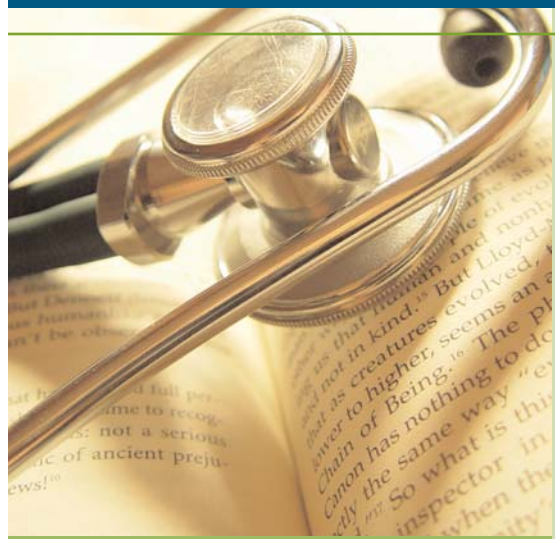


A P R I L 2 0 0 6



Library Operations



introduction

The Health Sciences Library at Saint Barnabas Medical Center is a valuable resource that is being used by all elements of the Medical Center including students, residents, attending physicians, nurses, technologists, and even visitors.

Although the library was established many years, a bequest from well-known Saint Barnabas plastic surgeon, Lyndon Peer, M.D., enabled the library to be renovated in 1994. His portrait hangs just inside the entrance to the library. In addition, the artifacts on display in the nurses' library section are derived from the original Saint Barnabas Hospital as well as from Dr. Peer.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with information about how the library functions and how best to use the resources available.

Hours of Operation

The library is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. At other times, the library is accessible via swipe card for physicians, nurses, students, technologists and healthy care professionals.

The library loans books and journals. However, since the library is open to a large number of individuals after hours, we depend on the honesty of the users to preserve and protect the collection (not to "rip off" books). Every year, the library spends thousands of dollars to replace lost or stolen material.

Although everyone knows the main library entrance, there is also an emergency exit located in the corridor on the right after the copy machine. **Please do not leave by this emergency exit and do not circumvent the door's automatic closing feature.**

The Staff

The library could not function without the efforts of the dedicated staff. Chris Connor, M.L.S, is a certified medical librarian and is the director of the library. Sylvia Barrasso is the other full-time staff member. From time to time, they are assisted by one or more volunteers. Both Ms. Connor and Barrasso have been at SBMC for many years and are extremely dedicated to meeting the information needs of the Saint Barnabas community.

Henry Rosenberg, M.D., Director of Medical Education and Clinical Research, provides administrative oversight.

The library committee provides oversight of the library function. Members of the committee are: Drs. Peter Zauber, Malcolm Coblentz, Lawrence Byrd, Daria Klachko, and Ralph Cobrinik. Drs. Rokosz, Rosenberg and Bonamo serve as ex-officio members.



Holdings and Capabilities

The library collection consists of approximately 4,500 books, 335 journal subscriptions, audio cassettes and videos. The library subscribes to several newspapers and general publications. Because of space limitations journals and audio visual material are not kept past 10 years.

There are 12 computers connected to printers located in the library. They are internet accessible to those with a Saint Barnabas password only. Unfortunately, for security purposes, **there is no generic password** for the general public. The library computers are connected to the internet through the Saint Barnabas network. All computers have medical literature search capability through OVID. In addition, information databases such as Up to Date and E Medicine are accessible. The librarians provide instruction on searching the databases and actual literature search on request.

The library has a copying machine for duplication of library material only.

The Collection; Interlibrary Loans

Because of budgetary constraints and the rising cost of books and journals, the library acquires only books and journals that are most useful to the medical staff caring for Saint Barnabas’s patient population. As such, there are limited basic science journals and books. The collection covers all the medical and nursing specialties.

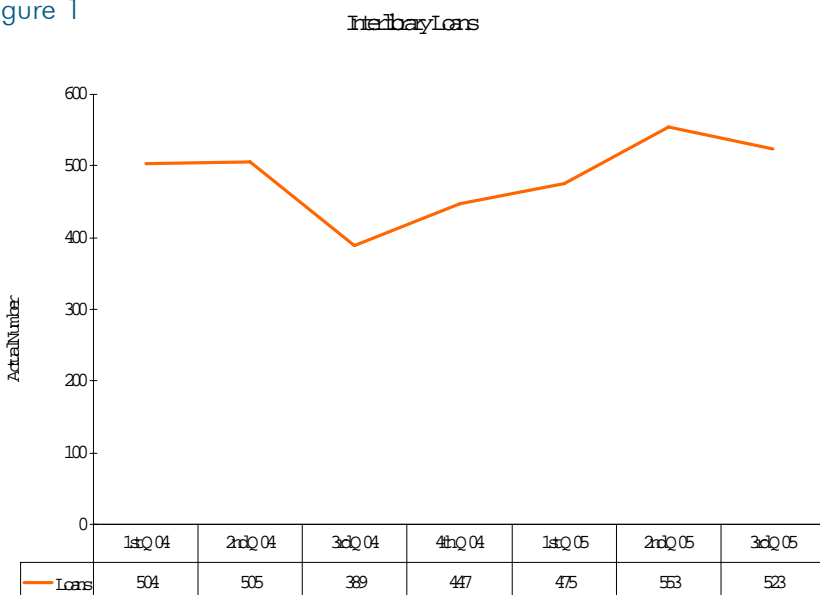
However, the library is networked to many other medical libraries nationwide and it is usually possible to obtain articles within a few days. For material that is crucial for patient care, the librarians will attempt to acquire the publications within a few hours. Obviously interlibrary loans of books take a few days longer. By special request, the retrieved articles can be faxed or e-mailed to you. Please so indicate when you request the loan.

For faculty with Mount Sinai appointments, the resources of the Levy library are available without cost. **However interlibrary loans cost \$11 per article.** The cost is built into the library budget and the user is not charged provided the requests are not excessive.

Journal subscriptions are reviewed once per year and because of the requirements for bulk purchase, requests for subscriptions to journals are acted on only once per year-in the summer.

As you can see in Figure 1, there are about 500 interlibrary loans per quarter.

Figure 1





Supporting the Library

Funding for the library is derived from the hospital budget and a generous contribution from the Medical Staff. There are always more needs than funding available. For those who are interested in making a tax deductible donation to support the library, please request a form from one of the librarians or send a check to the Saint Barnabas Medical Center Foundation with a note that the funds are designated for the Health Sciences Library.

The library also gratefully accepts donations of medical books or journals. Please, however, be sure that the material is less than nine years old.

One of the most frustrating experiences for the librarian is to obtain an interlibrary loan only to have the requester never retrieve the article. Please be considerate in your requests.

Other Services

A display case is located adjacent to the entrance of the library. Information concerning medical history, medical publications, etc. is on display. Anyone wishing to display medical artifacts or items related to the history of Saint Barnabas are welcome to speak with Ms. Connor, Ms. Barasso or Dr. Rosenberg.



Recent Publications

by members of the medical, nursing and health professional staff of Saint Barnabas

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