Cochrane

Review and Methods Digest

Topics in this Digest:

1. Preview the new Cochrane Library website

Cochrane and Wiley are delighted to invite you to preview the new Cochrane Library website: https://betacochranelibrary.com

This preview allows you to view some of the new enhancements to the Cochrane Library and to take a look at the site before the future full launch.

Please be aware that the site is still in development and that this is not the final version of the new Cochrane Library website. This preview site will not replicate all features of the current Cochrane Library http://www.cochranelibrary.com, so please do not try to save searches or access your previous saved searches as this functionality will not be available until full launch.

Some of the enhanced features we are pleased to share with you include:

- **Enhancements to the way Cochrane Reviews and all content is displayed**
- Inclusion of Cochrane Clinical Answers in the Cochrane Library
- **Integrated linking between CENTRAL and Cochrane Reviews**
- A new Spanish portal and discoverability of translated content
- **Improved search results display, including new filters for** all content and expanded sort options
- **Advanced search options now integrated to allow easy switching; plus an improved MeSH** search feature and more export options

We will be announcing the launch of the new Cochrane Library website in full during the coming weeks; in the meantime we value your thoughts on this preview site, and you can submit feedback here: https://betacochranelibrary.com/feedback

My best wishes,

David Tovey
Editor in Chief
Cochrane Library

2. Stipends deadline for Cochrane Colloquium Edinburgh 2018 – 27th April 2018

A number of stipends and bursaries are available to help consumers and other attendees based in developing countries to attend Cochrane Colloquium Edinburgh 2018.

The stipends (funding you can apply for, if eligible) are to help cover registration, travel, accommodation, and other expenses associated with attending the 2018 Colloquium.
Cochrane are providing stipends for:
1) Cochrane Consumers;
2) Cochrane contributors living in low-, lower-middle-, (LMIC) and upper-middle-income countries (UMIC);
3) Students living in LMIC and UMIC countries.

The deadline for applying is Friday 27 April 2018.

Follow the link to find out whether you are eligible and how to apply: colloquium.cochrane.org/stipends-and-bursaries

3.   Cochrane sponsored group registration

As in previous years, Cochrane will pay one registration fee for each registered Cochrane Group to attend the Colloquium. Sponsored group registrants will be required to pay for their own travel, accommodation, optional or additional social events tickets.

To claim your sponsored group registration, you are required to complete this online form on behalf of the person who is to be nominated for the sponsored place, for your Group (either yourself or a colleague): https://colloquium.cochrane.org/node/add/sponsored-entity

The submission deadline is 1 June 2018. This deadline will not be extended.

If you experience any problems in registering yourself or a colleague for the sponsored place, please email sponsoredgroup@cochrane.org.

4.   New Co-ordinating Editor of Cochrane Colorectal Cancer

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Jacob Rosenberg as the new Co-ordinating Editor of Cochrane Colorectal Cancer at the Herlev Hospital and University of Copenhagen in Denmark.

Professor Rosenberg has authored or co-authored nearly 800 publications, including 706 scientific articles, 53 book chapters, and 26 textbooks, and has delivered several hundred scientific lectures internationally and within Denmark. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, US. He has been Editor in Chief for Ugeskrift for Læger and the Danish Medical Journal for 13 years and associate editor of the Scandinavian Journal of Surgery for 2 years. He was also a member of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) for 7 years and is past president of The Royal Copenhagen Medical Society.

Professor Rosenberg said: "*I am delighted to take this position and look very much forward to the work. Cochrane Colorectal Cancer has currently a broad scope covering various issues within abdominal surgery. My goal is to streamline the editorial process, to continue the great work of enhancing the quality of the reviews, and to increase awareness and importance of the publications from our Cochrane Review Group.*"

5.   David Moher Cochrane Methods Symposium: Bias and Beyond

Organisers: Doug Altman, Isabelle Boutron, Asbjørn Hróbjartsson, Matthew Page, Camilla Hansen
Date and time: 15th September 2018, 1:30pm - 5:30pm
Venue: 2018 Cochrane Colloquium Edinburgh, Edinburgh International Conference Centre

After many years as a co-convenor of the Cochrane Bias Methods Group, David Moher decided to step down from the leadership in 2017.

