

Centre and Fields Digest

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 8th edition of the Centre & Fields Digest. The Digest provides information particularly relevant to Cochrane Centres 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.

ITEMS FOR YOUR ACTION:

1) Consultation on the Structure & Function of Cochrane Centres: Continued invitation to provide feedback

As explained in the previous C&F Digest on 5th August, Centres and Branches overwhelmingly endorsed the [Implementing Strategy to 2020: Centres, Branches & Networks Structure and Function Review](#) paper and recommendations. Twenty-seven Centres and Branches voted in the Doodle poll and all of them endorsed the paper. Formal implementation of the recommendations will now begin, and supporting documents have been developed and shared with the Centre Directors' Executive and will be made available in time for the Centre Directors' meeting at the Seoul Colloquium.

Four webinars were held in July and August setting out these changes and to consult with collaborators on new proposals. You can find a recording of one of the webinars and a downloadable pdf of the presentation, *Cochrane's Geographical presence - Structure and Function impact on Networks, Centres and Branches* on the dedicated [Cochrane Community](#) page.

A formal paper setting out the proposals shared in the presentation and webinars is being prepared for consideration by the Steering Group in Seoul. The paper will be available Open Access and also shared with the Cochrane community so that all collaborators can read it and input their comments and suggestions before and at the Colloquium.

As we move forward with implementation, any Centre staff member is welcome to contact [Chris Champion](#) or [Mark Wilson](#) at any time with their feedback or questions.

2) Seoul Colloquium 23rd-27th October: Registration deadline and items for Centre staff, Fields staff, and Centre Directors

· The registration deadline for the 2016 Cochrane Colloquium is 10th October. If you plan to attend, please register via the [Colloquium website](#) before this date.

· **For Centre staff:** The Centre Directors Executive has decided that there will be no Centre staff meeting at the Colloquium this year. Instead, all Centre staff are invited to attend the [special session, followed by the AGM, on Tuesday 25th October at 16:00 local time](#). This will be an opportunity for all staff and contributors of Cochrane Groups of all types to hear together about the latest news related to Cochrane's *Strategy to 2020*.

Should there be items that arise during the Centre Directors Board meeting in Seoul that should be communicated to all Centre staff directly, the CD's Executive will run a webinar following the Colloquium that all Centre staff – including those not travelling to Seoul – will be invited to attend.

· **For Fields Directors, Co-ordinators, and other staff:** The [Fields meeting](#) will be held on Sunday 23rd October, 13:00-17:00 local time. All those involved with Fields are invited to attend. Fields staff are also invited to attend the special session and AGM, as listed above.

• **For Centre Directors:** The [Centre Directors Board meeting](#) will be held on Sunday 23rd October, 09:00-17:00 local time. Please note that the Centre Directors Executive has decided to run this meeting for the whole day, and not just the morning as was discussed in London in April at the Mid-Year Meeting. A principal agenda item will be the Structure & Function changes listed in item 1 of this Digest. If you have any other agenda items that you would like added, the CD's Executive would be grateful if you would submit them via [this online form](#) by 18th September. In addition, this form provides you with the opportunity to share a very short summary of your Centre's:

- Key achievements and success stories in 2016 so far;
- Challenges in 2016 so far;
- Priorities for the coming months.

The CD's Executive recognizes that Centres, Associate Centres and Affiliates are at different stages of maturity, with different priorities and contexts. By collecting this information, we hope to be able to improve information sharing between us all, celebrate success, and identify common challenges. The aim is to collate your responses and circulate them to all Centre staff in advance of the Seoul meeting. It's an informal and optional exercise, but we think it might be valuable for improving communications between Centres, Associates and Affiliates and increasing collaboration.

3) Save the date for the Mid-Year Meeting 2017 and reserve your hotel room!

The [2017 Mid-Year Business Meetings](#) will be hosted by Cochrane Switzerland in Geneva, on the 4th-5th April 2017, alongside other meetings held that week that Mid-Year attendees will be welcome to join.

Key dates: Cochrane Switzerland Symposium: 3rd April, WHO/Cochrane training workshop: 3rd April, morning, WHO/Cochrane meeting: 3rd April, afternoon, WHO/Cochrane drinks reception: 3rd April, evening, Mid-Year Meeting: 4th April – 5th April, Steering Group meeting: 6th April – 7th April (to be confirmed).

Geneva is a busy location and hotels book up quickly, so it is important you reserve your room as *soon as possible*. Hotel options are provided in the link above.

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

4) Cochrane Nutrition Field established

Cochrane is delighted to announce the establishment of the [Cochrane Nutrition Field](#) (Cochrane Nutrition), under the leadership of [Cochrane South Africa](#) (SA), the South African Medical Research Council, and the [Centre for Evidence-based Health Care](#) (CEBHC), Stellenbosch University, along with international partners.

Cochrane Nutrition's vision is to make Cochrane the independent, globally recognized go-to place for nutrition systematic reviews

5) Information for authors of HIV/AIDS reviews

The Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group took over editorial responsibility for HIV/AIDS reviews during 2015. Since then they have been working with groups of authors, editors, and other stakeholders to assess the portfolio and prioritize reviews moving forward. If you are an author of an existing Cochrane HIV/AIDS review or protocol, there is an important update on this process which has just been posted to the [CIDG website](#). Please get in touch with the CIDG editorial base if you have any questions about this work.

6) WHO in Europe: call for Expressions of Interest for Cochrane trainer

The [regional office for the World Health Organization in Europe](#) is currently calling for Expressions of Interest to serve as Cochrane trainer supporting the knowledge translation capacity building initiative

of the WHO Evidence-informed Policy Network (EVIPNet) in Europe. For more information, please visit the [WHO/Europe website](#). The deadline is 22nd September.

7) Forthcoming Cochrane Training events

· **Putting the power of Cochrane to work for you: getting the most out of Cochrane Crowd and TaskExchange:**

This interactive webinar, presented by Tari Turner and Anna Noel-Storr from the Project Transform team, is for anyone who wants to know more about using Cochrane Crowd and TaskExchange tools can make your life easier, and get your reviews done faster. This webinar will take place on 21st September. See the [Cochrane Training website](#) for more information.

· **Identifying the Evidence for Systematic Reviews:** A one-day course for information specialists and librarians on supporting systematic reviews in health and social care. Hosted by the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination at the University of York on 21st September. See the [Cochrane Training website](#) for more information.

8) Peer review week 19th-25th September

Peer Review Week is an annual global event celebrating the essential role of peer review in maintaining scientific quality – this year's runs from 19th-25th September. For more information, please see the [Peer Review Week website](#).
Event hashtag #PeerReWk16

9) Andrew Herxheimer Memorial Meeting, 15th November 2016

A memorial meeting for long-standing Cochrane contributor, Andrew Herxheimer, will be held on 15th November 2016, in Oxford. For more information, please visit the [Cochrane Community](#) page.

10) Read the latest Cochrane Community blogs and news posts

News items:

- [Call for volunteers: Wikipedia editing](#)
- [Cochrane Steering Group announces change in membership](#)
- [Round-up of active Cochrane surveys: September 2016](#)

Available reports and documents:

- [Strategy to 2020 2016 Mid-Year Review now available](#)
- [2015 Annual Review now available](#)
- [Announcing the Cochrane Style Manual](#)

Community blogs:

- [Cochrane Contributor blog: Salomé Planas](#)
- [Room with a view: a scenic perspective on Project Transform at the half-way point](#)
- [Full speed ahead for TaskExchange](#)
- [Cochrane Translations: Cochrane Russia's Student Podcast Club](#)
- [Cochrane Translations: what's happening in 2016 and beyond](#)
- [Cochrane partners: Supporting successful delivery of complex reviews](#)

The Centre & Fields Digest is created by the Chief Executive Officer's Office on behalf of Mark Wilson. 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,

Mark

Mark G. Wilson
Chief Executive Officer



E 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

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