I Pull the Curtains: Ward Rounds Six Years on

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Background to the Herston Ward Round Attendances

- Commenced in 2002 as part of Clinical Improvement Program at RBWH (Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital)
- Followed by invitation to MAPU (Medical Assessment and Planning Unit) Team Post Take Ward Rounds
- Continued by 3 librarians over 6 Years
The Herston Health Sciences Library is based on the Herston Campus and services both UQ Staff and Students and hospital staff located on the Herston site.
The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital is a 986 Bed teaching hospital that is the largest tertiary care facility in Queensland.
Experience of the Ward Rounds

• Being Ready – clearance required, knowing the timetable and ready for the clinical environment

• Attending the round – Fitting in with the team, capturing questions and pulling the curtains.

• Follow-up – Presenting the answers
Clinical Questions

- Questions Arising – Questions are formulated at the bedside to be answered following the round.

- Evidence – Resources and results according to highest quality evidence available.

- Feedback - Always positive, but low in quantity.
Questions and Answers

Types of Questions – Almost anything. The most frequently asked questions Intervention (Treatment/Prevention).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question Type</th>
<th>Percentage of total (N=317)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intervention (Treatment/Prevention)</td>
<td>62.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnosis</td>
<td>13.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prognosis</td>
<td>4.43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Etiology</td>
<td>4.43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk/Association</td>
<td>11.71%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>4.11%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
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Benefits

- Changes to Patient Care – Do we make a difference?

- Promoting Libraries and Information Sources – being around and being seen

- Fostering information seeking habits – Leading by example

- Understanding the Clinical Environment – knowing what the clients need
Lessons and Challenges

• Time – Time to attend rounds and time to find the evidence

• Champions – Those who make it all possible

• Experience – What makes Clinical Librarian?
Where to from here?

Is the future to a place where librarians spend more time out of the library and in the medical environment?