



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:admin@cochrane.org).***

#### **ITEMS FOR ACTION:**

##### **1) 2017 Financial & Resource Monitoring of Cochrane Groups**

Financial monitoring of Cochrane Groups takes place annually. Monitoring is not an audit of Groups' accounts, but a data-gathering exercise that builds a picture of Cochrane's 'financial health' year on year. It enables the Central Executive to provide information to the public about who funds Cochrane, the collective monetary cost of the organization's work, and the number of people involved in Group activities. It supports the preparation of statistics about Groups in order to benchmark operations and identify best practice. And it also identifies whether Groups are operating sustainably, highlighting any actual or potential resource issues. This is the kind of fundamental information that the Governing Board needs in order to make its strategic decisions.

All registered Cochrane Groups are required, as a condition of their involvement in the organisation, to complete the Financial Monitoring Form for their last complete financial year by Friday 3rd November 2017. This includes registered Affiliates and Satellites of Groups.

More information and a link to the reporting survey is available [here](#).

## **2) Cochrane is seeking a new generation of senior leaders for its Review Networks**

Cochrane is seeking **eight high-performing Senior Editors** to lead the new Networks of Cochrane Review Groups (CRGs).

For information on how to apply, please see this [link](#) for more details.

## **3) Cochrane's new online learning programme: the Interactive Learning Modules launched- FREE TRIAL ACCESS UNTIL EARLY NOVEMBER-**

Cochrane's Learning and Support Department is pleased to announce the launch of Cochrane Interactive Learning.

These new online learning modules will promote evidence-based decision making in healthcare globally by supporting and training authors of Cochrane Reviews and other systematic reviews of healthcare interventions.

The resource consists of nine modules providing over 10 hours of self-directed learning on the complete systematic review process for both new and experienced review authors.

Cochrane Interactive Learning was developed by Cochrane Learning and Support Department, in close collaboration with experts from Cochrane Methods Groups and e-learning partners.

The content is based on Cochrane's standard author training materials and is in accordance with the reference resources such as Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions and the Methodological Expectations of Cochrane Intervention Reviews (MECIR).

For more info, please click [here](#).

## **4) Two new Cochrane Learning Live webinars on statistical methods**

The Learning and Support Department are pleased to announce two new Cochrane Learning Live webinars, organised together with the Statistical Methods Group:

Oct 25, 09:00 UTC – 'Statistical methods for updating meta-analysis' with Dr Mark Simmonds, research fellow at the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, University of York, UK

Information and sign up can be found [here](#).

Nov 16th, 09:00 UTC – 'Common errors in meta-analysis – lessons from the Cochrane review screening programme', with Dr Kerry Dwan, Statistical Editor at the Cochrane Editorial Unit

Information and sign up can be found here. This webinar is especially aimed for editors, but will also be useful for review authors.

Also, we are announcing that the upcoming webinar 'CINeMA – Confidence in Network meta-analysis' with Georgia Salanti and Theodore Papakonstantinou (Oct 18th, 11:00 UTC) is now fully booked. However, the webinar recording will be edited and added to the archive of previous webinars, available here.

This archive includes several sessions for those with an interest in up to date statistical approaches and tools, including 'A comparison of arm-based and contrast-based approaches to network meta-analysis' and 'An argument-based approach to aggregation of evidence involving multiple outcome indicators'.

If any Methods Groups are interested in running similar sessions, the Learning and Support Department are happy to hear from them. Please email: [cwatts@cochrane.org](mailto:cwatts@cochrane.org)

#### **5) Cochrane webinars on MAGICapp platform for review authors now available online**

In these videos and slides Per Olav Vandvik from the MAGIC research and innovation programme demonstrates MAGICapp and discuss the context and importance of its development.

MAGICapp is an authoring and publication platform for guideline and evidence summaries. The platform guides authors through the different stages of planning, authoring, and publishing of high quality content.

MAGICapp makes content available to clinicians and their patients in multi-layer format, making it possible to dig as deep into the data as needed to make well-informed decisions.

