



## About the Institute

### Joanna Briggs Institute history

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#### Introduction

The move towards evidence-based practice began more than thirty years ago. The beginning of the movement as far as medicine is concerned is largely due to the efforts of Archibald Cochrane (1901-88), a Scotsman who was a physician and epidemiologist. Cochrane was the first to recognise that the results of research would be more likely to influence clinical practice if they could be systematically reviewed and if well-founded findings could be aggregated.

#### Seeds of an idea

For Alan Pearson, the journey towards the establishment of the Joanna Briggs Institute started long before the advent of the 'evidence-based movement'. It began while he was still working as a clinician on the wards in the United Kingdom, inspired by philosophies that linked research with practice and drove changes to nursing practice. The Joanna Briggs Institute was founded on the premise that an evidence base for nursing practice was essential, but that it was important to also develop strategies for the effective dissemination and implementation of that information in practice. The Institute was initiated with funds granted by the [Royal Adelaide Hospital](http://www.rah.sa.gov.au/homepage.php) < <http://www.rah.sa.gov.au/homepage.php>> Research Foundation and today remains affiliated with both the hospital and [the University of Adelaide](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/) < <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/>>.

**Name** – Joanna Briggs was the first matron of Royal Adelaide Hospital. As the Institute is located at the hospital and had an original focus on nursing, it seemed fitting and appropriate to name it after an individual who had been involved in the hospital.

**Logo** –the JBI logo is a pebble dropping into water. It is a metaphor for the process of knowledge sharing and practice change and how a single act or piece of information can be a powerful catalyst for continuous change.

#### The Joanna Briggs Collaboration

International collaboration and forging global partnerships has always been at the forefront of the Joanna Briggs Institute remit. The importance of the Collaboration to the Institute cannot be underestimated. It plays a central role in the Institute's evidence synthesis program and in achievement of its mission to promote evidence-based practice globally.

Find out more about the [Joanna Briggs Collaboration](http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/about/collaboration.php).

<<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/about/collaboration.php>>



## Emerging methodologies

Continual innovation and reinvention are paramount to the Institute's desire to meet industry demands. The philosophies underlying the Institute's methodological direction are founded in the need to draw academia and practice closer together and to be inclusive of all forms of evidence. Several unique resources have already been developed by the Institute in an effort to achieve that end, including software to appraise and summarise both qualitative and quantitative research.

Find out more about the [Cochrane Qualitative Research Methods Group](#).

<<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/cqrmg/>>

Find out more about JBI resources for [critical appraisal](#).

<<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/services/rapid.php>>

Find out more about JBI resources for conducting [systematic reviews](#).

<<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/services/sumari.php>>

## Innovation for improved practice

The Institute has always placed importance on assisting clinicians at the bedside to access, appraise and use evidence to inform their clinical decision. In doing so, they have developed initiatives aimed at helping clinicians to think critically through appraisal and embed evidence-based clinical information in their organisational systems and to evaluate and change practice.

Find out more about JBI resources to assist with [clinical audit and practice change](#).

<<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/paces/index.php>>

Find out more about JBI resources to assist with tracking [prevalence data](#).

<<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/pool/login.php>>

## Making evidence meaningful

The Institute has developed a distinctive approach to the systematic review of research evidence, but it also considers the transfer and utilisation of this evidence in clinical decision-making to be equally important. It remains one of the only organisations of its kind in the world to address all components in the evidence-based process. In adopting this all-round approach it attempts to ensure the movement has meaning for its constituency.



Find out more about JBI [Education and Training](#).

<[http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/services/educ\\_and\\_training.php](http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/services/educ_and_training.php)>

## **Back to the future**

The journey has sometimes been a struggle but it has been one of incredible progress. The Joanna Briggs Institute is an internationally recognised leader in the evidence-based movement. The Institute and the Collaborating Centres are now at the forefront of cultural change in the health care industry and the health professions.

For more information about the history of the Joanna Briggs Institute, please see:

Jordan, Z., Donnelly, P and Pittman, E (2006) A short history of a big idea: The Joanna Briggs Institute 1996 – 2006, *Ausmed Publications*, Melbourne, Australia

Available at:

<<http://ausmed.com.au/publications/displaybook.php?id=44>>