

**Health Libraries Section
Australian Library & Information Association**

December 1998

National Newsletter

Media Alert

Health Communication Network Ltd

Micromedex Online HealthCare Series

HCN would like to introduce Micromedex Online HealthCare Series - the single most accessible collection of evidence-based clinical information resources - available today via your own web browser.

What does Micromedex Online Healthcare Series offer?

Current, comprehensive information resources for toxicology, pharmacology, emergency, acute care and patient education.

FREE TRIAL

To subscribe for your 2 week Free Trial of the complete Micromedex Online HealthCare Series, send your reply E-mail to:
mimi.heady@hcn.net.au

In the body of your E-mail, enter the following: "Please subscribe me for 2 weeks for free"

This is a fantastic offer! So, put your submissions in NOW!

Micromedex Online HealthCare Series is segmented into four

information resource categories:

1) Drug Information Databases:

Proven an essential tool to pharmacists, physicians, and nurses. Rather than simply offering case study abstracts or standard information from manufacturers, clinical use data on every aspect of drug therapy is presented. Information regarding unapproved uses, doses for drugs and investigational drugs. The extensive comparative information on drugs used for the same therapeutic purposes provides an unparalleled enhancement to patient care, including:

- DRUGDEX System
- DRUGREAX System
- Martindale
- Physicians Desk Reference (PDR)

2) Acute Care Information:

Proven an essential tool for emergency and critical care physicians and other medical personnel. Comprehensive diagnosis and treatment data is instantly accessible to aid in cases of trauma or acute presentation of disease, specifically during the initial 24 hours of illness. In addition, patient self-care can be greatly improved with the help of customized guidelines generated by the following databases:

(Continued on page 2)

inside...

The Critical Appraisal Skills Programme
Health Libraries Section AGM

**page 4
page 8**

(Continued from page 1)

- EMERGINDEX System:
- ClinicalPoint System:

3) Toxicology Information:

The Toxicology information databases are written and reviewed by a variety of specialists including toxicologists, pharmacists, emergency medical personnel, health and safety professionals, and industrial hygienists. Helpful when identifying and treating accidental exposures, responding to emergency situations, and reporting potential adverse health effects.

Identifies and provides ingredient information with over one million entries for commercial, pharmaceutical, & biological substances. Provides over 900 detailed management/treatment protocols, including information on clinical effects, treatment, range of toxicity, and more. The Toxicology information databases include:

- POISINDEX System
- TOMES System
- ToxPoints System
- REPRORISK System
- REPROTEXT System

4) Patient Education:

Complete, yet concise, this computerized resource assists healthcare professionals in providing patients with easy-to-understand information designed to address all aspects of their care and health. Offers a full spectrum of information covering general information, precare, acute care, discharge care, and continuing care. Includes DrugNotes documents providing concise overviews of the most frequently administered prescription and non-prescription drugs, including:

- The CareNotes System.

What are the Benefits of Micromedex Online HealthCare Series?

- * Micromedex Online HealthCare Series is always current, accurate, and reliable.
- * Written by experts for experts.
- * Exchange information and ideas across all operation levels to help increase efficiency.

- * Improve productivity.
- * Deliver more cost-effective healthcare to your patients.
- * Automatically updated every quarter. No messing around with CDs and timely installation.
- * 24 hour online support is available, by clicking the help button or calling the Micromedex support number on 1800 622 678.
- * No matter what the need, Micromedex HealthCare Series is accurate and readily accessible when time is critical.

For more information regarding Micromedex Online Healthcare Series, please contact HCN:

Telephone: +61-2-9906 6633

(International Calls)

Toll free: 1800 622 678 (calls within Australia)

E-mail: hcn@hcn.net.au

Post: PO Box 67, St Leonards NSW 1590, Australia

The Australian Grants Register

The register contains over 1300 entries, covering grants, scholarships and fellowships available throughout Australia, in all fields including medicine, health and nursing.

