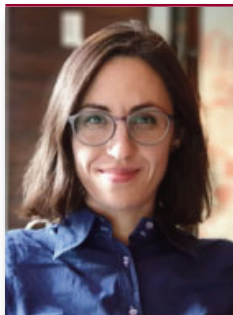


Editorial



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Dear colleagues,

In my role as guest editor for this issue, I have the pleasure of writing this editorial for *JEAHIL*, a journal dedicated to the vibrant community of medical librarians and health information specialists in Europe. In this issue, we focus on the pivotal role that medical libraries play in supporting evidence syntheses – an area that continues to evolve at the intersection of information science and healthcare.

The first article "Supporting systematic, scoping and other types of reviews: workshops and services offered by the Medical Library at Charité" brings us to Berlin, Germany, where our colleagues from the Medical Library at Charité have pioneered a comprehensive workshop series. This eight-part initiative offers participants a deep dive into systematic and scoping review methods. The article outlines each workshop session, detailing preparation requirements, content covered, and the challenges faced by both learners and the teaching team. The success of this initiative underscores the crucial role medical libraries play in providing much needed education and guidance for evidence synthesis.

In the next article, "High precision but variable recall – comparing the performance of five deduplication tools", my colleague Heidrun Janka from Düsseldorf, Germany, ventured into the realm of deduplication methods. The study compares the performance, core features, and time efficiency of five frequently used automated and semi-automated deduplication tools. As we explore tools ranging from reference management software to machine learning-driven solutions, this research provides valuable insights into the efficiency and accuracy of the deduplication process inherent to all search efforts for systematic reviews, offering a roadmap for medical librarians in the time-consuming and challenging task of managing duplicates in searches supporting the conduct of evidence syntheses.

In our final piece related to this issue's topic, called "Brief communication concerning the implications of algorithmic indexing in MEDLINE", our colleagues from Montréal and Ottawa in Canada shed light on the new algorithm used to assign Medical Subject Headings to the MEDLINE database. As information professionals, our ability to navigate the intricacies of generative algorithms and their implications, is crucial. This piece provides an easily-digestible and amusing read about their findings of unusual indexing that they noted in the course of regular MEDLINE searches and student consultations.

Last but not least, our colleagues from Spain provide "An overview of information instruction in hospital libraries in Spain", which we also include in this issue as relevant to our work, because information instruction is essential for providing support for clinical care, teaching and research in hospitals.

The evolving landscape of evidence synthesis production requires our constant commitment to staying informed and educating ourselves and our users, as well as embracing new solutions while also evaluating them critically. May these articles inspire and empower you in your vital role at the forefront of healthcare information. Wishing you a joyful and informative reading.

Sincerely,

*Maria-Inti Metzendorf
Health Information Scientist and Guest Editor*