



## Update on partnerships

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**Purpose of paper:** To provide a status update on Cochrane's external partnerships for Q2 and 3, 2016

**Access:** Open access

**Summary of recommendations:**  
For information



The table below provides an overview of Cochrane's existing external partnerships and the partnerships that are being pursued. This table will be updated in advance of the mid-year and CSG meetings, to inform the CSG on progress and key achievements. New relationships that we are continuing to explore but are not yet far enough along to be included in this table include discussions with Informed Healthcare Choices (Andy Oxman and Iain Chalmers) with whom we are working on a joint proposal for 100&change (<https://www.100andchange.org>) that has been submitted in Q3 as well as establishing linkages to the Choosing Wisely movement - in first instance by sharing relevant systematic reviews with them. We are also working with [VIVI](#) on a bid to be submitted in early Oct. as well as discussing a partnership with them. We also started exploring collaboration with the [COMET Initiative](#) (Core Outcome Measures in Effectiveness Trials), and will participate in their 6<sup>th</sup> meeting taking place in Amsterdam in November. Finally, we started work on the partnership toolkit which should include resources that Cochrane groups can use for their external partnership development. A first outline of the toolkit is being developed and will be used in discussions with groups in Seoul to ensure it responds to their needs. The toolkit will be developed in Q4 and Q1 2017. In the previous update to CSG we reported on a request from WAHO (West African Health Organization) for a formal MoU. This request was related to a proposal developed in response to the R4D programme (<http://www.r4d.ch>). The proposal submitted was not successful though and the work on the MoU with WAHO was not pursued. The connection with WAHO remains important for our work in West-Africa and the connection will be maintained and may still result in an MoU in the future.

### Key relationships defined for 2016 – 2017:

Goal	Partner	Activity	Status of partnership according to partnership framework	Key achievement Q2 and 3, 2016	Q4/Q1 2017 plans
3	Wikipedia <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Wikipedia_Signpost/2016-02-03/In_focus">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Wikipedia_Signpost/2016-02-03/In_focus</a> )	Intern project with CRGs piloted to increase access to Cochrane evidence.	There is no formal MoU currently in place	We attended the Wikimania conference and had good discussions with the Wiki Project Med people. A draft MoU was presented and discussed. Discussions have continued following the conference re the MoU. We don't expect formal signature soon, as the MoU needs to go through an internal Wikipedia consultative process. In the meantime the work can continue.	We launched a new internship scheme. A call for CRGs to express interest in working on Wikipedia resulted in an expression of interest from the Cochrane Global Ageing group. Collaboration between Wikipedia and Cochrane Global Ageing is now being developed to ensure the delivery of the programme. Over 50 applications received in response to call for volunteers. Selection will follow shortly and work is expected to start in Q4. If successful, this model will continue in 2017 and be expanded.

				<p>We launched the Cochrane-Wikipedia initiative on Wikipedia, inviting people to get involved in updating pages and/or references. See for more information: <a href="https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Cochrane_Collaboration-Wikipedia_Initiative/Welcome">https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Cochrane_Collaboration-Wikipedia_Initiative/Welcome</a></p> <p>A new Wikipedia Executive Director has been appointed.</p>	<p>We will continue to promote the Cochrane-Wikipedia Initiative and encourage people to contribute and start editing Wikipedia pages.</p> <p>Pockets of excellent work with Wikipedia are ongoing with several groups.</p>
1,2,3,4	WHO ( <a href="http://www.who.int">www.who.int</a> )	Implement plan of work 2016-2018	Partnership was evaluated and reported on in 2015 (step 5 of partnership framework). Now in implementation phase.	<p>Organised side-event at the World Health Assembly, jointly with HTAi. Event well received by WHO and participants (around 100 people participated). Also issued a statement during the WHA on the new framework of engagement with non-state actors focusing on managing conflict of interest: (<a href="http://www.cochrane.org/news/cochrane-statement-wha-managing-conflict-interest">http://www.cochrane.org/news/cochrane-statement-wha-managing-conflict-interest</a>) .</p> <p>Held lunchtime seminar at WHO (Karla Soares-Weiser and Charlotte Petridge presented) highlighting some of the new directions and projects Cochrane is pursuing. Very well received. This also helped strengthen the connections between Cochrane, Cochrane Response and WHO.</p>	<p>Planning underway for the WHO-Cochrane meeting of April 3, 2017 (day prior to 2017 mid year meeting).</p> <p>Working on blog series around Essential Medicines and how Cochrane can contribute to the EML.</p> <p>Further work with EVIP-Net/EURO to engage Cochranites in providing training for using evidence in policy brief development – selection of trainers in Q4, training of trainers in Q4 and Q1.</p> <p>Further discussion with Alliance around GES and attracting African policy makers to attend the meeting.</p>

				Engagement of the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research in the Global Evidence Summit (GES) in Cape Town in 2017.	
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	The GESI Secretariat tender process was completed and a small unit set up by the American University of Beirut (AUB), Lebanon. Cochrane organised three-year funding arrangements for the GESI Secretariat, arranging contracts and negotiating funding mechanisms with 3ie, the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, and the American Institute of Health. Chairmanship of GESI's Governance Board was handed over from Cochrane's CEO	The Initiative will launch its website in Q4 and issue the invitation for proposals relating to establishing 10 synthesis Centres in LMICs.
2,3	Evidence Synthesis International ( <a href="https://evidencesynthesis.org">https://evidencesynthesis.org</a> )	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 ( <a href="http://www.epistemonikos.org">http://www.epistemonikos.org</a> )	To explore a long-term joint venture	Step 2 of partnership framework. (Discussions ongoing this week).	Ongoing exploratory discussions. Jointly taken part in EU and Norwegian Magic funding bids.  EU bid was not successful.	Two Letters of Intent have been signed with Epistemonikos on the incorporation of its database within the new federated search feature on the new CL platform to be launched Q1 2017 and work is going well with Epistemonikos, Wiley and Semantico on this.

