



## Cochrane NHS Library Case Study

### Paul Herbert, Health Information Scientist



#### Customer profile

**Please give us a brief description of your role** - I am responsible for conducting systematic literature searches to support all HIS staff. Searches can relate to specific topics being addressed in individual projects or work programmes, or support the methods, processes and activities of the organisation. I work as a part of the CLEAR (clinical enquiry and response service) information team. CLEAR aims to provide clinicians with summarised evidence relating to aetiology, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment queries about patient care.

**How many library users are there at your institution/trust?** – Approximately 150-200.

**How long has your institution been using the Cochrane Library?** – Approximately 10 -15 years.

#### Value

**How would you rate (1-10) the importance of the Cochrane Library for healthcare professionals? 1 being not important at all, 10 being essential** - I would rate it as a 10

**How is the Cochrane Library being used in your trust/institution?** - it is used in several of our checklists that we use to conduct our searches. For example it is included in our rapid reviews checklist which is used to carry our searches for the evidence notes produced by the **Scottish Health Technology Group (SHTG)** and in the work we do for the CLEAR service <http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/clear.aspx>. Cochrane is also used in the production of our **Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)** guidelines.



## Value (cont.)

**Are there any features of the Cochrane Library that you or your institution find particularly valuable?** - The advanced search feature as well as the opportunity to filter results to view HTAs and economic studies.

**Are you aware of anyone at your institution using Cochrane Clinical Answers? What are your thoughts?** - this has recently been added to the CLEAR search checklist and here is an example where it has been used to help answer a clinical query <http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/clear/answers/endocrine-nutritional-and-metabolic/does-total-contact-casting-provide-the-greatest-pressure-relief-in-patients-with-diabetic-foot-ulcers.aspx>

**Has it proved to be a good resource?** – so far it has proved to be useful in our searches.

## Opportunities

**Are there other products that often get used alongside the Cochrane Library?** - via the Knowledge Network we have access to and use the databases listed here <http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/home/library/databases.aspx>

**Have you promoted the Cochrane Library in any way?** - Yes

**If so, how?** – It is promoted by the Knowledge Services Group at NHS Education for Scotland through their national promotion of the Knowledge Network <http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk>

**Is there anything that you think the Cochrane Library could improve on?** - nothing that springs to mind.

**Are there any challenges that your trust/institution faces that the Cochrane Library helps address?** - it definitely assists us in answering the clinical questions we aim to address through our work with the SHTG, SIGN guidelines and the CLEAR service.

**What feedback have you received from your users regarding the Cochrane Library?** - nothing directly ourselves but nationally it would be worth contacting the Knowledge Services Group at NHS Education for Scotland who may be able to assist you: [knowledge@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:knowledge@nes.scot.nhs.uk)

If you want to find out more about what the **Cochrane Library** can do for your institution, contact your Wiley Account Manager.