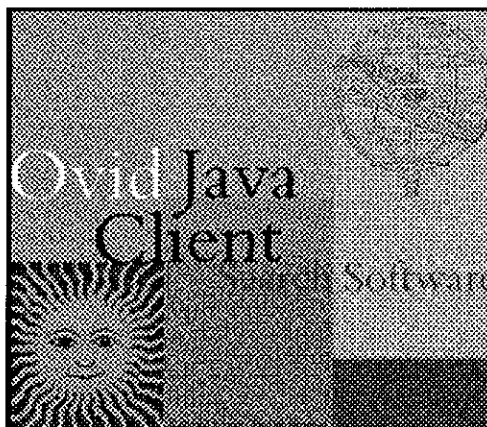
Further information is available at:

<http://www.grantsearch.com.au/Book.html>

Choose the e-journals that suit you best,
link them with MEDLINE, CINAHL & current Contents
integrate it all with Ovid's Evidence Based Medicine Reviews
and what do you get?

journals@ovid

how do you get there?



For more information contact Ovid Technologies on Ph : (1800) 226 474 or
(02) 9231 5599 Fax : (02) 9231 5599 email : andrewr@ovid.com

FREE FULL-DAY EMBASE SEMINAR IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

On January 22, 1999 we will be giving a free full-day EMBASE training seminar at Bridge Business College, 83-85 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, NSW 2000. This seminar will be offered in conjunction with Information Online & On Disc 99 - The Ninth Australasian Conference & Exhibition (January 19th-21st) in Sydney.

★★A Comprehensive database of pharmacology and clinical medicine★★

This full-day seminar covers EMBASE's scope and coverage, subject indexing, including the EMTREE thesaurus and bibliographical fields. Attendees learn about database and record structure and how to use EMBASE User Aids. Separate sections discuss cost-effective search strategies on various online vendors. An introduction to EMBASE Alert and Elsevier BIOBASE is included. Complimentary seminar workbooks and other materials are provided.

To register, please contact me by e-mail. Please make sure to e-mail me your full mailing address, phone/fax and also include the name of the online service used for EMBASE searching.

Please notify me if you need any additional information.
Mary Hernandez, Elsevier Science, Secondary Publishing Division
m.hernandez@elsevier.com

The Critical Appraisal Skills Programme

CASP training is available and is being organised for the week 6th-10th July, 1999. The training will involve 7 workshops and a day of speakers and demonstrations. This is a much more extensive training than the original one envisaged and will make you totally independent in setting up CASP workshops abroad.

The training schedule is as follows:

Day 1: Observe a workshop (on RCTs or systematic reviews). Finding the evidence workshop (searches etc).

Day 2: Training the trainer workshop (learn how to teach others). Opportunity to participate in running a workshop.

Day 3: A day of demonstrations, talks and discussion about how to teach, implement and find evidence.

Day 4: A training the trainer workshop. Opportunity to participate in running a workshop.

Day 5: A Training the administrator workshop (to teach you how to run CASP workshops in Australia).

The course will also supply a database of resources in terms of papers for critical appraisal, slides for use in talks to teach evidence-based medicine, entry to an e-mail conference of Evidence-based Health care teachers.

The cost of the course is yet to be finalised. We hope to attract outside funding which will reduce the cost for trainees. The conference will be in London, which we hope will make it easier for overseas visitors.

The Critical Appraisal Skills Programme aims to help health service decision makers, and those who seek to influence health service decisions, develop skills in the critical appraisal of evidence about effectiveness, in order to promote the delivery of evidence-based healthcare.

CASP operates on the cascade principle in order to develop and disseminate the skills and the confidence to run workshops as widely as possible. Since 1993, CASP has been running and cascading

a programme of multidisciplinary workshops led by Public Health all over Britain. The programme was started in response to research which showed that a lack of skills in finding and appraising evidence was a barrier to the implementation of evidence-based healthcare. Workshops are now run for all health service decision makers, in response to a growing emphasis at local, national and international levels on the need to base health service decisions on sound evidence of clinical effectiveness.

