



BRITISH  
ASSOCIATION OF  
CHARTERED  
PHYSIOTHERAPISTS IN  
AMPUTEE  
REHABILITATION

## RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR RESEARCH, AUDIT, CRITICAL APPRAISAL, AND INFORMATION

If you are starting from scratch the best idea is to seek out advice from your Learning Resource Centre / Library – they will be able to guide you and have the resources to help.

Some guidance documents may be available on your Trust or University intranet.

This is from our Trust (South Tees Acute Hospital NHS Trust):-

'Before you begin searching you should spend some time formulating your research question and considering the terms which may be most appropriate. Consider using PICO model:'

**Patient** – what are the characteristics of the patient?

**Intervention** – What are you going to do?

**Comparison** – What is the alternative?

**Outcome** – What is your intended outcome?

Start with [www.library.nhs.uk](http://www.library.nhs.uk) and log in via Athens username and password – your librarian will organise this for you if you do not yet have access. Access health databases via 'Books, Journals and Healthcare databases' heading, then health databases advanced search. Good searching!

## DATABASES and EVIDENCE BASED WEBSITES

### New way to search Medline, Cinahl and Embase

From April 2008 the National Library for Health (NLH) has launched a new search facility (Search 2.0) which aims to be a "one-stop shop for all your information needs".

The NLH has worked with Ovid and Ebsco (replacing Dialog), to make their powerful range of search tools available through one interface on the [National Library for Health](http://www.nlh.org.uk) website.

If you wish to search databases like Cinahl, Medline, Embase or PsycINFO you will need to use the new NLH Search interface (Dialog access ends after May). The interface is designed to be easy-to-use.

### CINAHL- Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (1982-present).

<http://www.cinahl.com/>

Encompasses authoritative coverage of nursing and allied health. Provides access to a large proportion of English-language nursing journals and includes selected articles from approx. 3200 biomedical journals indexed by Index Medicus.

### EMCare / EMBASE – Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine (1998 - )

<http://www.elsevier.com> or <http://www.elsevier.nl>

*EMCare* is a new bibliographic database built by the producer of EMBASE, a sister company of Mosby and W.B. Saunders. EMCare is drawn from more than 2,700 international source titles and includes close to 2 million records from the nursing, allied health and biomedical literature.

For further information, please contact EMCare at [EMCare@elsevier.com](mailto:EMCare@elsevier.com)

EMCare is updated weekly and currently available via Dialog

### AMED – Allied & Complementary Medicine

<http://www.bl.uk/collections/health/amed.html>

AMED is a unique bibliographic database produced by the Health Care Information Service of the British Library. It covers a selection of journals in three separate subject areas:

- **several professions allied to medicine**
- **complementary medicine**
- **palliative care**

<b>Subject coverage</b>	<b>Starting date</b>
Complementary medicine	1985
Physiotherapy	1985
Occupational therapy	1985
Rehabilitation	1985
Podiatry	1985
Palliative care	1997
Speech and Language Therapy	1999

### **Formats and availability**

AMED can be accessed: [via the Internet](#), [CD-ROM](#), or [online](#).

Search alerts can be set up.

**Note:** Members of the [Chartered Society of Physiotherapy](#) have free access as part of their membership.

### **AMED for CSP Members.**

<http://www.csp.org.uk/libraryandinformation/library.cfm>

**NHS professionals in England and Wales have free access to AMED via the NHSnet.** Other libraries considering subscribing can get a free month's trial.

### **C.H.A.I.N. – Contact Help Advice Information Network**

<http://chain.ulcc.ac.uk/chain/index.html>

A contact database for health care professionals interested in clinical effectiveness and evidence based health care.

### **Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) Library System**

[lis@csp.org](mailto:lis@csp.org)

The CSP Library and Information Service (LIS) exists to support members in their evidence-based practice, to assist their professional education and continuing professional development and to contribute to their research.

### **Databases**

- [Databases available within the Learning Resource Centre](#) (LRC):
  - AMED (also available to members via the website),
  - Cinahl,
  - Embase,
  - HMIC,
  - PubMed/Medline,
  - SportDiscus,
  - PEDro.
- [Bibliographic databases freely available on the Internet](#)
  - AgeLine

- Anthrozoology
- CIRRIE Database of International Rehabilitation Research
- CSP Outcome Measures Database
- ERIC
- Intute
- NRR
- UKCRN
- PubMed/Medline
- PEDro
- REHABDATA
- [Bibliographic databases are available on these Internet sites via password protected areas:](#)
  - AMED Allied and Complementary Medicine database (Available to CSP members)
  - National Library for Health (NHS staff in England)
  - HONNI – Health on the Net in Northern Ireland (NHS staff in Northern Ireland)
  - NHS Scotland e-library (NHS staff in Scotland)
  - HOWIS – Health of Wales Information Service (NHS staff in Wales)
- [Literature searching tutorials](#)

For further information tel: 020 7306 6155

### **CLIP**

**Clinical improvement projects database/ 'CLIP database' - see CSP website**

The clinical improvement projects database or 'CLIP database' is a useful resource for health professionals undertaking clinical improvement projects such as audit. The database contains details of projects which are ongoing or have been completed and contains contact details for those leading the projects. Users are able to enter projects or search the database to ascertain if a project they have been planning has already been done or is ongoing. The database is held on the eGuidelines website and includes projects from a wide range of health professions: visit the [eguidelines website](#).

