

# Librarians as Key Members of the Magnet Team:

## A Survey of their Role

Authors: Pamela Sherwill-Navarro, MALS, AHIP & Margaret Allen, MALS, AHIP



### INTRODUCTION

This presentation reports results of a survey of Magnet facilities' information resources and collaboration with librarians.

Information was gathered about knowledge-based resources, services, and support provided to nurses preparing for Magnet certification.

Medical librarians in institutions working towards Magnet status want to know how they can collaborate with nurses on the journey to excellence.



<http://nahrs.mlanet.org/>

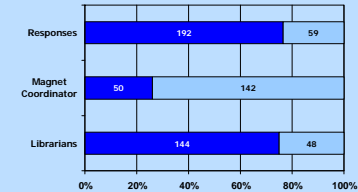
### METHOD

A Nursing and Allied Health Resource Section of the Medical Library Association (NAHRS/MLA) task force created a survey using Survey Monkey, an online program to design and administer surveys. The survey was distributed in the summer of 2007 with the cooperation of ANCC via the Magnet Hospital Coordinator's electronic mailing list.

Recipients were instructed to have the librarian, Magnet coordinator, or other staff member who was aware of library services and resources complete the survey. A follow-up reminder was sent two weeks later. The National Library of Medicine's Docuser database was searched to identify library contacts when it could not be determined that an institution had responded. The duplicate responses were removed and the results analyzed.

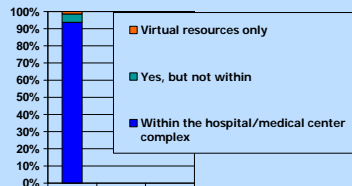
### SUBJECTS

- 251 ANCC Magnet certified hospitals at time of survey
- 192 Magnet hospital responses – 76.5% response rate  
Librarians completed 65.4% of the surveys, Magnet coordinators 17.3%, and 17.3% self-classified as "other," working in Librarian or Magnet Coordinator role.



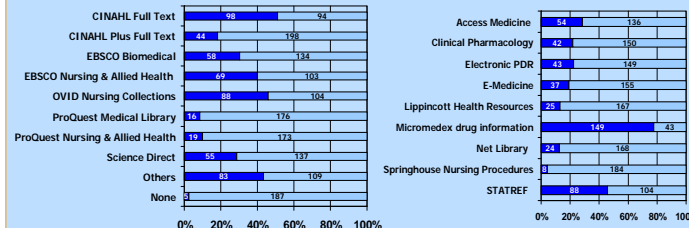
### FINDINGS

More than 84% of the facilities had access to the Internet in the library and on the floors. All of the Magnet facilities responding to the survey have access to medical libraries with the majority onsite. Nurses in Magnet facilities have access to a variety of library resources and services. Librarians assisted more than 76% of the facilities on the Magnet journey.



### FINDINGS, Cont.

Full text journals and reference – just one type of online resources



### DISCUSSION

Librarians are natural partners with nurses on the Magnet journey. They provide critical services, resources and education that promotes Evidence-Based Practice, quality patient care, and innovations leading to nursing excellence. Most facilities (96.4%) having access to a medical librarian perceived that this provides added value for the institution. Librarians were sometimes unaware of what was valued by those in Magnet coordinator role.

Typical librarian services plus:

- Data for Magnet application; proof reading
- EBP & guidelines development support
- Education committees; journal clubs; teaching
- Magnet committee
- Research teams; IRB
- Web pages

