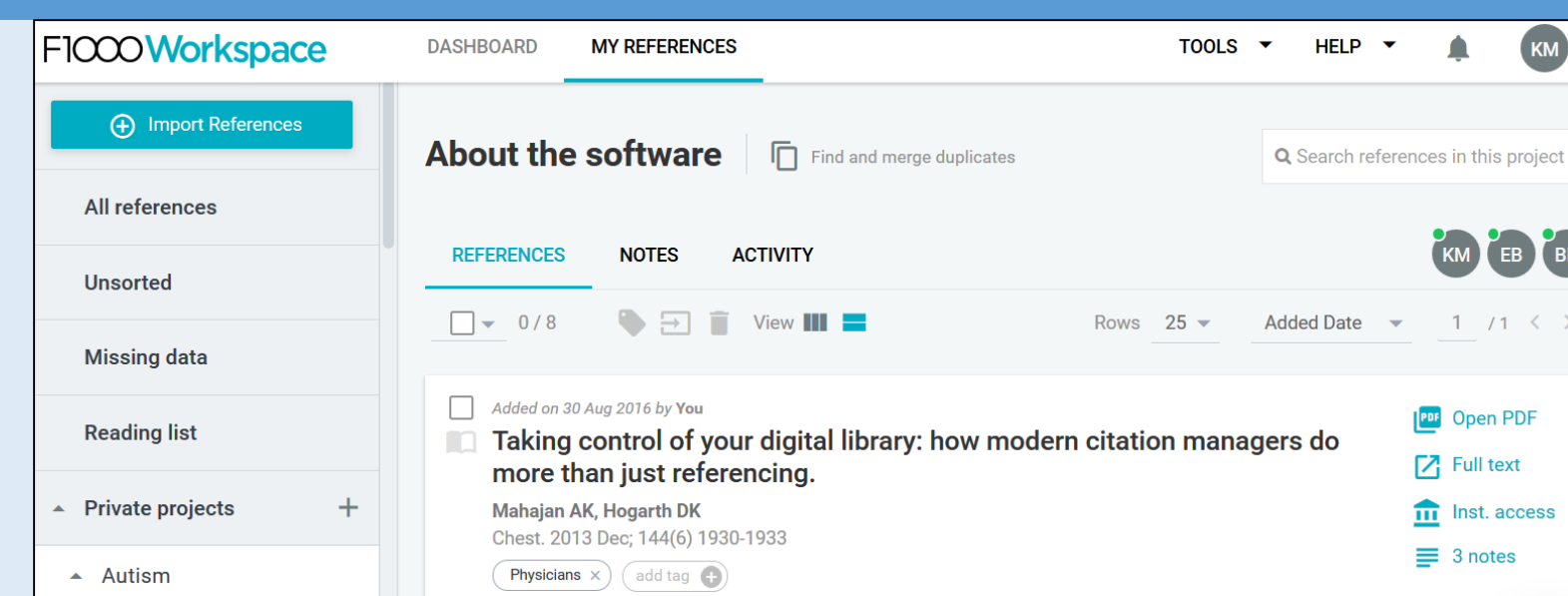# Dreaming of the Perfect Fit
A Structured Evaluation of Four Reference Management Tools
Supporting Collaborative Research

