

Highlights from the CEU include our quality strategy workplan, job opportunities, and information on the mid-year meeting.

1. Actions where we invite your input:

Integrated quality strategy:

The CEU integrated plan will be carried out over the next four to five years. The plan aims to ensure that CRG teams, review authors, and others have the materials, support and environment necessary to produce reviews that are of consistently high quality. This requires focusing our attention on a re-evaluation of the editorial process, while continuing to attend to quality assurance. Highlights of the strategy include: development of an advisory committee, development of individualized Group management plans, and piloting changes to the editorial process.

- Full text of the Executive Summary can be found here: [Executive summary](#)
- Full text of the Detailed Strategy Plan can be found here: [Detailed strategy plan](#)

Editorial and Publishing Policy Resource (EPPR) update

Each year between January and March, people with the following Cochrane Review Group editorial roles must add or update their conflict of interest declarations via Archie: Assistant Managing Editor, Assistant Trials Search Co-ordinator, Consumer Co-ordinator, Co-ordinating Editor, Deputy Co-ordinating Editor, Editor, Feedback Editor, Managing Editor, Statistician, Trials Search Co-ordinator.

- For details regarding how to update conflict of interest declaration: http://www.cochrane-net.org/imshelp/conflict_of_interest_forms.htm
- For details regarding conflict of interest policy: <http://www.cochrane.org/editorial-and-publishing-policy-resource/conflicts-interest-and-cochrane-reviews#editors>

CrossCheck Survey

Reminder to complete survey on editorial teams' use of CrossCheck.

- Deadline extended to 24 Feb. Direct questions to Anupa Shah (mesupport@cochrane.org) with "plagiarism survey" in subject line.
- Link to survey: <https://community.cochrane.org/use-crosscheck-and-cochranes-plagiarism-policy>

2. For Your Information:

Cochrane Response and Review Groups:

The Steering Group has recently approved the creation of a consultancy service to work together with Cochrane Review Groups and Centres to provide a timely response to requests for commissioned evidence reviews and tailored evidence services. The main objective is to provide a mechanism for Cochrane Review Groups and Cochrane Centres to increase their capacity to respond to requests for commissioned evidence reviews; increasing both the number and types of reviews commissioned across Cochrane, and extending the types of commissioning contracts Cochrane can commit to.

- For further details: <http://community.cochrane.org/news/tags/authors/cochrane-response-%E2%80%93-working-cochrane-review-groups>

Steering Group decisions:

The CSG has set Cochrane's key areas of activity for 2016, approving a set of 17 organization-wide Targets. These Targets are specific, measurable areas of work that will bring us closer to achieving the objectives of Cochrane's Strategy to 2020.

- For further details: [Steering Group decisions](#)

Audit report on GRADE / SoF:

This report compares protocols published from two issues of The Cochrane Library in 2013 and 2015 describing a plan to implement GRADE and Summary of Findings (SoF) tables. The number of protocols describing the intention to use GRADE increased from 35% to 91% between the two cohorts. In addition, recent protocols show improvement in the specification of GRADE considerations, methods for preparing SoF tables and SoF table outcomes.

- For further details: [Audit of planned methods for using GRADE and preparing Summary of Findings tables in protocols of Cochrane Reviews \(January 2016\)](#)

3. Reminders:

Mid-year meeting information and registration:

The Cochrane 2016 Mid-Year Meeting will be held on 4th and 5th April at 11 Cavendish Square, the home of The King's Fund. The CSG meetings will be held on 6th, 7th and 8th April. Registration is now open.

- For further details or to register: <http://london2016.cochrane.org>

4. Job opportunities:

Quality and Standards Committee (QSAC) members:

In support of the quality strategy plan, a QSAC is being convened, comprised of a mix of senior Cochrane editors and methodologists. Members will oversee the progress of the quality strategy and provide advice and feedback to the CEU team, provide critical guidance, support and advice in relation to the management of CRGs identified as being at high risk of producing reviews that do not meet agreed standards, and act as 'quality advocates' within Cochrane in support of the strategy. Committee members will need to be able to contribute time up to a total of 10 days per year, and will receive a nominal consultancy fee, equivalent to the cost of one free Colloquium registration. Further information is available *here*

- Individuals with the relevant skills and experience are invited to apply for the QSAC by submitting a short Curriculum Vitae and cover letter to David Tovey, Editor in Chief (dtovey@cochrane.org). The closing date for applications is 29th February 2016 (12 midnight GMT).

Three half time Editors for CEU (fixed contract, 1 year):

- Post One, Review quality and methods project, will provide support for the CEU Screening project aimed at improving and maintaining the quality of Cochrane Reviews, supporting training for the CRG editorial teams, and conducting periodic audit to measure progress.
- Post Two, Editorial policy development, will focus on the development and implementation of key policies and resources, including peer review, managing suspected fraud within potential studies for inclusion in a Cochrane Review and retractions of studies already included.
- Post Three, Editorial process revision, will provide support to improve the timeliness of review production by re-evaluating the editorial process and working in pilot projects that improve production efficiency, author and editor experience, and review quality.
- The full job description is available [here](#).

Other opportunities:

- Cochrane Response seeks Systematic Review Manager-
<http://www.cochrane.org/news/cochrane-response-seeks-systematic-review-manager-london-uk>
- Cochrane Canada seeks Program Lead-
<http://www.cochrane.org/news/cochrane-canada-seeks-program-lead-hamilton-canada>
- Cochrane seeks Partnership Co-ordinators-
<http://www.cochrane.org/news/cochrane-seeks-partnership-co-ordinator-london-uk-flexible>

In an effort to increase coordination of communication activities, Cochrane Editorial Unit will send a twice monthly digest on Mondays. If you have feedback on the digest, have something you would like to share in the next issue, or would like to add someone to the mailing list, please email ceu@cochrane.org .