

Evidence-Based Health.

The information as basis for decision making and the role of libraries/information centers

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Decision making in modern health systems is more and more based on high quality, relevant and applicable scientific evidence. This applies to all three levels of decision making: clinical care, management and policies.

This scenario arises due to 3 causes: firstly, there exists much more evidence, secondly it is of much higher quality and, thirdly, can be localized using several techniques. This state of affairs allows one to say that ignorance is no longer an option (...) and that the question is not anymore “Is there an answer to my problem?” but “Where is the answer I seek and, when I find it, is it valid, important and applicable?”.

In our talk we will address the issues of scientific information for National Health Systems, we will define what is that we need to know, and we will present some evidence systems for clinical care, management and policies.

We will finish by outlining an information system for modern health universities and its role in improving quality in health systems.