The Strengths of CASP

The skills learned in CASP workshops can be used in three important ways:

Firstly, critical appraisal skills can be used to improve clinical decision-making by the implementation of evidence-based healthcare.

Secondly, evidence can be used to make informed decisions about health policy, for example, in making choices about the prioritisation of services.

Thirdly, the CASP approach can be used to empower consumers of the health services.

CASP has built up a series of workshops on different topics, which are able to cover many aspects of these areas.

Peter Bradley
Highfield
Northamptonshire Health Authority
Cliftonville Road
Northampton NN1 5DN
England
Tel direct (01604) 615251
Tel secretary (01604) 615208
Fax (01604) 615146
e-mail pbradley@greenor.demon.co.uk

*From the Journals.....****Evidence-Based Quality Filters in Medline Records: Theory, Practice and Practical Reality***

Buckingham, J. *Bibliotheca Medica Canadiana* 1998 20(1) Fall:7-11.

About the author:

Jeanette Buckingham is Collections Librarian at the John W. Scott Health Sciences Library, University of Alberta, Canada. She teaches aspects of clinical informatics in the Faculty of Medicine and Oral Health Sciences and collaborates with faculty in projects involving the teaching of evidence-based medicine.

This article causes us to look more carefully at alternative ways to search for high quality clinical research articles on Medline. While we previously may have been happy to limit to "Review" or "Comparative Study" or "Clinical Trial" in order to retrieve a smaller, more relevant list we now read that these filters have not always been applied faithfully and are not to be relied on totally. For example, systematic reviews tended to be indexed as "Meta-analysis" but not as "Review". No article in Medline was found to be indexed as both of the above.

With Bruce Fisher and Duncan Saunders, the author created a kit to aid the practice of evidence-based medicine. It is available at www.med.ualberta.ca/ebm/. There are several tables at the end of the article which show suggestions for hedges and publication types. These are also accessible via the web site, which also includes a good introduction to EBM, worksheets for assisting you to decide whether an article you read was valid, and search strategies to obtain high quality articles.

The guides, hedges and worksheets are appropriate to the domains of therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, harm/etiology, clinical practice guidelines, systematic review, and economic analysis. An example of the hedge for research design follows:

1. clinical trial.pt.
2. (clinical or control\$ or compar\$) adj (trial\$ or study or studies).ti,ab,sh.
3. 1 or 2
4. random\$.ti,ab,sh. or randomized controlled trial.pt.
5. multicenter study.pt.
6. 5 or (multicenter\$ or multicentre\$ or multi-centre\$ or multi-center\$).ti,ab,sh.
7. 4 or 6
8. 3 and 7
9. (blind\$ or mask\$ or placebo\$).ti,ab,sh.
10. 9 and 3
11. 10 and 7

The suggested steps are:

1. Search the disease or disorder.
2. Search for the therapy or intervention.
3. Combine these with "AND"
4. Combine the final subject search with the above hedge.

There is a useful list of references which cite work from the Evidence-Based Working Group at McMaster University, the ACP Journal Club, and the series of Users' guides to the medical literature which were published in JAMA a few years ago.

Both experienced and novice searchers will gain value from this article and the associated web site. The journal is available for interlibrary loan from VCGMC.

Veronica Delafosse,
Librarian,
Health Sciences Library,
Caulfield General Medical Centre.

*STRAIT to the future***8th Asia-Pacific Specials,
Health and Law Librarians
Conference****22 - 26 August 1999**

Information regarding the conference will be added to the web site <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/strait/> as it comes to hand.

