

Building a Partnership with an Editor in Publishing a Special Series

Connie Wong, MLIS, DVM¹, Rebecca A. Aslakson, MD, PhD²

¹Lane Medical Library, Stanford Medicine, Stanford, CA ²Departments of Medicine & Anesthesiology, Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA

Background

The Journal of Pain and Symptom Management (JPSM) is a monthly, international peer-reviewed journal and is the official journal of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM). Dr. Aslakson is a member of the editorial board of the JPSM, the chair of the AAHPM Research Committee, and the editor of the JPSM Special Series “Science in Action: Evidence and opportunities for palliative care across diverse populations and care settings”.

The Special Series is comprised of approximately ten systematic reviews (SRs) exploring the evidence surrounding opportunities and/or effectiveness of palliative care in specific populations. Each review must have a member of the AAHPM research committee as part of the review team and team members span diverse disciplines including; emergency medicine, oncology, cardiology, anesthesiology, surgery, palliative medicine, pulmonary & critical care medicine, neurology, hematology, general medicine and biomedical informatics.

Involvement of medical librarians is essential for high quality systematic reviews. Thus, Dr. Aslakson invited a liaison librarian from Lane Library’s literature search service to collaborate with co-authorship.

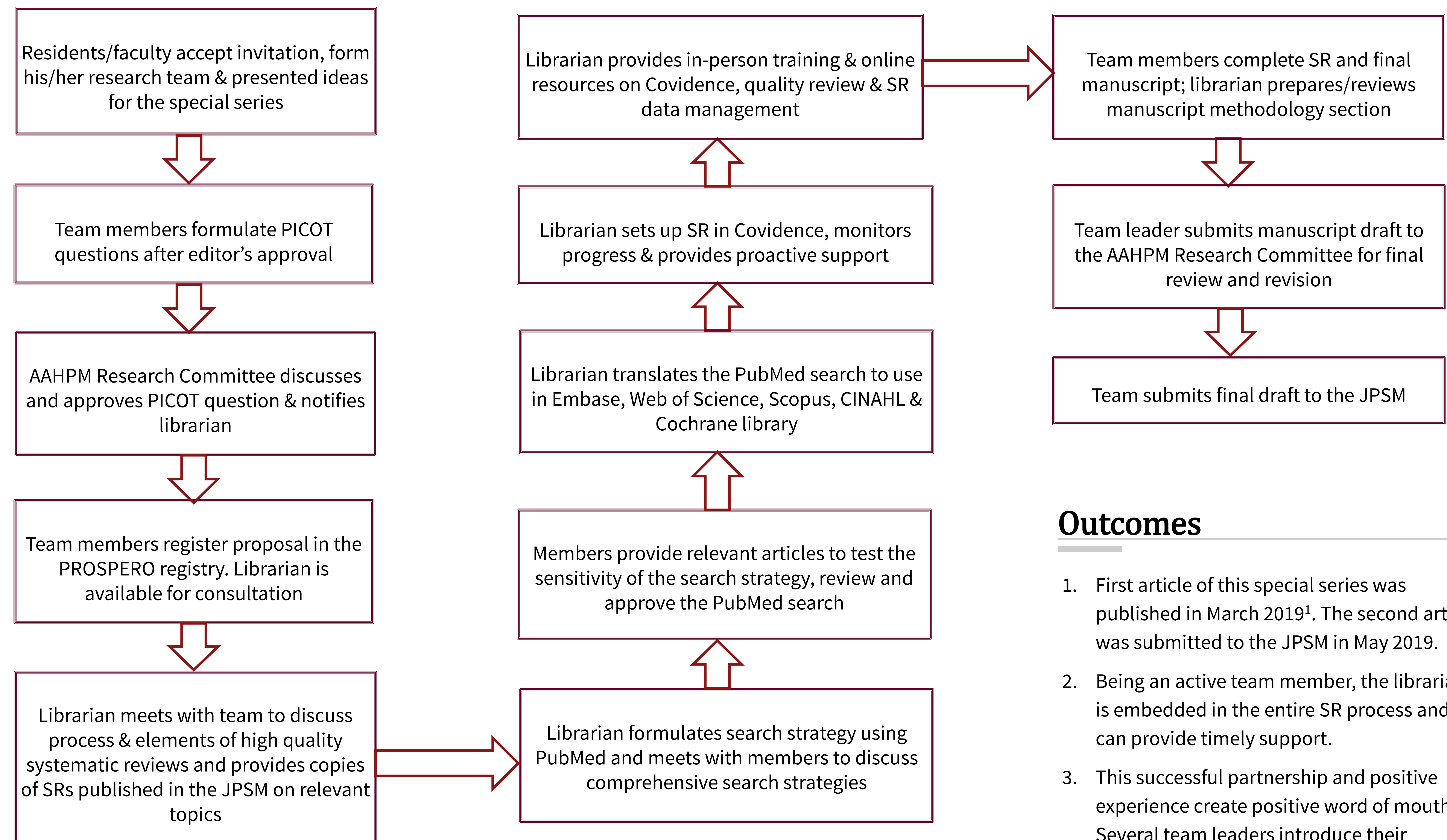
Literature Search Service

Lane Medical Library offers a literature search service for current members of the Stanford Medicine community. The interested party submits a literature search request form, which contains questions pertaining to the proposed project, and prompts users to complete a PICO question, determine protocol and add examples of relevant articles. Librarians reach out to set up an initial consultation meeting within 2 working days of receiving the form.

<http://lane.stanford.edu/using-lib/lit-search-service.html>

JPSM Special Series – Publication Work-flow

Other than the Series Editor and the librarian, no participants had previously conducted a systematic review. To support the completion of this series, the editor partnered with the librarian, to develop a work-flow to facilitate good methodologic rigor for systematic reviews.



Outcomes

1. First article of this special series was published in March 2019¹. The second article was submitted to the JPSM in May 2019.
2. Being an active team member, the librarian is embedded in the entire SR process and can provide timely support.
3. This successful partnership and positive experience create positive word of mouth. Several team leaders introduce their colleague to the librarian. A new SR project is scheduled to start in mid-June.

1. Hall, E. T., Singhal, S., Dickerson, J., Gabster, B., Wong, H.-N., Aslakson, R. A., & Schapira, L. (2019). Patient-Reported Outcomes for Cancer Patients Receiving Checkpoint Inhibitors: Opportunities for Palliative Care-A Systematic Review. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpainsymman.2019.03.015>

