

UHMLG Spring Forum

Questions for Kevin Wilson

- From Helen Else : How are people prioritising which SRs they accept? Did I miss that when I nipped out for a COVID-19 'thing'?

KW: so far, our support has been very ad-hoc. We've supported around 11 SRs over the last few years to varying extents. Andra has been co-author on 5 SRs. We've accepted opportunities according to time mostly and where we think it's politically expedient! We've turned down offers of support if we're already supporting an SR in progress. It's a regret each time we have to turn someone down.

- From Kath Wright : perhaps proposals for systematic reviews should require an information specialist to be part of the team??

KW: there is a huge amount of evidence that suggests that librarians/information specialists being involved in SRs improves them considerably (I've shared the bibliography from our literature review at the end of this document). Funders generally don't insist on the publishing of protocols (only NIHR did from eleven funders), so I think funders have to take a lead here and if they accept (a) that publishing protocols is important and (b) that librarians/information specialists do improve SRs, then hopefully that will change. In practical terms, because our service initially is going to be advice and feedback, we would hope for an acknowledgement in the publication, but at this stage it would be hard to ask to be part of the team. However, if we became more hands-on, then we'd probably want to develop a Memorandum of Understanding or similar to formalise that arrangement.

- From Russell Burke, LSHTM : if becoming involved in SR search support requires major up-skilling then should this require role re-grading? Assuming we worked in a sector with the ability to consider this 😊

KW: I think I said, but we proposed a few scenarios to senior management about how we could provide this support. Some were very ambitious and one of our suggestions was for an information specialist to manage the service and perform hands-on work, which did require an upgrading. I think we might get there in the future. But we knew that was going to be the top end of our expectations, so what we've suggested with two staff focusing on SRs and doing some liaison work to start with, and this would be at their current grades, but with scope for development potentially if the service takes off.

- From Helen Else : Well a lot of COVID-19 research is going to be fed into SRs. There will be demand & value placed on this, but will we be the ones asked to do it? Is it cynical to wonder whether the companies that charge more might be valued more?

KW: not sure I can answer this, but what I can say is that the role of librarians/information specialists is increasingly being recognised and researchers we work with know the impact of our work. Hopefully establishing a service with clear guidelines and levels of support reinforces that we're a valuable partner for researchers.

Comments rather than questions

- A competency framework for librarians involved in systematic reviews:
<https://jmla.mlanet.org/ojs/jmla/article/view/189>

- From jpe : please can you label your axes on the graphs (**KW:** I've made a few changes to the graphs – so they have been labeled in full. Apologies!)
- From Helen Else : There seems to be theoretical SR training available but it would be great if there were opportunities for less experienced librarians to support reviews taking place in other locations as it would be a fantastic learning opportunity. Perhaps there is, but I haven't heard about it. (**KW:** on top of the training that librarians attend, e.g. YHEC, I think that peer training/discussion is important. Obviously in London, we have the network Jane Falconer has just set up. Learning from each other is going to be really important)
- From PF Anderson : This was a lot of work. We worked on a related study here, so I really appreciate how much work this was (**KW:** thanks! It was just one part of a huge project that took a few months. I'll think about how we can share the rest e.g. skills analysis of staff, survey of academic staff, benchmarking service models, etc.)
- From Selina Lock : Interesting to see the results, as I remember the survey going round. Reassuring (in some ways) to see that a lot of us are in the same boat with supporting SR. tensions between support, resource, time etc. Whether to set-up a charged service or not.
- *A typology of reviews:* <https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.ezp.lib.cam.ac.uk/doi/full/10.1111/j.1471-1842.2009.00848.x>
 - From Andrew : Thanks for shout out but there is an even newer version now: Sutton A, Clowes M, Preston L, Booth A. Meeting the review family: exploring review types and associated information retrieval requirements. *Health Information & Libraries Journal*. 2019 Sep;36(3):202-22. <https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.ezp.lib.cam.ac.uk/doi/full/10.1111/hir.12276>
- From Jon : Phew, a lot in there. Good stuff though, and encouraging to hear about job changes at the end, support definitely a good thing!
- From Helen Rasmussen : Thank you from Sweden! Super interesting!
- From Russell Burke, LSHTM : thanks Kevin, hope to see the result published
 - From PF Anderson : Oh, yes, you MUST publish this!

