Do you know what MEd is? Not doctor, it’s an education qual.
This workshop is partly hands-on – if I start to lose you, ask me a question.
Medical knowledge doubles every 73 days. You need to know how to navigate it.
1. Evidence-based medicine
2. Library databases which support EBM
3. Hands-on database-diving
In your course you’ll be learning all about Evidence-based practice. EBP is the integration of clinical expertise, patient values and the best evidence into the decision making process for patient care. So, the resources available through the Library are a large part of EBM.
There are steps in the EBM process, and as a librarian I can help you with several.
Step 1 – involves formulating a clinical question.

One method often used in health research is the PICO Model.

Some of the Library’s databases are designed to handle the elements of a PICO question.
A pregnant woman with Type 2 diabetes is concerned that her current treatment may affect her unborn child. Her GP has heard that insulin pump therapy may be a more successful treatment than conventional insulin therapy.

Everyone, write a PICO question for this scenario
Once you’ve got your question, you can start to search.

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Once you’ve got your question, you can start to search.
Once you’ve got your question, you can start to search.
Let’s go to Embase and type the key words we came up with.
Pregnant woman **AND** diabetes mellitus (pronounced *mell-it-us*)
Insulin pump
Insulin treatment
Glucose **OR** glucose blood level
31 results? Use alternate terms (expand) to find more
The **EVIDENCE PYRAMID** shows not all information is equal. The ultimate in evidence are the Systematic Reviews and Meta Analyses.

Keep a look-out for these options in the Library’s databases.
In ClinicalKey University Essentials, search **pregnancy diabetes pump**.
I repeated the search in ClinicalKey Nursing Australia, however didn’t find any meta-analyses.
Cochrane Reviews is a highly-respected database. In our databases, go to Cochrane Library. Notice the Help menu – all databases have a help menu.

1 result.

MeSH search term is Pregnant women

Only one item found, but 44 trials.
You can use thesauri, such as MeSH headings. Should you search ‘diabetes’, ‘juvenile diabetes’, ‘type 2 diabetes’, or something else? A thesaurus ensures we are all using the same terms.
Look for Advanced Search options in each database
Look for database filters, especially for the Population (patient) you are studying
Help and Tutorials take many forms.
Why do you think Medline is suggesting skin graft be in inverted commas? Why is there a star on the end of reject?

One half of the room – search for the words with the symbols and one half without. Compare results.
BMJ Best Practice – regularly updated and integrates the best evidence. It’s like a one-stop-shop.
In BMJ, it’s clear who the authors are and who has reviewed the information to ensure quality.
Most databases have an option for viewing articles in peer reviewed journals
The UNE Library has a special reserve room of medical books. You can borrow the Medical Reserve items for 5 days. You can also make arrangements to borrow at hospital libraries.
We also have a collection of eBooks on many topics.
Check out our Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing or other Subject Guides for great ideas on searching and database selection. I will put this PowerPoint on the Medicine Subject Guide.
Next time you’ll get to meet the Academic Skills Officers, who are wizzes with Referencing. The library databases can suggest how to reference, but not always in Vancouver style.
And the Library can also help you with EndNote, a referencing software.
If you need more information, don’t hesitate to contact the Library.