Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 25th 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:

1) Would you like to host a future Cochrane Colloquium or Governance Meeting? Deadline for submissions - BY TODAY!

We are looking for Cochrane Groups to host the 2020 and 2021 Cochrane Colloquia; and the 2019, 2020 and 2021 Cochrane Governance Meetings. For more information, please see the Cochrane Community website.

2) Help with the implementation of Cochrane’s Knowledge Translation framework - Deadline 31 July 2017

Cochrane’s Governing Board approved the KT Framework in April 2017. Now is the time to draw upon the Cochrane community's vast expertise to help define a formal implementation plan that we can submit to the Cochrane Governing Board in Cape Town in September. For more information on how to get involved, please see the Cochrane Community website.

3) Global Evidence Summit – standard registration closes 18 August 2017

To find out why you should attend the Global Evidence Summit, please visit the GES website.

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

4) Elections and appointments to the Governing Board

The results of the recent Governing Board elections and appointments can be found on the Cochrane Community website.

5) Membership implementation: update and next steps

Dear colleagues,

As I hope you will be aware, we have finished the first phase of integrating our existing systems with the new CRM (the system that manages Membership) and have spent the last few weeks monitoring the flow of data among systems to ensure that everything is working properly and dealing with any
glitches as they arise. We’ve also switched on the new ‘Join Cochrane’ pages on Cochrane.org to make it easier for interested people to get involved with our work; if you haven’t already done so, please take a look. And earlier this month, we announced the launch of Membership with a blog post from our CEO, Mark Wilson.

With these important components now in place, we’re starting to look at next steps for implementing Membership across the Cochrane community, and wanted to make you aware of planned next steps:

1. **Group websites**: now that the central ‘Join Cochrane’ pages are up and running, we’ve invited CRGs to switch your Group’s ‘Get involved’ pages to link directly to the central pages. Several CRGs have already made the switch, so you can see what it looks like on the ARI, Lung Cancer, and Musculoskeletal sites. Making this switch not only means fewer website pages to maintain for you, but also that inquiries about getting involved will now be managed centrally. If you’d like to make the switch, please let us know at membership@cochrane.org; it’s a very quick process and we should be able to complete work on your site within 48 hours of your approval. If you’ve got custom Get involved content that needs managing, let us know that, too, and we can help you work out a solution.

2. **Data protection and user accounts**: there are two major pieces of work upcoming in this area. The first is that we’ll be sending a mass emailing to the majority of user accounts in Archie, confirming that the contact details we have on record are accurate and current, and that the account holder agrees to our holding that information. This mailing should be going out early in August. The second piece is to begin developing processes to integrate contact data records that Groups are holding outside of Archie into our systems, so that we can ensure data protection compliance. We already have a short list of volunteers to help us pilot this process development, and we’ll be contacting them directly before the end of July.

We’ll be continuing to provide monthly updates on implementation of this project and next steps for development. Thank you for your ongoing input; as always, please let us know any questions or concerns you may have at membership@cochrane.org.

Kind regards
Nancy Owens, Communications and External Affairs
on behalf of the Membership project team

### 6) MECIR Standards for Cochrane Intervention Reviews

MECIR Standards are now available in an [online format](https://www.cochrane.org). Individual standards are linked to resources that aid explanation and assist in implementing the standard. We will add to and update these resources. They currently include: *Handbook* sections or Chapters, training resources and screening notes. To make suggestions on resources to add or any queries please contact Jackie Chandler [jchandler@cochrane.org](mailto:jchandler@cochrane.org)

### 7) Handbook version 6 – Update

The new Editorial structure for the *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions* is in place and we are pushing forward with development plans for the next version, with an expected publication date in 2018 (including a likely new hard copy edition). Senior Scientific Editors Julian Higgins and James Thomas have restructured the content of the book, and the proposed new sections will include:

- **About Cochrane Reviews** (online only): Introduction, planning, reporting and updating reviews.
• **Core methods**: Current chapters from Part 2 plus new chapters on expanded risk of bias guidance, summarizing studies, preparing for synthesis, and narrative synthesis.

• **Specific perspectives in reviews**: Includes patient-reported outcomes, adverse effects, economics and new chapters on equity and complex interventions.

• **Specific types of data**: Includes chapters on variants on randomized trials, qualitative evidence and non-randomized trials (including risk of bias).

• **Other review types**: Includes overviews of reviews, methodology reviews and prospective meta-analysis.

For further information contact Jackie Chandler [jchandler@cochrane.org](mailto:jchandler@cochrane.org)

### 8) Cochrane Scientific Committee – Update: Decisions on ‘Risk of bias’ tools and repeated meta-analyses, and the announcement of Co-chairs

Cochrane’s new Scientific Committee met for the first time in May 2017, and following drafting of short position statements, details of their decisions on the new ‘Risk of bias’ 2.0 assessment tool for RCTs, the ROBINS-I assessment tool for non-randomized trials and techniques to manage repeated meta-analyses are now available on [Cochrane.org](http://cochrane.org).

### 9) UK Research and Innovation to launch in April 2018

UK Research and Innovation will be formed in April 2018, bringing together the seven existing Research Councils (including MRC), along with Innovate UK and a new body, Research England. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](http://cochrane.org).

### 10) More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- **Upcoming events**
- [Cochrane and COMET: working together to improve core outcome sets](http://cochrane.org)
- [Dementia in the spotlight: evidence and experience](http://cochrane.org) – A series of blogs throughout July
- [The Targeted Updates Project: Case Study D](http://cochrane.org)
- [TaskExchange now provides opportunities to engage with the global guidelines community](http://cochrane.org)
- [Cochrane seeks Administrator - London, UK](http://cochrane.org)

For all current opportunities, please see [Cochrane Jobs](http://cochrane.org)

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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**Cochrane**

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