



Centre and Fields Digest



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 20th edition of the Centre & Fields Digest.

The Digest provides information particularly relevant to Cochrane's Geographic Groups and Fields, including consumers, and will include a round-up of pertinent information also published in the Community newsletter and on the Cochrane websites. It is the sister publication to the [Review and Methods Digest](#) published by the Cochrane Editorial Unit, which is sent to CRGs and Methods Groups.

Please note that Group staff and contributors are not automatically added to the email lists receiving this Digest and other official Cochrane emails, even if they have been added to the Archie database. Staff at Centres and Fields should ensure new colleagues are signed-up to receive emails through the Cochrane email lists by contacting admin@cochrane.org.

ITEMS FOR YOUR ACTION:

1) Sponsored Group registration for the Global Evidence Summit 2017 – STRICT DEADLINE 1 June 2017

Sponsored registration for one person from **each Cochrane Group** to attend Cochrane Colloquia has been extended to **Associate Centres** and **Satellites of Cochrane Review Groups**. This also applies to the [Global Evidence Summit](#) in Cape Town, from 13-16 September 2017, which this year replaces the normal Cochrane Colloquium.

Sponsored Group registrants will be required to pay for their own travel, accommodation, optional or additional social events tickets.

PLEASE NOTE: we will NOT accept any sponsored Group registrations after the deadline of 1 June. This is due to the Global Evidence Summit being a partner event rather than a Cochrane Colloquium, with stricter internal planning deadlines.

- For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).
- [Early bird registration](#): Register before the 30 June 2017 to get over 11% off the standard ticket price for the GES.

2) TDR stipends for knowledge managers in LMICs to attend Global Evidence Summit – deadline 15 June 2017

[TDR](#), the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases, is a global programme of scientific collaboration that helps facilitate, support and influence efforts to combat diseases of poverty. It is hosted at the World Health Organization (WHO), and is sponsored by the United Nations

Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and WHO.

TDR is offering a limited number of bursaries for researchers, policy-makers and others contributing to knowledge translation activities or evidence to policy work, preferably from Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs), preferably working with neglected tropical diseases, to attend the Global Evidence Summit.

For more information, please see the [Global Evidence Summit website](#).

3) Call for Nominations: Cochrane Governing Board members - deadline 20 June 2017

Do you want to help shape Cochrane's strategic direction and build your leadership profile? We now invite you to apply to help lead the organization to 2020 and beyond.

Due to the expiry of current terms of existing Governing Board members, we are seeking to elect and appoint:

- Two internal members
- Three external members
- One Co-Chair

You must have strong leadership skills, vision, and expertise, and be able to play a pivotal role in Cochrane's future success. You will bring high levels of personal integrity to the role and a commitment to working in a multi-cultural, geographically diverse organization. You must be able to challenge and debate constructively, whilst exemplifying mutual trust and respect for other Board members. Candidates who have not served at a board/director level before are welcome to apply.

Candidates standing to be internal members are voted on by all Cochrane members. Candidates standing to be external members or Co-Chair are appointed by the Governing Board, for ratification by all Cochrane members at the next Annual General Meeting.

For more information and details of how to nominate, please visit the [Cochrane Community Board Elections](#) page.

4) Recognizing and celebrating contributors who deliver outstanding work for Cochrane – call for nominations for Cochrane prizes and awards by 30 June 2017

Every year Cochrane awards members of its community a range of prizes that highlight high-quality methodological research through to supporting health decision-making in developing countries, and contributors who have made a significant contribution to the enhancement of female participation within our organization. The prizes and awards that are presented at the annual Colloquia will this year be awarded at the [Global Evidence Summit](#) in Cape Town, South Africa on 14 September.

Submissions to the Kenneth Warren, Chris Silagy, and Bill Silverman Prizes as well as the Anne Anderson Award are now open. You have until the 30 June 2017 to make your nominations. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

5) Would you like to host a future Cochrane Colloquium or Governance Meeting? Deadline for submissions 28 July 2017

We are looking for Cochrane Groups to host the 2020 and 2021 Cochrane Colloquia; and the 2019, 2020 and 2021 Cochrane Governance Meetings. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

6) Launch of Cochrane Sweden

Cochrane is proud to announce its newest Associate Centre, Cochrane Sweden. It is located in the city of Lund, and is affiliated with the Department of Research & Development / Section for HTA Analysis, Skåne University Hospital, in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, and with the Nordic Cochrane Centre in Copenhagen.

Cochrane Sweden will be co-ordinated and led by its new Director, Matteo Bruschetti, who will offer methodological support, mentoring, and supervision of randomized clinical trials.

For more information, please see the full press release on Cochrane.org.

7) Defining Cochrane's success - an interview with our CEO

Cochrane's Senior Management Team has recently released a document that provides the Governing Board, and the wider Cochrane community, with a definition of success for each of the *Strategy to 2020* objectives; an assessment of predicted progress by the end of 2017; and a framework for establishing the work still to be done.

This document is intended to be relevant until 2020. In the latest [Community blog](#), Mark Wilson explains the importance of defining success, and how we can all use it to shape our work priorities.

8) Cochrane's performance in numbers: January–March 2017 (Quarter 1)

Cochrane's organizational Dashboard presents our achievements in key metrics. We use it as a tool to reflect on our accomplishments on a quarterly basis.

Here are just a few highlights from Q1 2017:

- Cochrane Library use in Q1 shows a 35% year on year increase in demand.
- Cochrane Crowd now has over 5,000 members
- Covidence usage growing quickly in Cochrane, with a 206% increase in total users compared with Q1 2016

[See Cochrane's Q1 Dashboard in full.](#)

Find out more about Cochrane's organizational Targets for 2017, please see the [Cochrane Community site](#).

9) First meeting of the new Cochrane Council

A new Cochrane Council has been established to represent Cochrane's various communities and provide a forum for discussion of high-level issues that cut across all Cochrane's Groups and contributors. The Council was established as part of the 2016 Governance Restructure Project, and met for the first time at the Mid-Year Meetings in Geneva on 6 April 2017.

To read about the outcomes of the Council's first meeting in Geneva, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

10) Cochrane Learning Live - How to overcome the challenges of adverse effects

A new Cochrane Learning Live resource on 'How to overcome the challenges of adverse effects' is now available. In this series of videos, Dr Yoon Loke from Adverse Effects Methods Group covers: the differences between adverse effects and intended, beneficial effects; how to choose what adverse effects to review; and, how to synthesize data and evaluate bias when the data are so diverse.

To access this resource, please see the [Cochrane Training website](#).

11) More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [Survey round-up: May 2017](#) - Plain Language Summaries project; and Testing the AGREE-REX Tool
- [Call for applications: Cochrane Review Support Programme](#)
- [Join HIFA discussion on Systematic Reviews starting 15 May 2017](#)

Community blogs:

- [Translating evidence: Cochrane Croatia records its first podcasts](#)
- [TaskExchange Profile: Elizabeth Clearfield, regular task poster](#)

The Centre & Fields Digest is created by the Chief Executive Officer's Office. We intend to make it available approximately every two weeks and to bring together various items of content that we think will be of interest, to maximise communication and minimise inbox overload. If you wish to submit content please contact [Lucie Binder](#), Senior Advisor to the CEO. We hope that you will find the Digest interesting and informative, and also that it will provide you with opportunities for communicating your views and suggestions.

Best wishes,

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Chief Executive Officer



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