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References

In this section:

Entering and citing references

In this section:

References in Cochrane Reviews

References are divided into two groups: 1) references to studies; and 2) other references. The references to studies comprise included, excluded, and ongoing studies as well as studies awaiting classification. The other references comprise additional references (e.g. those used in the background or discussion sections) and references to other published versions of the review (including the protocol).

Each study has a Study ID (usually made up of the last name of the first author plus the year) used to refer and link to the study within the review. Each study has one or more references. Other references have Reference IDs (usually made up of the last name of the first author plus the year).

Entering references

Reference fields

When references are entered manually in RevMan Web, different reference fields need to be completed (e.g. author(s), title, journal, page numbers etc.). For guidance on content and presentation of the different reference fields, see the [Reference fields](#) section. Note that text formatting is applied to references entered in RevMan Web during the publishing process; for example, journal titles and book titles are converted to italic text on publication.

Reference types

References can be typed in manually or imported from files generated by standard bibliographic software (see <https://documentation.cochrane.org/revman-kb/populate-import-and-organize-data-228786750.html>) or from the Cochrane Register of Studies. It is preferable to use the importing method. Different types of references can be entered into RevMan Web. See [Overview of reference types](#).

For detailed examples of reference types and how to populate reference fields, see the [Reference types](#) section. If a reference does not fit into one of the available categories, select 'Other' and use the available fields in a way that gives an appropriately formatted reference. You can also refer to [Citing Medicine](#), the National Library of Medicine's guide for citing references, for other reference types, such as a patents, legal material, or journal articles with a retraction, comment, or erratum. See also [Differences between Cochrane and NLM style](#).

Citing references

This table provides guidance on inserting references in the text in Cochrane Reviews. The study and reference IDs must be linked to the reference list.

Guidance	Correct	Incorrect
Separate multiple citations with a semicolon.	(Smith 2000; Robb 2001)	(Smith 2000, Robb 2001)
List in alphabetical or chronological order (from earliest to latest), and be consistent within a single document.	Alphabetical: (Bakri 1988a; Bakri 1988b; Davis 2003; Slinn 2001)	Alphabetical: (Bakri 1988a; Bakri 1988b; Slinn 2001; Davis 2003)
		Chronological: (Bakri 1988a; Bakri

	Chronological: (Bakri 1988a; Bakri 1988b; Slinn 2001; Davis 2003)	1988b; Davis 2003; Slinn 2001)
No 'and' before the final citation	(Davis 2001; Omari 1988; Preston 1988; Slinn 2001)	(Davis 2001; Omari 1988; Preston 1988; and Slinn 2001)
Citations can be used as part of a sentence or placed in round brackets within the closest punctuation. Note: see below for single sentences containing multiple pieces of information	The study was successful (Robeson 1990).	The study was successful [Robeson 1990].
	The study was successful (Griffin 1990); it confirmed previous findings (Howes 1995).	The study (Griffin 1990) was successful; it confirmed previous findings (Howes 1995).
	Williams 1991 reports the full details.	(Williams 1991) reports the full details.
Sentences that include multiple pieces of information supported by a number of citations should be structured so that it is clear to which piece of information each citation refers.	Smith 1990 included women only, while Jones 1999 included men only. or: One trial included women only (Smith 1990), while another included men only (Jones 1999).	One trial (Smith 1990) included women only, while another (Jones 1999) included men only.
Rephrase to avoid using 'et al.' in the text.	Boddy and colleagues wrote that...	Boddy et al. wrote that...
	The Boddy study mentions...	

Reference fields

References need to be entered into RevMan Web using the designated fields (see Figure 1). Different reference types, such as journal articles and books, need information in different fields.

The table below has guidance on the correct way of entering information into the various reference fields in RevMan Web. RevMan Web automatically inserts punctuation at the appropriate locations in the formatted reference, so ensure that there is no full stop at the end of each reference field.