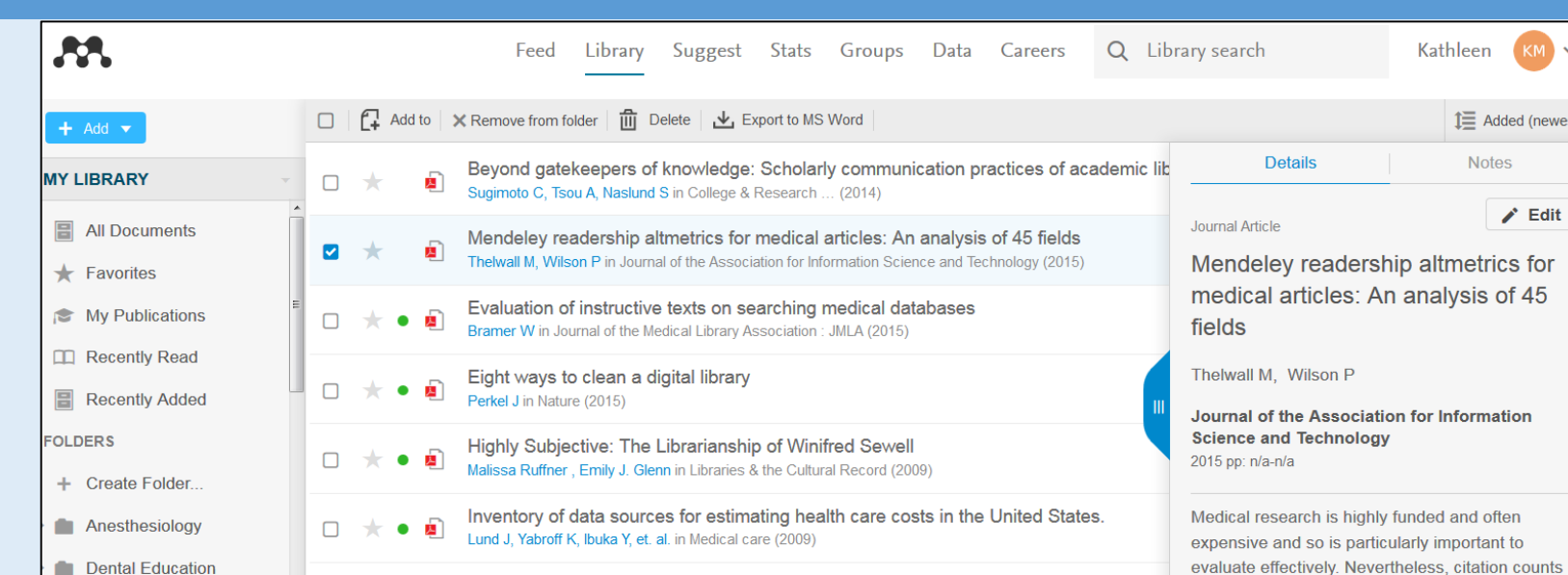UNC HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

Erica R. Brody, Kathleen A. McGraw, Barbara Rochen Renner
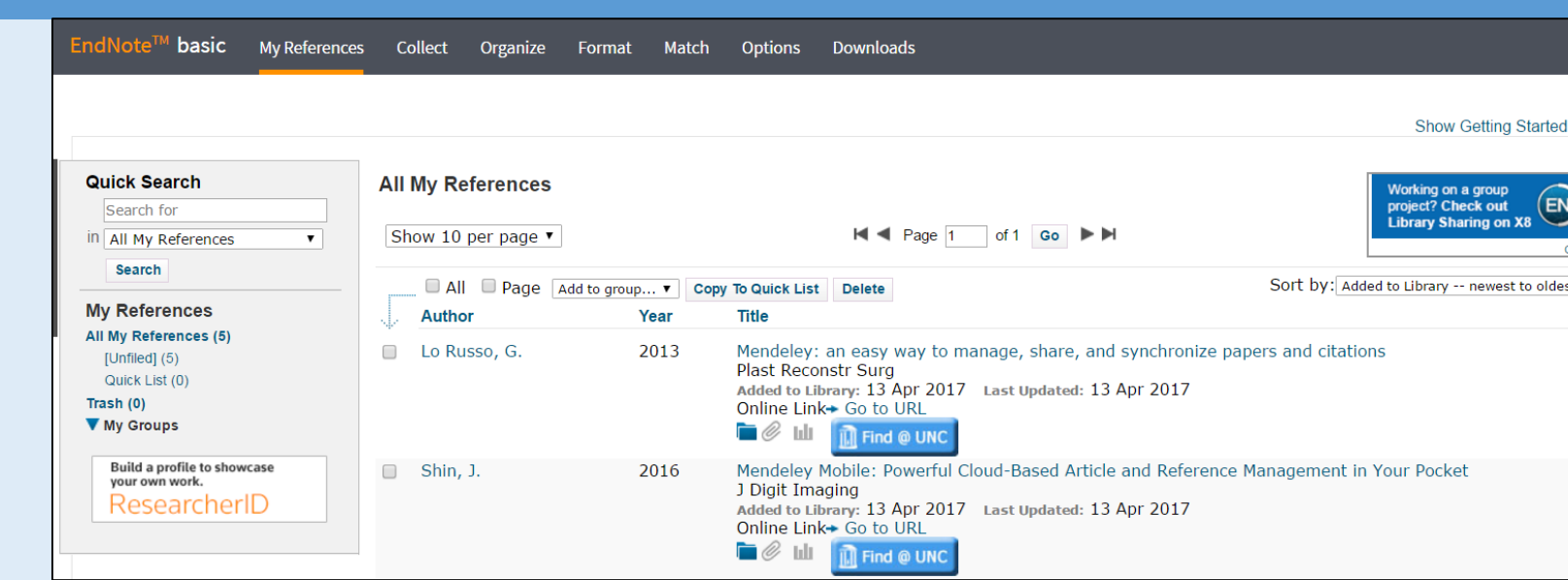
F1000 Workspace: web only

