



Spotlight on Knowledge for Healthcare

Knowledge and Library Services News

Monday 30 June 2025, Issue 1

Welcome to this month's bulletin providing news and information for NHS staff and learners, helping you to make the most of your NHS knowledge and library service for lifelong learning, research, innovation and everyday decision making.

[Find out more about the work of the national NHS Knowledge and Library Services team](#) or take a look at [Knowledge for Healthcare](#).

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A message from Louise Goswami, Chief Knowledge Officer, NHS England



It is a pleasure to share the inaugural Spotlight on Knowledge for Healthcare with you. Against a backdrop of uncertainty there are a lot of exciting developments taking place to continue to improve the delivery of NHS Knowledge and Library Services.

In each bulletin we will showcase different aspects of the work of the national team and this month we are highlighting the partnership approaches to tackle health misinformation online; featuring the clinical decision support tool BMJ Best Practice; and providing some tips on using the fabulous core collection of digital knowledge resources.

In this issue we are also sharing a case study from East Cheshire NHS Trust Knowledge and Library Service, highlighting the valuable contribution of the clinical librarian to decision making, leading to an improved patient flow initiative.

Knowledge and Library Services News

**Health literacy and patient
information. Misinformation UnMASKED:
tackling health misinformation online**

The NHS England Knowledge and Library Services Team have worked with South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust to create resources to help people to unmask health misinformation.

Resources were designed based on views of the public, NHS and public library staff. They include:

- A Misinformation UnMASKED checklist
- Animations helping people spot misinformation and find reliable health information

[Take a look at the first animation](#) in the series and the checklist and share widely.

Look out for more animations to follow over the summer!

#MisinformationUnmasked

Resource Discovery: Digital knowledge resources: the national core collection

An extensive range of resources such as e-books, e-journals and databases are available for everyone providing care to NHS patients. These can be used for study, research, professional development and to inform everyday work decisions.

There is a single [Knowledge and Library Hub](#) you can use to connect you to high quality, NHS-funded knowledge and evidence resources without having to search elsewhere.

A search on the Hub will bring back more reliable search results than a general web search with access to all journal articles, e-books, guidelines and evidence summary tools provided nationally, and those purchased by your local NHS library team.

Find out more about the [full national core collection](#)

NHS OpenAthens Accounts to unlock knowledge resources

To make the most of your core collection of e-books, e-journals, databases and clinical decision support tools check you have an active NHS OpenAthens account.

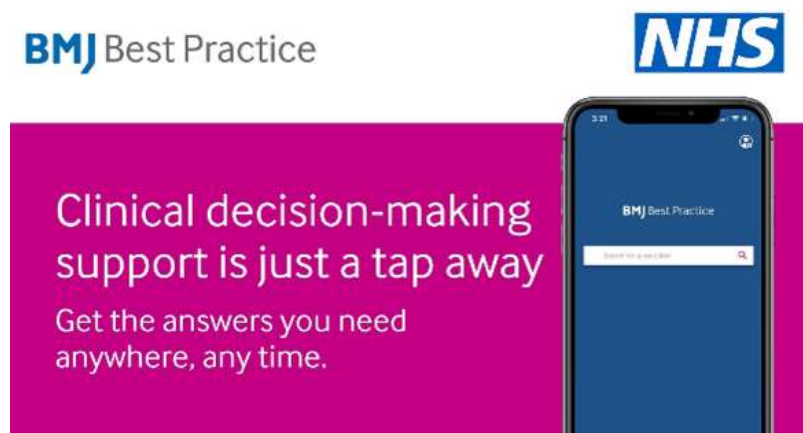
[Sign-up here](#) or [refresh your password](#)

Share your views on the collection of national e-books, e-journals and databases

Those of you who are familiar with the national core collection will notice some changes from July 2025.

Find out more about [why these changes have been made](#) and please provide [your feedback](#) about how you use the national core collection.

Resource of the month: BMJ Best Practice



Are you ever short of time and need to put your fingertips on the latest diagnosis or treatment guidance for a wide range of health conditions?

