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Library Website: www.epcc.edu/library

EPCC Nursing LibGuide:
<http://epcc.libguides.com/nursingpharmacology>

Pharmacology

Library Resources

When you are given a research assignment, the first question you may ask is **How do I get Started?** This handout will provide you with the information you need to get started and to use the library to find the information you need.

Getting Started

1. **Choose** a topic. Your instructor might give you a topic or ask you to choose one. If you can't think of a topic:
 - Look at some of the current nursing journals we have in the library to see what is going on in the nursing field.
 - Read your textbook for ideas.
 - Look through some reference books that are related to the assignment.
 - Think of a patient you may have had in clinicals.
 - Ask your instructor for ideas.
2. Learn more about your topic by finding **"Background Information"** in dictionaries, encyclopedias, and reputable websites.
 - Background information provides you with a brief overview of your topic so that you will have a basic understanding of your topic prior to looking for books, articles, etc...
 - Depending on the type of topic you will get information such as type of disease, symptoms, treatment; for theories, name of key theorists, what the theory is, etc...; for controversial issues, what is the controversy, both sides of the issue, etc...
2. Now that you know some information about your topic, **write** your topic down on a sheet of paper.
3. Break the topic down into **keywords**. Think of as many words as you can to describe your topic.
 - **Example:** Diabetes and Obesity in Mexican American children in El Paso.
 - **Keywords:** Diabetes; Obesity; Overweight; BMI; Mexican American; Hispanic; Children; Adolescents; Teenagers; El Paso; Texas; Border
4. Find out what **kinds of sources** you can use: books, e-books, magazines, journals, web sites...

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Check if EPCC owns a Particular Journal

You may find that a database only provides a citation but not the full-text article. To find out if we own the full-text article on another database or in print, try the following:

In Print

- Go to the library homepage
- Click on "library catalog"
- Right side of page, click on "Magazines/Journals/Newspapers"
- Enter the journal title needed
- If owned, will show you at which campus and the years owned

In Electronic Format

- Go to the library homepage
- Click on "online databases"
- Click on "alphabetical list of databases"
- Click on Letter "A"
- Click on "A to Z index" (off-campus available also)
- Enter title of journal in search box
- If owned, will give you name of database. Click on it.

FINDING ARTICLES

When you need to search for articles you will use the library's online databases.

An online database contains articles from magazines, journals, and newspapers that you can find using keywords.

To get started:

1. Go to the **library webpage**:
www.epcc.edu/library.
2. Click on "**Online Databases.**"

3. You will retrieve listings of databases that are grouped by subject.
4. Choose the subject closest to your topic: **Health and Wellness; General Interest** (good for any topic);
5. Select one of the databases and click on the title to get started. (If at home, click on "**off-campus access.**")

HEALTH AND WELLNESS ARTICLES

- **CINAHL with Full Text**: Provides access to almost 3,000 nursing journals (600 full-text)
 - **Topic:** *Medication Overuse Headache: Too much of a Good Thing*
 - **Keywords:** Medication Overuse Headache; Rebound Headache
 - Enter keywords: **Medication Overuse Headache** (checkmark full-text)
 - Boxes to checkmark:
 - Full-Text
 - Publication Date: 2011-2013
 - Click on the title of the article you would like to read. (Print, save, or e-mail)
- **ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Source**—Provides access to over 875 full-text nursing journals, magazines, books and videos.
 - **Topic:** *The EpiPen: Don't Leave Home Without It*
 - **Keywords:** EpiPen; Adrenaline; Epinephrine; Adrenaline Auto Injector Devices; Anaphylaxis;
 - Enter keywords: **Anaphylaxis and Adrenaline**
 - When results are retrieved, click on Scholarly journals on the right side and adjust the publication dates at the bottom right.
 - Click on the title of the article you would like to read. (Print, save, or e-mail)
- **Health Reference Center Academic**—Provides access to more than 1700 full-text sources including journals, images, videos, and podcasts.
 - **Topic:** *Emergency Contraception*
 - **Keywords:** Emergency Contraception; mifepristone; levonorgestrel; ulipristal acetate; morning after pill;
 - Enter keywords: **Emergency Contraception**
 - In order by publication date.
 - Click on the title of the article you would like to read. (Print, save, or e-mail)

Other Databases to try:

Academic Search Complete
 Pubmed.gov
 Google Scholar (www.google.com—more—even more-scholar)

Micromedex (**Great Information for Drugs**)
 STAT!Ref (**Medical eBooks**)

For Pubmed and Google Scholar, use the directions on the side bar to find the full-text for articles found.