

### Conclusion

Decision-making in collection care involves many considerations. Condition and material integrity, meaning, values and significance, accessibility, use and functionality, popularity, available funding, time and expertise, opportunity and spin-offs all play a role. Cost-effectiveness analysis adds rational considerations to the decision-making process, which in times of limited financial resources is much needed. The QALY approach is one way of looking at effectiveness of options to reduce risks. Application in case studies shows that it is a very useful addition to decision-making within collection management.

Obviously, as appreciation of collections changes over time, so does the significance attributed to them and their popularity and hence the requirement to have the collections accessible. Significance, risks, accessibility and collection quality need to be reassessed on a regular basis. Also, when setting a more distant time horizon, options that enhance life expectancy rather than current accessibility may be favourable.

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