Field	Guidance	Correct	Incorrect
Study ID or Reference ID	Generally, preferred Cochrane format uses family name of first author and year of publication Alternatively, if a trial is more widely known by an acronym, authors can use the format 'TRIALNAME YYYY'; use the year of publication of the primary reference for the trial.	Garner 2001 WOMAN 2017	—
	Two or more articles from the same author from the same year	Bushell 2000a, Bushell 2000b	Bushell 2000 a, Bushell 2000 b, (space between year and letter) Bushell 2000, Bushell 2000a, (no letter with year)
Authors	List the first six authors before using 'et al'; precede 'et al' by a comma Note: when entering authors in the Cochrane Register of Studies (CRS) all authors should be listed when possible.	Smith H, Tavender E, Klaes D, Hinds P, Remington T, Sparkes V, et al	—
	No 'and' before the final	Smith H, Tavender E, Klaes D, Hinds P	Smith H, Tavender E, Klaes D, and Hinds P
	Authors' names should be written with the family name first, followed by a maximum of two initials. The family name should be followed by one space and a maximum of two initials. There should be no full stops or spaces between initials, though they may be hyphenated where appropriate. Given names should not appear in full, but be restricted to an initial. Authors should be separated by a comma. It is particularly important to ensure that author data is entered accurately, as the author data is automatically processed by organisations	Schoenfeld KT, Belfield S, Miller PD	Schoenfeld KTM, Belfield Sean, Miller, P. D.

Field	Guidance	Correct	Incorrect
	that receive Cochrane content at publication. Note: see 'Family names' in the section on Names for advice about Dutch and Chinese names, and designations of rank.		
English title (journal article)	Sentence case: first letter of the first word in upper case; other words in lower case unless they are proper nouns or require an upper-case letter If the title includes a colon, the word after the colon should start with a lower-case letter unless it is a proper noun or requires an upper-case letter (e.g. Epidemiology: Scotland a suitable microcosm?). Do not use italics.	Antibiotics for treating infection The importance of vitamin A Implementing GRADE Vitamin D for preventing cancer: evidence and health beliefs Staphylococcus aureus infection control in clinics	Antibiotics For Treating Infection The importance of vitamin a Implementing Grade Vitamin D for preventing cancer: Evidence and health beliefs <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> infection control in clinics
English title (book or dissertation)	Write in full using title case (i.e. each substantive word starts with an upper-case letter). Note: titles of book chapters should be written in sentence case (i.e. first letter of the first word in upper case; other words in lower case unless they are proper nouns or require an upper-case letter). Do not use italics.	Sports Injuries and Their Treatment Staphylococcus aureus	Sports injuries and their treatment <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
Original title	Include non-English title only if provided by the journal or database	—	—
Journal title	Write in full using title case (i.e. each substantive word starts with an upper-case letter). Follow Style Manual guidance rather than stylings proposed by the journals or its publisher. Select titles from the journal pick list. Note: enter journal names in regular text in the References section of RevMan Web, as they are italicized automatically when the review is published (however, in the text of the review they should be input in italics).	Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology PLOS One	J Pharm Pharmacol PLOS ONE PLos One

Field	Guidance	Correct	Incorrect
	Do not include 'The' at the start of journal names. Journal titles sometimes change; use the title current at the time of publication (e.g. <i>British Medical Journal</i> changed to <i>BMJ</i> in 1988, then to <i>The BMJ</i> in 2014, although both <i>BMJ</i> and <i>The BMJ</i> are entered as 'BMJ').	Lancet Journal of Physiology	The Lancet The Journal of Physiology
	For non-English language journal titles, include an English translation in square brackets after the original title only if the translation is provided by the journal or database.	Zhonghua Yi Xue Za Zhi [Chinese Medical Journal]	Zhonghua Yi Xue Za Zhi (Chinese Medical Journal)
Issue number	Complete for all reference types when available.	—	—
Page numbers	See examples.	324-8, 556-60, 1093-8	324-28, 556-560, 1093-1098, and 1093-98
Identifiers	Use of identifiers is optional (they may aid identification of the reference and allow a hyperlink from the reference to the article). Note: identifiers are not automatically included in the reference field slots provided in RevMan Web. When entering an identifier, authors must click on the 'Add Identifier' button below the reference fields input table and select the type of identifier wanted (i.e. MEDLINE, PubMed, Embase, DOI, Central, or Other).	—	—
DOI (type of identifier)	Include where provided	10.1002/14651858.CD004577.pub2	DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD004577.pub2

Reference types

In this section:

Overview of reference types

Overview of reference types

This section provides information about how to insert the following reference types into Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5).

