We have already reached a major milestone this year with the successful migration of all HSE library collections into a single national library system. For library users this is welcome news as it means books are discoverable in one place and available to all, regardless of location. To everyone involved I want to say a big thank you and well done!

A library audit is nearing completion which saw an independent auditor do a grand tour of HSE libraries from Letterkenny to Waterford. The results will identify the best hub and spoke model going forward as well as sites requiring renovation. Thanks to all staff for the warm reception received.

Our library strategy is taking shape with a staff skills survey underway (by now you’ll all have received the details of the NHLKS Skills Audit Questionnaire). We’re trying to map the skills we all have to the teams set out in the strategy and identify any skills gaps that exist. All library staff are strongly encouraged to complete it by the deadline of April 30th.

One of our longest serving Regional Librarians Jean Harrison is retiring. Jean was based in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda since the library security gates were installed back in 1993. She describes her time in our library service as the "best job of my life - loved every minute of it!"

What a great endorsement for our profession! We thank Jean for her service and wish her well in the next chapter of her career.
Fifth Annual Open Access Research Awards presented in Dr Steevens’ Library

The fifth annual Open Access awards ceremony took place in December 2018. The awards celebrate the work of practitioners and researchers working across health and social care disciplines in Ireland who have published their research in Open Access format.

Winners represented work in mental health, quality control, national clinical programmes and cancer care, demonstrating the broad range of research activity taking place across the Irish health sector.

The overall winning article, by Ailbhe Spillane and researchers based at University College Cork, examined the physical and psychological impact of suicide bereavement on Irish families. It found that people bereaved by suicide had poorer general health, including increased pain and disorders including cardiovascular disease. Speaking at the awards Ms Spillane noted the importance of publishing research of this nature in open access so that findings are available to the research participants who contributed, and to members of the public experiencing the impact of suicide bereavement.

At the awards ceremony Dr Ana Terrés, the HSE’s Head of Research highlighted the importance of making health research openly available, saying “The first step to achieve impact is to make the research outputs as visible and accessible as possible. The impact of health research goes beyond the positive impact that it has in the health service – it can have far-reaching impact in society and the economy.”

Some of the attendees at the HSE Open Access Research Awards
Second Research Audit and Education Day Mullingar Regional Hospital

The library in MRH Mullingar collaborated with, and provided assistance to, staff presenting at the Second Research Audit and Education Day on December 12th 2018. Library staff also live tweeted the event.

Sligo University Hospital’s Great North West Bake-Off

Sligo University Hospital held their Second Great SUH Bake Off in December to raise money for the North West Hospice, to promote the Library and to provide an opportunity for Hospital staff to meet over coffee and cake in the days leading up to Christmas. They received a great response again this year and the coffee morning and cake auction raised €455 for the Hospice.

RCPI Paediatrics Visit to MRH Mullingar

Regional Hospital Mullingar had a visit from the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (Paediatrics Division) on 25th March 2019. The library staff in Mullingar prepared the library for the visit with a display of books and hand-outs (above).
New Acute Hospital Ebook Collection for HSE East

There is a new ebook collection available for all staff in HSE East that should be especially useful for colleagues working in acute settings. This collection comprises ebooks on specialties such as surgery, psychiatry, dietetics, geriatrics, stroke, ECG, cancer and general medicine.

Access to the ebooks requires an OpenAthens username and password. All ebooks can be found at http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/dubeast/

Once logged in, simply click the search button without entering anything in the search bar and you will see a list of all of the ebooks.

The ebooks have also been catalogued individually on the new national library online catalogue. There are 2 sub collections in this ebook package: the Eating Disorders collection which includes books on topics such as CBT, anorexia and CRT; and the Mental Health collection which has titles on DBT, gender dysphoria, and internet addiction amongst others.

Users can read the ebooks on a mobile device or PC. From there they can bookmark important parts, highlight passages and even make notes.

Borrowers can also download the book for up to 21 days at a time to their mobile device or PC.
Moving On

Sadly we say goodbye to Marsia Wise, Finance Officer in Strategic Planning and Transformation. Many of you will know Marsia for her hard work in the National Health Librarian’s office while Aoife Lawton was on maternity leave. Marsia is joining the Treasury and Capital team (part of Planning and Performance in HSE Corporate Finance). Outside the HSE Marsia has been studying Accountancy since January 2017. She recently finished her level 8 exams, and is currently studying for a degree in Applied Accounting from Oxford Brookes University in London. She has also taken a keen interest in Scouting along with her husband and son. “Anyone that knows me, will know that is an unusual pastime for me. I tend to enjoy my comforts!” We wish Marsia all the best in her new role.

Poster Presentation

Maura Flynn (below) presented a poster at the HSLG Conference in February. The poster showcased “Library Lite Bites”, a collaboration with the Nursing and Midwifery Planning and Development Unit to deliver lunchtime group training sessions to support staff returning to education. Other Lite Bite events are planned throughout the year ahead. Congratulations to Maura on her excellent work.

