Finding new funding sources

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Introduction

In this year’s budget, CSG approved two new funding positions—one focusing on trusts and foundations and another focusing on the EU. These positions were approved partly out of a desire to see Cochrane providing greater support to groups in finding funding, but also with the awareness that as Cochrane moves to becoming fully open access, we will potentially need to replace millions of pounds that we currently earn from our publishing model. In addition to our innovations strategy, we need to explore other funding sources, including trusts, foundations and the EU.

Kathelene Weiss was appointed as the trust and foundations fundraiser and began working part-time in early April. We hope to have appointed the EU funding position in early May. We decided to make both these positions fixed term contracts, so we can learn and assess how likely we are to attract funds before making a permanent commitment.

In early April, we also updated our sources of funding for Cochrane. This list is collated from the monitoring reports submitted by groups. (See Appendix I).

As you will see from the funding list in Appendix I, the mainstay of our funding is either academic institutions or research funders. For most groups, their funding tends to be related to where they are based. Few are professional bodies, charities, trusts or foundations—all of whom are likely to have a strong need and interest in the work of Cochrane. As a newly formed central fundraising team, we want to hear about your experiences, negative and positive, about trying to attract funds from these sources so that we can build on this learning.

From the experience that Kathelene and I both have as professional fundraisers, we believe this area represents a prime opportunity for everyone in Cochrane to access funding but I would like to validate this view based on further discussions with executive boards in Athens.

Fundraising for Groups

We need a coordinated approach to how we access these new potential funders so that we don’t appear disjointed and compete against each other. We recognise that individuals working in Cochrane Centres and Branches are likely to have the local knowledge in relation to potential funding opportunities, and we will work closely with these groups. Of course, all funds a Group raises with the support and guidance of the Trust and Foundations Fundraiser will be retained by the Group.

1. Given that we only have two central fundraising positions, neither of which are full time, we want to ensure that we are putting them to the best use. Therefore, we are proposing that we run a pilot with two centre/branches, two review groups and one field over the next year to review what other funding possibilities exist. We will share all learning from these pilots and if successful, we will look to see what is needed to provide more support to groups. If this proposed approach is agreed by the executive boards at the mid-year meeting in Athens, we will ask for expressions of interest from groups and will develop criteria for deciding who is involved in the pilot.

2. We will aim to have a fundraising toolkit available by Vienna. This will include documents and templates on fundraising practice, prospect research, a prospect profile template, sample presentation, Cochrane case for support statement and evidence of benefit and other documents that groups will need to develop their fundraising approaches.

3. EU Applications—When the EU funding coordinator starts, he or she will look for funding opportunities across Cochrane as well as to help coordinate bids. As a first step, the EU funding coordinator will map EU opportunities for funding across Cochrane’s work and then work with the recently formed EU Working Group on which bids to move forward. This will not stop groups from continuing with developing their own bids through their institutions, but this role can also provide support, as needed.

A recent example of this would be the support we have given to the Neurological Field on an EU bid. As the Neurology Field is not a legal entity, it cannot take grant money from the EU, but instead this money will be accepted by Cochrane centrally and given the Field.

Fundraising for Cochrane centrally

If centrally, we want to approach a funder, we will consult with the centre, branch or network director before speaking to that potential funder.

Central fundraising-- We want to work in partnerships with groups and are cognizant of the importance of joined-up working and the need to ensure that benefits are shared appropriately. Every funding approach will be slightly different as it will depend on the funder, how restrictive the funding is (i.e. for a specific project or to fund our work more generally) and how much input and work has been done by the Group. We also recognize that sometimes the initial approach is disproportionately time consuming. Therefore, if a new funder is interested in funding work that is managed centrally (i.e. replacing income lost by going open access or central projects such as translations), at a *minimum*, we are proposing that 10% of the total funding received would be paid to the centre/branch/network where the funder has its headquarters. The actual percentage will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

For discussion and input

As we begin a concentrated effort in accessing new funding, we are seeking input on:

• Given our resource constraints, what more can the central team do to support groups in accessing funding?

• Are there specific funders you think we should be approaching?

• For groups that have been tried to access funding from trusts, foundations, professional bodies, and charitable sources, what lessons and approaches could you share?

• What barriers have groups experienced in accessing this funding?

Appendix I

Current list of Cochrane Funding Sources, based on monitoring reports received from groups

\*\*\*please note this is the funders as it stand at this time. We are still waiting to hear back from some of the fields/groups/networks etc. with completed financial monitoring forms.

