

Developing LINKS - Library, Information and Knowledge Services for Health and Social Care in London

Wood, A; Godbolt, L S; Fairlamb, S, Twomey C

Wood, Aileen: University of London / NHS London, London Library & Information Development Unit, 20 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1, UK, awood@llidu.ac.uk

The London Library & Information Development Unit (LLIDU) is a strategic Unit that supports the healthcare library, information and knowledge services (LINKS) across London.

The mission of the unit is to support continuing improvement in health and social care through promoting access to the knowledge base and enabling its effective utilisation by all staff and users of NHS services.

Our activities include

- Providing leadership of library, information and knowledge services to promote their effective contribution in improving healthcare.
- Promoting effective partnership working to integrate LINKS into the NHS and wider environment and other networks
- Achieving quality in LINKS through standard setting, performance management and obtaining best value
- Organising training and staff development programmes so that the skills of the healthcare library and information professional are enhanced to meet the challenges of the 21st century
- Providing support for key LINKS function by maintaining network wide databases, convening working groups to share good practice and advice to individual library services
- Maintenance of the Union List of Serials and Regional Documents Databases (ULS/RDD); web site – www.londonlinks.ac.uk; email discussion lists
- Working in partnership with trusts, health authorities, higher education, workforce development confederations, London Deanery, and other NHS health and social care agencies
- Advise, expertise and support to London LINKS network.

LLIDU is committed to working in a rapidly changing environment and across professional and cultural boundaries to ensure that services are developed in a cost effective way through a coherent and robust network that is responsive to the changing requirements of its users.