

<sup>1</sup>Parakova M., <sup>2</sup>Potomkova J., <sup>3</sup>Bouzkova H., <sup>4</sup>Lesenkova E.

<sup>1</sup>Charles University Central Library, Prague

<sup>2</sup>Palacky University Medical Library, Olomouc

<sup>3</sup>National Medical Library, Prague

<sup>4</sup>Institute for Postgraduate Education in Healthcare, Prague  
Czech Republic <sup>1</sup>

## A MULTI-INSTITUTION COLLABORATIVE PROJECT FILLING VITAL INFORMATION NEEDS OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH COMMUNITY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Objectives. The aim of the paper is to describe preliminary results of a 5-year national project launched in 2004 and funded as part of of the Information Research Infrastructure Scheme. Charles University Central Library in Prague is the principal project manager working together with a team of another 3 large medical libraries to satisfy information needs of thousands of end users.

Methods. The preparatory part of the project required coordinated acquisition of information resources for development of integrated electronic services in terms of electronic licencing, more efficient use of consortially purchased journals and creating local holdings messages in the bibliographic databases. Users have to be trained „to go beyond Medline“ and change the habit of searching it exclusively.

Results. Year 1 was devoted to purchase and manahing access to the vital resources (Medline, Embase, Micromedex, Cochrane Library, LWW High Impact Collection) in light of local conditions of the project team. Year 2 witnessed vast integration of databases and e-journals through linking options followed by staff and end-users education to master searching multiple databases to get „the best evidence“.,

Discussion and Conclusions. The first 2 years of the project brought about promising results: (1) Seamless access to the electronic resources, little troubleshooting and increasing interest of users. (2) Value-added library services due to integration of information resources through linking and extending resources to the point of need. The next important step in the project management will be monitoring and evaluation of the usage rate, data analysis and implications for long-term sustainability of the project.