

eHLbc Sustainability and Evaluation Committee

Progress Report Feb.23, 2006

Committee Members:

Ruth Rochlin, Lead, Interior Health
Linda Howard, Fraser Health
Gwen Bird, SFU
Colleen Kennedy, Interior Health
Rebecca Raworth, UVic, replacing Joanne Henning
Teresa Lee, UBC, will become active in May 2006

A teleconference was held Feb. 20th, during which Joanne Henning announced that she would be replaced by Rebecca Raworth, librarian at the UVic medical school.

We have identified that the issues for evaluating the eHLbc package for the academic sector are very different from the health authority sector and should be dealt with separately.

Suggested Timeline:

Year 1: Training and Marketing of eHLbc
Evaluation Tool development and implementation planning
Promote participation in up-coming evaluations
Year 2: Evaluations
Year 3: Reporting and Recommendations / Lobbying for renewal

Sustainability:

Academic libraries may not need to address sustainability as they are not questioned on library purchases. The tools in the eHLbc package are standard tools that are already available.

- viability of the consortium and its ability to negotiate ongoing good prices for the products
- Ability of all organizations to maintain funding
- Co-branding of eHLbc with the participating organization may need to be established for visibility
- Access must be relatively trouble free for all
- Products must be relatively trouble free
- statistics need to show solid access and usage
- good liaison among all member organizations

Evaluation:

Statistical reports can be generated from the transaction logs of the products and we will work with vendors to identify exactly what statistics can be obtained and how.

Librarians will be taught how to generate statistical reports, coordinated by the Training group.

We will collect examples of statistical reports to show the various and most effective ways statistics can be presented.

Statistics will be generated through transaction logs from April 1st 2006 forward.

To identify the value of the eHLbc products, literature shows that both statistical reports and narrative evaluations need to be done.

From April 1st 2007 to March 2008 evaluation surveys will be conducted in several possible formats.

All evaluation surveys done in the academic sector need to be planned well in advance. After the tools are developed they need to be submitted to an Ethics Research Committee for approval; this process will take 4 – 6 weeks. Each member organization should identify if the survey or questionnaire needs to go through a local Ethics or Research Board before launch.

The goals of evaluation are very different in the academic and health authority sectors. For this reason, separate surveys will be done in the 2 sectors. The results can be compiled into one report as well as presented separately.

For Health Authorities the evaluations should show

- return on investment
- cost-benefit
- support of patient care and clinical decision making
- improvement in patient care that will save money

For the Academic Settings the evaluations should show:

- student, faculty, research use
- necessary information is available to support courses for students, faculty
- information that is available is able to support students, faculty

Possibilities:

- Online questionnaire/survey using Survey Monkey software. This has been successfully used at UVic.
- in-depth small group focus groups
- interviews

We need to identify effective methods of ensuring good participation in any evaluation.

We need to ensure good liason with all groups and member organizations to maximize relevancy of the evaluations.

April 2008 reports will be generated and presented to funding bodies. Lobbying for continuation and expansion will take place in earnest.

Continuity is an important indicator of success. Students will learn to use the tool at school then carry their skills with them as they move into the workforce as clinicians. Possible ways of capturing this have been discussed. Focus groups are a possibility.

Reminder: 75% of health professionals are nurses