

PROQUEST HEALTH SCIENCES

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Kjell Tjensvoll, Senior Adviser

The Norwegian Electronic Health Library, Helsebiblioteket, is a national digital library service for healthcare personnel in Norway. Library resources are available to healthcare professionals, researchers and students across the country. The library is funded through the Government Budget and it provides access to guidelines, advice, and procedures as well as the highest quality research.

ProQuest Health Science Products, including *ProQuest Health and Medical Complete*, *ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Source*, and *ProQuest Psychology*, make up by far the largest collection of academic journals in the library. 'ProQuest was one of the first subscriptions we purchased, we began our subscription only a few months after we were established,' says Kjell Tjensvoll, Senior Adviser. 'We've been subscribers since 2005.'

As a government organisation, Helsebiblioteket carried out a transparent public tender process when searching for resources. 'Journal packages from ProQuest gave us the best combination of pricing compared to the amount of content, they were the best value,' says Kjell.

The content is popular across the varied user base served by the library. Statistics demonstrate that hospital libraries are heavy users. 'The interface is good,' says Kjell. 'The educational departments also have surprisingly high usage, especially given that they have other routes to access some of the journal content, but choose to come through ProQuest anyway.'

Users benefit from 1,600 full text publications, journals in Health and Medical Complete cover all major clinical and healthcare disciplines including medical sciences, immunology, pharmacy and pharmacology. Nursing and Allied Health Source carries over 800 full-text titles and over 12,000 full-text

dissertations representing the most rigorous scholarship in nursing and related fields such as public health, nutrition, pharmacology and paediatric care. Over 690 full text titles and 4,000 dissertations in Psychology cover a range of related fields of study, including genetics, psychology of business and economics, criminology, addiction, neurology and social welfare. 'Until the library started,' says Kjell, 'only the big teaching

'WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO IS PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE SERVICES FOR THE MONEY THAT WE HAVE AND PROQUEST HAS SERVED US REALLY WELL THROUGH THE YEARS.'

hospitals had access to a wide variety of information. Outside the university cities, hospitals would have perhaps a few subscriptions. Access to research information was limited. Now they can read thousands of journals.'

For Kjell, the character of Norway itself is part of what makes the Helsebiblioteket so important. 'As a country,' he says 'we have a lot of small communities, a lot of mountains and fjords, so people don't have easy communications with the outside world. But we now have internet access almost everywhere.'

'WE WANT OUR MONEY TO BUY THE BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE FOR OUR USERS.'

Healthcare professionals, academic staff and students can access ProQuest content from anywhere in Norway, using a username and password. 'It's the big journals that are most popular, the ones with a high impact factor. It's really those you would predict that get the highest usage.' Titles include, *New England Journal of Medicine; the Lancet* and *Clinical Chemistry*. Article content is further enriched by deep-indexed, searchable images; charts, diagrams, graphs, tables, photographs, and other graphical elements essential to medical research.

'A VALUABLE RANGE OF JOURNALS FOR PRICE WE PAY FOR THE PACKAGE.'

For professionals, access to a wide breadth of information is important for their continued personal development. 'The usage for the journals packages is pretty high, so what professionals find there is clearly useful, because they continue to use it,' says Kjell. 'There's no other way we could provide access to thousands of journals. What we're trying to do is provide the best possible services for the money that we have and ProQuest has served us really well through the years.'

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- *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing & Mental Health Services*
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PQ Nursing and Allied Health Source includes CultureGrams World and Province Edition, a set of cultural reports covering over 200 countries with diverse ethnicities and religions. Crucial to providing quality healthcare the reports deliver invaluable resources for the diagnosis and treatment of patients with respect to their beliefs and practices.

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