



## 2. Building research capacity

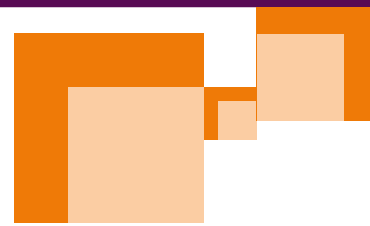
### Where can we find more information?

#### a. Accessing research

Title	Description	URL
Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts (ASSIA)	A database including abstracts to articles from 650 international journals relevant to social services, psychology, sociology, education, health and other social science disciplines. The date range is 1987 to the present (requires athens login)*.	<a href="http://www.csa.com">www.csa.com</a>
Barnardo's	Summary (and some full) copies of reports, reviews and research carried out by Barnardo's on the theme of young people, children and their families are available here.	<a href="http://www.barnardos.org.uk/resources/research_and_publications.htm">www.barnardos.org.uk/resources/research_and_publications.htm</a>
British Institute of Learning Disabilities	Contains information about research carried out by this organisation and about publications produced by it.	<a href="http://www.bild.org.uk">www.bild.org.uk</a>
British Medical Journal	Contains a number of papers (dating back to 1994); relevant to health and social care professionals.	<a href="http://www.bmj.com">www.bmj.com</a>
Campbell Collaboration	Contains a database of trials (C2-SPECTR) and a database of systematic reviews (C2-RIPE) in education, social welfare and criminal justice.	<a href="http://www.campbellcollaboration.org">www.campbellcollaboration.org</a>
Centre for Policy on Ageing	This website includes a publications section and a policy/research section, as well access to databases such as AgeInfo (requires subscription), the National Aging Information Center (NAIC database) (available free of charge).	<a href="http://www.cpa.org.uk/index.html">www.cpa.org.uk/index.html</a>
Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD)	Contains references to systematic reviews and access to three searchable databases. It is relevant to those involved in health and social care.	<a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/">www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/</a>
ChildData	A database developed by the National Children's Bureau, which contains references to academic literature, but also to information on conferences, news items and key organisations (requires athens login)*.	<a href="http://www.childdata.org.uk">www.childdata.org.uk</a>
Cochrane Collaboration	Produces systematic and up-to-date reviews in healthcare (including reviews of psychosocial interventions).	<a href="http://www.cochrane.org">www.cochrane.org</a>



Title	Description	URL
Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF)	Provides a list of research publications and briefings.	<a href="http://www.dfes.gov.uk/research/index.cfm">www.dfes.gov.uk/research/index.cfm</a>
Department for Health	Provides publications and statistics.	<a href="http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/publicationsandstatistics/index.htm">www.dh.gov.uk/en/publicationsandstatistics/index.htm</a>
Department for Work and Pensions	Provides a list of research reports 1990–2008.	<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/resourcecentre/">www.dwp.gov.uk/resourcecentre/</a>
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)	A freely available database produced in the USA which aims to increase access to education research and practice.	<a href="http://www.eric.ed.gov">www.eric.ed.gov</a>
Evidence-Based Medicine	This electronic resource contains information about understanding evidence-based practice. The 'What is...' series of publications (which can be downloaded from this site) are particularly useful.	<a href="http://www.evidence-based-medicine.co.uk">www.evidence-based-medicine.co.uk</a>
Evidence Network	A resource providing access to social science research publications relevant to policy and practice. Contains individual 'nodes' in a range of fields including social care related fields, which produce their own research publications, systematic reviews and discussion papers.	<a href="http://www.evidencenetwork.org">www.evidencenetwork.org</a>
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	Contains research funded by this organization into housing, social care and social policy.	<a href="http://www.jrf.org.uk/">www.jrf.org.uk/</a>
Internet Social Worker	A free online tutorial designed to improve information seeking skills on the Internet, specifically designed for social workers.	<a href="http://www.vts.rdn.ac.uk/tutorial/social-worker">www.vts.rdn.ac.uk/tutorial/social-worker</a>
Introduction to Evidence-Based Occupational Therapy	A webpage that talks about evidence-based practice in relation to occupational therapy. It also contains a list of useful references.	<a href="http://www.cebm.utoronto.ca/syllabi/occ/intro.htm">www.cebm.utoronto.ca/syllabi/occ/intro.htm</a>
National Library for Health	This website is provided via the National electronic Library for Health. It contains regularly updated evidence about the effectiveness of care.	<a href="http://www.library.nhs.uk">www.library.nhs.uk</a>



