

Membership implementation: update and next steps

26 July 2017

Dear colleagues

As I hope you will be aware, we have finished the first phase of integrating our existing systems with the new CRM (the system that manages Membership) and have spent the last few weeks monitoring the flow of data among systems to ensure that everything is working properly and dealing with any glitches as they arise. We've also switched on the new '[Join Cochrane](#)' pages on Cochrane.org to make it easier for interested people to get involved with our work; if you haven't already done so, please take a look. And earlier this month, we announced the launch of Membership with a [blog post from our CEO, Mark Wilson](#).

With these important components now in place, we're starting to look at next steps for implementing Membership across the Cochrane community, and wanted to make you aware of planned next steps:

1. **Group websites:** now that the central 'Join Cochrane' pages are up and running, we've invited CRGs to switch your Group's 'Get involved' pages to link directly to the central pages. Several CRGs have already made the switch, so you can see what it looks like on the [ARI](#), [Lung Cancer](#), and [Musculoskeletal](#) sites. Making this switch not only means fewer website pages to maintain for you, but also that inquiries about getting involved will now be managed centrally. If you'd like to make the switch, **please let us know at membership@cochrane.org**; it's a very quick process and we should be able to complete work on your site within 48 hours of your approval. If you've got custom Get involved content that needs managing, let us know that, too, and we can help you work out a solution.
2. **Data protection and user accounts:** there are two major pieces of work upcoming in this area. The first is that we'll be sending a mass emailing to the majority of user accounts in Archie, confirming that the contact details we have on record are accurate and current, and that the account holder agrees to our holding that information. This mailing should be going out early in August. The second piece is to begin developing processes to integrate contact data records that Groups are holding outside of Archie into our systems, so that we can ensure data protection compliance. We already have a short list of volunteers to help us pilot this process development, and we'll be contacting them directly before the end of July.

We'll be continuing to provide monthly updates on implementation of this project and next steps for development. Thank you for your ongoing input; as always, please let us know any questions or concerns you may have at membership@cochrane.org.

Kind regards

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on behalf of the Membership project team