Irish librarians supporting national clinical guideline development

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The National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC), established by the Irish Minister for Health in 2010 as part of a national Patient Safety First Initiative, provides a framework for national endorsement of clinical guidelines and audit to optimise patient and service user care. Following a consultation process, the Health Science Librarians Group (HSLG) of the Library Association of Ireland established a new national network of librarians to support the literature review phase of NCEC clinical guideline development by providing a centralised query service for clinical research teams. Within the Irish context, this project was based on a model of regional collaboration established by the Health Service Executive (HSE) East Regional Library and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI). This earlier collaboration provided a centralised clinical query service for hospital staff in two Dublin teaching hospitals whose clinicians were affiliated with both RCSI and the HSE. This poster highlights the development of a national model of cooperation in medical librarianship in Ireland.