### **Outcome Measures Database (CSP).**

**In the section on outcome measures:-**

<http://www.csp.org.uk/director/effectivepractice/outcomemeasures.cfm>

The database: <http://www.csp.org.uk/director/effectivepractice/outcomemeasures/database.cfm>

A physiotherapy database contains outcome measures in a range of areas and provides the title of each measure, a summary, costs, patient population, original reference and other references the reliability and validity of each measure. Includes generic measures in addition to condition specific measures.

### **Healthcare Commission**

<http://www.healthcarecommission.org.uk/homepage.cfm>

The Healthcare Commission is the independent inspection body for both the NHS and independent healthcare. To find out more about the organisation and our work, follow the links on the website. One of The HCs statutory functions is to monitor and review the implementation of standards set out in **National Services Frameworks (NSF)** and the **National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE)** guidance.

### **COCHRANE LIBRARY database**

[www.cochrane.org/reviews/clibintro.htm](http://www.cochrane.org/reviews/clibintro.htm)

*The Cochrane Library* consists of a regularly updated collection of evidence-based medicine databases, including *The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*. This database includes systematic reviews of healthcare interventions that are produced and disseminated by The Cochrane Collaboration.

There are several parts to the Library: [Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews \(CDSR\)](#); [Cochrane Reviews](#); [Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects \(DARE\)](#); [Other Reviews](#); [Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials \(CENTRAL\)](#); [Clinical Trials](#); [Cochrane Methodology Register \(CMR\)](#); [Methods Studies](#); [Health Technology Assessment Database \(HTA\)](#); [Technology Assessments](#); [NHS Economic Evaluation Database \(NHSEED\)](#); [Economic Evaluations](#); [About The Cochrane Collaboration \(About; Cochrane Groups\)](#) †

### **Department of Health (UK)**

<http://www.doh.gov.uk/>

For information about health policy and health information generally.

### **MEDLINE (1966-present)**

<http://medline.cos.com/> - can be accessed via National Library for Health

This is a major source of reference in the biomedical field. Nearly 11 million records.

Search alerts can be set up.

### **PubMed**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi>

PubMed is a service of the [U.S. National Library of Medicine](#) that includes over 18 million citations from MEDLINE and other life science journals for biomedical articles back to the 1950s. PubMed includes links to full text articles and other related resources.

### **MEDLINE Plus**

<http://medlineplus.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>

These pages are designed to direct you to resources containing information that will help you research your health questions. Designed for educational use only and are not intended to replace advice from health professionals.

### **NARIC's REHABDATA**

<http://www.naric.com>

National Rehabilitation Information Center's online gateway to an abundance of disability- and rehabilitation-oriented information organized in a variety of formats designed to make it easy for users to find and use.

### **NASDAB**

<http://www.NASDAB.co.uk>

This is the national amputee statistical database and its annual reports have demographic, diagnostic and activity information on new amputations referred to UK prosthetic services. The reports are provided to advise and inform clinicians, managers, service providers, companies contracting with the NHS, and those concerned with healthcare commissioning.

### **National Electronic Library for Health**

<http://www.library.nhs.uk/>

Website to provide health care professionals and the public with knowledge and know-how to support informed health care related decisions.

Databases available.

#### **AMED**

1985 to Present - Allied and Complementary Medicine is a unique database covering the fields of complementary or alternative medicine. [? About AMED](#)

Search alerts can be set up.

#### **BNI**

1985 to Present - British Nursing Index comprises over 250 of the most popular and important journal sources in the nursing and midwifery fields. [? About BNI](#)

#### **CINAHL**

1981 to Present - CINAHL covers all aspects of nursing and allied health disciplines. [? About CINAHL](#)

Search alerts can be set up.

#### **EMBASE**

1980 to Present - EMBASE provides current and comprehensive information on drugs and pharmacology, and all other aspects of human medicine and related disciplines. [? About EMBASE](#)

Search alerts can be set up.

