

Summary of key features and functions

A free online repository of pre-appraised, synthesized research evidence for health-system policymakers and stakeholders

www.healthsystemsevidence.org

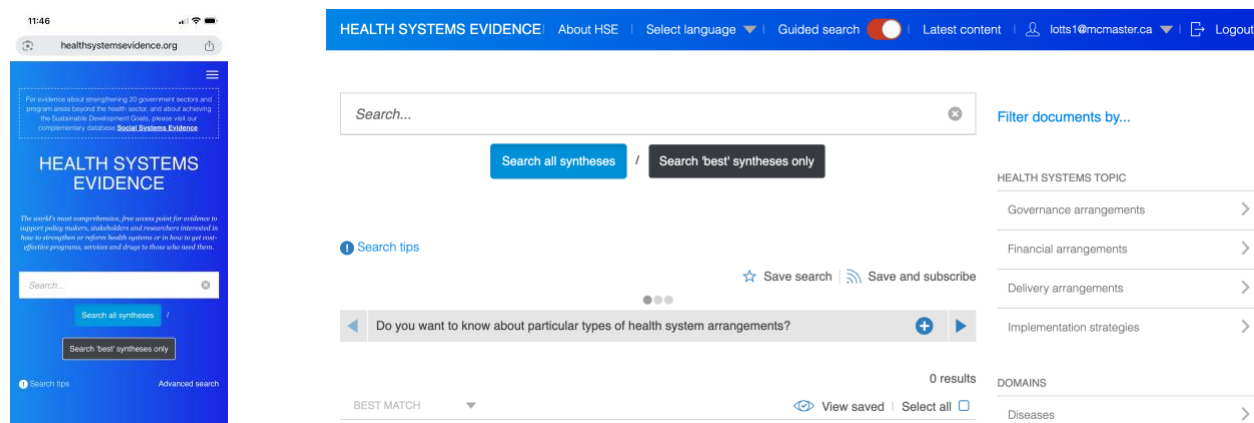
Key features

Health Systems Evidence is the world's most comprehensive, continuously updated repository of research evidence about governance, financial and delivery arrangements within health systems, and about implementation strategies that can support change in health systems. It supports policymakers, stakeholders and researchers who want to access the best available research evidence in a timely manner through several features, including:

- a powerful search engine and nested sort function to ensure the most relevant results are quickly identified, and a tool that allows you to search for only the 'best' evidence syntheses for a specific topic of interest (determined by prioritizing syntheses that have completed their search in the last five years, are at least medium quality and have access to a GRADE profile)
- an intuitive user interface that streamlines the process of conducting advanced searches through the application of filters for health system arrangements, sectors (e.g., primary care), areas of focus (e.g. specific countries), document features (e.g. type of document or publication date range) or any combination of these
- a guided search tool for users who want additional assistance in applying filters
- the ability to save documents or searches and subscribe to free, customized, monthly e-newsletters that provide links to newly added content in your area of interest
- independently assigned quality ratings for each included review
- hyperlinks to scientific abstracts, user-friendly summaries (when they exist), and all the included studies (labelled by country to facilitate local applicability assessments)
- responsive design, which automatically gives users access to the site in a format optimized for use on their device of choice (e.g. mobile, tablet or desktop)
- multi-lingual support – search Health Systems Evidence in English, Chinese, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

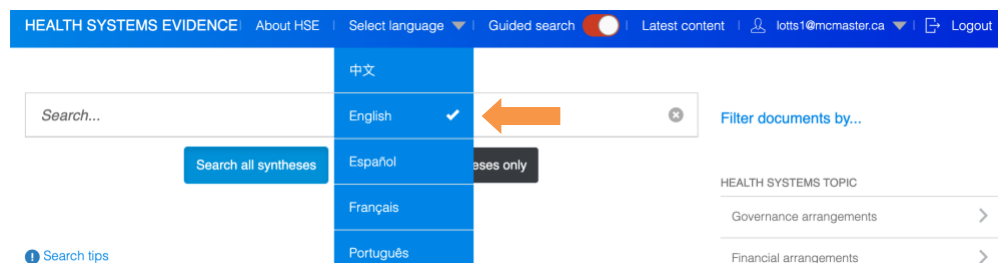
Search Health Systems Evidence on your mobile or desktop device

Health Systems optimizes the interface for the device you are using.



