



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 28th edition of the Centre & Fields Digest.

The Digest provides information particularly relevant to Cochrane's Geographic Groups and Fields, including consumers, and 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](#) published by the Cochrane Editorial Unit, which is sent to CRGs and Methods Groups.

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 admin@cochrane.org.

ITEMS FOR YOUR ACTION:

GLOBAL EVIDENCE SUMMIT, Cape Town, 13-16 September 2017

1) First ever Global Evidence Summit!

We look forward to welcoming more than 1400 people from at least 67 countries to the first ever Global Evidence Summit.

The Global Evidence Summit will be the first time that [Cochrane](#), [The Campbell Collaboration](#), [Guidelines International Network](#), [International Society for Evidence-based Health Care](#), and [Joanna Briggs Institute](#) have joined forces to create this premiere event in evidence-based policy.

The theme of the Summit is 'Using evidence. Improving lives' and aims to advance the use of reliable research evidence in addressing some of the world's most serious health and social challenges. We've created an illuminating line-up of content and world-class speakers and facilitators that promises to excite, intrigue and engage wide audiences.

We hope the Summit will provide the fruitful ground for all delegates to meet, share and collaborate to progress our aims. For a full programme schedule visit globalevidencesummit.org/signup.

Enjoy the Summit, and do take some time to explore a little of our beautiful country during your stay with us.

Best wishes,

Jimmy Volmink and Tamara Kredo

Chairs of the Organising Committees for the 2017 Global Evidence Summit

Attend the regional representative's networking session at GES and meet other organizations in your region

Wednesday 13 September, 1-2pm, Exhibition Halls 1 & 2

Sign-up here: <https://www.globalevidencesummit.org/meetings/regional-representatives-networking-session>

Sign-up to the Cochrane AGM part 1 & 2

Part 1: Community session, Thursday 14 September, 6-7pm, Auditorium 1:

<https://www.globalevidencesummit.org/meetings/cochrane-annual-general-meeting-part-1-community-session>

Part 2: Thursday 14 September, 7-8pm, Auditorium 1:

<https://www.globalevidencesummit.org/meetings/cochrane-annual-general-meeting-part-2>

Download the GES app and create your personalized schedule

Search 'GESummit 2017' in iOS and Android app stores.

Be Water Wise

Cape Town has been experiencing one of the most severe droughts in recent history. The whole province is severely affected and water restrictions are in place. We therefore request all delegates of the GES to keep this in mind and to use water sparingly. When you're at your hotel, take a quick shower instead of a bath, don't put towels in the laundry basket unless absolutely necessary, and be careful to close taps properly.

2) **2017 Annual General Meeting: 14 September 2017, Cape Town**

Dear Cochrane Member,

It is our pleasure to invite you to attend Cochrane's 2017 Annual General Meeting.

DATE: Thursday 14 September 2017

TIME: 18:00-20:00 local time (GMT+ 2, [check your time zone](#))

LOCATION: Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town, South Africa at the Global Evidence Summit

The aim of the Annual General Meeting is to provide the opportunity for Cochrane's trustees (the Governing Board) and senior officers to explain their management of the charity to you, the members. It also provides you with an opportunity to ask questions before voting on business decisions and current issues, which are put to the vote as 'resolutions'.

This year, the formal business agenda will be preceded by a celebration and assessment of success by the Cochrane Community, and facilitated by Charles Wiysonge from Cochrane South Africa. We hope it will be of interest to all Cochrane members and supporters. The AGM will be recorded and made available on the [Cochrane Community website](#) for those unable to attend in person.

This is the first AGM to be held under Cochrane's new Articles of Association and now, for the first time, every member has a vote!

All contributors who have been designated as members of Cochrane have been emailed to advise of their status. In order to vote as a member, you must be able to log in using an active Cochrane account username and password. To log in to an existing Cochrane account or set up a new one, please go to <https://account.cochrane.org/my-account/> and follow the directions provided. If you have questions about your membership status, please contact membership@cochrane.org.

For more information on how to sign up and vote, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

3) Regional representatives networking session - Wednesday 13 September 2017 - 13:00 to 14:00

This session is an opportunity for regional representatives from the Summit partners and other organizations to meet and network. The meeting area will be divided so that you can network by region. There will also be a large map for you to add your contact details to. For more information, please see the [Global Evidence Summit website](#).

4) PACK Open Day – Tuesday 12 September 2017 : Cape Town

The PACK programme tackles health systems issues so that primary care practitioners can deliver evidence based care that is policy-aligned and feasible for their setting. Developed by the University of Cape Town Lung Institute's Knowledge Translation Unit (KTU), it is currently being implemented in collaboration with the BMJ and local role-players in South African, Brazilian and Nigerian public health

systems. As a satellite session to the Global Evidence Summit, the KTU, in partnership with the Western Cape Department of Health, invite you to a PACK Open Day at the KTU's home, the University of Cape Town Lung Institute in Mowbray. You will have the opportunity to attend presentations about the Unit's guideline development work and implementation research, view displays showcasing the programme's training and health systems components, participate in PACK interactive training sessions and meet the developers, implementers and researchers of the programme – the KTU and BMJ teams, country localisers, policy makers and end-users.

For more information and how to register, please see Knowledge Translation Unit [KTU Website](#).