SR bibliography

Altman, D. G. (1994) 'The scandal of poor medical research', *BMJ*, 308, pp. 283–4.

Altman, D. G. (2002) 'Poor-quality medical research: what can journals do?', *JAMA*, 287, pp. 2765–7.

Bastian, H., Glasziou, P. and Chalmers, I. (2010) 'Seventy-five trials and eleven systematic reviews a day: how will we ever keep up?', *PLoS medicine*, 7(9), p. e1000326. doi: [10.1371/journal.pmed.1000326](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1000326).

Beverley, C. A., Booth, A. and Bath, P. A. (2003) 'The role of the information specialist in the systematic review process: a health information case study', *Health Information & Libraries Journal*, 20(2), pp. 65–74. doi: [10.1046/j.1471-1842.2003.00411.x](https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1471-1842.2003.00411.x).

Booth, A. (2006) "'Brimful of STARLITE": toward standards for reporting literature searches', *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 94(4), pp. 421–e205.

Bullers, K. *et al.* (2018) 'It takes longer than you think: librarian time spent on systematic review tasks', *Journal of the Medical Library Association: JMLA*, 106(2), pp. 198–207. doi: [10.5195/jmla.2018.323](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2018.323).

Campbell, S. and Dorgan, M. (2015) 'What to Do When Everyone Wants You to Collaborate: Managing the Demand for Library Support in Systematic Review Searching', *Journal of the Canadian Health Libraries Association / Journal de l'Association des bibliothèques de la santé du Canada*, 36(1), pp. 11–19. doi: [10.29173/jchla/jabsc.v36i1.24353](https://doi.org/10.29173/jchla/jabsc.v36i1.24353).

Chalmers, I. and Glasziou, P. (2009) 'Avoidable waste in the production and reporting of research evidence', *Lancet*, 374, pp. 86–9. doi: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(09\)60329-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60329-9).

Chalmers, Iain and Glasziou, P. (2009) 'Avoidable waste in the production and reporting of research evidence', *The Lancet*, 374(9683), pp. 86–89. doi: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(09\)60329-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60329-9).

Chalmers, I. and Haynes, B. (1994) 'Reporting, updating, and correcting systematic reviews of the effects of health care', *BMJ*, 309, pp. 862–5.

Chalmers, I., Hedges, L. V. and Cooper, H. (2002) 'A brief history of research synthesis', *Evaluation & the Health Professions*, 25, pp. 12–37.

Clarke, M. (2000) 'What is so important about systematic reviews', *Acta Psychiatr Scand*, 102, pp. 239–40.

Clarke, M. and Chalmers, I. (1998) 'Discussion sections in reports of controlled trials published in general medical journals: islands in search of continents?', *JAMA*, 280, pp. 280–2.

Clarke, M., Hopewell, S. and Chalmers, I. (2007) 'Reports of clinical trials should begin and end with up-to-date systematic reviews of other relevant evidence: a status report', *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, 100, pp. 187–90. doi: [10.1258/jrsm.100.4.187](https://doi.org/10.1258/jrsm.100.4.187).

Cochrane, A. L. (1999) *Effectiveness & Efficiency: Random Reflections on Health Services*. 1 edition. London: CRC Press.

Conte, M. L. *et al.* (2015) 'Flipping the classroom to teach systematic reviews: the development of a continuing education course for librarians', *Journal of the Medical Library Association : JMLA*, 103(2), pp. 69–73. doi: [10.3163/1536-5050.103.2.002](https://doi.org/10.3163/1536-5050.103.2.002).

Cooper, N. J., Jones, D. R. and Sutton, A. J. (2005) 'The use of systematic reviews when designing studies', *Clinical Trials: Journal of the Society for Clinical Trials*, 2(3), pp. 260–264. doi: [10.1191/1740774505cn090oa](https://doi.org/10.1191/1740774505cn090oa).

