

Health Libraries Australia

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Information Rx

Sydney Convention Centre, Darling Harbour



Australian Library and Information Association

What's Expert About Expert Searching?

Definitions

Measurement

Evaluation

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What's Expert About Expert Searching?

Interactive debate and discussion

A quick look at one UK measure of effectiveness

A quick look at the MLA Policy Statement on the Role of Expert Searching in Health Sciences Libraries

Where to from here?

References & handout

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Voices from the Floor

How expert are our searches given the lack of a formal postgraduate qualification for health librarians?

Is on-the-job experience adequate for staff to develop into expert searchers?

How would we recognise an expert searcher colleague?

Are there different levels / types of expert? Experts in finding quick point-of-care clinical answers, experts in supporting systematic reviews, experts in searches for drug R&D, experts in searching particular resources?

What is the future for expert searchers with the introduction of integrated health information systems?

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Voices from the Floor

How do we 'know' the searches we do meet requirements?

Our users may be 'inept but satisfied' with their search capacity but what measure do we have that tells us that our search process is expert and better than that of our clients? Do we have 'happy but deluded' clients?

How systematic are our attempts to review performance?

Ad hoc, occasional surveys, standard evaluation tools?

Are client satisfaction measures the only ones that count? What about peer review, or measurement against a defined standard?

i.e. ensuring that

- a record of the search strategy is always given to clients

- a record of all sources searched is provided

- limitations of sources are communicated to clients, etc, etc

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Voices from the Floor

Measurement / Evaluation

Timeliness

Relevance

Quantity

Value / Outcome / Use to which information is required

Overall satisfaction

One Measure:

<http://www.library.nhs.uk/forlibrarians/servicedevelopment/serviceevaluation>

Critical Incident analysis

The Outreach Librarian at Milton Keynes has developed a Critical Incident Analysis form to gather data on the Impact of mediated literature searches. [[download](#)]



Information Skills questionnaire Critical Incident Analysis

“You were recently sent the results of a literature search on.....

.....
As part of my audit process, I would like to ask some questions relating to that search.”

NAME:

JOB TITLE:

PROFESSIONAL GROUP (Athens)

Admin & Mgr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nurse/HV/midwife	<input type="checkbox"/>
AHP	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific/Technical	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consultant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Soc services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dentist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Students (placem'nt)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doc	<input type="checkbox"/>		
GP incl VTS	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Library staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other.....	

ORGANISATION: PCT Acute Mental health Shared services

ADDRESS:.....

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:.....



What did you use the information for?:

- Patient care - patient care administration/records []
- Patient care - specific drug or therapy query..... []
- Patient care - rare condition or specific problem..... []
- Patient care - audit/standards/guidelines..... []
- Teaching - patient education..... []
- Teaching - staff/students/colleagues (including case presentations).... []
- Personal continuing education..... []
- Research (*personal*) - in progress or planned..... []
- Research (*funded project/degree*) - in progress or planned..... []
- Publication - paper/review/report/book..... []
- Service development..... []

Other.....

What type of document(s) provided the most useful information?

Jnl article/ guideline/ Prodigy/ Clin Evidence/ Cochrane /Gvt doc/ etc

.....

..... Can't remember []



What was the IMMEDIATE impact of the information provided on your knowledge?

It refreshed my memory of details or facts.....	YES	NO	N/A
Some of it was new to me.....	YES	NO	N/A
It substantiated what I knew or suspected.....	YES	NO	N/A
I will need to obtain more information on the topic	YES	NO	N/A
I expected to find something else.....	YES	NO	N/A
I will share this information with colleagues.....	YES	NO	N/A
I will add this to my personal information collection	YES	NO	N/A

How might the information provided contribute to (your) FUTURE clinical decisions/services?

Choice of diagnostic test	YES	NO	N/A
Recognition of an abnormal or normal condition	YES	NO	N/A
Differential diagnosis.....	YES	NO	N/A
Confirmation of proposed therapy.....	YES	NO	N/A
Identification/evaluation of alternative therapies.	YES	NO	N/A
Minimisation of risks of treatment.....	YES	NO	N/A
Revision of treatment plan.....	YES	NO	N/A
Audit or standards of care.....	YES	NO	N/A
Improved quality of life for patient and/or family	YES	NO	N/A
Legal or ethical issues.....	YES	NO	N/A
Change service delivery.....	YES	NO	N/A



Do you believe that (your) practice/decisions about patient care have been affected by the information?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Outcome: Saved money [] saved time [] improved care []

Search date	Interview date	Interviewed by
.....

(Based on Value Toolkit, Urquhart & Hepworth. BLR&D report 6205, 1995)
Anne Gray May 2006

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Medical Library Association Policy Statement

Role of Expert Searching in Health Sciences Libraries

This policy statement:

- defines expert searching and provides the background on the issue;
- articulates the role of health sciences librarians in the provision of expert searching; and,
- identifies a number of high-impact areas in which consultation and expert searching are critical to the success of the institution.

