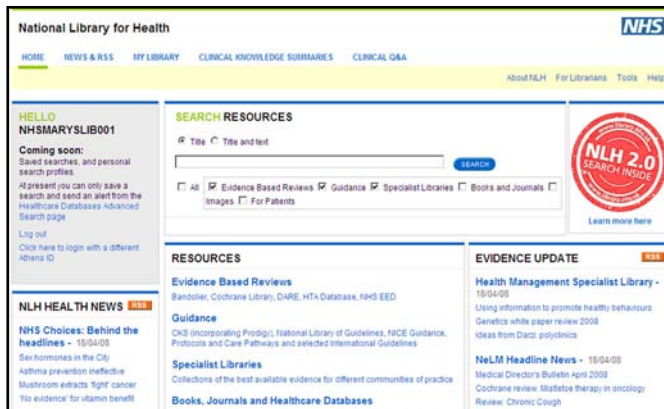


National Library for Health (NLH)

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL LIBRARY FOR HEALTH?

NLH is designed for **NHS staff, patients and the public**. It provides a range of quality information resources to help health care professionals keep up-to-date with medical knowledge and support effective health care decisions. Most of the resources are freely available, and will allow you to access the full text of the article. This national web-based resource is available at: **www.library.nhs.uk**



SEARCHING NLH

From the **Home** screen you have the opportunity to search across a variety of resources. These are **Evidence Based Reviews, Guidance, Specialist Libraries, Books and Journals, Images**, and **For Patients**. You can also select one of these resources to search individually.

Use simple keywords and the default setting **Title** to retrieve a precise set of results. Use the **Title and Text** option to broaden your search.

HOME FEATURES – RESOURCES (selected)

Evidence Based Reviews

These are selected resources providing the best available evidence for effective health care. For example, if your clinical query is: *What are the health care interventions for multiple myeloma?*, type in *multiple myeloma* in the search box. The search engine will search across all the selected EBM resources for this keyword phrase. The results will be grouped into the relevant resources, e.g. DARE and NLH EVIDENCE. Click on the title to link to the abstract or full text.

GUIDANCE

These guides are designed to assist practitioners and patients on decisions about appropriate health care for specific clinical circumstances. **NICE** completed guidelines, **Protocols and Care Pathways Library**, and a new feature **International Guidelines** are grouped here to complement CKS (Clinical Knowledge Summaries), formerly Prodigy.

Specialist Libraries

The NLH specialist libraries, or subject specialty databases, have been developed to identify the information needs of particular communities of practice. All these features are organised to help you focus on your subject specialty giving you a structured interface for searching and retrieving relevant material.

EVIDENCE UPDATE

Health Management Specialist Library

Access health policy and politics from this link.

NeLM (National electronic Library for Medicines)

Formerly known as **DrugInfoZone**. This resource provides timely and relevant information on medicines and supports prescribing to the NHS at the point of care.

The Cochrane Collaboration – Editor’s picks – Selected news in evidence-based health care.

This is a customisation of one of the key resources in evidence based medicine. It shows selected news items on the subject of evidence-based medicine as a whole.

Centre for Reviews and Dissemination.

CRD undertakes reviews of research about the effects of interventions used in health and social care. A recognised secondary source of information

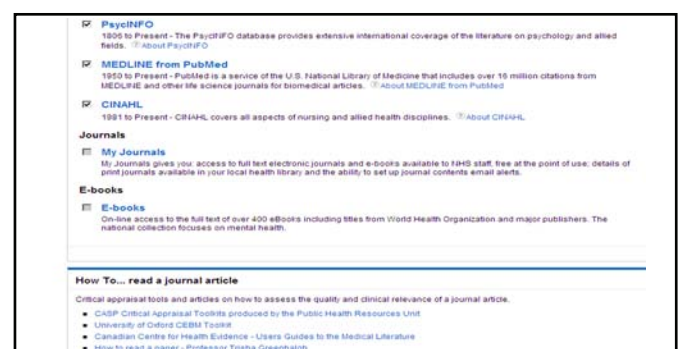
LOG IN

This option allows you to access additional information resources. One of the main differences is that you get more full-text material and can save and run searches. Log in using your NHS Athens username and password. The screen is re-displayed and any resource that requires an Athens login can now be directly accessed.