This is a good occasion to celebrate his contribution to methods research and to pause and reflect on the status of methods research today. Our intention with the symposium is thus both **to celebrate David's very considerable impact on research synthesis methodology and to** provide an overview of selected hot topics within methods research relevant for the broader Cochrane community.

The program is under development, but will be announced when finalised. Please check the Cochrane Methods website for more information as it becomes available.

6. Cochrane Learning Live – Upcoming webinar programme

There are upcoming webinars on:

Challenges in conducting systematic reviews in developing countries: 8th May 2018
This webinar will address some contextual and methodological challenges to conduct systematic reviews in developing countries using experiences from Jamaica. Approaches to overcoming the challenges will be presented. The session will consist of 40-minute presentation, followed by questions and answers. The webinar is intended for GESI Network members and a general audience interested in conducting systematic reviews in the context of developing countries. More info and sign-up via http://training.cochrane.org/challenges-conducting-systematic-reviews-developing-countries

Undertaking a qualitative evidence synthesis to support decision-making in a Cochrane context: 14th June 2018
In Cochrane, qualitative evidence syntheses must be linked with a named intervention effect review and are undertaken to explore specific phenomena of interest, such as: complexity, heterogeneity; variation in outcomes; implementation, feasibility, acceptability etc.
New Cochrane Qualitative and Implementation Methods Guidance published in the Journal of Clinical Epidemiology in December 2017 outlines three qualitative evidence synthesis methods to select from. These methods will be presented and their applicability discussed.

This webinar is intended for review authors who want to or have conducted a qualitative evidence synthesis to subsequently integrate with a Cochrane effect review. It will consist of brief presentations followed by Q&A sessions. More info and sign-up via http://training.cochrane.org/undertaking-qualitative-evidence-synthesis-support-decision-making-cochrane-context

7. Systematic reviews of diagnostic studies – delay to training course in Vienna

The forthcoming two-day training event on DTA reviews has unfortunately been postponed due to illness. It will now be held on:

25-26 June 2018 - still in Vienna

This workshop is organised by Cochrane Austria, Cochrane Netherlands and the Cochrane Screening and Diagnostic Test Methods Group.

8. Cochrane Interactive Learning

A reminder that Cochrane Interactive Learning is a suite of online learning modules, that provides over 10 hours of self-directed learning on the complete systematic review process for both new and experienced review authors. Cochrane Interactive Learning is aimed primarily for authors of systematic reviews following Cochrane methodology and is useful for both introductory-level learners and more experienced learners who want to refresh and update their knowledge.

The modules are free to Cochrane Authors, Cochrane Editorial teams, Information Specialists, Group Co-ordinators / Convenors / Directors and staff, Consumer referees, Copy Edit Support, Executive members, Governing Board members and Translators. There are also subscription options for individuals and institutions.

For more information and to access the modules, go to:
http://training.cochrane.org/interactivelearning

9. Cochrane Priority Reviews List - March 2018 revision

The March 2018 revision of the Cochrane Priority Reviews List includes new titles from the Cochrane Effective Practice & Organisation of Care, Oral Health; and Pregnancy & Childbirth Groups.

The following three titles on the list are open to new authors - please note restrictions:

1. Antioxidants for respiratory function in Duchenne muscular dystrophy – Neuromuscular Disease (*Open only to authors with Duchenne muscular dystrophy research and clinical practice expertise*)
2. Particle versus photons for the treatment of chordoma – Neuro-oncology/ Gynaecological Cancer
3. Prediction models for adjuvant chemotherapy or radiotherapy for women with endometrial cancer - Gynaecological Cancer

Cochrane-wide prioritisation remains an important project, with almost 230 priority reviews or updates published since the project began in January 2015.

Please be aware that all titles in the priority list have author teams in place, except for those mentioned above. If you are interested in one of these open titles please contact the relevant Cochrane Review Group before submitting a review proposal.

If you would like to contribute more generally to Cochrane's prioritisation work, please contact Ruth Foxlee (rfoxlee@cochrane.org).

Download the Cochrane Priority Review list for 2018 (March revision) (spreadsheet)

Ruth Foxlee
Information Specialist
Editorial and Methods Department

10. 2018 March for Science: April 14th

The March for Science is being held on 14 April, 2018.