Staff Wellbeing Zone

The Staff Wellbeing Zone in the library of Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar is encountering an extremely positive response from visitors. The Zone showcases the library’s books and resources to support staff wellbeing, resilience and stress management.
West Region Healthy Cities and Counties Workshop

As part of the Healthy Ireland initiative, Tony Linnane and Denise Duffy attended the West Region Healthy Cities & Counties Workshop on Thursday 4th April in the Clayton Hotel, Galway. Hosted by Health Promotion Officer Fiona O’Donovan and facilitated by Grant Thornton consultants, it was a stimulating and informative exchange of ideas. There were over 17 different representative groups including Croí, Galway Rural Developments Office, LCDs (Local Community Development Committee) and Galway County Library Service.

Five-minute vignettes gave snapshots of the collaboration between groups on the ground to embed initiatives in everyday lives. We heard about “Scooter training” in Merlin Woods Primary School, where the pupils now scoot or walk to school on given days of the week. Speech Therapists and local community chefs in Tuam facilitated a 6 session cookery programme for new mothers who find it difficult to wean their children.

Healthy Campus in the GMIT recently launched a staff choir; they have already been asked to perform at a number of events and are busy rehearsing for a singing competition. Library Services in HSE West plan to collaborate with colleagues on campus to deliver and progress this worthwhile nationwide project.
WIKIPEDIA EDITATHON AT DR STEEVENS’ LIBRARY

In 2018, the National Health Library and Knowledge Service (NHLKS) in collaboration with the National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) appointed Dr Niall O’Mara the first National Healthcare Wikipedian-in-Residence (WiR). Following the programme of events in 2018, the team at Dr Steevens’ Library organised a Wikipedia editathon on Friday 11th January 2019. In preparation for the editathon, library staff selected Irish health research from the Lenus open access repository on the selected topics of anti-microbial resistance and HPV in Ireland. The day kicked off with a briefing from Dr O’Mara and each member of the team being selected to source material and edit content under his guidance.

It was a very enjoyable event which resulted in featuring Irish related material on topical health issues on Wikipedia, the fifth most visited website in the world. We will be hosting another editathon in the coming weeks - contact bennery.rickard@hse.ie for more details.
NHLKS is preparing to launch a ‘Healthy Ireland at Your Library’ digital book collection for HSE staff. This is a government-led initiative promoting the national strategy to improve health and wellbeing, placing a focus on prevention, individual awareness and keeping people healthy for longer.

The HSE collection includes 431 ebooks and 41 audiobooks covering a wide range of topics on health and wellbeing including mindfulness, diet, parenting, aging etc.

Access to the ‘Healthy Ireland at Your Library’ collection is available via the BorrowBox app. Download the BorrowBox app from your device-specific App store and read and listen to eBooks and audiobooks on your device.

When you download the app you need to sign in to BorrowBox. Type HSE in the ‘Library’ field and select HSE National Health Library and Knowledge Service. Sign in with your OpenAthens username and your surname as your password. Please note that HSE staff members need an OpenAthens account to access BorrowBox so please encourage HSE staff who don’t have an OpenAthens account to sign up if they wish to avail of this service.

We hope to officially launch our (HSE) Healthy Ireland for Your Library Collection sometime in May and it would be great if HSE librarians could run (and share on social media) health and wellbeing events in their local libraries to coincide with this launch. We will keep you posted on a launch date and details on BorrowBox will also be made available on www.hselibrary.ie shortly.

If you have questions about the ‘Healthy Ireland at your Library’ collection please contact bennery.rickard@hse.ie or marie.carrigan@hse.ie
ICGP National Trainers Conference 2019

Dr Niall O’Mara - National Healthcare Wikipedian in Residence (WiR) and Ms Bennery Rickard (NHLKS) gave a joint presentation titled “The Case for online Health literacy and Wikiproject Medicine” at the ICGP National Trainers Conference 2019 on 8th March 2019. This joint presentation was followed by a lively workshop. We had great participation from the floor with much debate on the challenges and opportunities of patients using the internet as their main source of health information.

Helen Clark is Second Named Author in Myeloma Research Paper

Congratulations to Helen Clark (right) of Sligo University Hospital Library Services, who gained second named author recognition for her work in support of a candidate ANP researcher’s research. The published article is:

Migration to all HSE library sites to National Library Management System complete

As of April 5th all HSE library sites are now live on a single National Library Management System. With the addition of the final two sites (Bantry General Hospital and Kerry General Hospital) the first phase of this ambitious project to bring all the HSE libraries collections together into a single web accessible system is complete.

The completion of the migration also sets NHLKS apart as Koha users in that we are now:

- The largest multi branch Koha installation in the country
- The only national Koha implementation in Ireland
- The largest Irish single organisational Koha implementation
- The largest number of Irish collections migrated into a single Koha system
- The largest number of patrons in a single Koha system in Ireland

This is not just a good news story for the national library service as all our collections join together in a single system—it’s also great for our service users. All our holdings can be browsed on the public OPAC and patrons can view their accounts, renew items and place independent reservations for items in their region online.

Koha in Numbers

137,286
Items catalogued

29,690
Patron accounts

44
Library sites and collections
Library users can also independently register for a library account using the self registration form and can request items from any other library location around the country, making this a genuinely national system.