# Community Strategic Session

2018 Governance Meetings
13:30-17:00, 21 March 2018,
Lisbon

# CRG Networks and the Cochrane Community: Working better together

At its meeting in Cape Town, in September 2017, Cochrane's Governing Board approved the Cochrane Review Group (CRG) Transformation Programme Implementation Plan. This plan sets out the changes we will be making to ensure Cochrane addresses the challenges it faces in relation to the production of a comprehensive collection of timely, high-quality Cochrane Reviews, relevant to our stakeholders.

Within the first three months of 2018, we have seen the formation of our eight thematic CRG Networks, which will comprehensively cover all healthcare topics. The new CRG Networks provide an opportunity to optimize resources, support and leadership.

During the Strategic Session we welcome the Cochrane community to come together and discuss key objectives for CRG Networks in 2018, focusing on priority-setting; improving consistency in review quality; innovations; and support and mentoring for authors, CRGs, and Networks. The session will be a genuine opportunity to influence the decisions and direction taken for the Networks in 2018.

Following the Governance Meetings, there will be a series of CRG Network webinars with an invitation to the wider community to ensure that all Cochrane's contributors are aware of the plans for 2018.

**David Tovey and Karla Soares-Weiser**
Editor in Chief and Deputy Editor in Chief
Cochrane Editorial & Methods Department

# Aim of the session:

**Working better together:** how can the Cochrane Community support the new CRG Networks in achieving their priorities in the first year?

**Priorities for the CRG Networks:**
Networks will need to consider the **prioritization** of topics within their scope. This will ensure that the reviews which a Network produces are those that are most important to stakeholders. Each CRG will be encouraged to actively prioritize its reviews; the Network may adopt common or shared approaches to the selection of review topics.

Working together, under the leadership of the **Senior Editor** and supported by organizational investment in editorial, management, training, and general structures, the CRGs within a Network will ensure the **consistent quality** of their outputs and the **efficiency** of their editorial processes.

Networks provide an opportunity to foster systems that can **innovate** and scale up changes reliably. Networks may also **advocate for learning programmes** that meet the specific needs of their CRGs more effectively. CRGs will work with others in their Networks – and when appropriate, with other Networks – to ensure maximum **impact** for their reviews. Senior Editors will be encouraged to work with CRGs within a Network to seek opportunities to undertake joint funding applications and advocacy activities where appropriate.

# Agenda:

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| 13:30-14:30 | **Introducing the CRG Networks to the Community** | |
| | Welcome message | *David Tovey* |
| | A message from Network Senior Editors | *Senior Editors* |
| | Update on the CRG Transformation Programme | *Karla Soares-Weiser* |
| | Preparation for the Small Group work | *Introductions to the small group work* |
| 14:30-15:30 | **Small group work:** Considering the proposal and tasks below | |
| **15:30-16:00** | **Coffee break** | |
| 16:00-17:00 | Structured group feedback from facilitators and discussion | |
| | Close of session: conclusions and next steps | *David Tovey* |

**Small Group Work**

Each gmall group will discuss a specific topic and will be facilitated by member of the Cochrane Council and Central Executive Team (CET). The small group work will run for one hour, starting with a brief update from the CET member of any work already done on the topic, and what are the challenges we face.

Each group will nominate a spokesperson to provide feedback of the three most important points from the group's discussion (circa 5 mins each, using a Powerpoint presentation template provided in advance). A detailed report of the discussions will be collated and circulated after the meeting.

**Engagement through social media during the session**

Questions being considered in the small group work will be 'tweeted' from Cochrane's account for those not attending to be able to contribute to the discussion using #cochranelisbon. Responses will be gathered and fed into the overall discussions.