Journal articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard • Both personal authors and an organization as an author • Organization as an author • No named author • Not in English • In volume with supplement • In issue with supplement • In volume with part • In issue with part • In issue with no volume • In press • Electronic publication ahead of print
Cochrane publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cochrane Review protocol • Cochrane Review • Comment on a Cochrane Review • Cochrane Handbooks • Chapter of a Cochrane Handbook • Cochrane Editorial and Publishing Policy Resource • Cochrane Style Manual
Conference proceedings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full conference proceedings as a journal supplement • Conference abstract as a journal supplement • Full conference proceedings not in a journal format • Conference abstract not in a journal format
Books, monographs, theses and dissertations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With personal author(s) • With editor(s), compiler as author • With organization as author and publisher • Chapter in an edited book • Dissertation or thesis
Websites	
Software	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Email message ◦ Letter ◦ Other (e.g. conversation) • Unpublished data • Figure, table or appendix in a journal article • Study listed in a trial register • Ongoing study (not listed in trial register) • Scientific or technical report • Supplementary materials

Journal articles

In this section: [Standard](#) | [Both personal authors and an organization or group as an author](#) | [Organization or group as an author](#) | [Personal authors writing on behalf of an organization or group](#) | [No named author](#) | [Not in English](#) | [In volume with supplement](#) | [In issue with supplement](#) | [In volume with part](#) | [In issue with part](#) | [In issue with no volume](#) | [In press and submitted](#) | [Electronic publication ahead of print](#) | [Copublished articles](#)

Standard

Example with page numbers: Osrin D, Vaidya A, Shrestha Y, Baniya RB, Manandhar DS, Adhikari RK, et al. Effects of antenatal multiple micronutrient supplementation on birthweight and gestational duration in Nepal: double-blind, randomised controlled trial. Lancet 2005;365(9463):955-62.

Reference type	Journal article
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Authors	Osrin D, Vaidya A, Shrestha Y, Baniya RB, Manandhar DS, Adhikari RK, et al
English title	Effects of antenatal multiple micronutrient supplementation on birthweight and gestational duration in Nepal: double-blind, randomised controlled trial
Journal/book/source	Lancet
Date of publication	2005
Volume	365
Issue	9463
Pages	955-62

Example with article number: Chadwick G, Varagunam M, Brand C, Riley SA, Maynard N, Crosby T, et al. Coding of Barrett's oesophagus with high-grade dysplasia in national administrative databases: a population-based cohort study. *BMJ Open* 2017;7:e014281.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Chadwick G, Varagunam M, Brand C, Riley SA, Maynard N, Crosby T, et al
English title	Coding of Barrett's oesophagus with high-grade dysplasia in national administrative databases: a population-based cohort study
Journal/book/source	BMJ Open
Date of publication	2017
Volume	7
Issue	
Pages	e014281

Both personal authors and an organization or group as an author

Example: Brodie MJ, Perucca E, Ryvlin P, Ben-Menachem E, Meencke HJ; Levetiracetam Monotherapy Study Group. Comparison of levetiracetam and controlled-release carbamazepine in newly diagnosed epilepsy. *Neurology* 2007;68(6):402-8.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Brodie MJ, Perucca E, Ryvlin P, Ben-Menachem E, Meencke HJ; Levetiracetam Monotherapy Study Group Note: organization separated from authors by a semi-colon
English title	Comparison of levetiracetam and controlled-release carbamazepine in newly diagnosed epilepsy
Journal/book/source	Neurology
Date of publication	2007
Volume	68

Issue	6
Pages	402-8

Personal authors writing on behalf of an organization or group

Example: Zhang W-H, Deneux-Tharaux C, Brocklehurst P, Juszczak E, Joslin M, Alexander S, on behalf of the EUPHRATES Group. Effect of a collector bag for measurement of postpartum blood loss after vaginal delivery: cluster randomised trial in 13 European countries. *BMJ* 2010;340:c293.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Zhang W-H, Deneux-Tharaux C, Brocklehurst P, Juszczak E, Joslin M, Alexander S, on behalf of the EUPHRATES Group Note: organization separated from authors by a comma. If more than six authors, put 'et al, ' after the sixth author, followed by 'on behalf of [organization name]'
English title	Effect of a collector bag for measurement of postpartum blood loss after vaginal delivery: cluster randomised trial in 13 European countries
Journal/book/source	BMJ
Date of publication	2010
Volume	340
Issue	
Pages	c293

Organization or group as an author

Example: GRADE Working Group. Grading quality of evidence and strength of recommendations. *BMJ* 2004; 328:1490-4.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	GRADE Working Group
English title	Grading quality of evidence and strength of recommendations
Journal/book/source	BMJ
Date of publication	2004
Volume	328
Issue	
Pages	1490-4

No named author

Example: Naltrexone: new preparation. Transient preventive efficacy on alcoholic relapse. *Prescrire International* 1999;8(39):9-11.