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http://www.mlanet.org/resources/expert_search/policy_expert_search.html

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Where to from here?

Does HLA need a policy statement?

Is there a need for a more formal approach to training in expert searching?

Should HLA be lobbying for development of postgraduate courses?

Should HLA partner with organisations with the capacity to develop and deploy training courses?

Other thoughts?



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<http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/crdreview.htm>

InterTASC Information Specialists' Sub-Group
Search Filter Resource
<http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/intertasc/>

InterTASC Information Specialists' Sub-Group

Search Filter Resource

[Home page](#)

The InterTASC Information Specialists' Sub-Group (ISSG) is the group of information professionals supporting research groups within England and Scotland providing [technology assessments](#) to the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE).

[About the search filters resource](#)

Aims

[ALL FILTERS](#)

- To identify and share best practice in information retrieval for technology assessment.
- To identify, prioritise and assess areas of research within information retrieval of relevance to technology assessment.

[Systematic reviews](#)

[RCTs and other trials](#)

As part of the ISSG's ongoing efforts to identify, assess and test search filters we are piloting a [search filter resource](#) to record known search filters to alert searchers to filter design in progress, and to provide a register of research on the development and use of search filters. The ISSG is currently developing a quality checklist which will be used to provide assessments of published filters.

[Non-RCTs](#)

[Observational studies](#)

The ISSG is also developing a [filter performance data collection initiative](#).

[Outcome studies](#)

InterTASC information specialists and associated members

[Therapy studies](#)

- [HSRU, Aberdeen University](#)
- [SchARR, University of Sheffield](#)
- [CRD, University of York](#)
- [West Midlands Health Technology Assessment Collaboration, University of Birmingham](#)
- [Liverpool Reviews and Implementation Group, University of Liverpool](#)
- [SHTAC, University of Southampton](#)
- Andrew Booth, [SchARR, University of Sheffield](#)
- Louise Foster, [NHS Quality Improvement Scotland](#)
- Ruth Frankish, Hasina Shaikh and colleagues, [NICE](#)
- Carol Lefebvre, [UK Cochrane Centre, Oxford](#)
- Moira Napper, [HERU, Aberdeen University](#)
- Rosalind McNally, [NPCRDC, University of Manchester](#)

[Adverse events](#)

[Diagnostic studies](#)

[Quality of life](#)

[Economic evaluations](#)

[Qualitative research](#)

ISSG members network with international technology assessment and systematic review groups via the HTAi information specialists subgroup and the Cochrane Collaboration Information Retrieval Methods Group (IRMG).

[Public views](#)

[Etiology](#)

[Prognosis](#)

[Other filters](#)

[Performance of filters -surveys](#)

[Filter methods](#)

*Last updated:
29/01/2007*

Search Strategy Used to Create the Systematic Reviews Subset on PubMed

This strategy is intended to retrieve citations identified as systematic reviews, meta-analyses, reviews of clinical trials, evidence-based medicine, consensus development conferences, guidelines, and citations to articles from journals specializing in review studies of value to clinicians. This subset can be used in a search as systematic [sb].

Example: exercise hypertension AND systematic [sb]

This subset is available on the Limits screen under "Subsets." It is also available on the [Clinical Queries](#) screen. For additional sources of strategies for systematic reviews, please see the list of [related sources](#).

Strategy last modified February 2007.

```
(systematic review [ti] OR meta-analysis [pt] OR meta-analysis [ti] OR systematic literature review [ti] OR consensus
development conference [pt] OR practice guideline [pt] OR cochrane database syst rev OR acp journal club OR health
technol assess OR evid rep technol assess summ)
OR
((evidence based[ti] OR evidence-based medicine [mh] OR best practice* [ti] OR evidence synthesis [tiab])
AND
(review [pt] OR diseases category[mh] OR behavior and behavior mechanisms [mh] OR therapeutics [mh] OR evaluation studies
[pt] OR validation studies[pt] OR guideline [pt]))
OR
((systematic [tw] OR systematically OR critical [tiab] OR (study selection [tw]) OR (predetermined OR inclusion AND
criteri*) OR exclusion criteri* OR "main outcome measures" OR "standard of care" OR "standards of care")
AND
(survey [tiab] OR surveys [tiab] OR overview* OR review [tiab] OR reviews [tiab] OR search* OR handsearch OR analysis
[tiab] OR critique [tiab] OR appraisal OR
(reduction AND risk AND (death OR recurrence)))
AND
(literature [tiab] OR articles [tiab] OR publications [tiab] OR publication [tiab] OR bibliography [tiab] OR
bibliographies [tiab] OR published [tiab] OR
unpublished OR citation OR citations OR database [tiab] OR internet [tiab] OR textbooks [tiab] OR references OR scales
[tw] OR papers [tw] OR datasets OR trials [tiab] OR meta-analy* [tw] OR (clinical [tiab] AND studies [tiab]) OR treatment
outcome)
NOT
(case report [ti] OR letter [pt] OR newspaper article [pt] OR comment [pt])
```