Hilda Bastian

Hilda Bastian works at the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda. She is responsible for improving accessibility and usability of National Library of Medicine (NLM) resources based on systematic reviews, particularly the development of PubMed Health, a new NLM website.

Before moving to the US, Hilda was the Head of the Health Information Department at the German Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG) in Cologne, producing a bilingual evidence-based website for patients and consumers. Prior to that, she had been a health consumer advocate in Australia and internationally for over 20 years. She was the Chairperson for several years of the Consumers’ Health Forum of Australia (the national coalition of community and patient organisations that represents patients and the public in health care).

Hilda was one of the founding members of the Cochrane Collaboration and the first Coordinator of its Consumer Network and the first Coordinating Editor of the Cochrane Review Group on Consumers and Communication. She began the system of synopses – now called plain language summaries – for Cochrane reviews, and has been summarizing the results of systematic reviews for over 25 years.