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| Library concerned: Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust  Name of case study: Clinical Librarian support to the plastic surgery team | |
| **Interviewee** | Name: James Chan  Job Title: Consultant  Trust/Employing body: Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust  Email: james.chan3@nhs.net  Tel: |
| **Brief description of the information found / service provided** | The Clinical outreach librarian joined the weekly academic ward rounds for the Trust’s plastic surgery team where real-time literature searches were performed for complex cases.  The clinical team treated a number of patients with complex issues including recalcitrant venous ulceration, gluteal compartment syndrome and extensive pressure sore requiring free flap reconstruction and the decision-making process was supported with evidence provided by the librarian.  In addition the librarian joined department journal clubs provided evidence for the development of local guidelines including antibiotic prescription for elective skin cancer surgery, treatment of hand trauma, post-operative dangling regime for lower limb free flaps, use of pre-operative angiography for free flap reconstruction of the lower limb. |

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| **Summary of outcome and impact** | The attendance of the library service at department meetings had a positive impact on patient care for example in the rare case of a patient with gluteal compartment syndrome, the literature review in conjunction with the clinical assessment, led to the decision not to operate. As a result of this evidence-informed decision, the patient improved and was discharged earlier than expected.  The contribution of the librarian also led to a number of publications in world leading journals in plastic reconstructive surgery. |
| **Immediate Impact**  **(including quotes)** | The example of the patient with gluteal compartment syndrome led to a change in planned treatment which resulted in improved clinical outcome and reduced length of stay.    “BHT Library Service has been exceptionally helpful and in fact, has made a direct impact on our patient care, particularly the work by Claire Coleman.”  “Her contribution to journal clubs and involvement in patient care discussions has led to a number of publications in some of the most prestigious plastic reconstructive surgery journals worldwide. |
| **Probable future Impact**  **(including quotes)** | “Furthermore this has contributed to the continuing professional development of all our team, including nurses, trainees and consultants and we feel this is an essential part of maintaining a world class service for our patients” |