

# Library and Knowledge Services case study

**PHU Library and eLearning Services, Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust**

**Case Study: Falls Alarm Use in Hospital**

26/4/2021

## Reason for enquiry

Clinical Librarian Rebecca Howes was contacted to aid completion of a literature review regarding the use of falls alarms within the hospital. The literature review will then be used to help guide clinical practice and care of patients within the trust.

## What the knowledge and library specialist did

Rebecca provided a selection of articles and a summary of their contents. This search was a continuation of a previous one done by Rebecca for a colleague of the requestor who had since left the Trust. The search was updated and both previous search results and the newer articles since the search was first run were sent on.

# Impact of input from the library and knowledge service

“The team were incredibly helpful in updating the search as this project had been ongoing some time and initially started by a previous colleague.”

The updated search and additional articles are being used by the patient safety team to update current thinking on falls alarms use within the acute care setting.

## Immediate Impact

“The articles sent were very helpful and have allowed me to work on the literature review. Whilst this is still work ongoing, the times saved by the library team carrying out the literature search has be incredibly valuable.”

## Probable future Impact

“This will change the way we care for patients with falls within the trust. Falls alarms have been used and are a historical piece of equipment, however not now evidence based. The outcome of the review so far, is suggesting falls alarms are removed from the trust which will be a big change for many staff.”

## Submission by:

Hayley Price, Physiotherapist for Patient Safety

## For further information on how you can get similar support contact your local NHS library and knowledge service.