AT CIRCULATION DESK
- **Publisher:** Philadelphia, PA : Saunders Elsevier, c2008.
- **Availability:** Available for Circulation

Periodicals in databases and in paper form: magazines, newspapers & journals

- American Journal of Nursing RT 1 .A5 (display: stacks 1983-present)
- Computers in Nursing RT 50.5 .C645 (stacks 1990-2002)
- Critical Care Nurse RT 120 .I5 C74 (stacks 1999-2005)
- Critical Care Nursing Quarterly RC 86 .C17 (stacks 1990-2005)

PERIODICAL DATABASES

Online information databases are large, regularly updated collections of digitized information -- including but not limited to abstracts and full text articles from journals and newspapers, conference proceedings and submitted papers, dissertations, government reports, essays, book chapters, web pages, etc. The content is created by publishers who release print versions, then lease the rights to their information to database vendors. Database records are easy to search and retrieve because the content of each record has been analyzed and assigned appropriate subject headings, keywords, names, etc. New records are regularly downloaded from the producer of each database. Gates Memorial Library Databases

- Academic Search Complete
- AcademicIndex.net
- Alt HealthWatch
- CINAHL
- Health Reference Center Academic
Research guides are located on the Gates Memorial Library Home Page. You may access them to link to Web Sites.

**RN Resources on the Web** (associations, universities, organizations, etc.)
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ): Evidence-Based Practice Reports
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Evaluating Health Information: Medline Plus
- MedlinePlus Guide to Healthy Web Surfing
- National Institutes of Health
- National Institute of Nursing Research
- Nursing Ethics Codes
- PubMed

**Citing Sources**
Each database provides “How to cite” for each article but these sites provide more information for citing various media (books, databases, websites, etc.)

The guides and links in this section will enable persons to properly use body citations and create works cited or bibliography pages.

- APA Style
- MLA Style
- EasyBib MLA citation creator
- Referencing Tool
- Son of Citation Machine
- Turabian Style
- University of California Berkeley (APA, MLA, Chicago)

If you need further assistance, please ask a librarian, in person or online Ask/Chat with a Librarian

Lamar State College, Library Services, 317 Stilwell Blvd., Port Arthur, TX 409-984-6220