Title	Description	URL
OT Seeker	A database of abstracts to research (randomised controlled trials and systematic reviews), relevant to occupational therapists, which have been critically appraised.	<a href="http://www.otseeker.com/">www.otseeker.com/</a>
The Mental Health Foundation	A number of full text documents are available at this website, which can be downloaded free of charge. Go to the 'Publications' section for further information.	<a href="http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk">www.mentalhealth.org.uk</a>
The Norah Fry Research Centre	As well as containing information about the Centre's current projects, this website also includes a list of its publications. Carries out research on issues affecting the lives of disabled children and adults with learning difficulties and their families.	<a href="http://www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/NorahFry">www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/NorahFry</a>
PubMed	A freely available database provided by the National Library of Medicine in the United States. It offers access to the internationally known MEDLINE, and one or two other medical databases.	<a href="http://www.pubmed.com">www.pubmed.com</a>
Regard	Regard is an online database containing information on social science research funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).	<a href="http://www.regard.ac.uk">www.regard.ac.uk</a>
Research In Practice (RIP) Research in Practice for Adults (RiPFA)	RIP and RiPFA aim to promote the use of evidence to improve services. A range of useful resources can be found on these websites, including access to publications and other research resources.	<a href="http://www.rip.org.uk">www.rip.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.ripfa.org.uk">www.ripfa.org.uk</a>
Research Mindedness Virtual Learning Resource	Funded by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), the aim of this site is to help social care students and practitioners to use evidence to support their work.	<a href="http://www.resmind.swap.ac.uk">www.resmind.swap.ac.uk</a>
The Royal College of Psychiatrists	This site contains access to the 'College Research Unit' and a 'Publications' section, both of which may contain relevant information to practitioners working with clients who have a mental health problem.	<a href="http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/index.htm">www.rcpsych.ac.uk/index.htm</a>



Title	Description	URL
Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)	SCIE aims to promote good practice in social care, by reviewing knowledge to find out what works best for clients. This website has a range of useful links, including information about this organization, and access to its publications.	www.scie.org.uk Social Care Online www.scie-socialcareonline.org.uk
Social Science Information Gateway (SOSIG)	A specialist gateway, which contains a selection of links to online resources that have been carefully chosen for their quality by subject specialists in the social sciences.	www.sosig.ac.uk

\*Athens login – Many organisations are registered to use athens (go to www.athens.ac.uk to check if your organisation is registered).

## b. Assessing research

Title	Description	URL
Bandolier Bias Guide	A document that discusses bias in research.	www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/Extraforbando/Bias.pdf
Center for Social Research Methods	This website contains lots of information about types of research design, and includes research methods tutorials.	www.socialresearchmethods.net/
Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP)	This organization was developed to build an evidence-based approach into health and social care. It provides information about understanding research and offers training in this area.	www.phru.nhs.uk/Pages/PHD/CASP.htm
Framework for Critically Appraising Research Articles	Provides advice about critical appraisal and contains a worked example.	http://hsc.uwe.ac.uk/dataanalysis/critFrame.asp
Research Designs Explained	Contains information about appraising research, as well as details regarding different types of quantitative study designs and about writing up research.	www.researchmethods.com
What is Critical Appraisal?	A short document that discusses the purpose of critical appraisal.	www.evidence-based-medicine.co.uk/ebmfiles/WhatisCriticalAppraisal.pdf

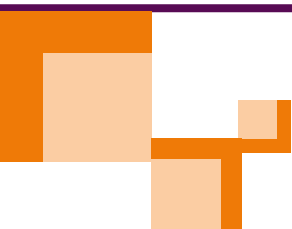


### c. Understanding Statistics

Title	Description	URL
Introduction to Descriptive Statistics	Provides information about basic statistical terms, such as averages (mean, median and mode) and standard deviation.	<a href="http://www.mste.uiuc.edu/hill/dstat/dstat.html">www.mste.uiuc.edu/hill/dstat/dstat.html</a>
Statistics at Square One	This resource contains a basic introduction to anyone wanting to find out about statistics.	<a href="http://www.bmj.com/collections/statsbk/index.dtl">http://www.bmj.com/collections/statsbk/index.dtl</a>
The Really Easy Statistics Site	Contains information about some basic statistical terms, including details about calculating statistical data.	<a href="http://www.biology.ed.ac.uk/research/groups/jdeacon/statistics/tress1.html">http://www.biology.ed.ac.uk/research/groups/jdeacon/statistics/tress1.html</a>
What is...?	A series of webpages explaining various statistical terms.	<a href="http://www.evidence-based-medicine.co.uk/What_is_series.html">www.evidence-based-medicine.co.uk/What_is_series.html</a>