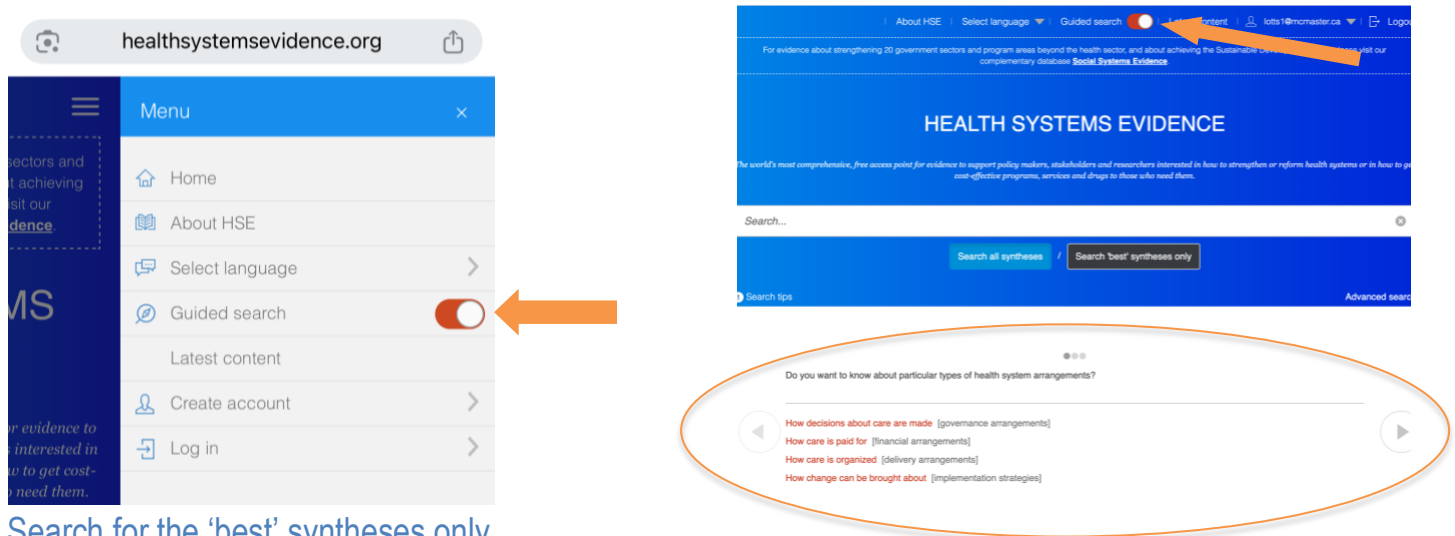
Choose your preferred language

Select the language you prefer when using Health Systems Evidence.



