



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Issue 39 of the Centre & Fields Digest, which is published monthly. This Digest provides information particularly relevant to Cochrane's Geographic Groups and Fields, including consumers. It will include a round-up of pertinent information also published in the Community newsletter and on the Cochrane websites. It is the sister publication to the [Review and Methods Digest](#), which is sent to CRGs and Methods Groups.

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE:

- **Letter from the CEO: New line management arrangements for Cochrane Networks & Centres**
- **Call for nominations: Invitation to stand for election to the Governing Board: Deadline 15 July 2018**
- **Cochrane's Governing Board appoints Marguerite Koster as Co-Chair**

Plus:

- **Call for nominations: Invitation to stand for election as Author representative on the Cochrane Council: Deadline 15 July 2018**
- **Would you like to host a future Governance Meeting?**
- **2017 Annual Review now available**
- **Submission for the 2018 Cochrane awards and prizes: Deadline 29 June 2018**
- **Tell us about your Knowledge Translation products and activities! Deadline 20 July 2018**
- **In Memoriam: Doug Altman**
- **Cochrane Governing Board meeting minutes and agendas now available**
- **The Cochrane Crowd PICO task is here!**
- **Russian translation team completes Cochrane Training project**
- **Improved learning: Cochrane Training website relaunched with new design**
- **Review Author starter kit: a new collection of resources**

Please note that Group staff and contributors are not automatically added to the email lists receiving this Digest and other official Cochrane emails, even if they have been added to the Archie database. Staff at

Centres and Fields should ensure new colleagues are signed-up to receive emails through the Cochrane email lists by contacting [Lorna McAlley](#), Executive Assistant to the CEO.

ITEMS FOR YOUR ACTION:

1. Call for nominations: Invitation to stand for election to the Governing Board: Deadline 15 July 2018

Cochrane's Governing Board is seeking to elect a new member. Cochrane is an international organization and a registered charity in the UK, and members of the Governing Board from around the world are 'Trustees' of the charity. The Trustees carry ultimate responsibility for Cochrane and this is a critically important role. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

NOTE: On Thursday 21 June, an email was sent to Cochrane Members regarding upcoming elections. If you did not receive this email, please go to [the Cochrane Account log in webpage](#) and either create an account or log-into your existing account to activate it and under 'communications' make sure you have opted in to communications.

2. Call for nominations: Invitation to stand for election as Author representative on the Cochrane Council: Deadline 15 July 2018

The Cochrane Council exists to give Cochrane Members, from a broad range of constituencies, a voice in Cochrane's future. The purpose of the Council is to provide:

- A forum for Cochrane Groups and Members to consider high-level matters affecting Cochrane as a whole;
- A mechanism to raise matters and provide input to the Governing Board on behalf of Cochrane Groups and Members; and
- A forum to consider matters at the request of the Board and inform Board deliberations.

For more information, and details of how to apply, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

NOTE: On Thursday 21 June, an email was sent to Cochrane Members regarding upcoming elections. If you did not receive this email, please go to [the Cochrane Account log in webpage](#) and either create an account or log-into your existing account to activate it and under 'communications' make sure you have opted in to communications.

3. Would you like to host a future Governance Meeting?

Governance Meetings are Cochrane's annual business meetings. We are looking for a Cochrane Group to host the 2020 and 2021 events.

Cochrane Governance Meetings are an opportunity for the Cochrane's Governing Board, Council and Executives to meet and discuss the organization's *Strategy to 2020* and related targets, and how these are being developed and implemented. From 1-5 April 2019, Cochrane Poland will be hosting the event in Krakow.

It is important to note that Cochrane Governance Meetings are usually held in Europe, where the location should be within two hours' travelling time of an international airport; but they can also be held elsewhere in the world, though at an easily accessible transport hub.

For more information, and details of how to apply, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

4. Submission for the 2018 Cochrane awards and prizes: Deadline 29 June 2018

Every year Cochrane awards members of its Community a range of prizes that highlight high-quality methodological research through to supporting health decision-making in developing countries, and contributors who have made a significant contribution to the organization. The prizes and awards that are presented at the annual Colloquia, will this year be awarded at the [Edinburgh Colloquium](#) from the 16-18 September, 2018. Submissions to the Kenneth Warren, Chris Silagy, and Bill Silverman Prizes as well as the Anne Anderson Award are now open. You have until 29 June 2018 to make your nominations.

