

Tools and organization of a current awareness service

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Objectives

Occupational medicine professional have interests in many fields (toxicology, virology, ergonomics etc.) Thus literature follow-up is complicated and time demanding. In order to facilitate the identification of the relevant information, we have started in 2005 a literature follow-up concerning the occupational health of healthcare workers.

Material and methods

A medical librarian gather daily all information possibly relevant from a list of selected websites (grey literature), from bibliographic databases (mainly PubMed) and from the major medical journals. All documents retrieved are examined weekly by a senior occupational physician who selects the most important documents, i.e. those which bring valuable and accurate information. They are published on a specific website (http://www.chu-rouen.fr/mtph) and posted on a mailing list created for this purpose.

Results

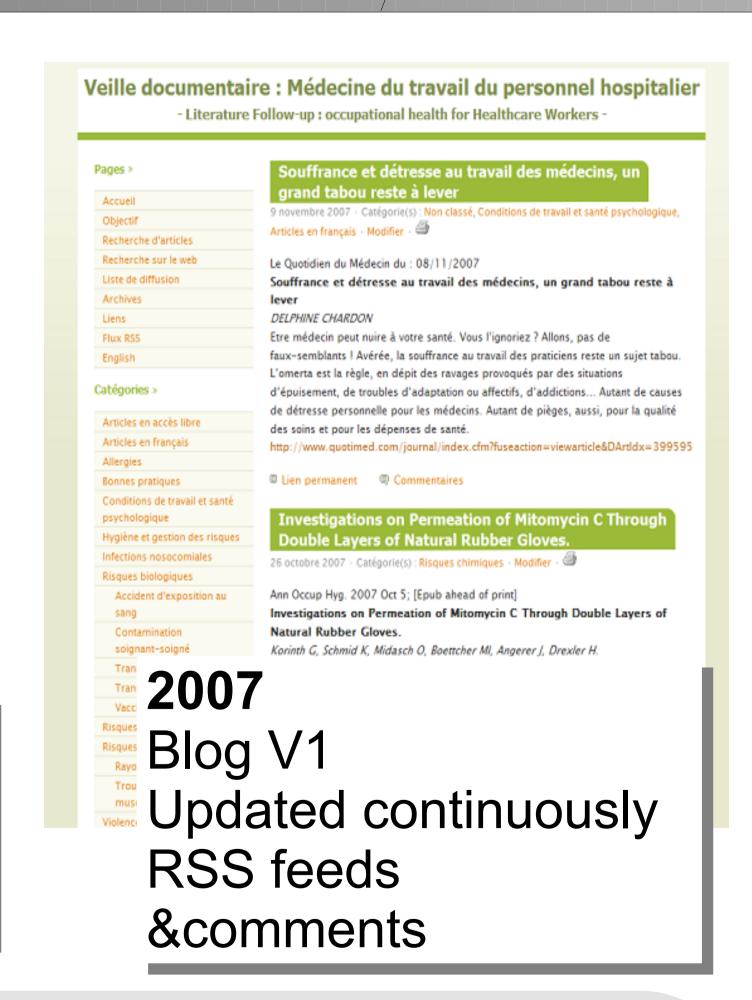
In April 2010, the website included 1897 references, among which 610 had a free access to the full text and 625 were in French. The site has nearly 2000 unique visitors per month and the mailing list includes 172 occupational health professionals.

Discussion

This follow up intends to help occupational health professionals involved in occupational health for healthcare workers to maintain their knowledge up-to-date. As none of the aspects of this service is domain-specific, we believe the presentation of our experience could benefit to other similar projects.

	Watch	Collect & Evaluate	Disseminate
Librarian	Day to day watch and first selection	Store references in Zotero and e-mail them weekly to the physician	Selected articles are put online, categorized and described with tags.
Senior Physician	Validation of initial queries and sources	Discard irrelevant references and chose featured articles	Participate actively in the discussion list
Software	Website Watcher (100€)	Zotero (0€)	Wordpress (0€)
		www.zotero.org	wordpress.org





Reference

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