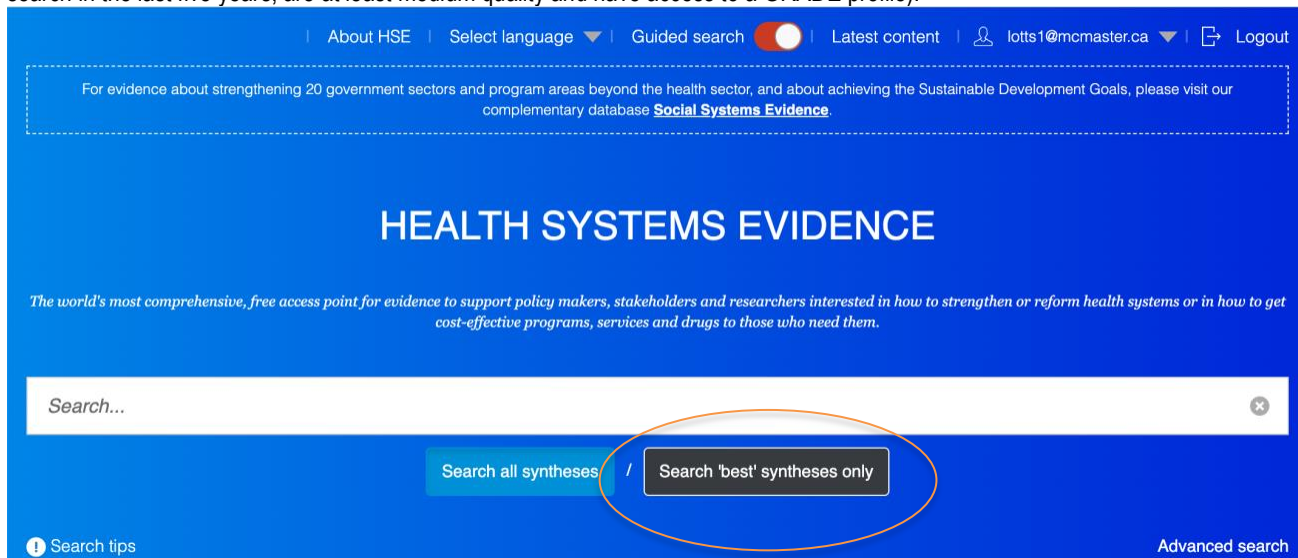
Get help by using the guided search

Respond to these questions to guide you in applying the filters available on Health Systems Evidence. The guided search can be turned off or on (indicated by the toggle at the top of the screen) and can be expanded or hidden on a mobile device.



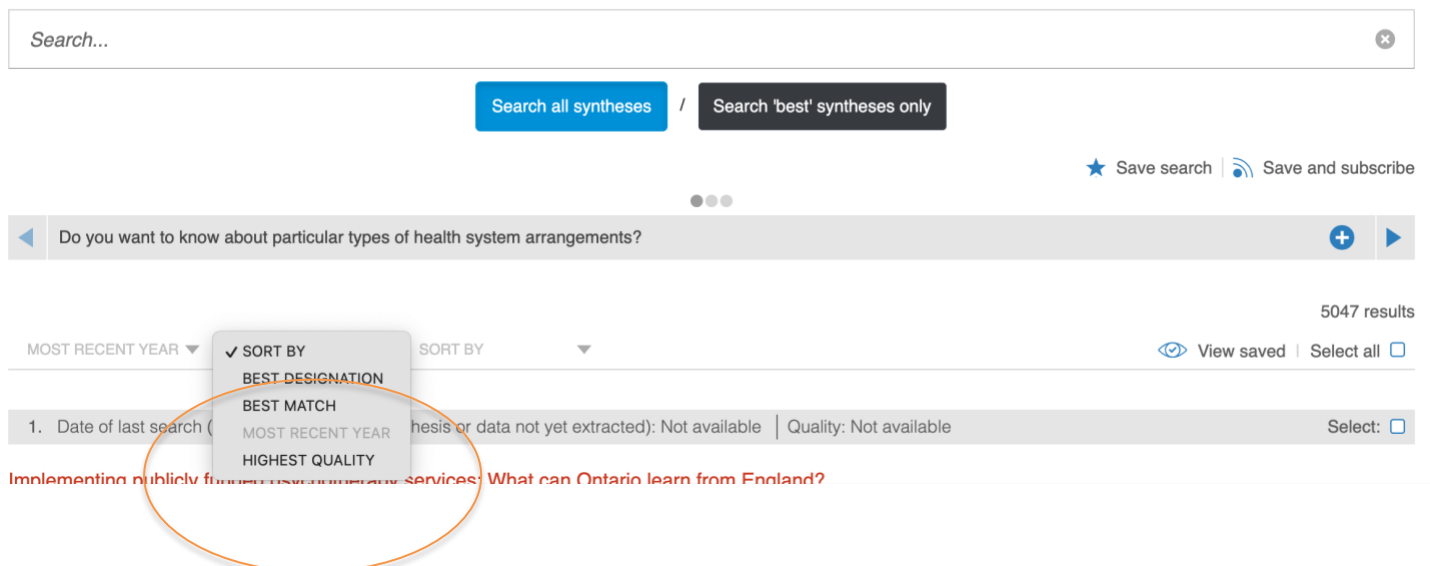
Search for the 'best' syntheses only

Narrow your search to the 'best' evidence syntheses for a specific topic of interest (determined by prioritizing syntheses that have completed their search in the last five years, are at least medium quality and have access to a GRADE profile).



Sort your results

By default, results are displayed by 'best match.' Alternatively, you can use the nested sorting function to sort your search results by best designation, most recent year or highest quality. From there, you can further sort the results by the other criteria.



