

# Evidence-Based Information Special Interest Group: year report 2025

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## Introduction

2025 has been another busy year for the Evidence-Based Information Special Interest group (EBI-SIG). We held an in-person meeting at the 2025 EAHIL Conference in Łódź and the following week we held our official SIG annual meeting online. We also ran two journal club meetings and one webinar. Our active projects continued to make progress and we were delighted to start two new projects. This report provides details of these activities.

## SIG meeting, 11 June 2025 (held in-person during the EAHIL Conference in Łódź)

We did not take notes during the in-person meeting. This was for two reasons: we wanted the meeting to be very informal so SIG members could take the opportunity to meet each other; and we wanted SIG members to feel comfortable sharing their thoughts on potentially contentious and sensitive topics. Thank you to everyone who attended and provided informal feedback.

## SIG meeting, 24 June 2025 (held online via Zoom)

Approximately 30 SIG members attended our annual SIG meeting. After an update from the SIG committee, each project team provided an update on their project, inviting questions from attendees. Meeting minutes and copies of the project presentations are available in the [SIG GoogleDrive folder](#) (1).

## January 2026 updates from current SIG projects

An overview of all current and completed projects can be found in the [SIG GoogleDrive folder](#) [1].

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

The Zotero reference library was updated regularly with new relevant publications on systematic review and search methods. Two journal clubs were held 2025 (more details below). Additional suggestions for the Zotero reference library or journal club can be sent to Maria Björklund ([maria.bjorklund@med.lu.se](mailto:maria.bjorklund@med.lu.se)).

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

Three members stepped down from the LSSR Working Group at the beginning of 2025. This prompted the group to send out a new call for members via several listservs, such as the EAHIL, CLA and MLA. As a result, the LSSR Group was expanded with six new members to assist in the ongoing collection review, curation and devel-

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opment of the LSSR Website. The LSSR About page contains a list of current and previous members of the LSSR Working Group.

The LSSR Working Group added a “Search Filter Validation” guidance page and a “Suggest a Resource” form to the LSSR website. We also updated the how to use the LSSR video on the home page.

To continue to promote the LSSR website and increase usage, the LSSR Working Group presented a poster at the Canadian Health Libraries Association 2025 Conference in Vancouver. We are also delighted to report that we won the People’s Choice Award for the best poster at this conference. We also presented the LSSR website at the International Clinical Librarian Conference in Leicester and at the Saskatchewan Health Libraries Association Annual General Meeting.

Analysis of Google Analytics data from 2025 showed that the site attracted approximately 2,000 active users (Table 1). The largest user groups were from the United States (n = 722), Canada (n = 559), and Australia (n = 170), followed by the United Kingdom. User engagement was highest for the “LSSR Collections” and the “LSSR Tools” pages. These two pages were also the most frequently accessed sections on the LSSR website.

Total number of active users	2,005
Total number of countries users came from	68
Total number of new users	1,860
Total number of engaged users	1,509
Total number of users visiting from a direct link	2,509

**Table 1.** Usage of the LSSR website for 2025. Data from Google Analytics

### *Project 8: Improving journal requirements for systematic reviews*

Our previous research identified significant gaps in author instructions of biomedical and health journals regarding search methods for systematic reviews (2). To address this, we engaged with key stakeholders to disseminate our research findings and provide recommendations to implement and improve the quality of journals’ author instructions, ultimately contributing to enhancing the quality of published systematic reviews. Our strategy and outcomes of this implementation project was published in *JEAHIL* in 2025 (3). In brief, despite our efforts, limited adoption of our recommendations appears to be primarily due to misconceptions about relevance to different journal scopes, competing editorial priorities, resource constraints related to time and expertise needed for implementation, and a lack of clear responsibility or accountability. Further outreach is needed to raise awareness and improve the quality of journals’ author instructions.

### *Project 9: Deduplication in systematic reviews*

This project aims to compare different deduplication methods and provide advice about the most efficient method. This project is currently recruiting participants, and has not yet started. If you would like to volunteer please send an e-mail to Nele Pauwels (NELE.PAUWELS@UGent.be).

## **Journal clubs**

Two journal clubs were held in 2025, one in June and one in November. The journal club is open to all members and aims to discuss relevant research papers in relation to our own experiences and daily practice. Reports of each journal club are available as soon as possible after each meeting and published in the [SIG google docs folder](#) [1].

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### Webinars

*RAISE (Responsible AI in Evidence Synthesis) Guidelines. Webinar, 19 September 2025*

We were happy to welcome Ella Flemyng (Cochrane Collaboration), James Thomas (EPPI Center) and Anna Noel-Storr (Cochrane Collaboration), to lead a webinar on the [RAISE \(Responsible AI in Evidence Synthesis\) Guidelines](#) (4). This is available to view on the [EAHIL YouTube channel](#) (5).

### Conclusion

2025 has been another fruitful year for the SIG. As well as our usual meetings, our projects are producing tangible and popular outputs. We would like to extend a large thank you to all of our project volunteers who have contributed their time and expertise to our projects. The SIG organisers are currently assessing potential new projects, to be started as existing projects are completed. We encourage SIG members to also keep a look out for updates on journal clubs and webinars taking place in 2026. These will be announced via the SIG email list.

### Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the EBI SIG project volunteers for their work on the SIG projects this year. A list of all project teams is available on the SIG Shared google drive (1).

### REFERENCES

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