

Assistant Librarian

Lizzy Evans

Library Services



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The main purpose of my role is to provide a service to all health board staff and students on placement. I perform evidence searches for staff for a range of purposes. Other routine duties include supporting systematic reviews in creating the search strategies, delivering teaching and training sessions to staff and students on placements, notably the Swansea University Graduate Entry Medicine (GEM) students to aid their summative literature review. Distributing new NICE guidance within the health board and providing current awareness updates via Knowledgeshare.



Another aspect of my role is to work with colleagues in health libraries across Wales. All NHS health libraries act as a collective, the NHS Wales Library and Knowledge Service (NHSWLKS), to ensure parity across all sites and share best practice. We also have a number of smaller groups within the working organisation, for example the NHSWLKS Marketing Group, which I chaired for five years. Colleagues are also members of Training Groups, Green Group, Career Development Group etc.

I work closely with other stakeholders, such the NHS Wales eLibrary. I am a member of the NHS Wales eLibrary Champions Group joining representatives from other areas of the NHS to ensure resources provided nationally reflect all professions within NHS Wales, the Health and Social Care Department and Education and Public Service Department of Welsh Government. Via my membership of this group, I often attend NHS Wales eLibrary Service board meetings and I am involved in national procurements, providing the front line professional librarian's perspective, knowledge and expertise.

As can be seen from the overview of my role, there is a huge amount of variety, which makes each day different and very interesting. There are always opportunities to become involved in different projects and work with various departments. Knowing that the work I do helps clinicians work in an evidence based way and improve patient care gives me a great deal of job satisfaction. Due to our proximity to the main Swansea University Campus, I work with a lot of the GEM and Physician Associate students; it is always gratifying to work with the students from the start to the end of their course and see them go on to take up their first positions in the NHS.



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Addysg a Gwella Iechyd
Cymru (AaGIC)
Health Education and
Improvement Wales (HEIW)

After graduating from university, I had a range of different roles, all including customer service. As a result, I secured a job as a library assistant in the new flagship Swansea Central Library, which opened in 2008. Whilst working there, I studied for my BSc in Library and Information Management, qualifying in 2013. After spending 10 years in Public Libraries, this allowed me to move to a professional post in the Health Library Sector. I earned my Chartership in 2021 and I am now working towards my Masters in Library and Information Services Management at The University of Sheffield. Librarianship offers a lot of opportunity to develop professional skills via qualifications and the various chartership levels with The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP).