



Update on partnerships [Open ACCESS]

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Purpose of paper: For information. To provide a status update on **Cochrane's** external partnerships for Q2 and Q3, 2017

Access: Open access



Cochrane's work with external partners is guided by the [Cochrane Partnership Policy](#) and the Cochrane [Framework for Partnership Development](#). A [dedicated space on the community website](#) has been developed to keep the Cochrane community informed about the key external partnerships that Cochrane is engaged in. [Updates \(including those to Cochrane's Governing Board\)](#) on external partnerships are also available on the community site.

The current document provides a **status update on Cochrane's external partnerships for Q2 and Q3, 2017**. The annex provides a detailed overview per partner, also specifying the plans for the next two quarters. The main developments to note are:

- Cochrane held a [joint meeting with the WHO](#) to discuss the strategic partnership. On the same day two trainings were given to WHO staff – an introduction to systematic reviews and an advanced training session.
- The planning for the Global Evidence Summit is progressing well and provides an opportunity to connect with many of our external partners: sessions are being planned with various groups at WHO, and with G-I-N, Campbell, JBI and consumer organisations.
- The international network on patient and public engagement in health research will have a soft launch at GES and a more formal launch prior to the INVOLVE conference in November.
- We supported the [March for Science, and many Cochrane contributors and staff joined marches around the world](#). We continue following the movement and may consider engaging in future activities (to be decided case by case).
- We started using Task Exchange for work with external partners: most notably G-I-N and Wikipedia. For G-I-N we have developed a dedicated entry point to TaskExchange, which we are currently testing and which will be presented at the GES.
- The work on the [Partnership Toolkit](#), an online resource for Cochrane Groups to use for their own partnership development, will evolve alongside the Knowledge Translation Framework, to ensure that they are connected and complementary. Resources are being added to the partnership section on the community site as they become available.

New relationships that we are continuing to explore but are not yet far enough along to be included in the table in the Annex below include:

- 'Choosing Wisely' is a campaign to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments and make smart and effective choices to ensure high-quality care. We will participate in the international Choosing Wisely conference taking place in Amsterdam (September 2017) to discuss with participants the collaboration with Cochrane. Our focus will be on *providing evidence/intelligence to Choosing Wisely: how can Cochrane support evidence provision for the main common topics across Choosing Wisely campaigns?*
- [COMET Initiative](#) (Core Outcome Measures in Effectiveness Trials): we participated in its 6th meeting in Amsterdam in November 2016. We agreed not to formalise the partnership, but rather communicate to our respective constituencies about the benefits of working together. A first such communication is a [blog](#) posted on the Cochrane community site.
- Sense about Science EU: we participated in [a meeting organised by Sense about Science in Brussels](#), and will explore with its EU Office how we can connect at EU and Brussels level. These are, for the moment, informal discussions and it is unlikely that this will result in a formal partnership with the EU office. We already collaborate with Sense about Science on AllTrials and will continue our support for the campaign.

Annex – Update on Key Strategic Partnerships:

Goal	Partner	Activity	Status of partnership	Key achievements Q 2 and Q3, 2017	Q4 2017, Q1 2018 plans
3	Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Wikipedia_Signpost/2016-02-03/In_focus)	Work towards developing sustainable strategies for our collaboration with Wikipedia	There is no formal MoU currently in place	<p>Working with one of the volunteers from the Wikipedia pilot project (see previous update) to continue updating Wikipedia pages, and to help strategize on how to make our work with Wikipedia sustainable. She will participate in Wikimania in Canada in August to share her Cochrane Wikipedia editing experience and to engage the medical editors from Wikipedia in a discussion re developing sustainable strategies for our work with Wikipedia.</p> <p>Continue with Task Exchange and posting Wikipedia tasks on the platform.</p> <p>Presented results from pilot project with Global Ageing at UK Cochrane Colloquium.</p> <p>We are continuing to work on updating the Cochrane organizational page on Wikipedia.</p>	<p>Hold a training workshop at GES and present a poster at GES on the pilot project with Cochrane Global Ageing.</p> <p>Define our strategy going forward with Wikipedia.</p> <p>Update all references listed in the Cochrane bot.</p>
1,2,3,4	WHO (www.who.int)	Implement plan of work 2016-2018	Partnership was evaluated and reported on in 2015 (step 5 of partnership framework). Now	Held WHO- Cochrane strategy meeting on April 3. See blog for a report on the meeting. On the same day two trainings were given to WHO staff – an introduction to systematic reviews and an advanced training session.	Work with WHO departments towards GES. There will be substantial involvement in sessions and workshops across a number of WHO departments and groups (including: Guideline Review Committee, Tropical Diseases Research programme; Human Reproductive Health; Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research;

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			in implementation phase.	<p>Attended the World Health Assembly. This year was a special WHA, due to DG elections. We did not propose a side event, and there were no issues on the WHA agenda that needed a Cochrane statement. Held a series of side meetings, mainly with WHO staff.</p> <p>Work with EVIP-Net/EURO continued and resulted in multi-country meeting, involving Cochrane contributors.</p>	<p>Health Workforce). TDR and the Alliance also provide financial support to GES.</p> <p>Start planning the reporting on the 2016-2018 plan of work and start planning for the 2019-2021 plan of work. This may also involve a meeting with the new leadership in WHO, especially the new Assistant DG responsible for the official relation with Cochrane.</p> <p>Contribute to three workshops (at the request of WHO) as a follow up to the training provided in April (ahead of Cochrane's MYM).</p> <p>Ongoing follow up on the other items in the joint plan of work.</p>
2,3	Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI)	GESI seeks to develop the production capacity and use of synthesized evidence in low- and middle-income countries.	Implementation phase	<p>GESI's website was launched in Quarter 1 (see: www.gesiinitiative.com).</p> <p>The call for Expressions of Interest to join the GESI Network of Centers for Evidence Synthesis was issued in March 2017, and resulted in the selection of <u>network members</u>.</p> <p>GESI is partnering with Cochrane Learning to provide training to the network members (2 webinars held).</p> <p>Regular meetings held with the GESI governance group.</p>	<p>Continuation of webinar series jointly with Cochrane Training (2 webinars planned in Aug/Sept).</p> <p>Several workshops planned for GES, as well as a meeting of the GESI Governance Group meeting.</p> <p>Continuous involvement in GESI governance group.</p>

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2,3	Evidence Synthesis International (https://evidencesynthesis.org)	Brings together a network of organisations committed to evidence synthesis and systematic review production across a range of different fields.		Cochrane is a founder member of the Evidence Synthesis International, launched in September 2016 in London.	
2	Epistemonikos (http://www.epistemonikos.org)	To explore a long-term joint venture	Step 2 of partnership framework. (Discussions ongoing this week).	Official partnership and MoU launched in December . Work focused on the incorporation of Epistemonikos' database within the new federated search feature on the new CL platform (which is expected to be launched before the end of 2017). Work progressed well with Epistemonikos, Wiley and Semantico on this.	Awaiting launch of new CL platform
2	G-I-N www.g-i-n.net	To build stronger connections with G-I-N members and Cochrane as well as begin to explore further connections.	Implementation phase	Adjusted Task Exchange to the needs of GIN. Platform launched mid July and tested prior to GES. Joined Special Session developed and accepted for GES. Documenting success stories: video produced and used to help launch TaskExchange.	Deliver Special Session at GES. Communicating and disseminating TaskExchange and monitoring use by GIN members. Documenting and disseminating success stories of collaboration between guideline developers and systematic reviewers.

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3	Campbell G-I-N ISEHC Joanna Briggs	Co-host the Global Evidence Summit in Cape Town in 2017.	Implementation phase	Global Evidence Summit planning is well on track. Programme development should be completed in July. Cochrane is involved in many of the Special Sessions and workshops. Lot of interest from external partners to participate (many jointly organised sessions). Fundraising and sponsorship development for the event is also on track.	GES conference held and evaluation of the meeting.
3	PAHO www.paho.org	Deliver MoU (detailed plan of work developed in 2015).	Implementation phase	Several discussions with PAHO to work on smaller projects (within the agreed upon plan of work) that can be implemented with current resources – focus on training, a ‘Cochrane corner’, and other communication activities.	Aim to agree on concrete activities to be included in the PAHO 2018-2019 budgetary cycle.
3	International network for patient and public engagement in health research	Develop collaboration with existing consumer groups; and explore the feasibility of an international network.	Step 1 & 2 of partnership framework	<p>Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) core group (Cochrane; Involve/NIHR; Birmingham Uni, COMET) established and meeting regularly.</p> <p>A task group was formed; a database of over 50 potential partner organisations created; and a survey disseminated to explore priority areas of interest of partners. Almost all organizations expressed in principle support for the PPI network.</p>	Report back on survey at GES during Special Session. Looking into funding opportunities. Soft launch of network at GES and additional launch of network at INVOLVE conference in November.
1,2,3	GRADE	To deliver the MoU as well as	Step 2	IKMD tested the integration of GRADEPro GDT/ Archie integration. Because of	Release RevMan Web beta for intervention reviews, and resume discussion of how RevMan and GRADEPro

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	http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org	a licensing agreement for software use.		<p>delayed release of Archie integration, this work did not progress much further yet.</p> <p>Discussion started between Cochrane Innovations and Evidence Prime on integration of Cochrane's Linked Data work.</p>	integration could facilitate better user experience for SoF.
2	MAGIC (http://magicproject.org)	To explore strategic partnership opportunities for review production and guideline tools.	Step 1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial mappings between PICO terms used in MAGIC guidelines and in the Cochrane vocabulary respectively; capturing lessons learned from that mapping – where mapping works well and where it works less well • Considering strategies for improved mapping of the respective Cochrane and MAGIC PICO vocabularies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the thesis that mapping PICO queries specified on the MAGIC platform to Cochrane PICO data might allow increased or enhanced use of Cochrane evidence • Consider future strategy for launching a PICO search of Cochrane data on the MAGIC platform, via the proposed Cochrane PICO search widget • Address potential integration of guidelines from the MAGIC library in Cochrane's PICO search widget prototype • Webinar (through Cochrane Learning Live) on MAGICapp scheduled for end August.
3	REWARD (http://researchwaste.net)	Continue to develop and explore Cochrane's relationship with the newly formed REWARD organization.	Step 1 & 2	The Cochrane-REWARD prize was awarded in Amsterdam in May 2017 during the World Congress on Research Integrity.	<p>Cochrane to engage more in the work of the REWARD Alliance and contribute to the work of this group. Aim to set up working group, including Cochrane contributors, with clear ToR and plan of work.</p> <p>Announcing the next call for the Cochrane-REWARD prize (to be handed out during the 2018 Colloquium).</p>
3	Joanna Briggs Institute	Exploring opportunities for scientific	MoU signed Implementation phase	Focus of partnership is on co-organising GES; work on the KT strategy (JBI is member of the KT working group); and	Delivering GES and evaluation of the meeting. Continuation of Wikipedia work on nursing.

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	http://joannabriggs.org	and methodological research, as well as sharing of data for the efficiency of evidence synthesis processes, and joint representation at major healthcare events.		exploring using wikipedia for nursing topics.	
	The Campbell Collaboration		Implementation phase	Quarterly update meeting held. Joint work around Global Evidence Summit. Cochrane South East Asia co-organised a meeting with Campbell in India on Evidence Matters – leveraging global, regional and local evidence for evidence-based policy making in India.	Delivering GES and evaluation of the meeting.
	VIVLI	VIVLI aims to promote, coordinate, and facilitate clinical research data sharing through the creation and implementation of a sustainable	MoU signed Starting implementation phase	MoU signed.	Start work on agreed areas of collaboration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cochrane to provide Vivli with a metadata curation process that leverages their current best practice capabilities and current platform • Vivli to provide Cochrane with the potential for expanding the scale and further development of the Cochrane annotation process.

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		global data-sharing enterprise			