

**NURSING RESEARCH AT U.T.
M. D. ANDERSON HOSPITAL**

PATIENT EDUCATION UPDATE

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The evolution of research in nursing is exciting. Until recently, nursing practice has been largely based on tradition, authority, or experience. In the past few years, the science of nursing has been developing — a result of increased research activity in the field. This increase is due partly to the realization that the practice of nursing must be researched based. Research produces information which will guide practice, whether it is the practice of patient care, nursing management and administration, or nursing education. Research produces knowledge to guide the actions of nurses.

The Nursing Research Committee sponsored a research colloquium on February 25, 1982, in the U.T. M. D. Anderson Hospital auditorium. Sixty-seven (67) participants from all areas of nursing — staff nurses, head nurses, clinical nurse specialists, assistant directors of nursing, instructors and students — brought high interest levels, good questions, and brown bag lunches. Cookies and drinks were provided.

Three presentations were made:

Kathleen Stevens, Clinician IV, Nursing Research, described the process of registering nursing research at U.T. M. D. Anderson Hospital and the future directions of nursing research at this institution.

Barbara Satterwhite, Clinical Instructor, spoke of Joyce Alt's climate surveys and demonstrated the value and usefulness of research results in decision making.

Marsha Cloak, Clinician IV - Clinic, and Jane Weyland, Clinician IV - Surgery, addressed group approaches to demonstrate that research is achievable at all levels.

Moderator of this colloquium was Gary Houston, Assistant Director of Nursing.

The colloquium provided participants with information on the directions being taken to accomplish the goals of nursing research at U.T. M.D. Anderson Hospital. Resources for research are great, and a clinically based nursing research section here will be one of the first of its kind in the nation. To accomplish this we must develop a viable, active nursing research program which will stimulate independent and collaborative nursing research.

The Nursing Research Committee extends their appreciation to all the participants who attended the colloquium and looks forward to sponsoring a similar program in the future.

If you have any ideas or information on nursing research you would like to share, please contact **Kathleen Stevens**, extension 7130.

The Preoperative Patient Education Committee is happy to announce that they have finished the videotape, *"Information For You, the Surgical Patient."* The fifteen minute tape is designed to reinforce the preoperative patient teaching done by physicians and nurses and to complement the patient education pamphlet, *"Surgery: A Patient Guide."* The tape is shown daily on Channel 12 at 9:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon, 1:00 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and every half hour from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Please tell your patients about the videotape and encourage them to watch it.

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The Chemotherapy Patient Education Committee has also been very active - *"Chemotherapy: A Patient Guide,"* the patient education pamphlet is now available in Spanish as are all the chemotherapy drug information cards. Please place your orders for these materials with your head nurse.