

## Evidence Base Tools for Assistive Technology

The evidence base for Assistive Technology is small, disparate and difficult to utilise. A number of (free) tools are presented to help manage and develop the Assistive Technology evidence base.



The assistech WIKI is an extension of the popular assistech mailing list – a key information source on Assistive Technology. [www.assistech.org.uk](http://www.assistech.org.uk)

A WIKI allows information to be disseminated and 'peer edited' – anyone registered on the site can contribute and edit any page on the site. In this way information evolves and develops as people contribute information. The assistech WIKI is designed to be used for two main objectives:

- Evidence Base – an area describing and reporting research and evidence within the field. In this area you can: learn how to access evidence base tools; read and publish literature searches; discuss and review evidence; brainstorm, develop and publish research areas; document evidence on aspects of the field.
- Experience Base – much evidence within the Assistive Technology field is contained in experience. With the assistech mailing list this experience is transferred but then 'lost'. The Wiki offers somewhere this experience can be stored, peer reviewed and developed.

**CiteULike** CiteULike is a new way of managing your literature – as you are browsing papers you can store a paper citation as easily as adding a bookmark. [www.citeUlike.org.uk](http://www.citeUlike.org.uk)

CiteULike is more than just your personal research library:

- 'tag' papers into categories
- add your own comments on papers
- allow others to see your library
- join the Assistive Technology group (help develop the AT evidence base).

Using CiteULike and other tools is documented on the assistech wiki.

**Simon Judge**

[simon.judge@sbpct.nhs.uk](mailto:simon.judge@sbpct.nhs.uk)

**Aejaz Zahid**

[Aejaz.Zahid@bhnft.nhs.uk](mailto:Aejaz.Zahid@bhnft.nhs.uk)