#### [HEALTH BUSINESS ELITE](#)

Health Business Elite contains full text content from 480 journals, detailing all aspects of health care administration and other non-clinical aspects of health care institution management. [?](#)  
[About HEALTH BUSINESS ELITE](#)

#### [HMIC](#)

The Health Management Information Consortium database is a compilation of data from two sources, the Department of Health's Library and Information Services and King's Fund Information and Library Service. [? About HMIC](#)

#### [MEDLINE](#)

1950 to Present - MEDLINE is a vast source of medical information, covering the whole field of medicine including dentistry, veterinary medicine and medical psychology. [? About MEDLINE](#)

Search alerts can be set up.

#### [PsycINFO](#)

1806 to Present - The PsycINFO database provides extensive international coverage of the literature on psychology and allied fields. [? About PsycINFO](#)

Search alerts can be set up.

### **National Research Register**

<http://www.nrr.nhs.uk/> This has been archived at <https://portal.nihr.ac.uk/Pages/NRRArchive.aspx>

The archive is a searchable copy of the records that used to be held in the National Research Register (NRR) Projects Database. It was created using the final issue of the NRR published in October 2007, based on records collected up to September 2007.

The archive does not include the MRC Clinical Trials Directory or the CRD Register of Reviews. These used to be bundled in with the National Research Register Projects Database.

The National Research Register was a public database of ongoing and recently completed research projects funded by, or of interest to, the United Kingdom's National Health Service (NHS).

### **The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)**

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) now brings together government support for research in the NHS in England, through the United Kingdom Clinical Research Network (UKCRN). A new system for recording research conducted by the NIHR has been established.

The repository for this information is the Portfolio Database, which currently contains approximately 2,000 studies, and can be accessed for public searching. Detailed instructions on how to search the Portfolio Database are available at [http://www.ukcrn.org.uk/index/clinical/portfolio\\_new/P\\_search.html](http://www.ukcrn.org.uk/index/clinical/portfolio_new/P_search.html), and the Portfolio database is available at <http://public.ukcrn.org.uk/search>.

Contact the NIHR at [portalenquiries@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:portalenquiries@nihr.ac.uk) for more information.

### **NICE (UK) – National Institute for Clinical Excellence**

<http://www.nice.org.uk>

NICE appraises health interventions before they are introduced in the health service. It offers clinicians and health professionals clear guidelines on which treatments work best for patients.

### **PEDro – The Physiotherapy Evidence Database**

<http://www.physiobob.com/forum/links/showlink.php?catid=poplinks&do=showdetails&l=46>

This evidence based database has been developed to give rapid access to bibliographic details and abstracts of randomised controlled trials and systemic reviews in physiotherapy. Most trials have been rated for quality to help identify trials that are valid and interpretable.

### **Proquest.**

<http://www.proquest.com/>

From the website 'ProQuest provides seamless access to and navigation of more than 125 billion digital pages of the world's scholarship, delivering it to the desktop and into the workflow of serious researchers in multiple fields, from arts, literature, and social science to science, technology, and medicine. ProQuest is part of Cambridge Information Group ([www.cambridgeinformationgroup.com](http://www.cambridgeinformationgroup.com)).' It has just acquired Dialog.

Search alerts can be set up

### **PsycINFO**

<http://www.apa.org/>

Produced by the American Psychological Association, this is a comprehensive source of information covering psychology, treatment, clinical and behavioural studies, and social and educational psychology.

### **Rehab Trials**

<http://www.rehabtrials.org/>

The Rehab Trails registry aims to enable researchers and consumers better understand what methods of treatment are under study, which seem to have some value, or which are unlikely to produce therapeutic benefit.

### **RECAL Information Services. University of Strathclyde. National Centre for Training in Prosthetics and Orthotics.**

Now archived only. Useful for Prosthetics and Orthotics publications

### **RETIS – Rehabilitation Technology Information Service**

<http://www.retis.scot.nhs.uk>

### **ScienceDirect - Home**

An information source for scientific, technical, and medical research. Subscription required for some sections.

*From Wikipedia quote* 'ScienceDirect is one of the largest online collections of [published scientific research](#) in the world. Produced by [Elsevier](#) it contains over 8.5 million articles from over 2000 journals, including titles such as [The Lancet](#), [Cell](#) and [Tetrahedron](#), as well as 40 reference works and numerous book series and handbooks. In 2007, 4,000 e-books will be added to ScienceDirect'.

Access via Athens or institution login.

Like many databases you can set up alerts for your favourite searches to keep you up to date.

### **Scopus**

<http://www.scopus.com/scopus/home.url>

'the largest abstract and citation database of research literature and quality web sources with smart tools to track, analyze and visualize research.'

Requires institutional access

### **INTUTE (Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health) gateway to quality internet sites**

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/>

Intute is a free online service providing you with access to Web resources for education and research. The service is created by a network of UK universities and partners. Subject specialists select and evaluate the websites in our database and write high quality descriptions of the resources. The database contains 123576 records.