Reference type	Other
English title	Naltrexone: new preparation. Transient preventive efficacy on

	alcoholic relapse
Journal/book/source	Prescrire International
Date of publication	1999
Volume	8
Issue	39
Pages	9-11

Not in English

Example: Abadie V, Depondt E, Bresson JL, Vidailhet M. Recommended dietary allowances for pregnant women affected with phenylketonuria [Recommandations diététiques pour les femmes enceintes atteintes de phénylcétonurie]. Archives de Pédiatrie 2001;8(4):397-406.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Abadie V, Depondt E, Bresson JL, Vidailhet M
English title	Recommended dietary allowances for pregnant women affected with phenylketonuria Note: leave this section blank if an English translation is not available. Note: do not include the language of the original article at the end of the title.
Original title	Recommandations diététiques pour les femmes enceintes atteintes de phénylcétonurie
Journal/book/source	Archives de Pédiatrie
Date of publication	2001
Volume	8
Issue	4
Pages	397-406

NOTE: for references in languages that use a non-Latin alphabet, e.g. Chinese or Russian, all fields must be completed in Romanized transliteration and not in the original script, as in the example below.

Example: Jia CL, Jiang GS, Yang XX, Dou HQ, Li CR. Effects on Helicobacter pylori reinfection in gastric mucosa by two oral plaque control methods. Huaxi Kongqiang Yixue Zazhi [West China Journal of Stomatology] 2009;27(2):172-4.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Jia CL, Jiang GS, Yang XX, Dou HQ, Li CR
English title	Effects on Helicobacter pylori reinfection in gastric mucosa by two oral plaque control methods. Note: do not include the language of the original article at the end of the title.
Original title	Note: leave this section blank if the original title is not available.

Journal/book/source	Huaxi Kongqiang Yixue Zazhi [West China Journal of Stomatology]
Date of publication	2009
Volume	27
Issue	2
Pages	172-4

In volume with supplement

Example: Bowman CM. The long-term use of inhaled tobramycin in patients with cystic fibrosis. Journal of Cystic Fibrosis 2002; 1 Suppl 2:194-8.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Bowman CM
English title	The long-term use of inhaled tobramycin in patients with cystic fibrosis
Journal/book/source	Journal of Cystic Fibrosis
Date of publication	2002
Volume	1 Suppl 2
Pages	194-8

In issue with supplement

Example: Oertel J, Gaab MR, Runge U, Schroeder HW, Piek J. Waterjet dissection versus ultrasonic aspiration in epilepsy surgery. Neurology 2005;56(1 Suppl 1):142-6.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Oertel J, Gaab MR, Runge U, Schroeder HW, Piek J
English title	Waterjet dissection versus ultrasonic aspiration in epilepsy surgery
Journal/book/source	Neurosurgery
Date of publication	2005
Volume	56
Issue	1 Suppl 1
Pages	142-6

In volume with part

Example: Hanly C. Metaphysics and innateness: a psycho-analytic perspective. International Journal of Psychoanalysis 1988;69(Pt 3):389-99.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Hanly C

English title	Metaphysics and innateness: a psycho-analytic perspective
Journal/book/source	International Journal of Psychoanalysis
Date of publication	1988
Volume	69
Issue	Pt 3
Pages	389-99

In issue with part

Example: Edwards L, Meyskens F, Levine N. Effect of oral iso-tretinoin on dysplastic nevi. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology 1989;20(2 Pt 1):257-60.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Edwards L, Meyskens F, Levine N
English title	Effect of oral iso-tretinoin on dysplastic nevi
Journal/book/source	Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology
Date of publication	1989
Volume	20
Issue	2 Pt 1
Pages	257-60

In issue with no volume

Example: Panjwani U, Selvamurthy W, Singh SH, Gupta HL, Thakur L, Rai UC. Effect of Sahaja yoga practice on seizure control & EEG changes in patients of epilepsy. Indian Journal of Medical Research 1996;(103):165-72.

