

# Information Practices in Professional Life

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## Abstract

This keynote is about information practices in professional life as a way of making social aspects of information seeking and use explicit. In particular, the keynote focuses on how professionals' activities in relation to information artefacts, as well as the artefacts in themselves, are socially constructed in context-bound practices. Arguments in favour of an interest in peoples' information practices rather than in their information seeking and use seen as a cognitive phenomenon are put forward. The LIS concept of cognitive authority is used in relation to the epistemological position of pragmatism. Examples will primarily be given from the authors' empirical research on nurses. The presentation concludes with a call for an increased interest in the material aspects of information seeking and use by giving examples of some important research questions for the future.