You can find the videos and slides [here](#).

#### **6) Membership - Cochrane is opening its doors with a new membership program**

Membership will make it possible for anyone to 'join' Cochrane, so that being part of Cochrane is no longer limited to writing reviews or other tasks requiring specialized skills.

New clear pathways will be developed, so that anyone can get involved with a task that is suitable for them. Watch your opportunities unfold and start on a journey to greater contribution to the work of Cochrane.

For more info, please click [here](#).

**ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

## **7) Decisions from the Cochrane Governing Board meeting - Cape Town, September 2017- REMINDER**

Dear Community colleagues and members,

Your Governing Board met in Cape Town, South Africa, on 10-12 September. We are writing to you at this early stage with information about some of our key decisions. More information will be available in due course (as will the full open access minutes) but if you have any questions about these decisions, please contact one of us, any member of the Board, or Lucie Binder in the CEO's office.

For more information on all the Board decisions, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

## **8) Announcing Cochrane Colloquium Edinburgh 2018- REMINDER**

The 2018 Cochrane Colloquium will be held in Edinburgh at the International Conference Centre in Scotland from 15th to 18th September 2018. It will be hosted by Cochrane UK.

The theme of the Colloquium will be: 'Cochrane for all – better evidence for better health decisions'

This will be a Colloquium for everyone. It will welcome newcomers to Cochrane from all parts of the world and from all backgrounds. One of the key aims is to increase the involvement of patients, carers and family members (healthcare consumers) in our work. As such, the Colloquium 2018 will be a [Patients Included](#) event that is co-designed, co-produced and co-presented by healthcare consumers and where everyone's input is valued equally.

The Colloquium 2018 will focus on the key goals of Cochrane's Strategy to 2020, looking through the eyes of healthcare consumers and in partnership with them:

- Producing evidence
- Making evidence accessible
- Advocating for evidence
- Effective and sustainable organization

For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

## **9) Latest from the blogs- Peter Gøtzsche, Governing Board Member on what is it like being on the Governing Board**

Peter C. Gøtzsche, Director of the Nordic Cochrane Centre, shares his experience of being on the Cochrane Board after returning from the GES.

To access the full article, click [here](#).

## 10) Cochrane Community celebrates the first ever Global Evidence Summit

The Global Evidence Summit was the first time that Cochrane, The Campbell Collaboration, Guidelines International Network, International Society for Evidence-based Health Care, and Joanna Briggs Institute have joined forces to create this premiere event in evidence-based policy.

For highlights from the event, click [here](#).

## 11) Update on Covidence

Cochrane continues to recommend Covidence for new reviews.

The Covidence platform has had recent product updates. Significant improvements have been made to data extraction and to importing.

You can read about this and other Covidence updates [here](#).

## 12) Upcoming events and jobs posting

We no longer produce the Cochrane Methods Library supplement as we plan to expand the CDSR to accept methodological articles.

However, Methods Groups used the supplement for their annual reporting. We have produced this annual report in a newsletter format here. We hope to use this format for methods news items every 6 months.

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [20 years of Cochrane Skin](#)
- [Students contributing to the impact of Cochrane](#)
- [2017 Cochrane contributor prize and award winners](#)
- Cochrane Common Mental Disorders is seeking a [Cochrane Systematic Review Research Fellow](#) and [Managing Editor](#), York, UK
- Cochrane Pain, Palliative and Supportive Care is seeking an [Editorial Assistant and Systematic Reviewer](#), Oxford, UK
- The University of Freiburg offers a full professorship focusing on Cochrane and evidence based medicine <http://www.med.uni-freiburg.de/de/verwaltung/berufungsverfahren-1>

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 [Elaine Carman](#), EA 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,

Mark G. Wilson

Chief Executive Officer



E [mwilson@cochrane.org](mailto:mwilson@cochrane.org) T +44 (0)207 183 7503 S markg.wilson

Cochrane, St Albans House, 57-59 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX, UK

[www.cochrane.org](http://www.cochrane.org)

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