

Library and Information Services

The Thieme E-Book Library – trial report

1. Introduction

Epsom and St Helier Library and Information Services ran a trial during the month of December 2016.

2. What is the Thieme E-Book Library?

The Thieme E-Book Library is a collection of illustrated colour atlases and flexibooks. It is a wonderful resource for learning, research and review in medicine and the life sciences. You can download any book in the collection directly to your mobile device (Android or iPad) or personal computer to view offline if and when you do not have Internet access.

You can set up profiles and personalise your account by centrally managing your bookmarks and notes. Once logged in you can print content directly, or download and print full chapters.

3. How is it accessed?

This resource is OpenAthens authenticated and during the trial it was accessed from the e-resources page (www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk/electronic-resources) on the Library website from inside or outside the Trust. You needed to scroll to the Electronic resources trials section to access the resource.

4. Subscription or perpetual purchase?

The collection would be available on an annual subscription basis.

5. Marketing and promotion of the trial

- Resource of the month card (via the Library website)
- Promotion via eUpdate (the Trust's biweekly electronic newsletter)
- Library website
- Evaluation via the library website and also usage statistics sent to the Library from Thieme Publishing Group
- Thieme booklets with access information on stickers

- Targeted emails to medical students
- Mail merge to all registered members of the Library and Epsom and St Helier OpenAthens registrants.

6. Results of the trial

- Well over 100 people accessed the books during the trial. To evaluate electronic resources that we subscribe to and establish whether we should renew the resource or not we use a measure called the cost per download metric.

Cost per download (CPeD). This is calculated by:

$$\text{CPeD} = \frac{\text{Cost of the journal/resource for the forthcoming year}}{\text{Downloads of the previous year}}$$

The cost per download needs to be under £10.25 (this is how much it costs to request a British Library article) to ensure that the resource is purchased and/or renewed. The CPeD value for the Thieme books was £3.60 therefore it made it a cost effective resource to purchase.

Despite the good usage the Survey Monkey evaluation form was not completed by anybody accessing the trial.

7. Discussion and conclusion

Due to the good usage of the resource during the trial, Epsom and St Helier Library and Information Services purchased this resource.

You can access the resource via the [Electronic books](#) section of the webpage and also via the [Library catalogue](#).