					A draft partnership contract has been produced by Cochrane (supported by our lawyer) and submitted to the Epistemonikos Foundation. Further talks will be held in Seoul.
2	G-I-N <a href="http://www.g-i-n.net">www.g-i-n.net</a>	To build stronger connections with G-I-N members and Cochrane as well as begin to explore further connections.	Implementation phase	Agreed new MoU with G-I-N. Developed ToR for Working Group that will help guide joint work and held first meeting of this group in Philadelphia. Agreed priorities for the next year will be Global Evidence Summit, TaskExchange development and sharing success stories of interactions between guidelines developers and Cochrane Groups.	MoU expected to be signed in Q4.  Workplan for implementing key activities to be developed prior to Seoul and finalising ToR for the working group.
3	Campbell G-I-N ISEHC Joanna Briggs	Co-host the Global Evidence Summit in Cape Town in 2017.	Implementation phase	MoU signed Conference officially announced	Further planning ongoing
3	PAHO <a href="http://www.paho.org">www.paho.org</a>	Deliver MoU. (detailed plan of work developed in 2015)	Implementation phase	Consortium established to deliver EU bid (deadline 13/4/2016). EU proposal submitted but not successful.	Considering 'recycling' proposal for other funding opportunities. Exploring a number of options, including another EC call on implementation research in the area of mental health focusing on LMICs and a Marie-Curie call for proposals focusing on training.
3	Consumers	Develop collaboration with existing consumer groups; and explore the feasibility of an international	Step 1 & 2 of partnership framework	Exploratory meetings held with Involve ( <a href="http://www.invo.org.uk">http://www.invo.org.uk</a> ) and Comet Initiative ( <a href="http://www.comet-initiative.org">http://www.comet-initiative.org</a> )  First draft of position statement written regarding the establishment of an international consortium for patient and	Additional meeting scheduled at the Colloquium about this new network.

		consumer coalition.		public involvement and engagement in health research (PPI Network).  PPI core group (Cochrane; Involve/NIHR; Birmingham Uni), COMET met early September and agreed to meet monthly to take the initiative forward.	
1,2,3	GRADE ( <a href="http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org">http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org</a> )	To deliver the MoU as well as a licensing agreement for software use.	Step 2	MoU signed, including addendum and partnership communicated.	Plan to meet with GRADE both at GIN and in Seoul, to discuss the next steps in the partnership esp around software use.
2	MAGIC ( <a href="http://magicproject.org">http://magicproject.org</a> )	To explore strategic partnership opportunities for review production and guideline tools.	Step 1 & 2	Bid to Norwegian gov't led by Magic. Cochrane one of many partners. Bid failed. Meeting held in Philadelphia to discuss partnership.	Continue work on MoU, and plan follow up meeting in Seoul. MoU planned to be sent to CSG by the end of the year for decision.
3	REWARD ( <a href="http://researchwaste.net">http://researchwaste.net</a> )	Continue to develop and explore Cochrane's relationship with the newly formed REWARD organization.	Step 1 & 2	Issued Survey to get input on how Cochrane can best respond to the REWARD statement.	Special session in Seoul to discuss REWARD (including survey results) and obtain additional input on what Cochrane could/should do.  Announce Cochrane-REWARD prize on reducing research waste. First prize winner will be announced in May 2017, at World Congress on Research Integrity (Amsterdam).  Other actions may follow from the Seoul special session.
3	Joanna Briggs Institute ( <a href="http://joannabriggs.org">http://joannabriggs.org</a> )	Exploring opportunities for scientific and	MoU signed Implementation phase	Partnership announced. Discussions ongoing at the Mid-Year Meeting. (Craig Lockwood, Cochrane Nursing Field, is acting head of Joanna Briggs).	Meeting in Seoul to take stock. Continue to explore options for collaboration, especially in knowledge translation (JBI part of KT working group).

		methodological research, as well as sharing of data for the efficiency of evidence synthesis processes, and joint representation at major healthcare events.			
3	UICC ( <a href="http://www.uicc.org">http://www.uicc.org</a> )	Work with UICC in providing expertise and strengthening evidence base.	MoU signed in 2015 Implementation phase	Partnership announced. Cochrane technical expert involved in EML review cancer medicines (task group led by UICC). For the 2017 EML round, input focuses on reviewing methodology used by UICC and advise on improvement.	Work re EML ongoing – providing advice on EML methodology for 2017 EM round.  Continue exploring other possible areas of collaboration, i.e., around the World Cancer Congress (Nov, 2016 ) where UICC will disseminate information about Cochrane and the Cochrane Library.
	Campbell		Implementation phase	Quarterly update meeting held. Continuing to work to align our publishing policies and develop joint dissemination plans on appropriate Reviews. Organised a session at What Works Conference in September (London).	Moving forward on Global Evidence Summit.