Good news for health librarians - "The Price is Right" prize is to be redrawn. Sylvia Webb is unable to attend the conference and has kindly relinquished the prize she won in Perth. Health Librarians living outside Tasmania who are among the first 100 who register for the Health Dinner at the conference will be eligible for the draw. With the prize valued at \$1,500 it is certainly worth planning to register for the health dinner on Tuesday 24th of August.

As social convenor, I would be interested to hear from colleagues if they are planning to bring partners or families with them to Tasmania and if they are considering extending their visit to include a tour of the state. This information will assist with planning partner's programs and pre and post conference tours.

Kathy Saurine
Kathy.Saurine@dchs.tas.gov.au
Phone 03 63327056 Fax 03 63327058

ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION**Anne Harrison Award: Award
Administration****Report to the Annual General Meeting,
27 October 1998****The 1997 Award**

The outcome for the 1997 Award, a questionnaire for health professionals on information available on the Internet, is expected to be available early in 1999. Lorena Smirneos, the holder of the 1997 Award, has trialed the questionnaire in her hospital, and analysed the results. She is now in the process of preparing the questionnaire for wider application.

**The 1998 Award – The "alternate year"
Award.**

The "alternate year" Award is available to a group of librarians to organise a continuing education activity of wide application.

The 1998 Award has been granted to the South Australian Group of the ALIA Health Libraries Section to subsidise travel for participants from interstate to attend a train-the-trainer seminar at the Australian Cochrane Centre at Flinders University. Librarians receiving the travel subsidy are expected to provide training for their colleagues in their home states.

The Award Administrators congratulate the South Australian Group for arranging this important activity for health librarians, and for being the first group to receive the Anne Harrison Award.

The "alternate year" Award will be available in 2000 and 2002. The amount of money available in each of these years is expected to be \$1800.

Anne Batt Brigitte Glockner
Ann Ritchie Susan Lutley

The assistance of the Health Communication Network and Ovid Technologies is gratefully acknowledged in the production of this newsletter.

For further information about the news releases contact Allison Hartman, Marketing Manager, HCN
Ph 61 2 9906 6633 Fax 61 2 9906 8910 email allison.hartman@hcn.net.au <http://www.hcn.net.au>

ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

Anne Harrison Award: Fund Administration

Report to the Annual General Meeting, 27 October 1998

1. Operating account

Opening balance \$170.10

Income
 Transfer from investments 3525.60
 Interest .09

Total income 3525.69

Expenditure
 Payment of Award 3500.00
 Bank charges and taxes 4.61

Total expenditure 3504.61

Balance as at 30/9/98 \$191.18

2. Investments at 30/9/98

\$2179.66 at 6.5% due 3/4/99
 \$12,000 at 6% due 8/8/99
 \$12961.04 at 5.75% due 8/2/2000
 \$5691.45 at 5.75% due 20/2/2000

Total invested at 30/9/98: \$32,832.15

All funds are invested with the health Services Credit Union Society, Membership number 189587
 The funds include \$3412.37 (plus interest accruing at 5.75% from 1/1/98) for the "alternate year" Awards in 2000 and 2002.

Fund Trustees

Anne Batt Brigitte Glockner

Sue Lutley

ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

Statement of accounts as at 1/10/97

1998 opening balance \$6661.59
 Refund from 1997 Conference Committee \$3000.00

Income

Sale of publications 132.60
 Advertising in Newsletter 400.00
 Newsletter sponsorship 1087.00
 Proceeds from 1997 Conference 1856.20
 Interest 4.63
 TOTAL 3480.43

\$13142.02

Expenditure

Newsletters -printing 1825.40
 Newsletters-postage 799.49
 Stationery 44.96
 Bank charges and taxes 11.72
 TOTAL 2681.57

Recoupable grant to 1999 Conference \$3000

\$5681.57

\$7460.45

BALANCE as at 12/10/98

Anne Batt
 Hon. Treasurer

ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTON

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held Tuesday 27 October 1998 8.15-9.00am

