

**CCL-EAR COMMITTEE PREVIEW  
Nursing Resource Center (Gale)  
December 2010**

## **DATABASE OVERVIEW**

The *Nursing Resource Center* (NRC) is a reference database combining content from nursing and allied health textbooks, encyclopedias, drug monographs, multimedia (such as video and animations) care plans, as well as citations to relevant journal articles. This resource is intended to support nursing programs at both two-year community colleges and four-year colleges.

Reference titles in the NRC's collection include:

- 2008 PDR Nurses Drug Handbook
- Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing and Allied Health, 2nd Edition
- Foundations of Basic Nursing, Delmar
- Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine, 3rd Edition
- Maternity Nursing Care Plan, Delmar
- Delmar's Pediatric Nursing Care Plans
- Macmillan Encyclopedia of Death and Dying

Reference book content is updated when new editions are published in print. A full and up-to-date listing of the reference titles, including latest editions, can be found on the vendor website at [http://www.gale.cengage.com/title\\_lists/](http://www.gale.cengage.com/title_lists/).

There are approximately 1,300 periodical titles indexed in this database, 904 of which are peer-reviewed, and 482 of which are health or allied-health specific titles. Libraries that are considering this database for journal content may be well advised that this database provides access to **citations only** unless a library decides to purchase, as an addition to the NRC, the *Gale Nursing and Allied Health Collection* periodical file. For a list of periodical titles in this collection, please see file at <http://www.gale.cengage.com/tlist/ppnu.xls>.

The NRC database is OpenURL compliant, so users may be able to link to full-text journal content available through other databases/vendors from a results listing if the subscribing library also has a link resolver.

## **SEARCH INTERFACE**

Search options presented to a user on the main search page appear straightforward and easy to use. The main page allows students to enter a word, words or phrase and then select from three search types: Subject, Keyword (which is the default) or Entire Document. Students have the option to limit search results to full-text and/or peer-reviewed content.

Other search options available on the main search page are:

- a) a search for Common Diseases (A-Z) which executes a search for a disease overview from the *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine*; and

- b) a search for Common Drugs, where students can browse drug-class or drug-compound monographs from the *2008 PDR for Nurses*.

The screenshot shows a 'Basic Search' interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, there are radio buttons for 'Subject', 'Keyword', and 'Entire document'. Underneath, there is a section titled 'Limit the results:' with two checkboxes: 'to documents with full text' and 'to peer-reviewed publications'. Below this, there are two side-by-side panels. The left panel is titled 'Common Drugs A-Z' and lists links for 'Protonix', 'Norvasc', 'Proton Pump Inhibitors', 'Lexapro', and a 'More' link. The right panel is titled 'Common Diseases and Conditions A-Z' and lists links for 'Heart attack', 'Pregnancy', 'Heart failure', 'Diabetes insipidus', and a 'More' link. Each panel has a search bar and a 'Search' button at the bottom.

## Search Results

Results are listed in tabs and these tabs are intended to mirror the “nursing process” by which students learn to care for patients and guide their treatment. The tabs are pictured in the diagram and are detailed below.

The screenshot shows a search results interface. At the top, there are several navigation tabs: 'Diseases and Conditions', 'Assessments', 'Diagnostics', 'Interventions', 'Drugs', 'Care Plans', 'Multimedia', 'Journals', and 'Related Articles'. Below the tabs, there is a 'Refine Results' section with a 'Sort by: Relevance' dropdown. A search bar shows 'Results 1 - 1 of 1'. Below this, there is a search result for '1. Diabetes mellitus'. The result includes the authors 'Altha Roberts Edgren and Ken R. Wells', the source 'Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine', and the year '2007'. There are also links for 'Full-text with Graphics', 'About this Publication', and 'How to Cite'.

- **Disease Overviews** —definitions, diagnoses, treatments, prognoses and more
- **Assessments** — ways to gather subjective, objective and patient assessment data
- **Diagnostics** —overviews of tests, patient prep, normal and abnormal results
- **Interventions** —overviews of various procedures and the skills needed to perform them
- **Drug Overviews** —monographs (from *2008 PDR for Nurses*) for drugs used to treat a diagnosis as well as those that are contraindicated
- **Care Plans** —sample care plans that are relevant to the conducted search, including assessments, nursing diagnoses and expected outcomes

- **Multimedia** —short, dynamic animations and/or illustrations of how diseases and conditions affect the human body.
- **Journal Citations** —citation information for relevant journal articles
- **Related Articles** —content from related disciplines -- anatomy and physiology, nutrition basics – relevant to the search

Within each tabbed results list, links to articles will take the student to the full text of that article (HTML format only) to the citation, or to publication information. Students can also generate the full citation (in APA or MLA formats) or export citations to a citation manager. Search results can be printed, downloaded, or emailed to a user's account.

Other search types supported by this database include the Search by Subject, Publication, and an Advanced Search. The Advanced Search option allows a user to enter up to ten keywords or phrases, specify in which indexes to look for a search term (e.g. document title, publication title, document author, person name, etc.) and combine or separate search terms using Boolean operators (and, or, not). Students can also further limit to documents with images and/or to peer-reviewed publications.

## **USER SUPPORT SERVICES / ACCESSIBILITY / COST**

A link to a help menu (along the top navigation bar) provides resources to explain how different search types work as well as help in viewing, retrieving, and managing documents. Help menus are not context sensitive.

At the current time, free MARC records for reference titles are not available, however the database includes a "Links to Holdings" feature. If enabled, this feature shows libraries' real-time periodical holdings through links to an institution's web catalog. NRC does provide access to remote users through proxy/referring URL. Please contact the vendor for ADA / Section 508 Compliance information.

Compared with similar products, (see section below) NRC is reasonably priced and is currently being offered through the Consortium.

## **FINAL RECOMMENDATION**

NRC would be a worthwhile purchase for two-year colleges with nursing programs and particularly for beginning nursing students who require an introduction to the nursing process. 24/7 access to content from eBooks (nursing and allied health reference books) is one of the obvious advantages of this database. Access to multimedia (animations, video and images) as well as care plans and the *PDR Drug Guide* are value-added content features associated with this database.

But subscribers to this product will not have full text content from nursing and allied health journals. For this reason, this reviewer recommends purchasing the NRC in conjunction with the *Gale Nursing and Allied Health Collection*, or NRC along with another database collection that does provide full-text, peer-reviewed journal content.

**OTHER REVIEWS**

There are no other published reviews of this product to date.

**SIMILAR PRODUCTS**

EBSCO Nursing Resource Center