



INTRODUCING EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE TO UNIVERSITIES AND TEACHING HOSPITALS IN CHINA

Since its inception in 1998, China Academic Library Information System (CALIS) has become the most important academic library consortium in China. It currently consists of 13 management or information centres and serves 600 member libraries and their 700,000 students.

CALIS is a nationwide academic library consortium, funded primarily by the Government of China under the auspices of the Ministry of Education. The mission of CALIS is to promote, maintain and improve library resource-sharing among Chinese universities, between academic libraries and other libraries and information institutions.

In response to the Chinese Government's effort to develop and upgrade infrastructure in the economically-deprived regions in western China, Thomson Reuters works with CALIS to provide a service to more than 20 universities and hospitals in 13 provinces within the region. Each facility is able to select which specific areas of evidence-based information it wishes to use, from drug, disease, toxicology, complementary and alternative therapies and patient education.

Professor Yin Yuan, Vice Director of CALIS consortium and the Director of Library and Information System, Beijing Medical University (BJMU) believes that "Thomson Reuters is an important resource for the teaching and research of evidence-based medicine in universities in China as well as a valuable clinical decision support tool for diagnosis and treatment in university-affiliated teaching hospitals."

The 13 provinces and autonomous regions involved in this agreement are Ningxia, Sichuan, Gansu, Yunnan, Guizhou, Guangxi, Nei Monggu (Inner Mongolia), Qinghai, Shaanxi, Xinjiang, Xizang (Tibet) and Chongqing Municipality.