1. Present:

Name	State	Library
Tricia Scolaro	WA	KEMH/PMH
Greg Fowler	SA	Drug and Alcohol Services Council
David Lloyd	Vic	Bendigo Hosp
Ann Ritchie	WA	Hollywood Hosp
Lindsay Harris	SA	The Queen Elizabeth Hosp
Mary Peterson	SA	Royal Adelaide Hosp
Jane Shelling	ACT	The Canberra Hosp
Kaye Lee	NSW	Concord Hosp
Saing Chou Iv	WA	Health Dept
Caryl Armstrong	SA	DASC
Chris Richardson	Tas	Uni of Tas
Sheelagh Noonan	NSW	Internet Medical
Linda Mulheron	NSW	Westmead Hosp
Elisabeth Gatehouse	SA	Women's and Children's Hosp
Mary McGill	Vic	Royal Melb Hosp
Majella Pugh	Vic	North West Hosp, Parkerville
Beth Sowter	Tas	John Ramsay Library LGH
Julie Hooke	SA	Royal Adelaide Hosp
Philip Keane	SA	Royal Adelaide Hosp
Chris Heap	SA	Julia Farr Services
Robyn Davis	SA	SA Health Commission
Sharon Sinickas	SA	Child and Youth Health

Apologies

Anne McLean	Vic	Austin & Repatriation Medical Centre
Beverley Hore	Vic	Austin & Repatriation Medical Centre
Cheryl Hamill	WA	Fremantle Hosp & Health Serv
Anne Batt	WA	UWA Medical Library
Gillian McCardle	WA	HIRS/KEMH/PMH
Sue Rockliff	SA	
Jan Heath	SA	Uni of SA
Marion Steele	NSW	
Katherine Keely	NSW	Westmead Hosp
Toni Silson	NSW	Lady Davidson
Lothar Retzlaff	WA	Hollywood Hosp

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

2. Minutes of the previous meeting 15 October 1997

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record; moved by Greg Fowler, seconded Mary McGill; accepted by those present.

3. Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising, other than that listed on the agenda.

4. Correspondence

This was dealt with as it arose on the agenda.

5. Anne Harrison Award

As a result of her research and to comply with the conditions of the award, the 1997 recipient, Lorena Smirneos, is designing a questionnaire for collecting information about health professionals' use of the Internet. This will be available in 1999.

The 1998 grant for educational purposes was awarded to the South Australian Branch of the Health Libraries Section ALIA for a subsidised Cochrane Centre 'train the trainer' programme for representatives from all states to be trained in the use of the Cochrane Library. The awarded was accepted by Lindsay Harris, on behalf of the Section. There will be a report on the project in the next National Newsletter. The representatives will provide training in their own states and are also required to submit a report of the outcomes.

6. Treasurer's Report

The balance is \$7464.45. The report will be circulated with the minutes.

7. Ninth International Congress on Medical Librarianship 2005

The organisers have asked for a "letter of intent" by 1/12/98. The vote to decide the venue for the 2005 conference will be taken at the next Congress in Bangkok.

Prue Deacon will be asked to review the submission, and Linda Mulheron will liaise with Ruth Mitchell, President of the NSW group.

T Scolaro proposed that she coordinates the submission. All sections agreed.

Action: Tricia Scolaro

8. National Guidelines for Hospital Libraries

The committee is to review the guidelines to align them with the provisions of ACHS Equip guidelines. A timeline was proposed, by which comments from each state would be submitted by the end of the year, the draft collated and returned to the states, and revisions presented in Hobart, 1999.

L Harris proposed a complete revision of the guidelines. L Mulheron suggested that we inform the Chair of the review committee, Saroj Bhatia, of the view that there is a need for a complete revision of the guidelines and that consequently, there may be a need to reassess the timeline to allow a complete revision.

