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# The Impact of Libraries and Informationists on Patient and Population Care: A Mixed-Methods Study (supplemental materials)

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Taubman Health Sciences Library Assessment of  
Impact on Patient and Population Care  
Interview Guide

(Turn on digital recorder and confirm that it is working)

Hello, my name is \_(Your Name) and I am with \_(Interviewee Name) on (Today's date)\_\_\_

I want to confirm that you have signed the consent agreement to be interviewed.

Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed for our study. Your participation will help inform the library's resources and partnerships, and we will provide you with a manuscript abstract when it is available.

An assessment group at the Taubman Health Sciences Library is conducting a mixed-methods study to explore, identify, and analyze the library's value in patient and population care at the University of Michigan.\* For this research, the library will be generally defined as the services and partnerships of informationists that work within the library, as well as the library's electronic and print content.

\*Population care can be defined as health care for broader populations rather than individuals and can include concepts such as clinical guidelines, protocols and legal policy. Specifically, for the purposes of this study, we define population care as "the health care needs of a specific population and making health care decisions for the population as a whole rather than for individuals" as cited by:

<http://elearning.loyno.edu/masters-nursing-degree-online/resource/population-focused-healthcare>

Informationist: An information specialist who is often: "[embedded](#)" [at the site where patrons conduct their work or need access to information, such as in a hospital, clinic, or research laboratory; and \(2\) informationists have academic training or specialized knowledge of their patrons' fields of practice or research.](#)" Term first coined [in 2000](#).

Institution: as referred to in question #5) broadly includes your department, unit, or the University of Michigan at large.

Questions:

1. Tell me about your work in providing patient care or affecting population care. \*  
("Work" can be defined as including work directly with patients, populations, and research that affects patients and populations.)
2. How has your own use (e.g., unassisted by an informationist) of electronic or print resources from the library made a difference in the quality of patient or population care? Please describe the situation.  
*Probes (here and following)<sup>1</sup>*
  - Tell me more.
  - What is an example of that?
  - Could you explain your response more?
  - What does "\_\_\_\_" mean?
3. What are some examples of times that you worked with an informationist? (Probe reasons for asking for assistance, e.g., need for comprehensive search, difficulty finding something, need to filter search results, etc.)
  - Tell me more.
  - What is an example of that?
  - Could you explain your response more?
  - What does "\_\_\_\_" mean?
  - What are some of the reasons you haven't?
4. How has working with an informationist made a difference in the quality of patient care? [and/or]  
How has working with an informationist made a difference in population health?
  - Tell me more.
  - What is an example of that?
  - Could you explain your response more?
  - What does "\_\_\_\_" mean?
5. What other ways does your informationist contribute to patient or population care in your institution? (e.g., instruction, supports research or evidence-based practice; provides specialized information services to departments; supports patient education, participates in committees, accreditation, or similar activities; development of clinical guidelines, patient safety initiatives, etc.)
  - Tell me more.
  - What is an example of that?
  - Could you explain your response more?

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<sup>1</sup> Creswell, John W., and Johanna Creswell Báez. *30 essential skills for the qualitative researcher*. Sage Publications, 2020. (chapter 15)

- What does “\_\_\_\_” mean?

6. What else would you like to tell us about the library’s role in patient and population care that we didn’t ask? Again, the library will be generally defined as the services and partnerships of informationists that work within the library, as well as the library’s electronic and print content.

- Tell me more.
- What is an example of that?
- Could you explain your response more?
- What does “\_\_\_\_” mean?