Fergusson, D. *et al.* (2005) 'Randomized controlled trials of aprotinin in cardiac surgery: could clinical equipoise have stopped the bleeding?', *Clin Trials*, 2, pp. 218–29; discussion 229–32.

Foster (2017) *Assembling the Pieces of a Systematic Review: A Guide for Librarians*. Lanham: RL.

Glasziou, P. *et al.* (2014) 'Reducing waste from incomplete or unusable reports of biomedical research', *The Lancet*, 383(9913), pp. 267–276. doi: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(13\)62228-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(13)62228-X).

Gore, G. C. and Jones, J. (2015) 'Systematic Reviews and Librarians: A Primer for Managers', *Partnership: The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research*, 10(1). doi: [10.21083/partnership.v10i1.3343](https://doi.org/10.21083/partnership.v10i1.3343).

Greenberg, S. A. (2009) 'How citation distortions create unfounded authority: analysis of a citation network', *BMJ*, 339, p. b2680. doi: [10.1136/bmj.b2680](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.b2680).

Habre, C. *et al.* (2014) 'Ability of a meta-analysis to prevent redundant research: systematic review of studies on pain from propofol injection', *BMJ*, 348, p. g5219. doi: [10.1136/bmj.g5219](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.g5219).

Hardi, A. C. and Fowler, S. A. (2014) 'Evidence-Based Medicine and Systematic Review Services at Becker Medical Library', *Missouri Medicine*, 111(5), pp. 416–418.

Harris, M. R. (2005) 'The librarian's roles in the systematic review process: a case study', *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 93(1), pp. 81–87.

Henderson, W. G. *et al.* (1995) 'Use of cumulative meta-analysis in the design, monitoring, and final analysis of a clinical trial: a case study', *Control Clin Trials*, 16, pp. 331–41.

Home (no date) *The Evidence-Based Research Network*. Available at: <http://ebrnetwork.org/> (Accessed: 26 June 2019).

Institute of Medicine (US) Committee on Standards for Systematic Reviews of Comparative Effectiveness Research (2011) *Finding What Works in Health Care: Standards for Systematic Reviews*. Edited by J. Eden *et al.* Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US). Available at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK209518/> (Accessed: 26 June 2019).

Jones, A. P. *et al.* (2013) 'The use of systematic reviews in the planning, design and conduct of randomised trials: a retrospective cohort of NIHR HTA funded trials', *BMC medical research methodology*, 13, p. 50. doi: [10.1186/1471-2288-13-50](https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2288-13-50).

Ker, K. *et al.* (2012) 'Effect of tranexamic acid on surgical bleeding: systematic review and cumulative meta-analysis', *BMJ*, 344, p. e3054. doi: [10.1136/bmj.e3054](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.e3054).

Knehans, A., Dell, E. and Robinson, C. (2016) 'Starting a Fee-Based Systematic Review Service', *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*, 35(3), pp. 266–273. doi: [10.1080/02763869.2016.1189779](https://doi.org/10.1080/02763869.2016.1189779).

Koffel, J. B. (2015) 'Use of Recommended Search Strategies in Systematic Reviews and the Impact of Librarian Involvement: A Cross-Sectional Survey of Recent Authors', *PLoS ONE*, 10(5). doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0125931](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0125931).

Koffel, J. B. and Rethlefsen, M. L. (2016) 'Reproducibility of Search Strategies Is Poor in Systematic Reviews Published in High-Impact Pediatrics, Cardiology and Surgery Journals: A Cross-Sectional Study', *PloS One*, 11(9), p. e0163309. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0163309](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0163309).

Li, L. *et al.* (2014) 'Network meta-analyses could be improved by searching more sources and by involving a librarian', *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 67(9), pp. 1001–1007. doi: [10.1016/j.jclinepi.2014.04.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2014.04.003).

Liberati, A. *et al.* (2009) 'The PRISMA statement for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses of studies that evaluate health care interventions: explanation and elaboration', *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 62(10), pp. e1–e34. doi: [10.1016/j.jclinepi.2009.06.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2009.06.006).