- F1000 Prime institutional subscriptions include free Workspace. Without F1000 Prime, individual subscriptions $9.95 a month / $300 a year for labs.
- Unlimited storage space.
- Unlimited number of shared projects with unlimited membership per project.
- **Unique feature**: Collaborate on Word manuscripts with version control and shared comments.

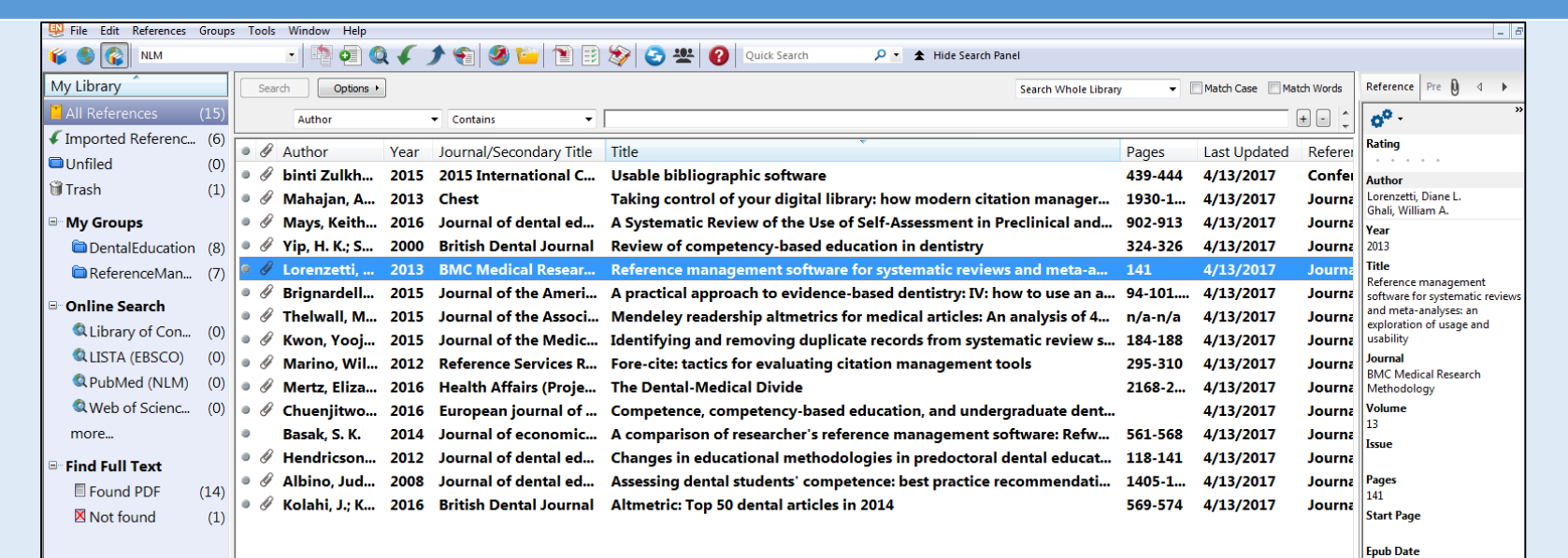## Mendeley: desktop & web

- Free basic Mendeley account can be upgraded via premium plans or through the Institutional Edition.
- Free has 2 GB storage. Upgrade has 5GB personal and 20 GB group.
- Free has 1 private shared group with 3 members. Upgrade has unlimited number of shared groups with up to 25 members each.

EndNote Basic: web only

- Free accounts for anyone via EndNote website.
- Store up 50,000 references and 2 GB of attachments.
- Privately share unlimited groups.
- **Unique limit:** Limited predefined bibliographic styles. F1000W, Mendeley, and EndNote Desktop have 6000+ styles available.

EndNote: desktop & web

- Software is purchased individually. Institutions negotiate licenses or a discounted price.
- Unlimited storage space.
- Share 1 full library with up to 100 users OR share groups within 1 library with different users.
- **Unique feature**: Relatively easy to edit or create styles.

Import / Export Options	Desktop PDF auto import folder	Web importer tool grabs open PDF	Imported PDF with DOI creates citation	PMID imports or verifies citation	Web importer tool grabs database citations	Import / export RIS, BIB, EndNote XML	Search databases	Export for Excel import	Search and retrieve full-text for multiple citations
F1000W	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✖ PubMed in Word	✔	✖
Mendeley	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✖ Mendeley Catalog	✖	✖