For more information please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

5. Tell us about your Knowledge Translation products and activities! Deadline 20 July 2018

Cochrane's Knowledge Translation (KT) Framework is guiding the work of a range of activities, aimed at ensuring Cochrane's Reviews are relevant, respond to the needs of our stakeholders, and are presented in a format that facilitates the use of evidence.

The aim of the Cochrane KT's 'Improving and Upscaling Products' Working Group is to document current dissemination products across Cochrane and to identify and prioritize those products or activities for further improvement and development. In order to achieve this aim, our Working Group has developed a survey to try to capture this information.

We would like to receive one response on behalf of each of Cochrane's Review Groups, Geographical Groups, Method Groups and Fields; we also welcome individual responses if you are already working in KT and would like to share your ideas and experiences.

The survey can be found [here](#) and will be open until Friday 20th July.

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

6. Letter from the CEO: New line management arrangements for Cochrane Networks & Centres

Dear Directors of Centres, Associate Centres and Affiliates,

I wanted to let you know about a change I am making in the responsibility for direct management and support of Cochrane's Centres (and through them, other geographic Groups).

Having established the accountability relationships and mechanisms of Cochrane Centres to Cochrane's Central Executive over the last couple of years, it has become clear to me in the last few months that I am unable to give the time and attention that is and will be required to guide, support and manage the work of the Directors of Cochrane Networks and Centres (and their management of their Centre teams, Cochrane Associate Centres and Affiliates) to meet the knowledge translation, community support, representative and advocacy challenges that will become the main focus of Cochrane Centres in the coming years. These are tremendously exciting times for Cochrane's geographic-oriented Groups as we look to strengthen their engagement and interactions with Cochrane Review Groups and Fields; and ensure that Cochrane evidence is known and used in healthcare policy and practice more often – and in more countries – than ever before. To be successful Cochrane's Central Executive will need to provide you with a level of engagement and support that is much greater than in the past – and this is especially the case as we also work to establish new or improved Cochrane Networks in the US, China and South Asia.

I've therefore decided, with the support of both my Senior Management Team and Cochrane's Governing Board Co-Chairs, to pass on the responsibility for direct line management of Cochrane's Centres and geographic Networks to Sylvia De Haan (sdehaan@cochrane.org), my new Senior Advisor for Centres, Partnerships & Fundraising. Sylvia is based in the CEO's Office and will work closely with me (and continue to be supported by me for key strategic and tactical choices and issues). Sylvia brings great experience to the role; and her knowledge and involvement in the KT strategy and leadership of Cochrane's organizational partnership and external engagement means that she's perfectly placed to support Cochrane Centres in your own increased efforts in these critical areas. Sylvia is also so much more organised and efficient in her work that I'm sure guidance and support to the Centres will improve considerably! She'll take a leading role co-chairing the Centre Directors Executive, working with Erik Von Elm and Lotty Hooft (the Council reps and other Co-Chairs). We plan to participate together with each of you for the next round of quarterly meetings, after which Sylvia will meet directly with each of you on a regular basis.

I hope you'll join me in welcoming Sylvia to this new role and I'm grateful for all of the support that you can give her as she gets to know the details about the work of you and your Centre, as well as any Associate Centres and Affiliates. I've enjoyed enormously the many interactions I've had with Cochrane Centre Directors and your staff over the last five and a half years; and be assured that these will continue in future. I remain available at any time – as now – for anybody who wants to raise issues with me directly, whilst expecting most issues of a Centre's business to be covered by you and Sylvia in the first instance. Nevertheless, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

With my warmest best wishes,

Mark Wilson, CEO

7. Cochrane's Governing Board appoints Marguerite Koster as Co-Chair

Cochrane's Governing Board is delighted to announce it has appointed Marguerite Koster as its new Co-Chair, taking over from Cindy Farquhar, who finishes her term in September 2018. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

8. 2017 Annual Review now available

Cochrane's *2017 Annual Review* is now available for download and dissemination. To find out more about what we achieved in 2017, what's happening across the organization in 2018, and links to share with stakeholders, please see [here](#). We hope that Cochrane Centres, Associate Centres and Affiliates, and Fields, will send the *Annual Review* to their donors and other supporters, and use it in their reporting, fundraising and external relations work.