Apply advanced search filters

Explore the full list of search filters available on Health Systems Evidence, which you can then apply to narrow your search.

The screenshot shows the Health Systems Evidence search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HEALTH SYSTEMS EVIDENCE, About HSE, Select language, Guided search, Latest content, and a user profile icon with the email lotts1@mcmaster.ca and a Logout button. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search...". To the right of the search bar is a link "Filter documents by...". Below the search bar are two buttons: "Search all syntheses" and "Search 'best' syntheses only". An orange arrow points from the "Search 'best' syntheses only" button to the "Filter documents by..." link. Below the search bar is a section titled "Search tips" with a link "Search tips". To the right of the search tips is a link "Save search" and a link "Save and subscribe". Below the search tips is a section titled "Do you want to know about particular types of health system arrangements?" with a "+" button and a "▶" button. Below this section is a section titled "0 results". To the right of the "0 results" section is a section titled "HEALTH SYSTEMS TOPIC" with a list of topics: Governance arrangements, Financial arrangements, Delivery arrangements, and Implementation strategies. Below the "HEALTH SYSTEMS TOPIC" section is a section titled "DOMAINS" with a link "Diseases".

Narrow your search so that you retrieve documents that address the domains you're most interested in, focus on the country or region you work in and retrieve particular types of documents. Your results can be narrowed by combining filter types (e.g., system arrangements and diseases) and expanded by selecting more than one filter within a type (e.g. cancer and HIV/AIDS).

The screenshot shows the Health Systems Evidence search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HEALTH SYSTEMS EVIDENCE, About HSE, Select language, Guided search, Latest content, and a Menu button. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search...". To the right of the search bar is a link "Filter documents by...". Below the search bar are two buttons: "Search all syntheses" and "Search 'best' syntheses only". An orange arrow points from the "Search 'best' syntheses only" button to the "Filter documents by..." link. Below the search bar is a section titled "Search tips" with a link "Search tips". To the right of the search tips is a link "Save search" and a link "Save and subscribe". Below the search tips is a section titled "Do you want to know about particular types of health system arrangements?" with a "+" button and a "▶" button. Below this section is a section titled "1150 results". To the right of the "1150 results" section is a section titled "Menu" with a list of filters: Any governance arrangements, Policy authority, Centralization/decentralization of policy authority, Accountability of the state sector's role in financing & delivery, Stewardship of the non-state sector's role in financing & delivery, Decision-making authority about who is covered and what can or must be provided to them, Corruption protections, Organizational authority, and Ownership. The "Centralization/decentralization of policy authority" filter is selected with a checkmark.

Register for a free account

For users who create an account and log in to use Health Systems Evidence, several advanced features are also available, including the ability to:

- access more than 20 search results
- save documents of interest to a personal clipboard for future reference
- save searches that are found to be the most useful for finding relevant documents
- subscribe to saved searches (and searches curated by the Health Systems Evidence team) in order to receive monthly updates via email of new evidence that addresses these same topics.


Email and/or save selected documents (when logged in)



Send the list of documents selected from your search results by email to yourself or others, and/or save the list of documents selected from your search results directly to your personal 'saved documents' clipboard.