Ludeman, E. *et al.* (2015) 'Developing a Library Systematic Review Service: A Case Study', *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*, 34(2), pp. 173–180. doi: [10.1080/02763869.2015.1019323](https://doi.org/10.1080/02763869.2015.1019323).

Lund, H. (2014) 'From evidence-based practice to evidence-based research-Reaching research-worthy problems by applying an evidence-based approach', *European Journal of Physiotherapy*, 16(2), pp. 65–66. doi: [10.3109/21679169.2014.917838](https://doi.org/10.3109/21679169.2014.917838).

Mahtani, K. (2017) *Systematic reviews to reduce research waste*, *BMJ EBM Spotlight*. Available at: <https://blogs.bmj.com/bmjebmspotlight/2017/09/26/using-systematic-reviews-to-reduce-research-waste-who-really-cares/> (Accessed: 26 June 2019).

McGowan, J. and Sampson, M. (2005) 'Systematic reviews need systematic searchers', *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 93(1), pp. 74–80.

McKeown, S. and Ross-White, A. (2019) 'Building capacity for librarian support and addressing collaboration challenges by formalizing library systematic review services', *Journal of the Medical Library Association : JMLA*, 107(3), pp. 411–419. doi: [10.5195/jmla.2019.443](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2019.443).

Meert, D., Torabi, N. and Costella, J. (2016) 'Impact of librarians on reporting of the literature searching component of pediatric systematic reviews', *Journal of the Medical Library Association : JMLA*, 104(4), pp. 267–277. doi: [10.3163/1536-5050.104.4.004](https://doi.org/10.3163/1536-5050.104.4.004).

Metzendorf, M.-I. and Featherstone, R. M. (2018) 'Ensuring quality as the basis of evidence synthesis: leveraging information specialists' knowledge, skills, and expertise', *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, (9). doi: [10.1002/14651858.ED000125](https://doi.org/10.1002/14651858.ED000125).

Milne, I. and Chalmers, I. (2004) 'Documenting the evidence: the case of scurvy', *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 82, pp. 791–6.

Nasser, M. *et al.* (2017) 'What are funders doing to minimise waste in research?', *The Lancet*, 389(10073), pp. 1006–1007. doi: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)30657-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)30657-8).

Nicholson, J., McCrillis, A. and Williams, J. D. (2017) 'Collaboration challenges in systematic reviews: a survey of health sciences librarians', *Journal of the Medical Library Association: JMLA*, 105(4), pp. 385–393. doi: [10.5195/jmla.2017.176](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2017.176).

Nylenna, M. and Jamtvedt, G. (2014) 'Lettvint forskning', *Dagens Næringsliv*.

Oliver, S. *et al.* (2015) 'Capacity for conducting systematic reviews in low- and middle-income countries: a rapid appraisal', *Health Research Policy and Systems*, 13(1), p. 23.

Peer-review of systematic review search strategies: a new service from your Library and Archives Service (2019) *Library & Archives Service blog*. Available at: <http://blogs.lshrm.ac.uk/library/2019/03/25/peer-review-of-systematic-review-search-strategies/> (Accessed: 23 May 2019).

Pollock, A. and Berge, E. (2018) 'How to do a systematic review', *International Journal of Stroke*, 13(2), pp. 138–156. doi: [10.1177/1747493017743796](https://doi.org/10.1177/1747493017743796).

Research, I. of M. (US) C. on S. for S. R. of C. E. *et al.* (2011) *COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS FOR SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS OF COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH*. National Academies Press (US). Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK209524/> (Accessed: 25 June 2019).

Rethlefsen, M. L. *et al.* (2015) 'Librarian co-authors correlated with higher quality reported search strategies in general internal medicine systematic reviews', *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 68(6), pp. 617–626. doi: [10.1016/j.jclinepi.2014.11.025](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2014.11.025).

Rethlefsen, M. L., Murad, M. H. and Livingston, E. H. (2014) 'Engaging Medical Librarians to Improve the Quality of Review Articles', *JAMA*, 312(10), pp. 999–1000. doi: [10.1001/jama.2014.9263](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2014.9263).