The key topics for discussion, facilitators, and outputs are outlined below:

| | Small Group 1 | Small Group 2 | Small Group 3 | Small Group 4 | Small Group 5 | Small Group 6 | Small Group 7 | Small Group 8 | Small Group 9 |
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| **Topic** | **Prioritization** | **Innovation and scaling up** | **Support and mentoring** | **Content Strategy** | **Fast Track Services** | **Producing complex reviews** | **Early screening of priority reviews** | **Network Support Fellows (NIHR)** | **Cochrane new ecosystem and standardized workflow** |
| **Description** | How can Networks increase the relevance of Cochrane Reviews to stakeholders? | ***Blue-sky thinking!*** What ideas do you have for pilot projects to advance different aspects of Cochrane review production? | How can Centres, Fields and Methods Groups work with Networks in establishing 'real-time' support for author teams, CRGs and Networks? | What new review types could be produced, or other data incorporated into Cochrane Reviews? | Would a 'Fast Track Service' support reviews produced by Fields? Can we attract senior authors by providing a Fast Track Service to support editorial process? | What are the key challenges for the production of complex reviews in Cochrane? How can support be provided? | Network Associate Editors to present the **screening triage tool** and their plans to support early screening of reviews, at the protocol stage. | In support to Networks, the UK's NIHR has committed to funding one fellow per Network. These are new posts, and we are looking for suggestions of the key areas and specific tasks that these fellows should do to support CRGs work. | How should Networks implement the new standard review production workflow? What support could be provided by the wider Cochrane community? |
| **Cochrane community** | Of particular interest to staff of all Group-types | Of particular interest to staff of all Group-types | Of particular interest to staff of Centres and CRGs | Of particular interest to staff of Methods Groups and CRGs | Of particular interest to staff of Fields, Methods Groups and CRGs | Of particular interest to staff of Methods Groups and CRGs | Of particular interest to staff of Centres, Fields and CRGs | Of particular interest to staff of CRGs | Of particular interest to staff of all Group-types |
| **Facilitators** | Sylvia de Haan (CET) | Charlotte Pestridge (CET) | Chris Champion (CET) | Jo Anthony (CET) | Nicole Skoetz (Senior Editor) | Newton Opyio (CET) | Nuala Livingstone (CET) | Toby Lasserson (CET) | Chris Mavergames (CET) |

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| **Topic** | Prioritization | Innovation and scaling up | Support and mentoring | Content Strategy | Fast Track Services | Producing complex reviews | Early screening of priority reviews | Network Support Fellows (NIHR) | Cochrane new ecosystem and standardized workflow |
|  | Celeste Naude (Council)<br><br>Erik von Elm (Council) | Graziella Filippini (Council)<br><br>Susan Wieland (Council) | Julie Brown (Council) | Miranda Langendam (Council)<br><br>Joy Oliver (Council) | Liz Bickerdike (CET)<br><br>Yemisi Takwoingi (Council) | Fergus Macbeth (Council) | Maria Ximena (Council)<br><br>Elizabeth Stovold (Council) | Gail Quinn (Council) | Gert van Valkenhoef (CET)<br><br>Rene Spijker (Council) |
| **Outputs** | Suggestions for approaches to making Cochrane Reviews more relevant to key stakeholders, to inform the new prioritization toolkit being developed under the Knowledge Translation Implementation Plan | Ideas that could be implemented at the Network level, dealing with review production, publication and knowledge translation. | 'Real time' approaches to supporting Networks for implementation in 2018. | Suggestions for the key review types and data-types that the Content Strategy should prioritise in 2018. | Ideas for how the Fast-Track Service can support CRGs and Networks in their review production. An assessment of the pitfalls of the current proposal and the key challenges for editorial process faced by CRGs. | Thinking of our end-users, suggestions for the type of complex reviews that Cochrane should prioritise for implementation in 2018; and the challenges and solutions for implementation. | Suggestions for the key steps needed to increase consistency in our review production and ideas for tailored training. | Suggestions for areas of work for the new NIHR Network Support Fellows | Suggestions for how the standard workflow should be implemented by Networks and resources needed to make it happen. |