**Objectives**

- Respond to customers’ demands for more online journals.
- Free up funds in a flat budget environment.
- Ensure archival access for future clinicians, researchers and students.
- Maintain a small print collection of key clinical journals in case of extended periods without electricity or Internet access.
- Ensure small print collection is balanced with all important specialty areas represented.
- Provide a selection of print journals for customers to browse when visiting the library.
- Support History of Medicine’s collection of complete print runs of historically significant journals.

**Methods**

A. Library literature searched and colleagues surveyed via listservs.

B. Two-part journal evaluation system developed.

1. Print will always be kept if:
   - No online-only subscription available.
   - Archival access not guaranteed.
   - Online version provided by aggregator, not publisher.
   - Journal included in Miner’s historical collection.

2. Journals not affected by above criteria will be awarded points and ranked by:
   - Quality of archival access based on license agreements, publisher policies, and type of online provider.
   - Clinical significance based on inclusion in Brandon Hill list, NLM Reading Room collection and Abridged Index Medicus.
   - ISI Impact Factor.
   - Print Average Yearly Use.
   - Number of copies owned by UR libraries.

Journals scoring less than 7 points will be converted to online-only subscriptions.

C. Evaluation system piloted on Miner’s Elsevier journals.

**Conclusions**

A. Evaluation system worked well but needed tweaking.

1. Basic science and nursing journals ranked low because they are not clinically significant and/or have low impact factors.

   - Separate lists of core print basic science and nursing journals developed.

2. Decision to keep print could not be based solely on number of points.

   - All journals receiving 6 or more points categorized by subject area and evaluated against others in Miner’s collection. Print versions retained for journals that are tops in their field.

B. At conclusion of the pilot project, 80% of Miner’s Elsevier journals changed to online-only subscriptions. The evaluation system will be applied to journals from other publishers for 2008 renewals.