EndNote Basic	✖	✖	✖	✔ Search	✔	✔	✔	✔	✖
EndNote Desktop	✔	✖	✔	✔ Search	✔	✔	✔	✖	✔

Use Case: Public Health Graduate Students

User Needs	F1000W	Mendeley	EndNote-B	EndNote-D
Auto citation data for grey lit PDFs	✖ Manual	✖ Manual	✖ Manual	✖ Manual
Auto citation data for books	✔ ISBN import	✖ Import RIS file	✔ Search	✔ Search
Cite in Google Docs	✔	✖	✖	✖
Link to institutional access	✔	✖	✔	✖ Global find full-text

Use Case: Medical Residents

User Needs	F1000W	Mendeley	EndNote-B	EndNote-D
Mobile access	✔ Browser & app	✔ Browser & app	✖ Browser	✖ Browser
Send PDF from Browzine	✖	✔ To app	✔	✔ To web library
Access after leaving institution	✖ Keep existing content. Switch institutions or subscribe.	✔ Basic	✔ Not associated with an institution	✔ Not associated with an institution

Use Case: Research Lab Team

User Needs	F1000W	Mendeley	EndNote-B	EndNote-D
"Find Full-Text" for citations imported from search alerts	✖ One at a time	✖ Some	✖	✔ Global find full-text
Multiple layers of subfolders	✖ Only one	✔ Unlimited	✖ No subfolders	✖ No subfolders
Word manuscript collaboration with version control	✔	✖	✖	✖
Suggest related articles	✔ For projects	✔ For library	✖	✖
Use during international travel when web access is limited	✖	✔ Desktop	✖	✔ Desktop

Use Case: Systematic Review Team

User Needs	F1000W	Mendeley	EndNote-B	EndNote-D
Ingest large result sets	✔ File Import	✔ File Import	✔ File Import	✔ File Import
	Note: Very large files take longer to load to (and sync with) web versions..			
Deduplication	✔ Subprojects merged into main	✔ Subfolders merged by top folder	✔ Identifies potential duplicates	✔ Identifies potential duplicates
Tags	✔ Across all projects. Private.	✔ Specific to folders. Shared.	✖ No tags	✖ No tags
Identified Notes	✔ Private or shared	✔ Shared in groups	✖ Notes field	✖ Notes field
Export to Excel	✔	✖	✔	✖ Edit export style