



## Welcome message

Dear Colleagues

Since we last reported, the Project Team has continued work on the sustainability review and to create an implementation plan for the networks. Bi-weekly meetings are being carried out that concentrates on assessing individual CRGs, and progress towards agreeing the relevant functions for the networks, the role and responsibilities of the Senior Editors, and processes for resolving decisions around allocating CRGs to networks. We have been encouraged by the enthusiasm of many CRGs and will continue to engage with the CRG community. We plan to start discussing the implementation plan with members of the CRG community over the next 4 to 6 weeks.

I am also pleased to report that the first meeting of the Scientific Committee took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> May. I am delighted that Philippe Ravaud, Director of Cochrane France has agreed to be a Chair of the Committee. Philippe brings great expertise and a record of ground breaking methodological research to the role. We are seeking another Chair from within the Committee to work alongside Philippe. Issues discussed at the first meeting included an agreement on its terms of reference, and discussions around three areas: the ROBINS-I tool for assessing risk of bias in non randomised studies, the ROB 2 tool, and methods for avoiding error due to multiple testing or small sample size. In each case further communications will follow once the minutes are agreed.

David Tovey  
19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

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## 1) Launch of Cochrane Global Mental Health

Cochrane is delighted to announce the development of [Cochrane Global Mental Health](#): a partnership that brings together the five Cochrane Review Groups that cover mental health conditions and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health and Service Evaluation, Section of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology.

Cochrane Global Mental Health is located in the city of Verona, Italy, and is affiliated with the University of Verona, where the WHO Collaborating Centre is based. Cochrane Global Mental Health will promote evidence-based decision making in mental health care in low- and middle-income countries by supporting and training new authors of Cochrane Reviews, as well as working with clinicians, professional associations, policy-makers, patients, and the media to encourage the dissemination and use of Cochrane evidence globally.

Activities of Cochrane Global Mental Health will be co-ordinated and led by Corrado Barbui, Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health and Service Organization, University of Verona, and Marianna Purgato, Post-Doctoral Researcher affiliated with the WHO Collaborating Centre.

Activities are planned, developed, and conducted in partnership with the five Cochrane Review Groups that cover mental health research: Cochrane Common Mental Disorders, Cochrane Dementia and Cognitive Improvement, Cochrane Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems, Cochrane Drugs and Alcohol, and Cochrane Schizophrenia.

For more information on the work of Cochrane Global Mental Health, please visit their [website](#).

## 2) Cochrane Priority Reviews List: May 2017 Update

The May 2017 revision of the Cochrane Priority Reviews List includes new titles from the Cochrane Airways, Back and Neck, Heart, Movement Disorders, Schizophrenia and Tobacco Addictions Groups.

The following titles on the list are open to new authors:

- Immunomodulatory treatment for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis /motor neuron disease (ALS/MND) (Neuromuscular Disease)
- Supportive therapy for schizophrenia (Schizophrenia)

Cochrane-wide prioritisation remains an important project, with 170 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 the Editor in Chief, David Tovey ([dtovey@cochrane.org](mailto:dtovey@cochrane.org)).

[Download the Cochrane Priority Review list for 2017 \(May revision\)](#)

Ruth Foxlee, Information Specialist, Cochrane Editorial Unit  
David Tovey, Editor in Chief, *The Cochrane Library*, and Deputy Chief Executive Officer

### **3) Cochrane Q1's performance in Numbers January–March 2017**

Cochrane's organizational Dashboard presents our achievements in key metrics.

We use it as an excellent tool to reflect on our accomplishments on a quarterly basis.

Here are just a few highlights from Q1 2017:

- Cochrane Library use in Q1 shows a 35% year on year increase in demand.
- Cochrane Crowd now has over 5,000 members
- Covidence usage growing quickly in Cochrane, with a 206% increase in total users compared with Q1 2016

See Cochrane's Q1 Dashboard in full here: <http://community.cochrane.org/organizational-info/resources/strategy-2020/dashboard>

Find out more about Cochrane's organizational Targets for 2017, here: <http://community.cochrane.org/news/strategy-2020-2017-targets>

### **4) Sponsored Group registration for the Global Evidence Summit 2017 – deadline 1 June 2017**

A reminder that the deadline for sponsored Group registration for the Global Evidence Summit is 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017. This covers the cost of registration for one person from each Cochrane Group to attend. Sponsored Group registrants will be required to pay for their own travel, accommodation, optional or additional social events tickets.

Early bird registration: Register **before the 30 June 2017** to get over 11% off the standard ticket price for the GES.

