



## Centre and Fields Digest



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 14th edition of the Centre & Fields Digest. The Digest provides information particularly relevant to Cochrane Centres 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.

### ITEMS FOR YOUR ACTION:

#### 1) Elections to the Cochrane Council for geographic-oriented Groups – Centres and Associate Centres to vote by 27 January 2017

The new [Cochrane Council](#) was established in November 2016 at the recommendation of the Governing Board, following a review in which directly elected group representatives on the Board were replaced with representatives elected by the full Cochrane membership. The intention of establishing the Council is to ensure that Cochrane Groups retain an effective voice in Cochrane's leadership and strategic decision-making.

Centres and Associates have been contacted separately by email with voting instructions. The closing date for votes is Friday 27 January.

#### 2) Global Evidence Summit 2017: Call for abstracts open – deadline 1 March 2017

Opportunities to present special sessions, workshops, oral presentations, and poster abstracts is now open for the Global Evidence Summit (GES). This is your chance to be part of the GES and we look forward to receiving abstracts around the theme: *Using evidence, Improving lives*. The GES replaces the normal Cochrane Colloquium this year.

For more information, please visit the [GES website](#).

#### 3) Registration required for the Mid-Year meeting in Geneva – deadline 16 March 2017

If you are attending the Mid-Year business meetings in Geneva you are required to register via the [Cochrane website](#). The key dates are as follows:

- **Cochrane-WHO training workshop:** Monday 3 April, morning (this is training given by Cochrane to WHO staff. You only need to attend the training morning if you are one of the facilitators)
- **Cochrane-WHO strategic partnership meeting:** Monday 3 April, afternoon (all are welcome to attend this meeting, please register for this meeting if you are planning to attend)
- **WHO/Cochrane drinks reception:** Monday 3 April, evening (all are welcome to attend the drinks reception, please register for this event if you are planning to attend)
- **Mid-Year Meeting:** Tuesday 4 April - Wednesday 5 April
- **Council meeting:** Thursday 6 April
- **Governing Board meeting:** Wednesday 5 April - Friday 7 April

#### 4) Funding opportunity: Cochrane-REWARD – deadline 28 February 2017

You are invited to apply for the Cochrane-REWARD prize for reducing waste in research. For more information, please see [Cochrane.org](http://Cochrane.org). The deadline for applications is 28 February 2017.

#### ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

#### 5) New Year message from the CEO – including *Strategy for 2020 Targets for 2017 and Plan & Budget*

Read Mark Wilson's new year message on the [Cochrane Community site](http://Cochrane.org). The article includes access to the 2017 Plan & Budget for core funds, and a summary of the organization's strategic targets for this year.

Together, the CET and Cochrane Groups will:

##### GOAL 1: PRODUCING EVIDENCE

1. Complete the development of RevMan Web and begin phased implementation for Cochrane Reviews.
2. Complete the Transform project.
3. Complete the delivery of a programme of training and accreditation for editors.

##### GOAL 2: MAKING EVIDENCE ACCESSIBLE

4. Improve the process of producing translations to make it easier for Cochrane translators and editors.
5. Define an organization-wide framework for knowledge translation activities.

##### GOAL 3: ADVOCATING FOR EVIDENCE

6. Complete the first-phase delivery of an enhanced Cochrane Library in English and Spanish.
7. Host a successful Global Evidence Summit.

##### GOAL 4: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION

8. Begin implementation of the approved Cochrane Review Group transformation programme, and finalize remaining proposals for organizational Structure & Function reforms.
9. Launch a Cochrane membership scheme.
10. Complete implementation of the approved governance reforms.

#### 6) Funding Arbiters' page

The new [Funding Arbiters' page](#) is now available on the Cochrane Community website. The page provides access to:

- A [new online form](#) for submitting conflict of interest queries to the Funding Arbiters.
- Information of conflict of interest as it relates to Cochrane Review Groups and Cochrane authors, authors, and peer reviewers.
- Sample scenarios to help Cochrane groups and authors to implement the conflict of interest policy in practice.
- Information about the role of the Funding Arbiters and the Funding Arbitration Panel (FAP).

Declarations of interest for the Funding Arbiters and all members of the panel will also be available on this page in due course.

#### 7) Latest Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [Latest Cochrane job opportunities](#)
- [Survey round-up: January 2017](#)

##### Community blogs:

- [Interview with a new Affiliate Director of the Cochrane Brazilian Network](#)
- [Cochrane's 2016 Citation Screening Challenge: Turning a lonely task into the most fun you can have in evidence based healthcare](#)
- [Cochrane Translations: Integrating Cochrane abstract translation practice into teaching](#)

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 Lucie Binder, Senior Advisor 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

**Mark G. Wilson**  
Chief Executive Officer



E [mwilson@cochrane.org](mailto:mwilson@cochrane.org) T +44 (0)207 183 7503 S [markg.wilson](mailto:markg.wilson)  
Cochrane, St Albans House, 57-59 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX, UK  
[www.cochrane.org](http://www.cochrane.org)

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