

# Online journal access available for members

Medical e-journals are now available free of charge from the ICGP Library and Information Service, write Gillian Doran and Patricia Patton



**ONLINE ACCESS** to a large journal collection via the ICGP A-Z Journal Portal has recently been launched by the College Library and Information Service. This is another innovative and significant benefit for members. It will allow access to quality information any time from members' surgeries or homes. Journals that are now available online at [www.icgp.ie/library](http://www.icgp.ie/library) include key journals of interest to GPs such as the *British Medical Journal*, *Drugs and Therapeutics Bulletin* and *British Journal of General Practice*.

## What this service means for ICGP members

There are several practical benefits to the new service:

- Access to good quality research articles from peer-reviewed journals relevant to general practice. This will be useful for education, research and professional competence purposes. It will allow you to keep up-to-date with new developments and current research
- Access available at any time from your own desktop when you need it
- Access to a larger selection of titles than you could get individually
- Journals available that you may have been previously unaware of
- From April 2013, members have the potential to save money by cancelling personal subscriptions to journals supplied via the ICGP.

## How to access the ICGP A-Z Journal Portal

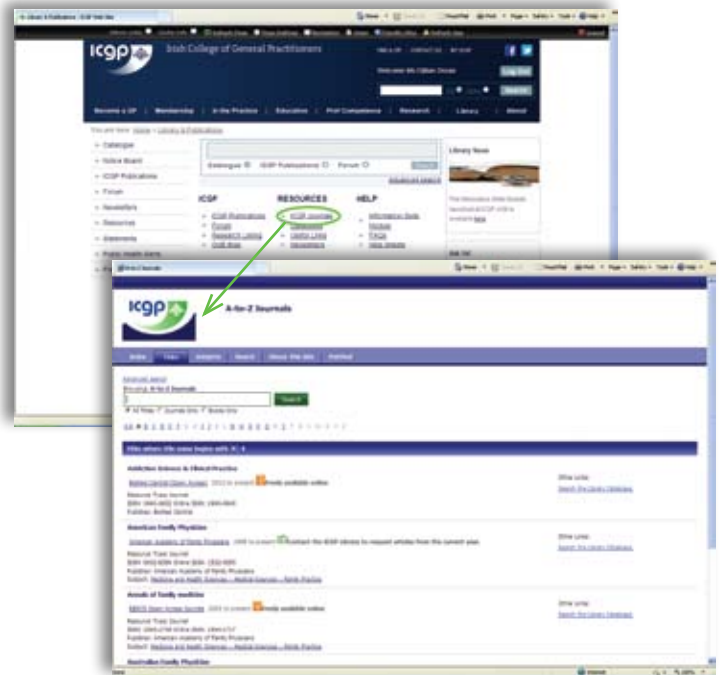
Your ID and PIN are required in order to access the online journals. This new online portal will allow you to browse and download articles from both current and back issues of many journals at your convenience.

The following online guide is essential reading, *Guide to ICGP A-Z Journals Portal*, which is accessible on the College website under the Library/Resources section at [www.icgp.ie/go/library/resources](http://www.icgp.ie/go/library/resources) – click ICGP Journals.

*Note: We find it best to use an up-to-date web browser such as Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome for this service.*

## How to best use the ICGP A-Z Journal Portal

- Search for and locate the articles via PubMed or GoogleScholar. Or alternatively if there is a journal or a few journals that you like to keep up-to-date with then you could sign up for the individual journal website table of contents alerts by email to see what has been published
- Check if the ICGP has the journal available using the new A-Z
- Link out to the journal and print off the article
- If the journal is not available via the ICGP, we offer an inter-library loan service



- If you encounter any problems with access or locating the information, contact us at [library@icgp.ie](mailto:library@icgp.ie) and let us help.

*Note: Some journals require additional passwords (in addition to your ID and PIN). These are the Irish Journal of Medical Science and New Zealand Medical Journal. The additional username/passwords are listed beside the individual journal titles.*

We are aware that some members may be uncomfortable with the online environment and for all members there will be a learning curve involved. We are here to help you navigate this new environment by providing support, guidance and training in the form of information and user demonstrations. If you would prefer to still avail of our traditional article request facility, that will still be available. If the journal you require is not available, we provide an inter-library loan service. We also offer a literature search service to help you find relevant articles on your topic. We hope that you will find the new portal easy to use and that it will be of great benefit to all our members throughout the country.

If you have any feedback, please contact us at Email: [library@icgp.ie](mailto:library@icgp.ie)

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