Are you caring for patients who have a mixture of different long term health conditions?

Are you a student who needs help to prepare for clinical practice?

BMJ Best Practice is funded by NHS England for everyone delivering care to NHS patients to help inform clinical decision making with the latest evidence from guidance and research.

The app gives you access at the point-of-care on or offline.

“When I’m working under pressure, and have to make decisions very quickly, BMJ Best Practice is my immediate help on hand. It’s got everything in a nutshell, it’s concise and to the point.” **Dr Renju Chidambaran**

Senior Clinical Teaching Fellow & Medical Doctor
Croydon University Hospital

[Find out more and set-up your access to BMJ Best Practice today.](#)

Partnership perfection: working with South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust

By working in partnership, we can leverage different skills, resources and access to community groups and healthcare professionals to ensure that the tools we create will be relevant to the communities we serve. This is happening with the partnership between the NHS England Knowledge and Library Team and South Tyneside Sunderland NHS FT and Sunderland University. The partnership team are producing resources to address both sides of the health literacy coin - **developing skills** to access and use health information and **improving communication** between healthcare professionals and patients/service users.

Health misinformation online

The first set of resources address health misinformation online. Sunderland University Health Literacy Team ran focus groups with the public to find out their experiences of misinformation and what resources would help them to feel more confident online. The South Tyneside Team created the [animation and checklist](#) and tested them with a group of patients.

Tools to help healthcare professionals

The next step is to develop a set of resources to highlight two evidence-based techniques to make communication with patients more effective: [Teach Back](#) and [Chunk and Check](#). Again, based on user research, these tools will be practical and reflect an NHS working context.

Quality, Improvement and Impact: NHS knowledge and library specialists bringing the evidence you need to inform your decisions: Improving patient flow



Elderly Care Matron, East Cheshire NHS Trust requested a search about improving patient flow and timely discharge. The librarian conducted a search and gathered research evidence which demonstrated that having a dedicated role to support discharge delivers many benefits, including improved system flow. This resulted in a 12-week trial of patient flow support workers facilitating improvement with 297 discharges and these roles are now substantive.

“The role is a dedicated patient flow role and does not have competing priorities other clinical staff have and discharge planning is prioritised. This means that the patient experience and bed capacity will be improved by more dedicated care.” **Michelle Gillespie, Matron Elderly Care, East Cheshire NHS Trust**

Find out more about [#AMillionDecisions](#) or watch our [short animation about how NHS Knowledge and Library Services give The Gift of Time](#)

Guidance to support implementation of the Mental Capacity Act in acute trusts for adults with a learning disability

NHS England [published guidance and practical tools](#) for front line clinicians in acute and community trusts to download to ensure that the Mental Capacity Act is applied properly for people with a learning disability when they are in hospital.

The range of resources include a [flow chart](#) to help you decide when to access capacity, a helpful [checklist](#) to support preparation for assessing the mental capacity of someone with a learning disability and a downloadable [poster](#) for wards.

The Oliver McGowan Code of Practice: Transforming Care for People with a Learning Disability and Autistic People

The Department of Health and Social Care has launched the [Oliver McGowan Code of Practice](#), marking a significant milestone in improving healthcare for people with a learning disability and autistic people.

The Code, which supports the statutory training requirements introduced by the Health and Care Act 2022, was laid in Parliament on 19 June 2025 and sets clear standards for CQC-registered providers.

The Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disability and Autism – named after Oliver McGowan, who tragically died in 2016 after a severe allergic reaction after receiving medication despite family objections – is the government's recommended training package. Over 3 million people have already completed the first part and there are now more than approved 2,700 trainers delivering interactive sessions for part 2 nationwide.

For more information about Oliver's Training, visit: [The Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disability and Autism | NHS England | Workforce, training and education.](#)

**How to contact your local NHS Knowledge
and Library**

You can [find details of your local NHS knowledge and library service](#)

Once you've found your service, give them a ring or drop them an email to find out about membership and availability of local NHS knowledge and library services, including help in finding and using resources.

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