

IFLA PRESENTS

LIBRARIANS SUPPORTING HUMANITARIAN INFORMATION EFFORTS

THE EVIDENCE AID COVID-19 EVIDENCE COLLECTION

Jo Wood

Evidence Aid

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About Me

Career

Knowledge and Evidence Specialist (Health Improvement) – Public Health England (2019 – present)

Library and Information Service Manager – Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass) (2009-2019)

Library and Information Service Officer – Barnardo's/Cafcass (2006-2009)

Qualifications

CILIP: The Library and Information Association **Fellowship** (2019)

CILIP **Chartership** (2008); **Revalidation** (2016, 2017 & 2018)

PgDip Applied Sport & Exercise Psychology (2015)

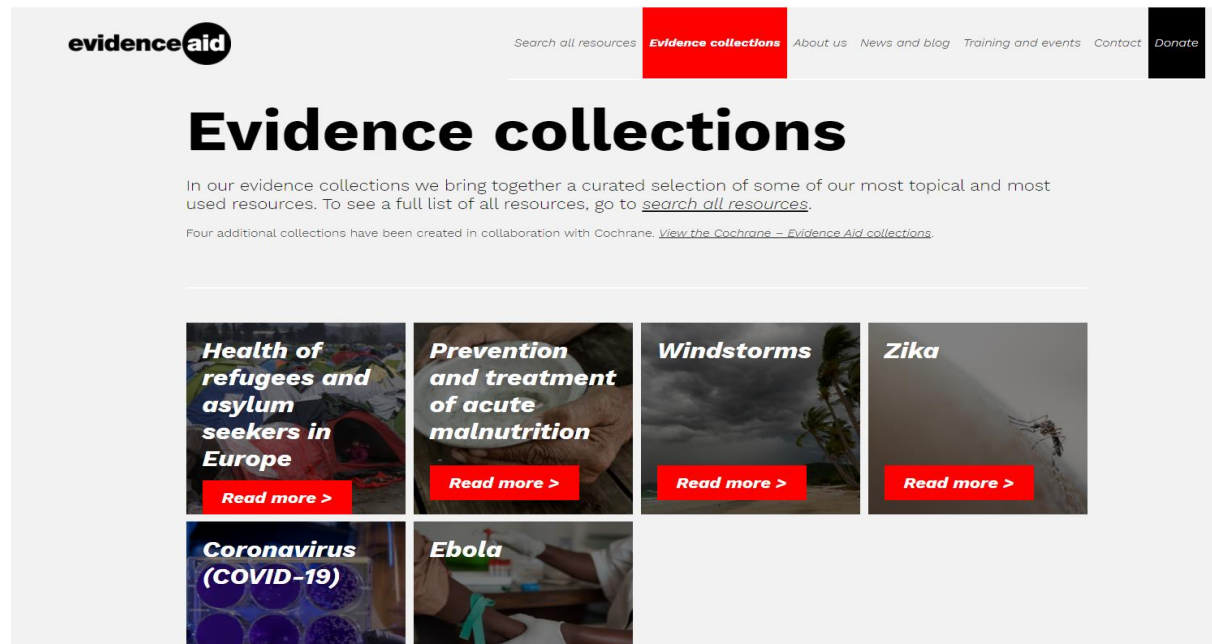
PgDip ILS (2006)

MA Modern History (2002)



About Evidence Aid

- Evidence Aid is a not-for-profit organisation specialising in collating and summarising the best available evidence to effectively prepare for, and respond to, disasters and emergencies.
- Evidence Aid searches for relevant systematic reviews, which are then summarised, categorised, and made accessible and searchable to everyone on their website: <https://evidenceaid.org/>




The screenshot shows the Evidence Aid website's 'Evidence collections' page. At the top left is the 'evidenceaid' logo. A navigation bar includes 'Search all resources', 'Evidence collections' (highlighted in red), 'About us', 'News and blog', 'Training and events', 'Contact', and 'Donate'. The main heading is 'Evidence collections'. Below it, a paragraph states: 'In our evidence collections we bring together a curated selection of some of our most topical and most used resources. To see a full list of all resources, go to [search all resources](#).' A smaller line of text mentions: 'Four additional collections have been created in collaboration with Cochrane. [View the Cochrane - Evidence Aid collections](#).' Below this are six collection cards, each with a title, a background image, and a red 'Read more >' button. The cards are: 'Health of refugees and asylum seekers in Europe' (background: people in a boat), 'Prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition' (background: a child's face), 'Windstorms' (background: palm trees in a storm), 'Zika' (background: a person in a mosquito net), 'Coronavirus (COVID-19)' (background: petri dishes), and 'Ebola' (background: hands being washed).



