

Parallel Sessions A  
A2 – Supporting Evidence-Based Practice

Thursday, September 19, Room C, 11.00

## **The SEEK Gateway: Improving Access to Clinical Effectiveness Resources**

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This presentation will outline the work of the Sheffield Evidence for Effectiveness and Knowledge (SEEK) Project managed by the University of Sheffield Health Sciences Library. The Project supports the implementation of Information for Health<sup>1</sup> in Sheffield by identifying the problems with accessing the “evidence” and developing a service response to meet these needs. The Project has been in operation since February 2001 and is funded to March 2003.

The two primary target groups are:

1. Those with an organisational responsibility for managing clinical effectiveness or clinical governance activities
2. Clinical practitioners who require access to 'evidence' in their patient care decision making.

This presentation will focus on the following primary objectives of the Project:

1. To establish and maintain a Sheffield web site for evidence based practice.
2. To provide access to local and national clinical guidelines.
3. To provide a training programme in literature searching and critical appraisal skills.

The Project is being evaluated alongside four other similar projects on a macro (common issues) and micro (issues specific to the local projects) level, by an external agency. The research methodology<sup>2</sup> will be outlined and results presented.

Important and transferable lessons will be presented regarding the promotion of the service and the management of the website.

### References

1. Information for Health: an information strategy for the modern NHS, 1998-2005, London: Department of Health, Sept 1998
2. Hutchinson L (1999) Evaluating and researching the effectiveness of educational interventions, BMJ 318: 1267-1269