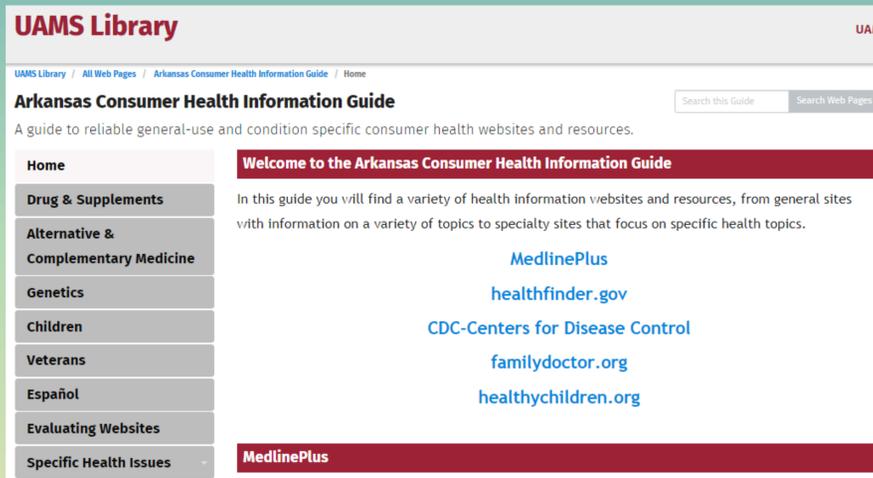


Introduction

Patient Education is consistently cited by the Joint Commission (hospital accrediting body) as needing work at many institutions. However, with a limited number of patient educators and high nurse to patient ratios it is hard to find the time to adequately teach patients all they may need to know. The goal of this project was to create a course and online guide that would provide free, authoritative and easily navigated resources for nurses and patient educators to use or provide directly to patients. The guide would serve as a central location for accessing consumer health websites and information for both educators and patients.



Results

- The online guide was completed in July 2018. Topics added throughout the project included:
 - Drug misuse and mental health as well as sections for women's, veteran's and children's health.
 - Continual updates to the guide and presentation made as suggests are received from classes.
 - Added Pillbox to the presentation.
 - Update of NLM resources – remove LactMed and GeneEd.
 - Add Spanish language version and link to Spanish versions.
 - Present with a continual theme or clinical case throughout.
- The course and guide were well received. Results from pre- to post-tests showed an average increase of 20%.
- Evaluations of the course were ranked average or above in most areas including: having a better understanding of subject material and identifying, navigating, and analyzing resources.

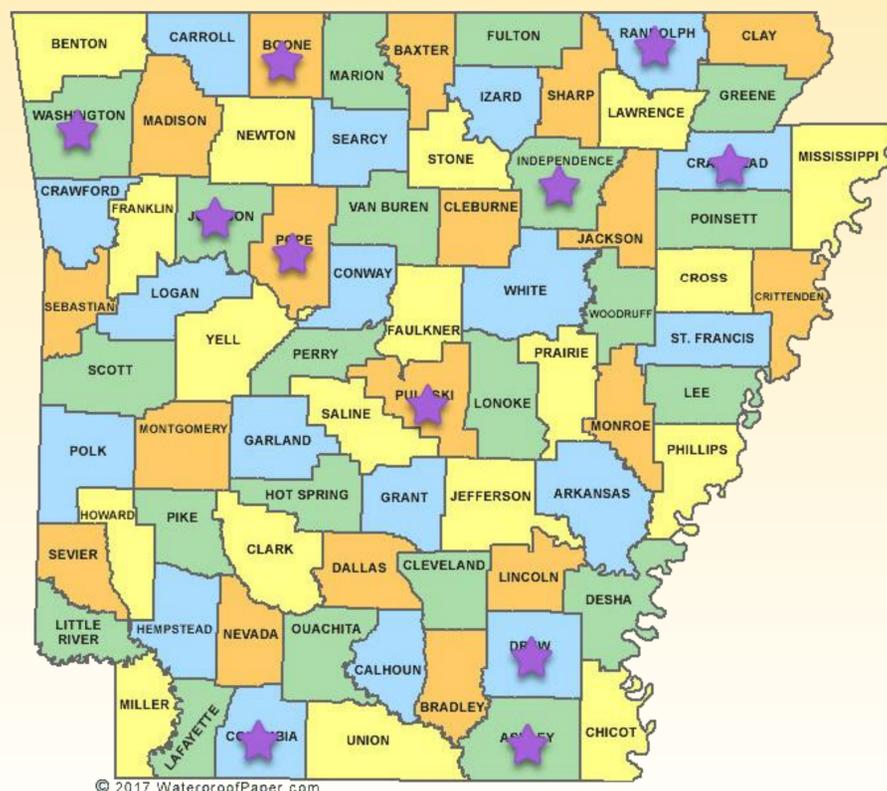
“Good class - everyone should attend to improve education for patients!”

“The entire presentation provided information necessary for the day to day task of my role. Very informative.”



Expanding the Program State-Wide

- Applied and received funding from South Central Region National Network of Libraries of Medicine (SCR NN/LM) to expand the project state-wide.
- Used regional campus networks and state organizations for hospital contacts at start.
- Expanded to cold calling hospital Chief Nursing Officer or nursing education departments, which brought the best results.
- Resulted in 8 trips reaching all corners of the state and 21 scheduled classes.
- Attendance at annual American Nursing Association and Society of Public Health Educators conferences to promote.



Getting Started

- A plan is proposed by the Clinical Services Librarian and Outreach Coordinator to educate patient educators and nurses in the hospital on reliable consumer health resources.
- Partnerships were formed within the institution with patient and nurse educators, patient advocates and Patient- and Family-Centered Care.
- A course was created using National Library of Medicine resources as well as other reliable websites covering: general health; drugs, herbs and supplements; complementary, integrative and alternative medicine, genetics and evaluation of websites.
- An accompanying resource guide was created based on local needs, to be expanded as the project progressed.
- Continuing education credit was obtained for nursing, dieticians and health educators.
- The course was piloted with UAMS patient educators, health educators and local VA nurses and dieticians.

Conclusions

- Future plans include:
 - Continued expansion of the online guide.
 - Presentation to UAMS inpatient and outpatient nurses.
 - Prepare new CE offerings for Arkansas hospitals.
 - Present at local and state conferences to keep interest in the guide current.