In 2017, more than one million people around the world gathered together in the largest event for science advocacy in history. In 2018, we unite again to hold our elected and appointed officials responsible for enacting equitable evidence-based policies that serve all communities and science for the common good. As an official partner of the global March movement, Cochrane encourages our contributors and colleagues to get involved in participating in a March in your area.

Cochrane's Knowledge Translation Department has pulled together a list of ideas and resources that we'll be adding to right up to the March day. Please see this link for these resources and more information.

11. Apply for the Cochrane-REWARD prize for reducing waste in research

Cochrane is now calling for nominations for the 2018 prize.
Deadline for nominations is 15th May 2018

An estimated $170 billion of research funding is wasted each year because its outcomes cannot be used. The waste occurs during 5 stages of research production: question selection, study design, research conduct, publication, and reporting. Much of this waste appears to be avoidable or remediable, but there are few proposed solutions.

To stimulate and promote research in this area, Cochrane announces the Cochrane-REWARD prize.

All nominations will be assessed using the following criteria:

1. The nominee has addressed at least one of the 5 stages of research waste (questions, design, conduct, publication, reporting) in the area of health;
2. The nominee has pilot or more definitive data showing the initiative can lower waste;
3. The initiative can be scaled up;
4. The estimated potential reduction in research waste that the initiative might achieve.

Nominations for the 2018 prize, should be submitted by 15 May 2018. Two prizes will be awarded (a 1st prize of £1500 and a 2nd prize of £1000), but other shortlisted candidates will also be highlighted to help disseminate good ideas.

The winners of the 2018 prize will be announced at the Cochrane Colloquium, Edinburgh, 16-18 September, 2018.

Click here for more information on the prize and how to submit a nomination

12. 2017 Dashboard now available

[Cochrane's Annual Dashboard](#) presents some key metrics on our organizational performance over the previous calendar year. It includes data on Strategy to 2020 target achievements, and key metrics around the four Strategy to 2020 **Goals. It's an excellent tool to use to reflect on** what we accomplished in 2017 and the work to be done in 2018.

Some highlights from the 2017 dashboard include:

- Record numbers of people accessed and used Cochrane evidence to inform their health decisions: 12.5 million Reviews accessed from the Cochrane Library in 2017 (28% up from 2016); and Cochrane.org web visits increased from 5.7 million in 2015 to over 15 million in 2017.
- New national licences in India and South Africa contributed to 3.66 billion people worldwide having free at the point of use access to the Library.
- **All of Cochrane's 2017 targets were met with the exception of the launch of the new** Cochrane Library (which is now scheduled for April 2018).
- Cochrane Library sales and royalties increased dramatically compared with 2016, contributing to a 17% increase in overall income and a £269,000 operational surplus. Cochrane reserves rose to £5.65 million.

[See the 2017 Dashboard](#)
[Read more about the Dashboard](#)
[Read more about Cochrane's *Strategy to 2020*](#)

13. New TaskExchange features for evidence newcomers & translators

[TaskExchange](#) has launched new features especially for evidence newcomers and translators!

TaskExchange is Cochrane's online platform that connects people needing help on health evidence projects (Cochrane and non-Cochrane) with people who have the time and skills to help out. TaskExchange now has almost 2,100 contributors collaborating on systematic review and guidelines projects, with tasks including language translation, consumer and clinical review, data extraction, screening and guideline development.

Newcomers:
We are always evolving and improving, and our most recent features aim to make TaskExchange even better for translators as well as newcomers to the world of evidence.

Evidence newcomers can now browse beginner tasks directly from the TaskExchange homepage. And all beginner tasks are marked with a green leaf, so they can be easily identified in the general task list. **If you're posting a task, consider labelling it as an entry level.**

Translators:
Translation tasks are very popular on TaskExchange, and the platform has a dedicated group of translators with skills in many languages. To streamline the platform for translation tasks, several changes have been made. These include the ability to browse translations tasks from

the home page, to filter for tasks in a particular language, to receive weekly email alerts related to that language only, and to nominate language skills in personal profiles.

If you're a translator interested in working on health evidence projects, head over to TaskExchange **and browse the translation tasks today!**

Sign up to TaskExchange, follow us on Twitter and contact us at taskexchange@cochrane.org

14. More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- Upcoming events
- Several positions within Cochrane are currently advertised