**PLEASE NOTE:** we will NOT accept sponsored group registrations after this date. This is due to the Summit being a partner event rather than a Cochrane Colloquium.

#### 5) Science Media Centre Introduction to the News Media: London, United Kingdom

Science has never been as prominent in the news as it is today and it is paramount that the issues be communicated correctly. Science Media Centre organises a beginner's guide to the media, giving an insight into the way the news media works. You will hear from media-experienced scientists, news journalists, science correspondents and press officers about the realities of the news media. Topics include:

- how and why scientists and journalists should engage with each other
- how journalists find stories
- top tips for dealing with the media
- the role of the press officer
- the role of the news editor

**It isn't:** Skills-based media training. This session will give a flavour of the media to help you understand its demands and make it easier for you to work with journalists. It will also give you good reasons to forge closer ties with your press office.

**Is it for you?** Spaces are limited and this is only for scientists and engineers who have not had much/any media experience before. It's also especially good for scientists working in areas that are controversial and receive a lot of media coverage.

Location: [Francis Crick Institute in London](#) , Monday 26th June 2017, 1pm-5pm  
The event is free of charge. To reserve your place please send your full name, job title, institution, institutional e-mail address and phone number to [introduction@sciencemediacentre.org](mailto:introduction@sciencemediacentre.org).

For more information please click [here](#).

#### 6) Opportunity for Cochrane Authors to participate in a Plain Language Summaries project

To all Cochrane authors:

We would like to invite you to take part in a study on the editing process of Cochrane Plain Language Summaries. This study is being conducted by Alessandra Rossetti and Dr Silvia Rodríguez Vázquez, under the supervision of Dr Sharon O'Brien (Dublin City University, Ireland) and within the framework of the European Project INTERACT (International Network on Crisis Translation), in which Cochrane UK is also involved.

We are looking for volunteer health professionals who have experience in collaborating with Cochrane for the production of Plain Language Summaries of Systematic Reviews.

If you accept to participate, you will be asked to check a Plain Language Summary of a Cochrane Systematic Review using Acrolinx, an authoring support tool that will be provided to you along with instructions on how to use it. You will also be asked to complete a short pre-task questionnaire and two short post-task questionnaires.

Your participation in the entire study would take approximately 2 hours of your time. If you decide to participate, you will be given the possibility to take part in this study either remotely or onsite (at Cochrane UK in Oxford).

Taking part in this research study is voluntary, and you may withdraw from the study at any point without repercussion. All the data collected during the study will be treated confidentially.

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please send us an email within two weeks at either of the addresses below.

Your help would be very much appreciated! Thank you very much!

Alessandra Rossetti ([alessandra.rossetti2@mail.dcu.ie](mailto:alessandra.rossetti2@mail.dcu.ie))

Silvia Rodríguez Vázquez ([silvia.rodriguezvazquez@dcu.ie](mailto:silvia.rodriguezvazquez@dcu.ie))

#### **7) Survey round-up: May 2017**

A round-up of active surveys submitted by Cochrane contributors, colleagues, and partners seeking input from the Cochrane Community –is available at [this link](#). It is updated through the month.

#### **8) Learning resource on adverse effects**

A new Cochrane Learning Live resource is now available on **‘How to overcome the challenges of adverse effects’**.

In this series of videos, Dr Yoon Loke from Adverse Effects Methods Group covers:

- the differences between adverse effects and intended, beneficial effects
- how to choose what adverse effects to review
- how to synthesize data and evaluate bias when the data are so diverse

It is available on the Cochrane Training website at [this link](#).

#### **9) Would you like to host a future Cochrane Colloquium or Governance Meeting? Deadline for submissions: 28 July 2017**

We are looking for Cochrane Groups to host the 2020 and 2021 Cochrane Colloquia, and the 2019, 2020, and 2021 Cochrane Governance Meetings (the new name for the Cochrane Mid-Year Meeting). For more information, please see the Cochrane Community website.

## **10) GRADE-CERQual for qualitative research Methods Training Event – 13-15th June 2017**

Places are still available for the GRADE effectiveness and GRADE-CERQual for qualitative research Methods Training Event on 13-15th June 2017 in Modena, Italy.

Two parallel training streams provide separate events with joint sessions to consider common GRADE concepts. For information please [click here](#).

## **11) TaskExchange user interview**

An interview with a regular TaskExchange poster is currently featured on the Cochrane Community blog at [this link](#).

To get involved with TaskExchange, head over to the [website](#) and post a task or volunteer to help, and follow TaskExchange on [Twitter](#) to keep up with the latest news. For further information, email: [taskexchange@cochrane.org](mailto:taskexchange@cochrane.org)