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| **Library concerned:** Royal Free Hospital Medical Library  **Name of case study:** Evidence of prolonged survival after mesothelioma  **Date of interview:** 9th December 2019 | |
| **Interviewee** | Name: Anonymous  Job Title: Consultant in Respiratory Medicine  Trust/Employing body: Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust |
| **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** | A patient with mesothelioma (malignant tumour that is caused by inhaled asbestos fibers and forms in the lining of the lungs, abdomen or heart) experienced an usually slow growing tumour and prolonged survival despite no treatment being received. The literature says that the median survival is between 9 – 17 months from diagnosis, however this particular person had a survival of over 5 years.  A consultant in Respiratory Medicine had the case referred to him to confirm the unusual diagnosis and to provide direction for further care.  The consultant approached the library to ask them to identify similar cases in the literature. |
| **Brief description of the information found / service provided** | A literature search was undertaken of the Medline and Embase databases. References were screened for relevance and sent to the consultant. The library then provided assistance in accessing the full text documents.  Evidence was provided of similar cases that exist in the medical literature as well as of prognostic factors associated with the unusual slow growing nature of the mesothelioma |

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| **Summary of outcome and impact** | The evidence provided supported the patient and MDT with more informed decision making regarding the future of the patient’s care. It also allowed the consultant to provide the patient with evidence based information to support the patient in making a successful legal case.  Money and time has been saved from the recommendation that the patient does not need to receive treatment at this time, as has the quality of the patient’s care by avoiding the potential complications of receiving unneeded treatment. |
| **Immediate Impact**  **(including quotes)** | The literature search saved me time and helped in terms of my understanding of the case, confirming the diagnosis. It also helped the patient receive compensation in a legal case. He pursued a case in the courts using the evidence provided and it settled in his favour.  The evidence was used within an MDT meeting to support the case to keep the patient off treatment. He will continue to be reviewed regularly, then if symptoms increase or imaging changes he will be offered treatment.  There are cost savings made from both the direct treatment budget as well as potentially from the complications of medical care budget. |
| **Probable future Impact**  **(including quotes)** |  |