Evidence Aid's COVID-19 Collection

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Evidence collection:

<https://www.evidenceaid.org/coronavirus-covid-19-evidence-collection/>



The screenshot shows the Evidence Aid website's COVID-19 evidence collection page. At the top left is the Evidence Aid logo. To its right is a navigation menu with links: Search all resources, Evidence collections, About us, News and blog, Training and events, Contact, and a black Donate button. The main heading is "Coronavirus (COVID-19)". Below it is a paragraph: "The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic is leading to a rapidly expanding and evolving literature. This evidence collection contains plain-language summaries of high-quality research which are available in English, and translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Chinese (simplified and traditional)." A second paragraph follows: "The collection includes summaries of systematic reviews that might be relevant to the direct impact of COVID-19 (including reviews of emerging research, as well as existing reviews of relevant interventions) on health and other outcomes, the impact of the COVID-19 response on other conditions, and issues to consider for the recovery period after COVID-19." A third paragraph states: "It is being put together by [our volunteers](#), and is supported by our [partners and funders](#). Read our [disclaimer](#)." The final paragraph says: "Other agencies are also publishing vital information. View our [COVID-19 information portal](#) for external links."

386 systematic review summaries relevant to COVID-19 are now freely available on the EA website. [As of 19th August 2020]



It takes a village...



[Search all resources](#) [Evidence collections](#) [About us](#) [News and blog](#) [Training and events](#) [Contact](#)

We would like to acknowledge the help and support of the following people in the COVID-19 project.

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How did I get involved?

Evidence Aid reached out to the Knowledge and Library Services Team at PHE for support at the end of March....

Initially asked to be the literature searching co-ordinator: “Just 2-3 hours a day...” then it snowballed...

...I’m now the COVID-19 Project Co-Ordinator, combining Evidence Aid work with my PHE responsibilities.



What do I actually do?

I'm now the COVID-19 Project Co-Ordinator which involves:

- Co-ordinating the work of 14 volunteer literature searchers
- Co-ordinating the work of 39 volunteer systematic review summary writers and support staff
- Liaising with the core team
- Working on priority lists of summaries after the lit search and screening stages, and spotting gaps in the collections
- Advising on library/information matters relevant to the collection

But what does it *really* involve?

- Spreadsheets
- Emails
- Relationship management



Literature search topics

A few examples of targeted searches carried out by volunteer searchers in response to suggestions from Evidence Aid advisors:

- Pandemic measures in schools
- Reducing social isolation in the elderly
- Digital, online and telephone support for grieving and bereaved families
- The impact of COVID-19 on refugees and refugee camps
- Respiratory support including mechanical and physical therapy
- The impact of COVID-19 on accident and emergency (A&E) admissions



What about my PHE work?

PHE literature searches completed since I started working with Evidence Aid:

- Sickle Cell / Thalassemia (Evidence Briefing)
- Digital tools for musculoskeletal health
- Alcohol Clinical Guidelines – Criminal Justice section
- Vitamin D for respiratory infection (COVID-related)
- Common mental illnesses and cardiovascular disease
- The Knowledge to Action Cycle
- Non-medical use of opioids
- COVID-19 and cardiovascular disease
- The health impact of Permitted Development Rights
- International Health Regulations
- Family and Household structures
- Substance use and mental health comorbidities
- The North American Free Trade Agreement and obesity



Impact and Statistics

Systematic review summaries [Up to 19th August]

386 summaries on the website in total; **103** summaries currently in progress;

Translations

376 in Arabic; 376 in Chinese (simplified); 376 in Chinese (traditional); 376 in French; 47 in Italian; 376 in Portuguese; 376 in Spanish;

Literature searches

33 searches completed on specific topics related to COVID-19 since March.

Digital engagement

30,676 people used the Evidence website in the last week.

There have been **270,429** views since mid-March.



Contact

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Twitter: @EvidenceAid

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/evidence-aid/>

Coronavirus collection: <https://evidenceaid.org/evidence/coronavirus-covid-19/>

