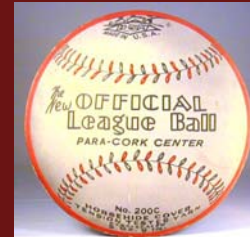




# **STAYING AHEAD OF THE CURVE... A CONTINUOUS AND SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO EVALUATING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

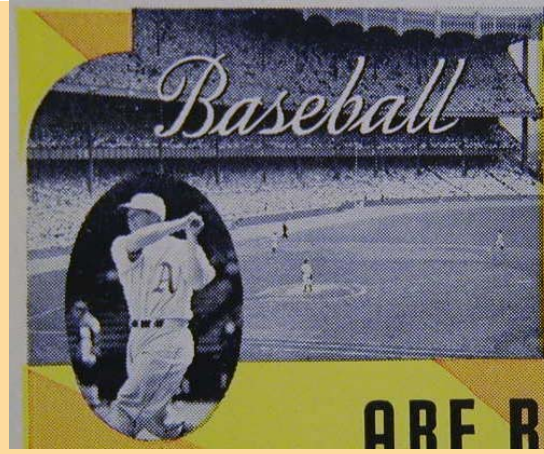
**Charlie S. Lackey, Associate Director Cataloging/Bibliographic Services, Medical Center Library, Duke University,  
Durham, NC**

**Karen S. Grigg, Assistant Director, Collection Development, Medical Center Library, Duke University, Durham, NC ;**

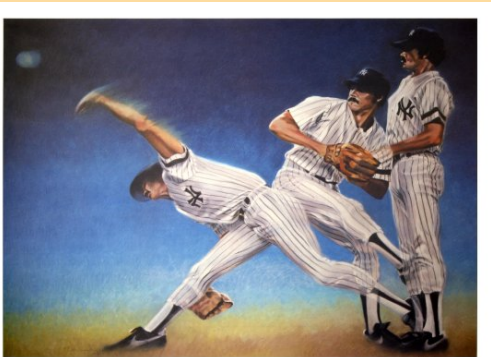


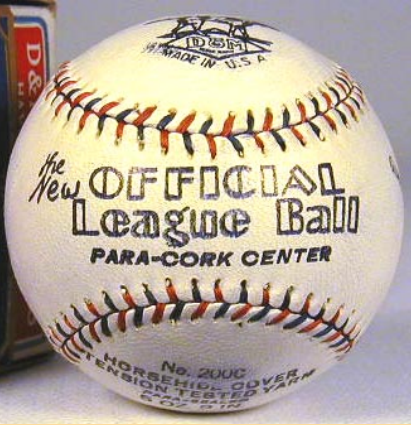


# STEPS FOR EVALUATING DATABASES



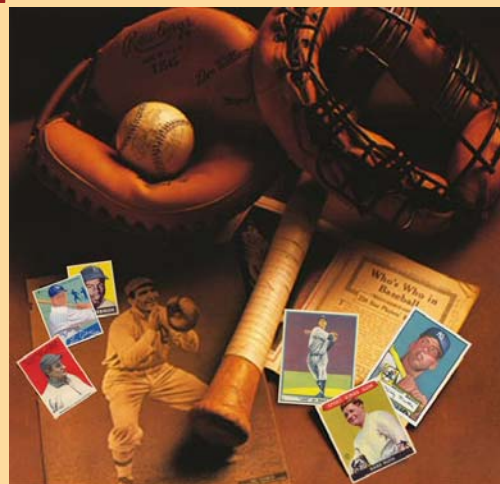
- 1. Evaluating use and feedback of current product**
- 2. Scanning the marketplace for competing products**
- 3. Environment scan of peer institutions**
- 4. Assembling a team of reviewers**
- 5. Query listservs of peers**
- 6. Creating review criteria**
- 7. Securing the trials**
- 8. Listing trials on “Database Testing Zone” web page**





# STEPS FOR EVALUATING DATABASES, CONT.

9. **Obtaining price quotes**
10. **Dividing teams into sub-teams that evaluate each database using same criteria**
11. **Inviting vendors to visit and make presentations**
12. **Reassembling and comparing databases as a larger group**
13. **Promoting trials and soliciting feedback from users**
14. **Creating final report to guide our decisions**
15. **If new database is purchased, initiating rollout procedures**



*The Environmental Scan allows us to compare our holdings with our peers....*

## **Environmental Scan of Selected Databases**

<b>School</b>	<b><u>Up To Date</u></b>	<b>Clinical Evidence</b>	<b>Evidence Matters</b>	<b><u>DynaMed</u></b>	<b><u>EMedicine</u></b>	<b><u>InfoPOEMS/Retriever</u></b>
John Hopkins	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y
Washington University	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
UPA	Y	Has print. Discontinued	N	N	N	Y
UCA San Francisco	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
U of WA	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
Stanford	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
U of M, Ann Arbor	Y	Print	N	N	N	N
UNC, Chapel Hill	Y (for now)	N	N	N	Y	Y
Drexel	N	N	N	N	N	N
U of I, Chicago	N	Y	N	N	N	Y

*The Database Review Group sets relevant criteria for evaluating the products....*

## **Criteria, UpToDate Product Review**

- **Is database evidence-based?**
- **Are there systematic reviews?**
- **Is content peer reviewed?**
- **Are cited studies described and summarized in content?**
- **Who are the primary users?**
- **Are monographs indexed?**
- **How easy is product to learn?**
- **Does product have extended search capabilities, such as automatic truncation and spelling correction?**
- **How much work does patron have to do in order to synthesize and filter information?**
- **How easy to find are author affiliations with each topic?**
- **When was topic last updated?**
- **What is the cost?**
- **Is off-campus access included?**
- **Does vendor offer site license and/or concurrent user model?**

*The Database Evaluation Group may opt to generate a representative set of questions to query all databases being evaluated and compare results... Here are the sample questions we queried Dynamed, FIRST Consult and eMedicine to compare with results in UpToDate*

## **Questions for Evaluating Point-Of-Care Databases**

1. What are the most useful tests for diagnosing pheochromocytoma?
2. In those patients with HIV/AIDS and thrush, which is more effective in the long term treatment of thrush - continuous or intermittent fluconazole therapy?
3. In patients with AIDS and pancytopenia, what are the possible etiologies to worry about?

***Our database testing zone allows users to keep up with current trials and submit feedback...***

Database Trials - Testing Zone - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.mclibrary.duke.edu/databases/trials

Customize Links Windows Media Free Hotmail Go to Google Home Windows Windows Marketplace PLONE SANDBOX PLONE MCLCentral



- Main
- Catalog
- E-Journals
- MEDLINE
- Clinical Tools
- Ask Us
- Search

Main » Databases »

## Database Trials - Testing Zone

Clinical Tools

Criteria for Evaluation

Duke University Medical Center Library is currently reviewing the following databases. Help us try them out, and send your comments to the **E-Resources Review Committee**.

### Clinical Tools

#### 1. AccessMedicine

<http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Collection of clinical tools to assist with decision making. Many key electronic textbooks are included.

User Name: Not needed

Password: Not needed

Available through: 8/30/06

#### 2. AccessSurgery

<http://www.accesssurgery.com>

Similar to AccessMedicine with a focus on surgery and providing tools to answer questions about surgical procedures.

User Name: Not needed

Password: Not needed

Available through: 8/30/06