Reference type	Journal article
Authors	Panjwani U, Selvamurthy W, Singh SH, Gupta HL, Thakur L, Rai UC
English title	Effect of Sahaja yoga practice on seizure control & EEG changes in patients of epilepsy
Journal/book/source	Indian Journal of Medical Research
Date of publication	1996
Volume	(103)
Pages	165-72

In press or submitted to a journal

Articles that have been accepted for publication can be cited as 'in press' articles. Articles that have been submitted to a journal, but not yet accepted for publication, must not be cited in that form. Instead they are cited as unpublished data.

Example: Johnson AB, Smith CD. A review of treatments for chronic disorders. Journal of Medicine (in press).

Reference type	Other
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Authors	Johnson AB, Smith CD
English title	A review of treatments for chronic disorders
Journal/book/source	Journal of Medicine
Date of publication	(in press)

Electronic publication ahead of print

Example: Feldman RD, Zou GY, Vandervoort MK, Wong CJ, Nelson SA, Feagan BG. A simplified approach to the treatment of uncomplicated hypertension. A cluster randomized, controlled trial. Hypertension 2009 Feb 23 [Epub ahead of print]. [DOI: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.108.123455]

Reference type	Other
Authors	Feldman RD, Zou GY, Vandervoort MK, Wong CJ, Nelson SA, Feagan BG
English title	A simplified approach to the treatment of uncomplicated hypertension. A cluster randomized, controlled trial.
Journal/book/source	Hypertension
Date of publication	2009 Feb 23 [Epub ahead of print]
Identifier: DOI	10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.108.123455 Note: it is highly desirable to have a DOI for e-publications.

Copublished articles

Some journal articles are published in two or more journals simultaneously, usually to reach a particular audiences or to publicize cross-journal initiatives. If such articles are included as studies, then all references should be added under the study ID. If such articles are additional references, then cite one only of them.

Cochrane publications

In this section: [Protocol](#) | [Cochrane Review](#) | [Comment on a Cochrane Review](#) | [Registered title](#) | [Editorial](#) | [Handbooks](#) | [Handbook chapter](#) | [Cochrane Editorial and Publishing Policy Resource](#) | [Cochrane Style Manual](#)

Protocol for a Cochrane Review

Example: Ranganathan LN, Ramaratnam S. Zonisamide monotherapy for epilepsy [Protocol]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2007, Issue 4. Art. No.: CD006789. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD006789.

Reference type	Cochrane Protocol
Authors	Ranganathan LN, Ramaratnam S
English title	Zonisamide monotherapy for epilepsy Note: do not add the word '[Protocol]' because the software enters this automatically.
Journal/book/source	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Date of publication	2007
Issue	4
Identifier - DOI	10.1002/14651858.CD006789

	Note: the CD number is included in the DOI and does not need to be repeated.
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Cochrane Review

Example: Herbert RD, de Noronha M, Kamper SJ. Stretching to prevent or reduce muscle soreness after exercise. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2011, Issue 7. CD004577. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD004577.pub3.

Reference type	Cochrane Review
Authors	Herbert RD, de Noronha M, Kamper SJ
English title	Stretching to prevent or reduce muscle soreness after exercise
Journal/book/source	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Date of publication	2011
Issue	7
Identifier - DOI	10.1002/14651858.CD004577.pub3 Note: the CD number is included in the DOI and does not need to be repeated.

Comment on a Cochrane Review, Protocol or Editorial

All published comments on articles in the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* have a unique URL that can be used to cite the comment. The comment URL can be found by accessing the full text of the comment on the Cochrane Library and then copying the URL that is displayed by the browser.

Example: Cosmi E, Belli P, Montisci M. Comment on: Fundal pressure during the second stage of labour. 12 March 2018. www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD006067.pub3/detailed-comment/en?messageId=167119701

Reference type	Correspondence
Authors	Cosmi E, Belli P, Montisci M
English title	Comment on: Fundal pressure during the second stage of labour
Journal/book/source	www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD006067.pub3/detailed-comment/en?messageId=167119701
Date of Publication	12 March 2018

Registered title

Example: Teoh A. Anti-fibrotic therapies for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and other fibrotic interstitial lung diseases [title]. www.cochrane.org/title/anti-fibrotic-therapies-idiopathic-pulmonary-fibrosis-and-other-fibrotic-interstitial-lung-diseases. Registered on 11 January 2019.