Riegelman, A. and Kocher, M. (2018) 'For Your Enrichment: A Model for Developing and Implementing a Systematic Review Service for Disciplines outside of the Health Sciences', *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, 58(1), pp. 22–27. doi: [10.5860/rusq.58.1.6837](https://doi.org/10.5860/rusq.58.1.6837).

Robinson, K. A. *et al.* (2014) 'Citation networks of related trials are often disconnected: implications for bidirectional citation searches', *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 67, pp. 793–9. doi: [10.1016/j.jclinepi.2013.11.015](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2013.11.015).

Robinson, K. A. and Goodman, S. N. (2011) 'A systematic examination of the citation of prior research in reports of randomized, controlled trials', *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 154, pp. 50–5. doi: [10.7326/0003-4819-154-1-201101040-00007](https://doi.org/10.7326/0003-4819-154-1-201101040-00007).

Roth, S. and Burstein, K. (2016) 'Implementing a Formal Systematic Review Service in an Academic Health Science Library Setting', in, pp. 1–1. Available at: <http://eprints.rclis.org/31137/> (Accessed: 24 June 2019).

Roth, S. C. (2018) 'Transforming the systematic review service: a team-based model to support the educational needs of researchers', *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 106(4), pp. 514–520. doi: [10.5195/jmla.2018.430](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2018.430).

Salvador-Oliván, J. A., Marco-Cuenca, G. and Arquero-Avilés, R. (2019) 'Errors in search strategies used in systematic reviews and their effects on information retrieval', *Journal of the Medical Library Association : JMLA*, 107(2), pp. 210–221. doi: [10.5195/jmla.2019.567](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2019.567).

Sampson, M. *et al.* (2008) 'Sources of evidence to support systematic reviews in librarianship', *Journal of the Medical Library Association : JMLA*, 96(1), pp. 66–69. doi: [10.3163/1536-5050.96.1.66](https://doi.org/10.3163/1536-5050.96.1.66).

Shamseer, L. *et al.* (2015) 'Preferred reporting items for systematic review and meta-analysis protocols (PRISMA-P) 2015: elaboration and explanation', *BMJ*, 349, p. g7647. doi: [10.1136/bmj.g7647](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.g7647).

Smith, K. M. (2008) 'Building upon existing evidence to shape future research endeavors', *Am J Health Syst Pharm*, 65, pp. 1767–74. doi: [10.2146/ajhp070176](https://doi.org/10.2146/ajhp070176).

Spencer, A. J. and Eldredge, J. D. (2018) 'Roles for librarians in systematic reviews: a scoping review', *Journal of the Medical Library Association : JMLA*, 106(1), pp. 46–56. doi: [10.5195/jmla.2018.82](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2018.82).

Sutton, A. J., Cooper, N. J. and Jones, D. R. (2009) 'Evidence synthesis as the key to more coherent and efficient research', *BMC medical research methodology*, 9, p. 29. doi: [10.1186/1471-2288-9-29](https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2288-9-29).

Townsend, W. A. *et al.* (2017) 'A competency framework for librarians involved in systematic reviews', *Journal of the Medical Library Association : JMLA*, 105(3), pp. 268–275. doi: [10.5195/jmla.2017.189](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2017.189).

Varman, B. *et al.* (2015) *Developing a systematic review service in six months*. doi: [10.13140/RG.2.1.2580.3126](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.1.2580.3126).

Williamson, P. O. (2019) 'Librarians' Reported Systematic Review Completion Time Ranges Between 2 and 219 Total Hours with Most Variance due to Information Processing and Instruction', *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*, 14(1), pp. 80–83. doi: [10.18438/ebliip29525](https://doi.org/10.18438/ebliip29525).

Winther, F. O. and Hole, O. P. (1997) 'Scientific quality of clinical research. An analysis of 40 research projects in pharmacology/pharmacotherapy', *Eur J Clin Pharmacol*, 51, pp. 351–4.