Action: Tricia Scolaro

9. Physical Requirements for Hospital Libraries

C Richardson reported that General Council had written to Standards Australia as requested, asking for a standard to be developed on physical requirements for hospital libraries. There was a negative response from Standards Australia. C Richardson will request that General Council contact Standards Australia again. An alternative may be to include an Appendix to the National Guidelines which includes relevant Australian Standards

Action: Chris Richardson

10. Strait to the Future Conference 1999

A progress report was given by C Richardson. The conference is taking shape, keynote speakers have been identified, the call for papers and sponsorship brochures have been distributed.

11. Survey Instrument

As a result of her master's research, C Hamill is developing an instrument which will measure the impact of hospital library services.

12. Promotional leaflet

This was not progressed by G McCardle in view of the brochure being developed by the Victorian Branch. D Lloyd reported that the Victorian

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

group is developing a promotional brochure and this could be made available for a fee.

Moved T Scolaro that the Victorian brochure be adopted, and we discontinue the promotional leaflet project.

Accepted.

13. National Executive 1999-2001

Victoria will take over the National Executive and will report the names of the office bearers in the next National Newsletter.

14. Other Business

L Mulheron reported on the Clinical Information Access Project (CIAP) in NSW, for which the library won an award. (This provides free access to Ovid databases and full-text journals for NSW Health Department.)

A group from the NSW Peak Purchasing Council is looking at journal ordering. G Fowler asked that NSW provide some information for the National Newsletter on this project, and also on the preferred vendors for library management systems. This was agreed.

D Lloyd moved a vote of thanks to the WA Executive for their tireless work and professionalism in conducting the National Executive. This was endorsed by all present.

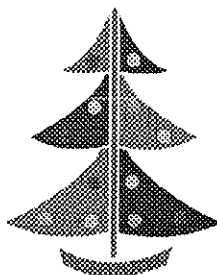
Meeting closed 9.00am

The editor would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the National Newsletter in the past three years - you have made my job easier!

Victoria will produce the newsletter from 1999-2001 so don't forget to give them your support.

Gillian McCardie

P.S. Merry Christmas!!



Report on Cochrane Training Seminar

On October 6 and 7 this year the SA Branch of the HLS hosted a Train-the-Trainer seminar in Evidence-Based Medicine for health librarians. It was offered as a full-day seminar, the program being repeated on each day. With 23 participants attending each session, the seminar was fully booked, and reflected the keen interest we have in EBM and its implications for our professional practice.

We were pleased that our submission for funding from the Anne Harrison Award was successful, since this enabled us to sponsor travel expenses for interstate delegates. All delegates were provided with a kit containing both a substantial booklet of material relating to EBM and a diskette which included the URLs of many EBM internet sites.

The seminar could not have taken place without the unstinted (and friendly) cooperation of the Australasian Cochrane Centre (based at Flinders University). Staff of the Centre presented the bulk of the program and guided participants through a range of hands-on exercises on the Cochrane Library.

Mary Peterson

Royal Adelaide Hospital Library Services,
on behalf of the Seminar Working Party.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION, 1998

President

Tricia Scolaro, Princess Margaret Hospital Library
Roberts Road, Subiaco 6008
Ph (08) 9340 8465 Fax (08) 9382 3055
email Tricia.Scolaro@health.wa.gov.au

Secretary

Cheryl Hamill, Fremantle Hospital Library
PO Box 480, Fremantle 6959
Ph (08) 9431 2780 Fax (08) 9431 2522
email Cheryl.Hamill@health.wa.gov.au

Treasurer

Anne Batt, UWA Medical Library, QEII Medical Centre,
Verdun Street, Nedlands 6009
Ph (08) 9346 2917 Fax (08) 9381 1553
email abatt@library.uwa.edu.au

Newsletter Editor

Gillian McCardie, Health Information Resource Service,
374 Bagot Road, Subiaco 6008
Ph (08) 9340 1100 Fax (08) 9340 1124
email gillian.mccardie@health.wa.gov.au