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Healthcare excellence gets boost from free research journal trial

01 May, Bristol- The opportunity for healthcare professionals to read cutting-edge research has been given a boost today by an agreement between Jisc and scientific journal publishers. A year-long pilot will allow staff working across the NHS in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland free trial access to some of the most respected medical and scientific journals- so they can read for themselves the latest trials and research. This is good news for evidence based healthcare and will give healthcare professionals the opportunity to weigh up the latest developments in the study of disease.

A steering group comprising representatives from the UK academic sector, Jisc, NHS Education for Scotland and the NHS in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and [NICE](#) is overseeing this pilot. The publishers who have agreed to take part include: AAAS, Annual Reviews, Elsevier, IOP Publishing, Nature Publishing Group, Oxford University Press, Royal Society of Chemistry and Springer.

Lorraine Estelle, executive director content and discovery and divisional CEO Jisc Collections said:

"Jisc is committed to [opening up research](#) so that academics and clinicians can read the latest studies and develop a broader understanding of disease and treatment. This work is supported by the government-commissioned [Finch report](#) into research availability which recommended that more research journals be available to healthcare professionals."

Chair Dr Paul Ayris said on behalf of the steering group: "Practitioners in the NHS will benefit from the content that is being made available in this pilot, based on the recommendations of the Finch Report. Access to high quality information is key to good clinical practice and patients can only benefit from the well-informed clinical community that will result from this work."

After the trial period of a year the steering group will determine how to take forward future opportunities for NHS staff to access research journals. NHS practitioners should contact their trust or Health Board librarian for information on the trial.

Notes to editors

About Jisc

Jisc offers digital services and solutions for UK education and research. The charity does this to achieve its vision for the UK to be the most digitally advanced education and research nation in the world.

Working together across the higher education, further education and skills sectors, Jisc provides trusted advice and support, reduces sector costs across shared network, digital content, IT services and procurement negotiations, ensuring the sector stays ahead of the game with research and development for the future.

Find out more at www.jisc.ac.uk or contact the press team on press@jisc.ac.uk