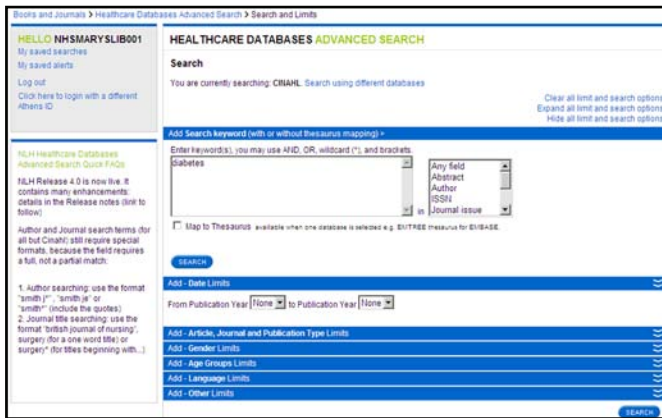
RESOURCES

Books, Journals and Healthcare Databases.

This is a new feature for 2008 that allows you to search across all NHS purchased databases without having to visit each one separately via **My Athens Resources**. It also includes links to Critical Appraisal websites.



To do a strategic subject search select **Healthcare Databases Advanced Search** from the current screen and highlight a single database you are interested in, then at the bottom right of the screen click on **Next** to get the full **NLH 2.0** search environment. For more details on advanced searching please contact library staff or refer to the **NHS Athens: getting started guide**.



MY LIBRARY

This feature allows you to customise how you use NLH. It shows default current news, current awareness updates, health links and allows you to search library services.

MY ATHENS RESOURCES

This section is another way to access e-journals and databases. As well as the national NHS funded resources, some additional resources are purchased locally, e.g.:

- Drug & Therapeutics Bulletin**
- eBooks (MyLibrary)**
- STAT!Ref**
- Best Treatments**

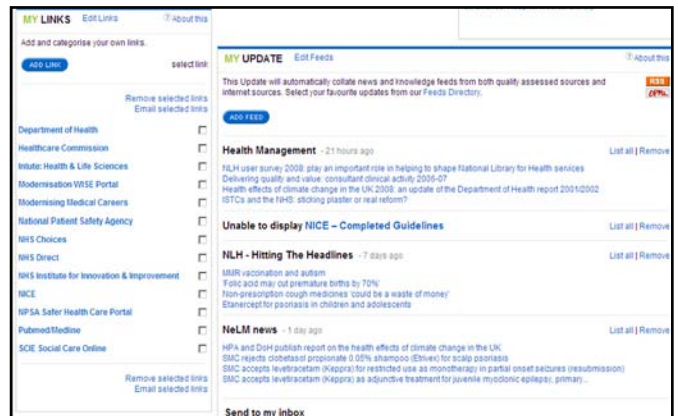
To complement these resources, see our separate guide: **NHS E-books**.

MY UPDATE

This is a section to enable you to manage your current awareness items. Your search alerts, table of contents alerts, and News & RSS feeds, can all be stored here. There is a standard set of selected resources that you can add to or delete.

MY LINKS

This is an area where you can save your favourite websites. This is the same as a browser's favourites option. Use the Edit Links feature to copy and paste the URL and the system automatically updates the list.



NEWS & RSS (selected)

News is split up into **Behind the headlines**, **Document of the Week** and **What's news**. This replaces **Hitting the Headlines** which is now an archive.

SEARCH FEEDS

This option allows you to search for NLH selected websites on medical conditions and news items. Information on Feeds is also available to help you set up your own feed.

OTHER FEATURES

Clinical Knowledge Summaries

This is an evidence-based section. It is a source of clinical knowledge for the NHS about the common conditions managed in primary and first contact care. At the heart of CKS are concise summaries on how to manage almost 500 clinical situations. It also includes up-to-date clinical knowledge on acute and chronic conditions, and disease prevention.

There is also a Patient Information section where various leaflets can be printed, and an 'Answers to common health questions' for patients.

Clinical Q&A

This is a **Primary Care Answering Service**. It is a pilot online service where clinical queries that health professionals have been unable to answer themselves are answered. The queries are listed in date order. Click on one to get the full answer. They are also organised so that you can view by specialty. A nationally co-ordinated **Question Answer Service** is envisaged to replace this pilot which will discontinue on 27/6/08.

If you have difficulty finding the material you need or any other queries please email: medlib@imperial.ac.uk or telephone: +44 (0)20 7594 8840 (internal extension 48840), or call in at your nearest campus library.