## **OTHER SOURCES of INFORMATION**

**\*\*CSP Current Awareness Bulletin – Amputee Rehabilitation.** June 1997

### **Standards of Physiotherapy Practice for the Management of Patients with Amputations.**

CSP guidelines publication 1993. Available from the CSP.

### **Evidence Based Clinical Guidelines for the Physiotherapy Management of Adults with Lower Limb Prostheses.**

Broomhead, P., Dawes, D., Hale, C., Lambert, A., Shepherd, R and D. Quinlivan. 2003. *Evidence Based Clinical Guidelines for the Physiotherapy Management of Adults with Lower Limb Prostheses*. Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, London. BACPAR. Publication 2003. Available from the CSP (£10.00).

Broomhead, P., Dawes, D., Hancock, A., Unia, P., Blundell, A., Davies, V. (2006) *Clinical Guidelines for the pre and post operative physiotherapy management of adults with lower limb amputation*. CSP London. Available from the CSP

## **SPARG**

### **Scottish Physiotherapy Amputee Research Group**

Chairman: Elizabeth Condie

National Centre for Training and Education in Prosthetics and Orthotics.

University of Strathclyde,

Curran Building,

131 St James' Road, Glasgow G4 0LS. Tel: 0141 552 4400 ext 3297

Following literature available from Sally Thompson. Call 0141 211 4778/5429 or email:

[Sally.thomson@northglasgow.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Sally.thomson@northglasgow.scot.nhs.uk) with requests. Cheques payable to 'SPARG'.

*PPAM Aid. Clinical Guidelines for Physiotherapists*. Updated 2008. Endorsed by the CSP.

£15.00

New guideline discusses many areas of PPAM Aid use related to available evidence and presents the findings.

*Exercise Therapy for Patients with Intermittent Claudication Guidelines*. Endorsed by SIGN.

£10.00

Annual SPARG Reports.

Annual report of data collected from lower limb amputees in Scotland. Every lower limb amputee has a Discharge Summary Form completed and the report is a comprehensive summary of the national statistics and trends.

£10.00.

*A Physiotherapist's Guide to Prosthetic Knees Mechanisms and Gait Training Requirements*.

£15.00.

### **Patient Information Pack.**

Information given to every person with an amputation in Scotland, produced in collaboration with the Murray Foundation.

£4.00

## **LITERATURE SEARCHING AND CRITICAL APPRAISAL**

### **ICSP – Interactive CSP**

<http://www.interactivecsp.org.uk>

### **Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP)**

<http://www.phru.nhs.uk/Pages/PHD/CASP.htm>

Since its 'birth' in 1993, the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) has helped to develop an evidence-based approach in health and social care, working with local, national and international groups.

CASP aims to enable individuals to develop the skills to find and make sense of research evidence, helping them to put knowledge into practice.

### **Critically appraised topics (CATS)**

<http://www.cebm.net/downloads/worksheets.pdf>

Critical appraisal tools

### **Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network**

Home page: <http://www.sign.ac.uk/index.html>

Annex for critical appraisal tools: <http://www.sign.ac.uk/guidelines/fulltext/50/annexc.html>

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

### **BAOT – British Association of Occupational Therapy**

<http://www.baot.org.uk>

### **BAPO – British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists**

<http://www.Bapo.com>

### **HPC – Health Professions Council**

<http://www.hpc-uk.org>

### **ISPO – International Society of Prosthetics and Orthotics, UK**

<http://www.ispo.org.uk>

## **VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS, CHARITIES and AGENCIES**

### **Amputee Coalition of America, National Limb Loss Information Centre (NLLIC)**

<http://www.amputee-coalition.org>

This provides information, education and support for amputees, carers and health professional.

### **BLESMA – British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association**

<http://www.blesma.org>

### **Mobilise**

<http://www.mobilise.info/>

Promoting mobility for disabled people

### **EmPower (Prosthetics/Orthotics/Wheelchairs/Equipment/Rehabilitation)**

<http://www.enquiries@empowernet.org>

### **Limbless Association**

<http://www.limbless-association.org/>

The Limbless Assoc. helps amputees and people with limb deficiencies of all ages and their families. There is a database of Prosthetic Centres, recommended reading list and general information.

### **Murray Foundation**

<http://www.murray-foundation.org.uk>

Support service for amputees and families in Scotland

### **Queen Elizabeth Foundation Mobility Centre, Surrey**

<http://www.qefd.org>

## **REACH**

<http://www.reach.org.uk>

Charity for children with upper limb abnormalities

**STEPS**

<http://www.steps-charity.org.uk>

Charity for children with lower limb disability

**PROSTHETIC WEBSITES**

**The Global Resource for Orthotics and Prosthetics Information**

<http://www.oandp.com>

<http://www.hphdhelp.org>

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