5) Cochrane Scientific Committee call for methods submissions – Deadline for applications is Monday 25th September 2017

The Cochrane Scientific Committee (CSC) is a new body with responsibility for making scientific decisions about the implementation of new methods for Cochrane Reviews. This Committee now underway will build up an agenda of priority methods for future implementation. From time to time Cochrane members will have the opportunity to submit methodological items to the committee. For details on how to submit an application, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

GLOBAL EVIDENCE SUMMIT, Cape Town, 13-16 September 2017

6) Governing Board agenda and open access papers now available for the 2017 Global Evidence Summit

The agenda and open access papers for the Cochrane Governing Board meeting to be held in Cape Town at the Global Evidence Summit are [now available](#). Cochrane's governing body is the Board, comprising [13 members](#) of whom some are elected by Cochrane's contributors and some are external members appointed by the Board. The Board is responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of Cochrane's strategic direction. If you would like to comment on an item then you should contact your Board representative. Contact details for Board members are available on the [Board membership page](#).

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

7) Business meetings at the Global Evidence Summit

Thank you to those who have already signed up for the business meetings taking place in Cape Town. To facilitate planning, we would be grateful if all those attending would sign-up in advance of the meetings via the GES website: <https://www.globalevidencesummit.org/signup>.

Cochrane Centre Director's Board Meeting – Thursday 14th September : 7:30am – 8:45am

An additional item on the Centre Director's Board [agenda](#) will be an update on the Knowledge Translation strategy from Sally Green, Cochrane Australia.

The Fields Executive Meeting – Thursday 14th & Friday 15th September

Please contact Elaine Carman <ecarman@cochrane.org> for these two meeting agendas.

8) If you can't join the GES in person, don't worry as you can join virtually!

Follow the event and join the discussions using #GESummit17

Plenaries and the AGM will be recorded so you can watch them back after GES

A series of communications will be posted on Community together with key highlights and best bits from the Summit

OTHER ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

9) Cochrane announces a three-year agreement to establish a Cochrane Russian Associate Centre at the Kazan Federal University

Cochrane Russia was established at the Kazan Federal University in 2014 and was soon assigned as the national coordinating center for Cochrane. Partnering together they have launched two master programs (in evidence-based medicine and pharmacology), held several international conferences, [a national round-table of evidence based medicine](#), [courses for new systematic reviewers](#), and published many systematic reviews. An agreement has been recently signed that will have Kazan Federal University hosting Cochrane Russia for the next three years. For more information, please see Cochrane.org.

10) Cochrane recommends Covidence for new reviews

The Covidence platform continues to evolve, with recent product updates advancing the tool towards the vision of a world where answers to questions about health and other fields of human wellbeing are accurate, up to date and accessible. The Covidence team is committed to engaging with the Cochrane community and continuing to make improvements that are user-focused. Significant improvements have been made recently to data extraction and to importing.

The Covidence team will have be at stand 13A at the Global Evidence Summit in Cape Town. Please say hello and let us know how your research is going! In addition, two workshops will be held: [Introduction to Covidence](#), and [Covidence Forum](#). Introduction to Covidence is a complete walk-through of the tool designed for novice users. Covidence Forum is intended for individuals already familiar with Covidence, and will share more in-depth tips and have additional time for discussion and feedback. For more information please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

11) Help Cochrane Crowd with the new clinicaltrials.gov task!

[Cochrane Crowd](#) needs your help to identify randomised controlled trials (RCT) from ClinicalTrials.gov! Today Cochrane Crowd in partnership with Cochrane's Centralised Search Service launches a new identification task, called ClinicalTrials.Gov identification (or CT ID for short). Don't know what Cochrane Crowd is? It's Cochrane's citizen science platform. Anyone can join Cochrane Crowd's collaborative volunteer effort to help categorise and summarise healthcare evidence so that we can make better healthcare decisions. Take a look at a 2-minute introductory video [here](#). For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

12) **MAGICapp: An authoring and publication platform for evidence synthesizers**

MAGICapp is an authoring and publication platform for guideline and evidence summaries. The platform guides authors through the different stages of planning, authoring, and publishing of high quality content. MAGICapp makes content available to clinicians and their patients in multi-layer format, making it possible to dig as deep into the data as needed to make well-informed decisions. There are slides from a recent webinar, as well as edited videos covering:

- Introduction and background to MAGICapp
- MAGICapp development and demonstration
- A digital and trustworthy evidence ecosystem and BMJ rapid recommendations

These can be found on [Cochrane.org](https://www.cochrane.org).

13) **More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs**

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [In memory of Fred Wolf](#)
- [Ensuring Cochrane Reviews remain trusted, and trustworthy, evidence in an era of fake news](#)
- [TaskExchange helps you choose your helper with a new endorsement feature](#)
- [Using patient-important outcomes for systematic reviews](#)
- [Project Transform – Making high-quality evidence synthesis quicker and easier](#)
- [How to survive a big conference](#)

For all current opportunities, please see [Cochrane Jobs](#)

The Centre & Fields Digest is created by the Chief Executive Officer's Office. We intend to make it available approximately every two weeks 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 [Elaine Carman](#), EA 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.

Best wishes,

Mark G. Wilson

Chief Executive Officer



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