The Librarian's Role in Providing the Evidence for Policy Decisions in Healthcare: An International Comparison

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The way in which decisions are made regarding the organisation and delivery of healthcare and the approval of healthcare technologies varies between nations. There is a worldwide trend, however, to use methodologies developed in evidence based practice to underpin such decisions. The healthcare librarian plays a key role in searching for and collating the evidence. There are many differences and similarities between countries in the methods used by librarians. In this poster, I present these differences and explain the benefits and drawbacks of each. I draw on the experiences gained during my time working at evidence based centres in Australia, New Zealand and the UK. This study is a result of a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship.