



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Issue 34 of the Centre & Fields Digest, the final edition for 2017. I wanted to extend my personal thanks to you all for your tremendous contributions to Cochrane over the past 12 months. The work of Centres and Fields is critical to achieving our mission worldwide and, on behalf of everyone in the Central Executive Team, I would like to wish you and you families a wonderful holiday break, and a peaceful, healthy and successful 2018!

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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) Join us – Register now for Cochrane’s 2018 Governance Meetings in Lisbon. Deadline 4 March 2018**

The 2018 Governance Meetings will be hosted by Cochrane Portugal and held at the Tivoli Oriente Hotel in Lisbon, 19-23 March 2018. Governance Meetings are free to attend, but registration is needed to confirm meeting numbers and special requirements.

To register, please visit the [Cochrane Community](#) website. **Registration deadline:** Sunday 4 March 2018

Book your hotel: The Portuguese team have arranged several special hotel rates that are listed in the link above, so make sure to book your hotel before the booking deadlines pass.

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

2) Archie records update – Request for your help!

Cochrane Groups are responsible for updating their own records in [Archie](#). A recent review has shown that many of these records are out of date. If you are the administrative contact for your Group, please take a quick look at the information about your Group in Archie and update it as required. This might include things like the Group's address and staff roles. Your help in updating the records is appreciated.

3) Alerting the Cochrane Editorial Unit to potentially controversial reviews

At the recent Governing Board meeting, the Cochrane Editorial Unit was asked to ensure that the Board is alerted in advance of publication, about any reviews that cover controversial issues or are likely to cause contention in their field. We want to ensure that there is support in place regarding communications for Board members and other Cochrane representatives (including Centre Directors and their staff), who might be asked to respond to any controversy relating to the reviews.

Please could CRGs highlight any such reviews to David (dtovey@cochrane.org) or Karla (ksoares-weiser@cochrane.org) as early in the editorial process as possible.

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

4) 2018 Plan & Budget now available

The 2018 Plan & Budget for Cochrane's central funds was approved by the Governing Board at its teleconference on 12th December and is now available on the [Cochrane Community website](#). More information about the *Strategy to 2020* Targets in 2018 will follow early in the new year, as will the minutes from the Board's teleconference. In the meantime, please contact [Lucie Binder](#), Senior Advisor to the CEO, if you have any questions.

5) Cochrane welcomes Cochrane Chile

Cochrane's Iberoamerican Network is delighted to announce the formation of a new Cochrane Centre to enhance health decision-making in Chile. [Cochrane Chile](#) will promote evidence-informed health decision-making by supporting and training new Chilean authors of Cochrane Reviews, as well as working with clinicians, professional associations, policy-makers, patients, and the media to encourage the dissemination and use of Cochrane evidence. Cochrane Chile will be coordinated and led by its Director, Gabriel Rada, who will offer methodological support, mentoring, and supervision to the Cochrane Chile Centre. He says this is a hugely exciting opportunity: "The launch of Cochrane Chile is very important, both to Chile and globally. Producing and increasing the dissemination of the best available information on health care is critical for clinicians and patients everywhere in the world."

For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#) and [Cochrane.org](#). For more information on the work of Cochrane Chile, please visit their [website](#).

6) Governing Board Minutes, September 2017, now available

The Minutes from the Governing Board's meeting in Cape Town, September 2017, are now available on the [Cochrane Community website](#). Please contact [Veronica Bonfigli](#), Governance & Administrative Support Officer, if you have any questions about them.

7) Interim Head of Learning and Support at the Cochrane Central Executive

As previously announced, Miranda Cumpston will be leaving her position as Head of Learning and Support at the Cochrane Central Executive from Wednesday, 20 December. In the interim, Chris Champion will be stepping in to cover this role. Chris is based in the UK and can be contacted via cchampion@cochrane.org.

8) Closure of Cochrane Bahrain

Cochrane Bahrain has closed. Zbys Fedorowicz, Director of the Associate Centre, has decided to step down from his role and no replacement leadership or associated funding could be found. We thank Zbys and his team for all their work over many years.

9) Enhanced Cochrane Library project - update

The Enhanced Cochrane Library project aims to develop a new platform to improve user experience. During 2017, the development of this new and improved platform has experienced further, significant delays, and will now launch in 2018.

We are working with Wiley, our publisher, and [Highwire](#), an established platform provider, to build and deliver an enhanced product with new features and greater functionality that makes it easier for users to discover and use Cochrane content in their decision-making. We have been redeveloping all aspects of the Cochrane Library platform to improve user experience. The work is divided into many different areas, each a building block towards the enhanced Cochrane Library, including the display of Cochrane Reviews, the display of CENTRAL, linking of the CDSR and CENTRAL, the search and discovery interface, and multi-language search and the display of non-English language content. Researching user needs and stakeholder insights has been a key component of the new Library's development.

The Cochrane Library will maintain its familiar look-and-feel while improving the overall user experience. We look forward to providing you with a fuller update in January 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Cochrane's Editor in Chief, [David Tovey](#), or Senior Editor, [Harriet MacLehose](#).

10) Information about search and browse issues in the Cochrane Library

Customer feedback on the functionality of the Cochrane Library is welcomed; [see information](#) on how to contact Wiley customer services. Wiley and Cochrane monitor the feedback, and from time to time, significant issues are raised. There are two issues at the moment that may particularly impact users, including the Cochrane community, and we are providing a summary of these issues. Should you have any questions or concerns about these, please do contact David Hives, Cochrane Production Manager, Wiley (dhives@wiley.com).

1. Search index problem for some Cochrane Reviews

There is a search index problem on the Cochrane Library, affecting some Cochrane Reviews (not CENTRAL records) published since April 2017 or any that have a 3-digit year date instead of a 4-digit year date. This results in some newly published reviews and protocols in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) not being returned in search results and/or the links go older versions of the article. All Cochrane Reviews and protocols are available via the browse options or via the table of contents. [More details](#)

2. Review Group filter not finding all Cochrane Reviews

There is an issue with the Search Limit "By Review Group" in the Advanced Search of the Cochrane Library. This means that new citation versions of Cochrane Reviews and protocols (not CENTRAL records) will not be found using a Review Group Search Limit. [More details](#)

The issue with the 'New' tag being removed for CENTRAL records has now been resolved. You can read more about this [here](#).

11) Guidance for the re-accreditation process for Cochrane Review Groups

Following its meeting in Cape Town in September 2017, Cochrane's Governing Board approved the [Structure & Function of Cochrane Review Groups: Implementation of the Networks and Editorial Board Plan](#).

As part of this plan, every CRG will need to be re-accredited every five years in order to continue as a Cochrane Group. To support this process, the Structure and Function Project Team has developed guidance to support Groups through re-accreditation, which may be of interest to all Cochrane Groups: [Guidance for the re-accreditation process for Cochrane Review Groups](#).

12) Website for the 2018 Cochrane Colloquium is now live!

The [website](#) for the 25th annual Cochrane Colloquium, taking place in Edinburgh from 16-18 September 2018, is now live.

Cochrane Colloquium Edinburgh 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.

Registration is scheduled to open in February 2018. Visit the website to get the latest information on key dates, registration, and activities in the historic host city, with more details to be announced in the coming months.

- **Website:** colloquium.cochrane.org
- **Twitter:** [@CochraneUK](#) [#Cochraneforall](#)
- **Facebook:** [facebook.com/CochraneUK](https://www.facebook.com/CochraneUK)
- [Sign-up for the newsletter](#)

13) Cochrane Austria, Cochrane Netherlands and the Cochrane Screening and Diagnostic Test Methods Group are organising a two-day workshop: Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Studies

On 4-5 April, 2018 Cochrane Austria, Cochrane Netherlands and the Cochrane Screening and Diagnostic Test Methods Group organise a two-day workshop "[Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Studies](#)".

In this two-day workshop participants learn to define the diagnostic 'journey' of a patient with a particular health problem (including the role of tests), formulate clear diagnostic questions and identify and appraise diagnostic test accuracy studies. They will be introduced into the principles of meta - analysis, so that they are able to understand and interpret diagnostic meta - analyses. The participants will also learn how to prepare a GRADE Summary of Findings Table for summarising the results of a diagnostic systematic review. We will follow Cochrane and GRADE guidance for preparing a systematic review of diagnostic test accuracy.

For registration, visit the website of [Cochrane Austria](#). We hope to meet you in April 2018 in Vienna!

14) Current Cochrane Jobs

There are several opportunities currently available. For more information, please see [Cochrane Jobs](#).

Also, Cochrane is seeking a Senior Methods Adviser to join its Editorial Board. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

15) More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [Survey round-up: December 2017](#) - A round-up of active surveys submitted by Cochrane contributors, colleagues, and partners seeking input from the Cochrane Community - updated through the month.
- [Learning from the changes in the Consumers and Communication Group processes](#) - Dr. Sophie Hill, Co-ordinating Editor of the Consumers and Communication Group shares an

overview of some of the changes in her Cochrane Group so that others in the Cochrane Community can learn from them.

- [The Recommended Dose: Episode 7 with Sarah Moss](#) - Hailed as one of the best British novelists writing today, Sarah Moss is our very special literary guest on TRD this week. She joins Ray to explore the intersection between fiction and health, and to talk about the doctors, patients, parents and families she portrays so vividly in her five highly acclaimed novels.

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

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