9. In Memoriam: Doug Altman

On behalf of everyone within the Cochrane community, we are sad to learn of the death of Professor Doug Altman. Doug was a leading medical statistician and played a foremost role in the development of evidence synthesis methods and reporting, in addition to his substantial role in the founding and later development of the Cochrane Collaboration. Our thoughts and condolences are with Doug's family, friends, and colleagues across the world.

For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

10. Cochrane Governing Board meeting minutes and agendas now available

The minutes from the Governing Board's meeting in Lisbon, 19 March 2018, are now available. For more information, please visit the [Cochrane Community website](#).

Also, the agenda and open access papers for the Cochrane Governing Board meeting held by teleconference on 13 June 2018 are now available to view online, for information only. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

11. The Cochrane Crowd PICO task is here!

The Cochrane Crowd team is pleased to announce the launch of the Cochrane Crowd PICO task. Building on the randomised trial identification task, this new task asks you to help **describe** the trial. In order to do that we've adopted a well-known framework called PICO. PICO stands for **P**opulation, **I**ntervention, **C**omparator and **O**utcome.

Sign up to [Cochrane Crowd](#), follow on [Twitter](#) and contact the team at crowd@cochrane.org.

12. Russian translation team completes Cochrane Training project

[Cochrane Training](#) is pleased to announce that Cochrane Review production training materials are now available [in Russian](#). The materials cover essential aspects of a Cochrane Review production based on the *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions*. The training materials, translated into Russian, consist of records of fourteen Cochrane standard training modules.

For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

13. Improved learning: Cochrane Training website relaunched with new design

Cochrane Training is pleased to announce that we have re-launched training.cochrane.org with a new design – making the learning resources you need easier to find and use. The redesigned site gives learners a clearer interface to access diverse learning opportunities.

For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

14. Review Author starter kit: A new collection of resources

With the new Cochrane Training website being relaunched, we've started to present our materials as collections. One of our new collections is the Review Author starter kit: A new collection of resources to begin your journey as an author in Cochrane. Read more at <http://training.cochrane.org/online-learning/review-author-starter-kit>

15. Cochrane Learning Live – Upcoming webinar programme – July-August 2018

- 3rd July 2018: *Meta-analysis of time-to-event data* - For more information please see the [Cochrane Training website](#).
- 1st August 2018: *Get to know RevMan Web – the new review writing tool* - For more information please see the [Cochrane Training website](#).
- 21st August 2018: *A research program on rapid reviews: where should we venture next?* - For more information please see the [Cochrane Training website](#).

16. Current Cochrane Jobs

There are several exciting opportunities currently available to work for Cochrane. For more information, please see [Cochrane Jobs](#).

17. More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- [Cochrane Malaysia's awards for outstanding contribution of volunteer translators and editors, 2017](#)
- [Being Goldilocks: towards getting Cochrane UK special series 'just right' through trial and error](#)
- [Learning by doing: Six ways to boost your knowledge with Cochrane Crowd](#)
- [Living proof of living evidence](#)
- [From living systematic reviews to living recommendations](#)
- [Upcoming events](#)
- [Tender and Funding Round-Up](#) - A round-up of active tender and funding opportunities that may be of interest to Cochrane contributors, authors, and groups - updated through the month.

The Centre & Fields Digest is created by the Chief Executive Officer's Office. We intend to make it available every month and to bring together various items of content that we think will be of interest, to maximise communication and minimise inbox overload. If you wish to submit content please contact [Lorna McAlley](#), Executive Assistant to the CEO. We hope that you will find the Digest interesting and informative, and also that it will provide you with opportunities for communicating your views and suggestions.

Mark G. Wilson

Chief Executive Officer



E mwilson@cochrane.org T +44 (0)207 183 7503 S markg.wilson

Cochrane, St Albans House, 57-59 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX, UK

www.cochrane.org

Trusted evidence. Informed decisions. **Better health.**