|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Library concerned: Brighton and Sussex NHS Library and Knowledge Service  Name of case study: Is routine checking of B12 to be advised in diabetics?  Date of interview: | |
| **Interviewee** | Name:  Job Title: General Practitioner  Trust/Employing body: Horsham and Mid Sussex CCG  Email:  Tel: |
| **Please note: you should only provide interviewee details here if consent**  **to share on the national blog has been obtained** |
| **S****ummary of problem or reason for enquiry** | All of our diabetic patients in general practice were being screened annually for B12 and I wanted to know whether this was cost effective. Additionally, if B12 was shown to be low, I wanted evidence for the best means of supplementation. |
| **Brief description of the information found / service provided** | I have asked you for evidence many times before and so requested a search on this topic. Your librarian found a range of synopses, systematic reviews and original research and provided a report summarising these. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Summary of outcome and impact** | Your evidence confirmed that we should continue testing diabetic patients for B12 but that it was not necessary to provide injections in all cases of low levels, thus saving money. |
| **Immediate Impact**  **(including quotes)** | “In our practice B12 was being tested on all diabetics but we didn't know if it should be and, if the levels were low, what we should do. I had contacted the diabetic department and the haematology department with little help. Your evidence search allowed me to see there was some controversy about whether to measure or not, but on balance we should.  I then requested some work on how to replace B12 and an article on oral vs injected B12 in pernicious anaemia was very helpful. It allowed us not simply to inject everyone with low levels. I have checked blood results subsequently and for those with slightly low results over-the-counter supplementation is enough.  This has saved money on prescriptions, injections, nursing time and is better for patients. I shared this at a doctor's meeting also. It was a fantastic service!!” |
| **Probable future Impact**  **(including quotes)** |  |