

Library impact case study

Library concerned: Health Research Board Library

Date of interview: 07/09/17

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| Interviewee | Job Title: Researcher Employing body: |
| Summary of problem or reason for enquiry | I was required to conduct a review on 'Interventions that promote increased breastfeeding rates and breastfeeding duration among women'. This necessitated beginning with a scoping review to gain an understanding of the extent and type of peer reviewed literature that was available on the subject. |
| Brief description of the information found / service provided | I approached the information specialist to help me with this task. The information specialist helped to create a search strategy. The search strategy retrieved all of the studies to be assessed for eligibility & inclusion. A large volume of articles was retrieved from the scoping search. With the help and advice of the information specialist, a strategy was developed to deal with the large amount of literature retrieved. A further search was created to identify systematic reviews in the area which returned many such reviews of recent publication. |

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| Summary of outcome and impact | By involving the information specialist of the HRB library in this piece of work, the quality of the product was improved, the literature searches were conducted more efficiently and an appropriate methodology chosen to synthesise the vast amount of literature in the area. |
| Immediate Impact (including quotes) | Systematic reviews involve a rigorous scientific approach to an existing body of research evidence. With information available on the extent and publication dates of systematic reviews relevant to the breastfeeding question it was possible to decide on an appropriate methodology for the review and an umbrella review approach was used to synthesise the information. |
| Probable future Impact (including quotes) | The rigorous search is the first important step to conducting a quality review and is fundamental to the outcome and the conclusions that can be drawn. Having information from a reliable scoping search enabled an appropriate methodology to be chosen. For this review, conduct of an umbrella review allowed the review to address a broad scope of issues relating to the issue which will benefit policy makers when adopting interventions to increase breastfeeding rates in Ireland. |