What can the new CRD database interface do for you?

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The CRD databases are a key resource for information specialists, providing free access to quality assessed evidence to inform health and social care policy and practice. The literature evaluating the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of health care interventions is growing year on year, and these studies can be difficult and time consuming to identify and appraise. DARE and NHS EED assist decision-makers by systematically identifying and describing systematic reviews and economic evaluations, appraising their quality and highlighting their relative strengths and weaknesses. The HTA database provides a comprehensive listing of in progress and published health technology assessments, many of which are not accessible from any other readily searchable source. The CRD databases contain over 45,000 records, including over 6,000 quality assessed reviews and over 7,000 abstracts of quality assessed economic evaluations. Each year at least 1,200 quality assessed abstracts are added to DARE, and 480 to NHS EED.

The databases are continually evolving to best meet user needs, keep pace with developments in research and exploit new technologies. This presentation will cover two areas related to the CRD databases where there have been major improvements implemented in 2010:

The content: The databases hold differing types of record, with each type containing differing levels of information. The new system aims to make identifying each type of record easier and clearer to the user. The presentation will outline the process for production of content; the added value of the databases as a whole; the rationale behind the content of DARE, NHS EED and HTA database and the different types of records contained in each.

The new public interface: The introduction of a new content management system and public interface offers a range of exciting improvements and innovations for the front end user.

The rational behind the developments will be covered, from obtaining user feedback to producing the new interface. Illustrated details of the enhanced functionality and new facilities will be given, including a demonstration of the new, more interactive user interface, which has a range of improved filtering and browse facilities. Everything from a simple key word search to complex advance searches will be demonstrated.