Funders per Centre and Branch 2014

Asociación Cardiovascular Centroccidental- Venezuela

Fundacion de ciencias de la salud \_-Colombia

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia

Universidad Tecnológica Equinoccial- Ecuador

National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia

NÖGUS/ Health and Social Funds Lower Austria

Land NÖ/ State Government of Lower Austria

BGA/ Federal Ministry of Health Contract Research

Canadian Institute of Health Research

West China Hospital

Suva

Swiss School of Public Health+

Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois - salaries

School of Medicine, University of Split

Ministry of Science, Education and Sports

City of Split

County of Split and Dalmatia

Croatian Cochrane Symposium fee

The European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism

National Institute for Health and Welfare (Finland)

Ministry of Health (France)

Institute of Economic And Social Studies (France)

Quebec Ministry of Health

Medical Centre - University of Freiburg

Federal Ministry of Health (Germany)

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Germany)

Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau

Instituto de Salud Carlos III

World Health Organization

Oxford University

Fundació Academia Ciències Médiques Catalunya i Balears

Biomedical Research Institute Sant Pau

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Japan)

National Centre for Child Health and Development (060201)

National Research Foundation of Korea

Korean University College of Medicine

National Evidence-based Healthcare Collaborating Agency

New Zealand Ministry of Health

Otago University

Food and Safety Australia and New Zealand

RPC, Department for International Development UK

Federal Ministry of Education/University of Calabar (Nigeria)

University of Calabar Teaching Hospital/Federal Ministry of Health (Nigeria)

Rigshospitalet; Rigshospitalet Research committee

Danish Agency of Science

Copenhagen University, Weddel-Wedellsborg

Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services (NOKC)

Jagiellonian Univeristy Medical College

Faculdade de Medicina de Lisboa

South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) Baseline - Operating

South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) Baseline - Salaries

South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) Baseline - FlagShip

The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)

Liverpool Tropical School of Funding

World Health Organization via University of San Francisco

World Health Organization via University of Stellenbosch

University of Johannesburg

Thailand Research Fund (TRF)

Funders per Field and Network 2014

School of Translational Health Science

In-kind funding from host organisation 2013 and 2014

Publication of Pearls in Modern Magazine

Health Authority, Umbria Region

Wiley

National Institutes of Health (US), National Centre for Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Funders per Methods Group 2014

Early Years Research Group, Ingham Institute

Discretionary Funding

Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation Infrastructure Funding

Institutional/Departmental Salaries of convenors (volunteers)

Institutional/Department Travel Funds for convenors

MAPI Group

Funder per Review Group 2014

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

National Health and Medical Research Council, Australia

National Breast Cancer Foundation, Australia

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) UK/Cochrane Incentive Scheme

National Health and Medical Research Council (Australia)

Department of Health (Victoria)

Department of Health and Ageing, Australia

Victorian Health Promotion Foundation

National Health & Medical Research Council

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) - DHA

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) UK Cochrane Review Incentive Scheme

Australian and New Zealand Society Of Nephrology (ANZSN)

STEP Program - literature searching

STEP Program - investment income

CHW - investment income

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC)

Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

National Institute of Cancerology

Arthritis Clinical Practice Guideline

Syphilis Clinical Practice Guideline

Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Clinical Epidemiology Master Program. Universidad Nacional de Colombia

School of Medicine

Workshop "Risk of bias in observational studies"

Public Health PhD Program - Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Small Grant from School of Medicine

Universidad de Antioquia

Stroke Clinical Practice Guideline

Project Hospital School of Medicine

Colombian Anesthesia Society

Colombian Gastroenterology Society

MAYU Foundation

Universidad Nacional abierta y a distancia

Capitol RegionH

CCCG funding from a shared funding for the Danish CC entities

Dipartimento di Area Critica

Dipartimento di M;edicina e Chirurgia Traslazionale

Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Deutsche Krebshilfe e.V. (German Cancer Aid)

Köln Fortune/University of Cologne

University Hospital of Cologne

French National Cancer Institute

Assistance publique -hopitaux de Paris (French Cochrane Centre)

Medical Faculty of the Heinrich-Heine University

Faculdade de Medicina de Lisboa

MSD Foundation

Institute of Molecular Medicine

Italian Health Ministry

A.R.E.MA.N. -Ass. for Epidemiol. Research for Neurol. Disease

Italian Multiple Sclerosis Federation

AVASM

NHS to Fondazione IRCCS, Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta), Milan, Italy.

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

NHS National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

Research & Development Office (R4484CHC)

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) - Programme Grant and Infrastructure Grant

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) - Infrastructure Grant, Programme Grant, Directly Commissioned Cochrane Incentive Scheme and Incentive award

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

Department for International Development (DFID) UK

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

Motor Neuron Disease Association

Gain (GBS/CIDP charity)

Medical Research Council centre

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) - Infrastructure Funding

Chief Scientist Office

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) - programme grant CRG allocation and Incentive scheme

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) - Cochrane Review Group Infrastructure Award and Programme Grant (SPRUSD)

Chief Scientist Office (CSO), Scottish Government

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

Norwegian government

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)

New Zealand Ministry of Health

Northwestern University, Dept of Preventive Medicine

National Institute of Health and Human Services

University of Vermont, College of Medicine