Bibliometrics

**Journal Citation Reports (JCR):** JCR is the most widely used bibliometric tool for assessing journal quality. It selects 12,000 of the leading international scientific publications throughout disciplines and offers a number of bibliometric indices. JCR indicators allow researchers, librarians and publishers to compare, evaluate and inform their decisions on published research in varying fields.

**Impact Factor (IF):** The IF is the most valued influence for nurses of choice of journal to publish. It is calculated by dividing the number of journal citations by total number of citable articles published in the journal over the same time period.

**H-Index:** The h-index is used to quantify an individual’s scientific research output. Databases such as Web of Science, Scopus and Google Scholar use an individual’s publications and also literature citing their publications to calculate the h-index. The index can also be applied to the productivity and impact of a scholarly journal. It is used to measure the quality and quantity of scientific output.

The number is calculated by first taking the total number of citations for each publication. Then rank them from largest to lowest value. The point at which the number of citations is greater than or equal to, before being less than, the number in the rank – that is the h-index. When comparing results, one should take into consideration the researchers career stage and publication and citation frequency in the field. A study by Hack, Crooks, Plohman, & Kepron (2010) proposed that in the discipline of nursing, an h-index of 5-9 indicated a “well established” publication record, 10-14 an “excellent” publication record, and 15 or higher an “exceptional” publication record.