

COM Library's How to Research Nursing

COM LIBRARY, INFORMATION FOR LIFE...

This COM Library Guide describes resources available for Nursing. Find [books](#), [eBooks](#), [articles](#), or [Internet resources](#). When researching nursing topics, please keep in mind that those resources older than 5 years should not be used, unless they are used for historical information. This guide is available online 24/7 (the most current version) at <http://library.com.edu/PDF/Nursing.pdf>.

Not sure how to cite your sources? Go to COM Library's *How to Cite APA Style* (<http://library.com.edu/PDF/APAStyleGuide.pdf>).



Books

How to find print books and eBooks

To find books, search COM Library's catalog, COMCat: <http://comcat.com.edu/>. COMCat is Web based and may be searched on any computer in the world with Internet access.

Best COMCat Search

1. Access COMCat
2. Select *Connect to the Library catalog*
3. Select the *Advanced Search* option
4. type in: *nurs?*
5. Select *Search in: Subject*

You will retrieve all books, eBooks, pamphlets and media with nurse or nursing as the subject. There will also be a few items on your list with nursery as the subject, but the vast majority will be on nursing.

Subject Headings

When you want books on nursing and related topics, search the Library Catalog for the following subject headings. There are many more subject headings available. Try the Library of Congress Subject Headings books for even more. Access the catalog at: <http://comcat.com.edu/>.

When you want books, search COMCat for the following subject headings. Try the Library of Congress Subject Headings books for more subject headings.

Geriatric Nursing
Intensive Care Nursing

Nursing--Dictionaries
Nursing Ethics

Maternity Nursing
Nurse and Patient
Nurse Practitioners
Nursing
Nursing Assessment
Nursing Care Plans

Nursing--Handbooks, Manuals, etc.
Nursing--Practice
Nursing--Psychological Aspects
Obstetrical Nursing
Pediatric Nursing
Surgical Nursing

Related Subject Headings

Alcoholism
Diagnosis
Drugs--Dosage
Drugs--Handbooks, Manuals, etc.
Internal Medicine
Medical Care
Medical Care--United States--
Statistics

Medicine--Dictionaries
Narcotic Habit
Nutrition
Pharmaceutical Arithmetic
Physical Diagnosis
Symptomatology

Call Numbers

If you want to browse the shelves, try the following call numbers in reference and the main collection.

R - Medicine
RA - Public Aspects of medicine,
regulations, disease, immunity
RB - Pathology
RC - Internal medicine, popular
medicine, neurology, psychiatry,
sports medicine
RD - Surgery, emergency surgery,
surgical nursing
RE - Ophthalmology, ophthalmic
nursing
RG - Gynecology and obstetrics
RJ - Pediatrics, pediatric nursing

RK - Dentistry
RL - Dermatology
RM - Therapeutics, pharmacology
RS - pharmacy and material
medical
RT - Nursing, specialties in nursing
RX - Homeopathy
RZ - Other systems of medicine,
Chiropractic, Osteopathy, Mental
healing

Reference Books

When you need statistics, definitions, scientific values/tables, much of this information can be found in reference books. Reference books are kept in a separate collection on the main floor of the library. The list below includes the most frequently used reference books for nursing with their call numbers. Check the Library Catalog for additional reference materials at: <http://comcat.com.edu/>.

Intravenous medications : a handbook for nurses and allied health professionals
RM170 .G33 2006

Lippincott manual of nursing practice RT51 .B78 2006

Mosby's Diagnostic & Laboratory Test reference QV 39 M894

Mosby's dictionary of medicine, nursing & health R121 .M89 2006
Mosby's nursing drug reference RM 301.12 M67
Nursing ... drug handbook RM301.12 .N87
PDR nurse's drug handbook. RM125 .P472
Prentice Hall nurse's drug guide RM125 .N78

To cite your sources:

Concise rules of APA style BF76.7 .C66 2005

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association BF 76.7 P83 2001

eBooks

COM Library has access to eBooks, electronic versions of printed books. To access them, go to *Find Books* and click on *eBooks*. From this page you can access both free eBooks and eBooks only available to COM Library users. Through *netLibrary* you can access thousands of full textbooks. Please note the special instructions on the *eBooks* page for accessing the *netLibrary* collection: <http://library.com.edu/books/ebooks.htm#COM>.



Top Tip

Searching NetLibrary using the same term as the *Quick Catalog Search* will usually retrieve good results.



Articles

How to find articles from print journals and online databases.

The COM Library has online databases that can help you locate articles on nursing.

Online Databases

COM Library has access to many online databases that have full text articles.

Best Bet Databases

To access the COM Library databases that are your best bets for articles and information on nursing go to COM Library's *Databases: Health & Medicine* (<http://library.com.edu/ARTICLES/databases.htm#Health>). Each database has a link to its current list of journals where available. CINAHL is considered the definitive nursing database, but the other databases in this category also have valuable information.

Here are a few CINAHL tips:



CINAHL Top Tips

CINAHL has some great features that can get you what you want faster:

Refine Search



Use the *Refine Search* tab under the search box to get exactly what you want: limits include options like full text, peer reviewed, inpatient, outpatient, pregnancy, age groups, and special interest, such as Evidence-Based Practice, or

Wound Care. Note: You need to scroll down CINAHLs page to see the very specific options listed above.

Narrow Results

Narrow Results by Subject
[Pregnancy](#)
[Female](#)
[Fetus](#)
Narrow Results by Journal
[Nutrition Reviews](#)
[American Journal of Clinical Nutrition](#)

Once you've performed a search, use the *Narrow results* options on the left side to the screen. You can narrow by more specific subject, specific journals, or even authors.

Add to folder



Use the *Add* icon to add your favorite articles to your folder to save yourself some time.

Periodicals

The list below reflects periodicals currently subscribed to by the COM Library:

- American Journal of Nursing
- Critical Care Nurse
- Journal of Psychological Nursing
- LPN
- Nursing Made Incredibly Easy
- Nursing Times
- Nursing Year



Internet Resources

How to find resources from the Web.

The Internet can be an excellent resource for nursing and medical information, but you have to be discriminating. Check out the Medical Library Association's *A User's Guide to Finding and Evaluating Health Information on the Web* before you get started:

<http://www.mlanet.org/resources/userguide.html>.

COM Library Pages

- Health: <http://library.com.edu/internet/intsub/Health.htm>.
- Health News: <http://library.com.edu/internet/news/health.htm>.
- Nutrition & Dietary Supplements:
http://library.com.edu/internet/intsub/Health_Nutrition.htm.

Best Bets on the Internet

- about.com: Nursing: <http://nursing.about.com/health/nursing/mbody.htm>.
- Mayo Clinic: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/>.
- The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy:
<http://www.merck.com/pubs/mmanual/sections.htm>.
- New England Journal of Medicine: <http://content.nejm.org/>.
- NursingCenter.com: <http://www.nursingcenter.com/>.
- Nurse Web Search: <http://www.nursewebsearch.com/>.

- RxList: <http://www.rxlist.com/>.

Reserves

Material placed on reserve by your instructor should be requested at the circulation desk. Some library items are placed on permanent reserve and also must be requested at the circulation desk. You may check for reserves by clicking on the *Course Reserves* tab in the Library Catalog at: <http://comcat.com.edu/> and searching by *Department* or *Course*.

Questions?

If you still have questions after reading this guide, try some of COM Library's *FAQs* (<http://library.com.edu/faqs/FAQs.htm>), access *Library Jargon* (<http://library.com.edu/help/jargon.htm>) for definitions of library terms, or you may ask the Reference Librarian for assistance. The Reference Office is located on the ground floor of the library near the Online Library.