Reference ID	Teoh 2019
Reference type	Other

Authors	Teoh A
English title	Anti-fibrotic therapies for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and other fibrotic interstitial lung diseases [title]
Journal/book/source	www.cochrane.org/title/anti-fibrotic-therapies-idiopathic-pulmonary-fibrosis-and-other-fibrotic-interstitial-lung-diseases
Date of publication	Registered on 11 January 2019

Editorial

Editorials published on the Cochrane Library are part of the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*.

Example: Moons KG, Hooft L, Williams K, Hayden JA, Damen JA, Riley RD. Implementing systematic reviews of prognosis studies in Cochrane [Editorial]. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2007, Issue 10. Art. No.: CD006789. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD006789.

Reference type	Cochrane review
Authors	Moons KG, Hooft L, Williams K, Hayden JA, Damen JA, Riley RD
English title	Implementing systematic reviews of prognosis studies in Cochrane [Editorial]
Journal/book/source	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Date of publication	2018
Issue	10
Identifier - DOI	10.1002/14651858.ED000129 Note: the ED number is included in the DOI and does not need to be repeated.

Handbooks

Note: the new version (version 6) of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions was published in book and online form in October 2019. The online version was updated in February 2021 (version 6.2), so if citing the online version please cite version 6.2. The book version should only be cited if the book version was used as the reference material.

If authors need to cite previous versions, an example of the 2011 online version is shown below; all other previous versions can be found at training.cochrane.org/versions-and-changes-handbook. References from previous versions of the Handbook need to be formatted in the way shown below, and not as recommended within the Handbooks themselves.

2021 online version: Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions

Note: make sure to use the reference type 'Other', and not 'Book' or 'Section of book'.

To cite the full online Handbook, please use:

Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s). *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions* Version 6.2 (updated February 2021). Cochrane, 2021. Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook.

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Reference type	Other
Authors	Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s)
English title	Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 6.2 (updated February 2021). Cochrane, 2021
Journal/book/source	Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook

2019 book version: Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions

To cite the print edition of the Handbook, please use:

Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions. 2nd Edition. Chichester (UK): John Wiley & Sons, 2019.

Reference type	Book
Authors	Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s)
English title	Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions
Date of publication	2019
Edition	2nd
Publisher name	John Wiley & Sons
City of publication	Chichester (UK)

2011 online version: Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions

Note: the online version of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions has been replaced by a more current version (version 6.2). We are keeping the 2011 online version in the Style Manual for practical reasons, but make sure to cite the version used in the review. Also make sure to use the reference type 'Other', and not 'Book' or 'Section of book'.

Example: Higgins JP, Green S, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.1.0 (updated March 2011). The Cochrane Collaboration, 2011. Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook/archive/v5.1/.

Reference type	Other
Authors	Higgins JP, Green S, editor(s)
English title	Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.1.0 (updated March 2011). The Cochrane Collaboration, 2011
Journal/book/source	Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook/archive/v5.1/

Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy

Note: make sure to use the reference type 'Other', and not 'Book' or 'Section of book'.

Example: Deeks JJ, Bossuyt PM, Gatsonis C, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy Version 1.0.0. The Cochrane Collaboration, 2013. Available from srda.cochrane.org.

Reference type	Other
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Authors	Deeks JJ, Bossuyt PM, Gatsonis C, editor(s)
English title	Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy Version 1.0.0. The Cochrane Collaboration, 2013
Journal/book/source	Available from srdata.cochrane.org

GRADE Handbook

Example: Schünemann H, Brożek J, Guyatt G, Oxman A, editor(s). Handbook for grading the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations using the GRADE approach (updated October 2013). GRADE Working Group, 2013. Available from gdt.guidelinedevelopment.org/app/handbook/handbook.html

Reference type	Other
Authors	Schünemann H, Brożek J, Guyatt G, Oxman A, editor(s)
English title	Handbook for grading the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations using the GRADE approach (updated October 2013). GRADE Working Group, 2013
Journal/book/source	Available from gdt.guidelinedevelopment.org/app/handbook/handbook.html

Handbook chapters

Note: the new version (version 6) of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions was published in book and online form in October 2019. The online version was updated in February 2021 (version 6.2), so if citing chapters in the online version please cite version 6.2. Chapters in the book version should only be cited if the book version was used as the reference material.