### d. User involvement

Title	Description	URL
Best Treatments	This site has a section for patients, including information about different mental and physical conditions and about interventions that work, based on the best available research.	<a href="http://www.besttreatments.bmj.com/btuk/home.jsp">www.besttreatments.bmj.com/btuk/home.jsp</a>
Cochrane Collaboration Consumer Network	A website that discusses the role of consumers in the Cochrane Collaboration. It provides information about Cochrane and its work, and about the opportunity for consumer involvement.	<a href="http://www.cochrane.org/consumers/homepage.htm">www.cochrane.org/consumers/homepage.htm</a>
Consumer Involvement in the Centre for Health Services Research	An article exploring different models for involving consumers in health care decision making.	<a href="http://www.publichealth.gov.au/pdf/reports_papers/symposium_procdngs_2003/coghlan.pdf">www.publichealth.gov.au/pdf/reports_papers/symposium_procdngs_2003/coghlan.pdf</a>
Guide to Producing Health Information	This webpage is a useful resource for practitioners wishing to produce quality information materials for service users about interventions.	<a href="http://www.abdn.ac.uk/hsru/publications">www.abdn.ac.uk/hsru/publications</a>
Has Service User Participation Made a Difference to Social Care Services?	A position paper from the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) that looks at literature examining whether user participation has changed social care services.	<a href="http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/positionpapers/pp03.pdf">www.scie.org.uk/publications/positionpapers/pp03.pdf</a>



Title	Description	URL
How to Prepare and Present Evidence-Based Information for Consumers of Health Services	A review of literature focusing on the information needs of consumers and how to develop information material for such individuals.	<a href="http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/publications/synopses/cp72syn.htm">www.nhmrc.gov.au/publications/synopses/cp72syn.htm</a>
Informed Health Online	Provides information and advice about how to help people to keep up-to-date with reliable, evidence-based information.	<a href="http://www.informedhealthonline.org/index.en.html">www.informedhealthonline.org/index.en.html</a>
INVOLVE	This organisation aims to promote public involvement in health and social care research.	<a href="http://www.invo.org.uk/index.htm">www.invo.org.uk/index.htm</a>

## e. Implementation

Title	Description	URL
Getting Evidence in to Practice	An 'Effective Health Care' Bulletin that draws on research about how to support the use of evidence within practice.	<a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/pdf/ehc51.pdf">www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/pdf/ehc51.pdf</a>
Improving the Use of Research in Social Care Practice	An online review from the Social Care Institute for Excellence that examines how research is used in social care and different ways of promoting the use of research.	<a href="http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/knowledgereviews/kr07.pdf">www.scie.org.uk/publications/knowledgereviews/kr07.pdf</a>
Linking Research and Practice	A Joseph Rowntree Foundation 'findings' briefing of a report discussing obstacles in integrating research into practice.	<a href="http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialcare/910.asp">www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialcare/910.asp</a>
REAL Evidence-Based Team Working	A document providing advice about using evidence within a team to inform decision-making.	<a href="http://www.rip.org.uk/changeprojects/documents/realteams/1evidencebased.pdf">www.rip.org.uk/changeprojects/documents/realteams/1evidencebased.pdf</a>
Research Mindedness in Social Work and Social Care	An online learning resource supporting skills for evidence-based social work.	<a href="http://www.resmind.swap.ac.uk/">www.resmind.swap.ac.uk/</a>
Research Utilisation	Contains abstracts and some full text of key discussion papers and systematic reviews on the topic of using research in practice. Link to the Research Unit for Research Unit, part of the Evidence Network.	<a href="http://www.evidencenetwork.org/cgi-win/enet.exe/PUBS?RURU">www.evidencenetwork.org/cgi-win/enet.exe/PUBS?RURU</a>



Title	Description	URL
Seeing the Wood for the Trees	A document about changing an organisation's practice to ensure that it is evidence-based.	<a href="http://www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/Extraforbando/BHC2.pdf">www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/Extraforbando/BHC2.pdf</a>
What Goes Wrong When Implementing Evidence-Based Practice	Talks about traps to avoid when trying to implant an evidence-based approach to practice.	<a href="http://www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/Extraforbando/BHC1.pdf">www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/Extraforbando/BHC1.pdf</a>

#### f. Auditing your research capacity

Title	Description	URL
Is Research Working for You? Self Assessment Tool	An audit tool to help your organisation make better use of research by assessing where it is in relation to the skills, structures and resources needed to do so.	<a href="http://www.whatworksforchildren.org.uk/docs/tools/SelfAssesmtWEB.pdf">www.whatworksforchildren.org.uk/docs/tools/SelfAssesmtWEB.pdf</a>