



Centre and Fields Digest



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 12th 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.

The next Digest will be published on or around 12th January 2017. With best wishes for this holiday season.

ITEMS FOR YOUR ACTION:

1) Consultation on the draft document *Consumer involvement in Cochrane: developing the Statement of Principles: Feedback by 31st December 2016*

During 2015, the [Cochrane Consumer Network](#) undertook its Structure and Function Review, examining key elements about consumer involvement in Cochrane, and the ways in which it is supported. The report from this review is [available online](#); amongst other things, the review showed that the ways in which consumers are currently involved in Cochrane vary significantly across the organisation.

To address these concerns, in 2016 the Consumer Network Executive prepared the [Consumer Delivery Plan to 2020](#). The plan sets out eight key priorities for the development of consumer involvement in Cochrane. The first priority is to “Develop and adopt a statement of principles about consumer involvement in Cochrane”. A shared agreement on the consumer role and how the whole organisation can work with consumers will help make our work clearer, reduce variations and improve our effectiveness. A task group has drafted the statement and your comments are encouraged.

Please visit the [Cochrane Community](#) site to view a copy of the statement and follow the links to the survey. Alternatively, please feel free to write directly to [Richard Morley](#), Consumer Co-ordinator with your comments on the draft, using the following questions as a guide:

1. Why involve consumers?
2. How should consumers better be involved in Cochrane?
3. What principles should guide consumer involvement?
4. What commitments should Cochrane make to its involved consumers?

2) Can you help Cochrane Crowd reach one million classifications before the end of 2016?

[Cochrane Crowd](#), Cochrane’s new citizen science platform, is a global community of almost 4,000 volunteers who are helping to classify the research needed to support informed decision-making about healthcare treatments.

The job of the Cochrane Crowd community is to review descriptions of research studies to identify and classify randomised controlled trials (RCTs), a type of study that is considered the gold standard

for clinical trials. Reports of RCTs are then fed into Cochrane's Central Register of Controlled Trials, helping Cochrane authors and other systematic reviewers around the world quickly find the evidence they need to help answer important questions about treatments. Cochrane Crowd has now reached 933,500 research study classifications and would like your help in a final push to reach one million.

Cochrane Crowd would like your help to achieve one million classifications by the end of the year.

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

3) Names of Governing Board candidates announced

Nominations have now closed for the election of four new members of the Cochrane Governing Board (previously Steering Group). You can view the names of the 11 candidates who are standing and read their candidate statements on the [Cochrane Community](#) site. All candidates for election will compete in a single field, and will be voted on by the entire Cochrane membership. There are no separate categories of internal Board members, or representation of specific constituencies.

Voting will open for these positions on 5 January 2017.

4) Elections to the Cochrane Council for regional Groups

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.

The Centre Directors' Executive was given the mandate to recommend two members from its membership or the wider regional-Group community. It asked the Centre & Associate Directors to decide on membership eligibility for these positions at the CD's board meeting in Seoul, in October 2016, and the following was agreed:

- Of the two positions available, both will be held by: a Director, Co-Director or Deputy Director of a Centre or an Associate Centre. Directors from Affiliates; and other staff members of Centres, Associates, and/or Affiliates, are not eligible.
- The Council representatives will automatically become members of the Centre Directors' Executive.
- Voting on candidates standing to fill the positions will be by Centre and Associate Centre; Affiliates are not eligible to vote. Each Centre and Associate Centre will get one vote each per position. The candidate(s) with the most votes will be elected. (In the event of a tie, the Centre Directors' Executive will take the final decision.)

The term of membership will be two years. Members may be re-appointed using the process above, but may not serve longer than six years in total. The Centre and Associate Centre Directors have been contacted separately by email inviting them to stand for election. Voting by Centre and Associate will take place 16th January-20th January 2017, with results announced the following week. If you have any questions, please speak to your Centre or Associate Director.

5) Cochrane Governing Board meeting minutes from Seoul now available

The Cochrane Governing Board met in October at the 2016 Colloquium in Seoul, Korea. The full minutes of this meeting are now available on the [Cochrane Community](#) site.

6) 230 collaborators from 49 countries join to announce the official launch of Cochrane Rehabilitation

Cochrane is delighted to announce the official launch of [Cochrane Rehabilitation](#).

The new Cochrane Field will promote and advocate for using the best evidence within the rehabilitation world, including physical therapy, speech and occupational therapy, prosthetics and orthotics, psychology, and physical medicine to inform clinical decision-making.

7) Cochrane and MAGIC announce partnership

Cochrane and MAGIC are delighted to announce the launch of an official partnership, aimed at supporting and further strengthening the use of health evidence within the context of a digital and trustworthy evidence ecosystem for health care.

Please see the [Cochrane Community](#) website for more details.

8) Latest Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [Latest Cochrane job opportunities](#)
- [Survey round-up: December 2016](#)
- [Third round of the Cochrane Review Support Programme funds 10 new reviews](#)

The Centre & Fields Digest is created by the Chief Executive Officer's Office on behalf of Mark Wilson. 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

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