If authors need to cite previous versions, an example of a chapter from the 2011 online version is shown below; all other previous versions can be found at training.cochrane.org/versions-and-changes-handbook. References from previous versions of the Handbook need to be formatted in the way shown below, and not as recommended within the Handbooks themselves.

2021 online version: Chapter of the Cochrane Handbook of Systematic Reviews of Interventions with authors

Note: make sure to use the reference type 'Other', and not 'Book' or 'Section of book'.

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Reference type	Other
Authors	Lefebvre C, Glanville J, Briscoe S, Littlewood A, Marshall C, Metzendorf M-I, et al
English title	Chapter 4: Searching for and selecting studies. In: Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 6.2 (updated February 2021). Cochrane, 2021
Journal/book/source	Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook

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Example: Lefebvre C, Glanville J, Briscoe S, Littlewood A, Marshall C, Metzendorf M-I, et al. Chapter 4: Searching for and selecting studies. In: Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions. 2nd Edition. Chichester (UK): John Wiley & Sons, 2019:67-108.

Reference type	Section of book
Authors	Lefebvre C, Glanville J, Briscoe S, Littlewood A, Marshall C, Metzendorf M-I, et al
English title	Chapter 4: Searching for and selecting studies
Journal/book/source	Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions
Date of publication	2019
Pages	67-108
Edition	2nd
Editor(s)	Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA
Publisher name	John Wiley & Sons
City of publication	Chichester (UK)

2011 online version: Chapter of the Cochrane Handbook of Systematic Reviews of Interventions with authors

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Example: Lefebvre C, Manheimer E, Glanville J. Chapter 6: Searching for studies. In: Higgins JP, Green S, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.1.0 (updated March 2011). The Cochrane Collaboration, 2011. Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook/archive/v5.1/.

Reference type	Other
Authors	Lefebvre C, Manheimer E, Glanville J
English title	Chapter 6: Searching for studies. In: Higgins JP, Green S, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.1.0 (updated March 2011). The Cochrane Collaboration, 2011
Journal/book/source	Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook/archive/v5.1/

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Note: make sure to use the reference type 'Other', and not 'Book' or 'Section of book'.

Example: Li T, Higgins JP, Deeks JJ, editor(s). Chapter 5: Collecting data. In: Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 6.2 (updated February 2021). Cochrane, 2021. Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook.

Reference type	Other
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Authors	Li T, Higgins JP, Deeks JJ, editor(s)
English title	Chapter 5: Collecting data. In: Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 6.2 (updated February 2021). Cochrane, 2021
Journal/book/source	Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook

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Example: Li T, Higgins JP, Deeks JJ, editor(s). Chapter 5: Collecting data. In: Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions. 2nd Edition. Chichester (UK): John Wiley & Sons, 2019:109-142.

Reference type	Section of book
Authors	Li T, Higgins JP, Deeks JJ, editor(s)
English title	Chapter 5: Collecting data
Journal/book/source	Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions
Date of publication	2019
Pages	109-142
Edition	2nd
Editor(s)	Higgins JP, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA
Publisher name	John Wiley & Sons
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Example: O'Connor D, Green S, Higgins JP, editor(s). Chapter 5: Defining the review question and developing criteria for including studies. In: Higgins JP, Green S, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.1.0 (updated March 2011). The Cochrane Collaboration, 2011. Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook/archive/v5.1/.

Reference type	Other
Authors	O'Connor D, Green S, Higgins JP, editor(s)
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Journal/book/source	Available from training.cochrane.org/handbook/archive/v5.1/

Chapter of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy

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Reference type	Other
Authors	Deeks JJ, Wisniewski S, Davenport C, editor(s)
English title	Chapter 4: Guide to the contents of a Cochrane Diagnostic Test Accuracy Protocol. In: Deeks JJ, Bossuyt PM, Gatsonis C, editor(s). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy Version 1.1. The Cochrane Collaboration, 2013
Journal/book/source	Available from methods.cochrane.org/sdt/handbook-dta-reviews

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