

# Evidence-Based Information Group: year report 2022

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## Introduction

2022 has been a busy year for the Evidence-Based Information SIG. As well as our annual SIG meeting at the 2022 EAHIL Conference in Rotterdam, we saw progress across many of our SIG projects, we ran our first webinar, and ran our first journal club meeting.

## SIG meeting, 9 June 2022 at the 2022 EAHIL Conference, Rotterdam (held online via Zoom)

Approximately 60 members attended our annual SIG meeting, held as part of the 2022 EAHIL Conference in Rotterdam. After an update from the SIG committee, each project team provided an update on their project, inviting questions from attendees. Finally, the SIG committee announced details of the journal club and webinar. Meeting minutes and copies of the project presentations are available in the SIG GoogleDrive folder (<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1arbj6nbyaVA-osWAXIgmNuWBllmzF3Qe?ths=true>). The meeting was recorded and can be watched on the EAHIL YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/DcayTKCFZzM>.

## Update from SIG projects

*Project 2: Reference database on articles about systematic search methods*

The project group hosts and manages a review methods collection in Zotero ([https://www.zotero.org/groups/2356323/review\\_methods\\_systematic\\_scoping\\_and\\_other\\_comprehensive\\_reviews/library](https://www.zotero.org/groups/2356323/review_methods_systematic_scoping_and_other_comprehensive_reviews/library)). This literature review methods library is a collection of publications that supports information specialists who are involved with systematic, scoping or other comprehensive reviews. The library includes mostly publications on comprehensive literature search methods for any type of review, but also contains papers on other stages of the reviews which may be used to guide students or review teams.

## NEWS FROM EAHIL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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Relevant papers from the library are selected for the journal club the group plans to host twice a year. Our first journal club was held in October 2022, more details below.

We welcome feedback, suggestions for the methods library and the journal club, and encourage new collaborators - please contact us here [referencelibraryebi@gmail.com](mailto:referencelibraryebi@gmail.com).

### *Project 3: Peer-reviewing search strategies for journals*

Although search strategies often end up in the supplementary file of evidence-based literature, like systematic and scoping reviews, it's actually its strong foundation. An insensitive search methodology can result in missing relevant studies and thus biased conclusions. That's why journals should realize the crucial role of expert searchers in peer reviewing search strategies of submitted reviews.

Since there's already an existing Librarian Peer Reviewer Database, the focus of this project will probably shift to facilitate training and discussion opportunities for fellow expert searchers regarding peer reviewing search strategies from submitted evidence-synthesis papers.

Although this project group has taken form with the start of this SIG, no steps had been taken to officially start up. The group consists of six members and will get together for the first time on the 22nd of December 2022. The aim of this first meeting is to set more clear goals, have a brainstorm and plan at least one event for next year.

There's an open vacancy for a co-lead, in the hope this will help to kickstart this project. Extra volunteers and ideas are still welcome as well.

Do contact Krizia Tuand ([krizia.tuand@kuleuven.be](mailto:krizia.tuand@kuleuven.be)) if you wish to contribute in any way.

### *Project 4: Library of search strategy resources*

Our first EBI-SIG Project 4 meeting was on June 13, 2022 and we have been meeting on a monthly basis since. We currently have two co-chairs and four members that are a part of our group.

This is a brief overview and progress to date:

1. we decided to create a living open access library of search strategy resources;
2. we created an initial Google docs draft of the Library of Search Strategy Resources (<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eaSqCR3jLcSMP06gmALHz5zWj-lUcvd5/edit>);
3. we drafted an email asking health literature searchers to suggest additional resources for our draft;
4. we distributed the email to listservs based in the UK, Canada and the US;
5. we also hope to be giving a presentation on this project at the 2023 EAHIL conference in Trondheim, Norway.

Our next steps will be to decide on the means by which we will present the Library of Search Strategy Resources to the global community; and the skills set and technologies required to do so. We may send out a call for new volunteers as we determine our needs for this project.

### *Project 7: Tools in R for health libraries*

This project is split into two streams. The first is to produce guidance on searching for R tools of interest to librarians and information professionals. We have created a potential list of sources and are currently creating and testing search strategies. We will use an adapted version of the search strategy template to prioritise sources (1). The second stream is to map existing R tools onto the systematic review steps most commonly carried out by librarians and information professionals. This will help to identify overlap and gaps in provision. We hope to run a workshop on this project at the 2023 EAHIL conference in Trondheim, Norway, and also at an R-related conference.

## NEWS FROM EAHIL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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### *Webinar, 29 September 2022*

On the afternoon of Thursday 29 September, we were delighted to welcome Melissa Rethlefsen to present a webinar, via Zoom, on PRISMA-S. Melissa presented a short overview of PRISMA-S before moving on to discuss the practicalities of implementation. Over 75 librarians attended and there was a lively Q&A and discussion. The webinar was recorded and is available from the EAHIL YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/Jrt9GxmCH1M>.

### *Journal club, 11 October 2022*

Our first journal club was held on Zoom and was facilitated by Maria Björklund, Lund University, Sweden. We discussed a paper by McKeown and Ross-White (2), by answering the following questions in breakout groups:

- How is the systematic review support organized in your library/institution, compared to the model presented in the paper?
- The paper presents some challenges, e.g. in the discussion. What do you think is your biggest challenge in the systematic review support, at library/institutional level?
- How do you deal with students who do systematic reviews e.g. for a research group?

Feedback from attendees was very positive and we plan to run another journal club in 2023.

### **Conclusion**

2022 has been a busy year for the SIG with progress being made across a number of projects. Many thanks to all our project volunteers for your enthusiasm and hard work. It has also been really rewarding to see so many attendees at our webinar and our journal club. We look forward to welcoming colleagues to more events in 2023.

### **REFERENCES**

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