



A librarian at the heart of a hospital

Federica Napolitani

Editor in Chief

Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy

Contact: federica.napolitani@iss.it

It is a hard task for clinicians to remain up to date with current medical information in the hustle and bustle of their everyday medical practices. Nor is it easy for them to find the information needed, often urgently, whilst making relevant decisions regarding the care of a patient. In the midst of complex health situations, actions are often taken with little to no support by the most recent medical evidence. In this context, the role of the clinical librarian can be extremely relevant; providing information on research evidence, supporting decision making, and being part of a clinical team can improve the health of the patients, carers, and of their the respective families.

Clinical Librarianship emerged in the annual meeting held last year in Dublin as one of the themes for future issues. It was approved by the Editorial Board and strongly supported by Gerhard Bissels, member of the Board whom also kindly recommended a possible guest editor. I am thus pleased, and honoured, to not only present this issue of the Journal, but to introduce its guest editor, to whom our deepest gratitude goes towards: **Tom Roper**, clinical librarian at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, UK. I would like to thank him for having accepted to guest edit this theme issue on Clinical Librarianship and for the excellent work he has accomplished, attracting a number of interesting papers from European countries (Britain, Ireland, Denmark) as well as Iran and Australia.

During the 16th EAHIL Conference, to be held in Cardiff, Wales, UK on 9-13 July 2018, the Editorial Board of the Journal will reconvene to discuss about new possible themes. If you would like to suggest a topic, please contact me or a member of the Board.

JEAHIL is meant to be an open window on the different either carried out, or of interest by EAHIL and the sister organisations. I therefore encourage you not to miss the Letter from the President Maurella Della Seta, and the columns by Dianne Babski, Carol Lefebvre, Michael Eklund, Benoit Thirion and Letizia Sampaolo.

Please find a list of the next issues of *JEAHIL* and their content in the Table below.

JEAHIL future issues

Issue Theme	Deadline
2018	
3 Memories from the 16 th EAHIL Conference, Cardiff, Wales, UK	5 August
4 Re-imaging libraries: partnership with businesses large and small (edited by Michelle Wake)	5 November
2019	
1 No-theme issue	5 March

I'm very much looking forward to the next big gathering of the "EAHIL family" in Cardiff, and in the meanwhile wish you all lots of success in your different librarian roles, clinical ones included.

Federica