The screenshot shows the Health Systems Evidence search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HEALTH SYSTEMS EVIDENCE, About HSE, Select language, Guided search, Latest content, and a user profile icon with the email lotts1@mcmaster.ca and a Logout button. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search...". To the right of the search bar is a link "Filter documents by...". Below the search bar are two buttons: "Search all syntheses" and "Search 'best' syntheses only". An orange arrow points from the "Search 'best' syntheses only" button to the "Filter documents by..." link. Below the search bar is a section titled "Search tips" with a link "Search tips". To the right of the search tips is a link "Save search" and a link "Save and subscribe". Below the search tips is a section titled "Do you want to know about particular types of health system arrangements?" with a "+" button and a "▶" button. Below this section is a section titled "1150 results". To the right of the "1150 results" section is a section titled "Menu" with a list of filters: Any governance arrangements, Policy authority, Centralization/decentralization of policy authority, Accountability of the state sector's role in financing & delivery, Stewardship of the non-state sector's role in financing & delivery, Decision-making authority about who is covered and what can or must be provided to them, Corruption protections, Organizational authority, and Ownership. The "Centralization/decentralization of policy authority" filter is selected with a checkmark. Below the "1150 results" section is a section titled "BEST MATCH" with a dropdown menu. To the right of the "BEST MATCH" section is a section titled "Email" with a link "Email" and a link "Save". Below the "Email" and "Save" links is a section titled "View saved" with a link "View saved" and a link "Select all". Below the "View saved" and "Select all" links is a section titled "1. Date of last search (or publication if not a synthesis or data not yet extracted): Not available". To the right of the "1. Date of last search" section is a section titled "Quality: Not available". Below the "Quality: Not available" section is a section titled "Select: [X]". Below the "Select: [X]" section is a section titled "Improving functions of the frail elderly". Below the "Improving functions of the frail elderly" section is a section titled "Health reform descriptions | Japan". Below the "Health reform descriptions | Japan" section is a section titled "The 2005 amendment of the Long Term Care Insurance created new service benefits intended to improve and maintain the physical, mental and social functions of the frail elderly. The changes and new benefits have been implemented since April 2006, and". Below the "The 2005 amendment" section is a section titled "2. Date of last search (or publication if not a synthesis or data not yet extracted): Not available". To the right of the "2. Date of last search" section is a section titled "Quality: Not available". Below the "Quality: Not available" section is a section titled "Select: [X]". Below the "Select: [X]" section is a section titled "DOMAINS" with a list of domains: Diseases, Technologies, Sectors, Providers, and LMICS. Below the "DOMAINS" section is a section titled "Target of document".


View saved documents (when logged in)


View the list of documents you have saved from previous searches. Your saved documents can also be managed (i.e., retained on or deleted from your profile) on this page.

HEALTH SYSTEMS EVIDENCE | About HSE | Select language ▼ | Guided search  | Latest content

 lotts1@mcmaster.ca |  Logout

 Profile

 Saved documents

 Saved searches

Saved documents

Documents you saved will be kept on this page for up to 6 hours.
You can email or export these documents.

Select all ☐

1. Date of last search (or publication if not a synthesis or data not yet extracted): **Not available** | Quality: **Not available**


Select: ☐



Improving functions of the frail elderly


The 2005 amendment of the Long Term Care Insurance created new service benefits intended to improve and maintain the physical, mental and social functions of the frail elderly. The changes and new benefits have been implemented since April 2006,...


Save and subscribe to your favourite searches (when logged in)


Save your search strategy and subscribe to receive a monthly email containing links to any documents that have been newly added to Health Systems Evidence and meet your search parameters. Your subscriptions can be managed on the 'Saved searches' page, where you can also subscribe to past searches you have saved, as well as to any of the suggested 'Curated searches' prepared by the Health Systems Evidence team.

HEALTH SYSTEMS EVIDENCE | About HSE | Select language ▼ | Guided search  | Latest content

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 Saved documents

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Search all syntheses

Search 'best' syntheses only

Search tips

Save search  Save and subscribe 

Do you want to know about particular types of health system arrangements?

+

BEST MATCH ▼

View saved  Select all ☐

1. Date of last search (or publication if not a synthesis or data not yet extracted): Not available

Quality: Not available

Select: ☐

Primary care collaboratives

Health reform descriptions | Australia

HEALTH SYSTEMS EVIDENCE | About HSE | Select language ▼ | Guided search  | Latest content

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Saved searches

Filter documents by...

Keywords:

Filters: Optimal aging | Health promotion/primary preven... | Where care is provided | With what supports is care provi... | Site of service delivery

Physical structure, facilities & eq... | Organizational scale | Integration of services | Continuity of care | Outreach | Health record systems

Electronic health record | Other ICT that support individual... | ICT that support individuals who ... | Quality monitoring and improvem...

Safety monitoring and improvem... | Cancer | Cardiovascular disease | Diabetes | Mental health and addictions | Electronic health record

Mental health and addictions

Subscribe to search 

Curated searches

Enhancing policies and programs to support injured workers with chronic pain in Canada (ends April 2026)

Keywords: ("workers' compensation" OR "worker compensation" OR "occupational injury insurance") OR "chronic pain"

Subscribe to search 

For more information, please email hse@mcmaster.ca.

Lavis JN. Health Systems Evidence: Summary of key features and functions. Hamilton, Canada: McMaster Health Forum, 2017.

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