



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Issue 35 of the Centre & Fields Digest and the first edition for 2018. This Digest provides information particularly relevant to Cochrane's Geographic Groups and Fields, including consumers. It 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](#), which is sent to CRGs and Methods Groups.

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE:

- **2018 New Year Message from Cochrane's CEO, Mark Wilson**
- **New structural changes to Cochrane's Central Executive Team (CET)**
- **Activate your Cochrane Membership!**
- **Registration for Cochrane's 2018 Governance Meetings in Lisbon**
- **Official launch of the first Cochrane Review Group (CRG) Networks: Cochrane Public Health and Health Systems, and Cochrane Cancer**
- **Launch of the Community Support Team**
- **Job Advertisements for new key posts:**
 - **Head of Membership, Learning & Support Services**
 - **Head of Knowledge Translation**
 - **Six senior leaders to join the Cochrane Review Networks**

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 vbonfigli@cochrane.org.

ITEMS FOR YOUR ACTION:

1. Activate your Cochrane Membership!

We are pleased to say that we are now in the process of activating membership accounts for everyone that is eligible for Cochrane Membership. All Group staff are automatically eligible for membership, so you should all be receiving the email that asks you to activate your membership. **Please activate your**

membership as soon as possible - amongst other things it is important for you to be able to vote in any future elections.

Emails have been sent to everyone on our records. Anyone who has previously worked with Cochrane will be offered at least one year of membership. Those on record who have yet to contribute will be asked to confirm their communication preferences. This process combines our move to data protection compliance with the launch of our membership scheme to existing contributors. Please feel free to pass on enquiries to our support team at membership@cochrane.org. More information is available on the [Cochrane Community website](#)

2. Register now for Cochrane's 2018 Governance Meetings in Lisbon. Deadline: 4 March 2018

The 2018 Governance Meetings will be hosted by Cochrane Portugal and held at the Tivoli Oriente Hotel in Lisbon, between 19-23 March 2018. Governance Meetings are free to attend, but registration is needed to confirm meeting numbers and special requirements. To register, please visit the [Cochrane Community](#) website. **Registration deadline:** Sunday 4 March 2018. **Book your hotel:** The Portuguese team have arranged several special hotel rates that are listed in the link above, so make sure to book your hotel before the booking deadlines pass.

For more information and the programme of meetings, see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

3. Cochrane Colloquium Edinburgh 2018: call for abstracts and workshops. Deadline: 2 March 2018

The opportunity to present workshops, special sessions, oral presentations and posters is now open. The theme of the event is 'Cochrane for all – better evidence for better health decisions' and we look forward to receiving submissions on the sub-themes of 'producing evidence', 'making evidence accessible' and 'advocating for evidence'. **The deadline for submissions is 2 March 2018.** For more information see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

View the call for abstracts here: colloquium.cochrane.org/call-abstracts

View the call for workshops here: colloquium.cochrane.org/call-workshops

4. Cochrane-REWARD prize for reducing waste in research. Deadline 15 May 2018

Submissions for the annual Cochrane-REWARD prize are **open until 15 May**. The prize gathers, assesses, and then publicizes good local or pilot initiatives that have the most potential to reduce waste in research if scaled up globally. Two prizes are awarded annually, but other shortlisted candidates will also be highlighted. To read more, see [Cochrane.org](#). [For more information on the prize and how to submit a nomination](#)
[Read about the 2017 Winners](#)

5. Join the CitSciMed Blitz. 21 February 2018.

Join [Cochrane Crowd](#), our partner platforms [Mark2Cure](#) and [Stall Catchers](#) and our collective global volunteer network for the CitSciMed Blitz. CitSciMed Blitz kicks off with a welcome webinar on **Wednesday 21 February**. You'll hear why our platforms are important, how your contribution influences medical policy and practice, and more details about the Blitz. You'll also meet the founders and coordinators of Cochrane Crowd, Stall Catchers and Mark2Cure and have a chance to ask any burning questions. Register for the webinar [here](#).

To learn to more, go to the [Cochrane Community website](#).

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

6. 2018 New Year Message from Cochrane's CEO, Mark Wilson

CEO, Mark Wilson, reflects on Cochrane's achievements in 2017 and what lies ahead for the organization this year. 2018 promises to be another year of exciting transformation and change as Cochrane further increases its capacity to produce and disseminate high-quality evidence to impact health decision making around the world. See Mark's New Year message in full [here](#).

7. New structural changes to Cochrane's Central Executive Team (CET)

Cochrane's Senior Management has this week introduced some structural changes to Cochrane's Central Executive Team (CET) designed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the way that it works, both in leading and supporting the Cochrane community. You can see a [full overview of the structural changes](#) and [a presentation, entitled 'Working Better Together'](#) to introduce and explain changes. However, the most significant are:

- The **Editorial & Methods Department** is essentially unchanged but will be divided into three units within it, covering Editorial Policy & Publication; Review Production & Quality; and Methods Research & Development.
- **The establishment of a new 'Knowledge Translation Department'**, drawn from the existing Communications & External Affairs Department (CEAD), focusing on facilitating and supporting Cochrane's organizational KT; communications; translations; 'content' advocacy, partnerships & external engagement; as well as events & marketing. The new department highlights the centrality of Knowledge Translation to Cochrane as an organization, and this team will act as the principal driver of the development and delivery of Cochrane's KT work: maximising the dissemination, use, and impact of Cochrane evidence; and ensuring that all our KT outputs and activities are provided in an effective and efficient manner to support Cochrane's strategic aims and objectives. You can find out more information about the new Knowledge Translation Department and its work [here](#).
- As part of this new focus on Cochrane's KT work, **Cochrane Fields will now be managed and coordinated by the Head of KT** (and no longer directly by the CEO).
- We are recruiting for the new [Head of Knowledge Translation Department](#) and all interested applicants are encouraged to apply.
- **The establishment of a new 'Membership, Learning & Support Services'** department to cover membership, learning and development, our support to consumers and patients (including the Consumers Executive) and other (future) community groups (such as Cochrane Students for Best Evidence). The new department will also be responsible for Cochrane's user/community support (excluding that for the Cochrane Library, which remains with our publisher, Wiley). You can find out more information about the new Membership, Learning & Support Services (MLS) department and its work [here](#).

- We are recruiting for the new [Head of Membership, Learning & Support Services](#) and all interested applicants are encouraged to apply.
- **The Cochrane Innovations team is being formally integrated within the charity's management structure** and we are establishing a new **'Innovations, Research & Development Department'** that will allow us to integrate the Innovations team's product development and commercialisation work (which in the coming years will be focused on the Cochrane Library) much more fully and efficiently within Cochrane's structure and decision-making. We will continue to have a Cochrane Innovations Trading Company (with Charlotte Pestridge continuing to be its CEO) through which we will commercialize some of our non-Library products (like Cochrane Interactive Learning).
- The **'Finance & Core Services'** department takes on business services/planning/monitoring/reporting responsibilities, including management of Cochrane's future publishing arrangements.

8. Official launch of the first Cochrane Review Group (CRG) Networks: Cochrane Public Health and Health Systems, and Cochrane Cancer

We are proud to [announce](#) this week the official launch of our first Cochrane Review Group (CRG) Networks, [Cochrane Public Health and Health Systems](#) and [Cochrane Cancer](#). We welcome the formation of these new thematic Networks as part of the implementation of Cochrane's CRG Transformation Programme, which will ensure Cochrane addresses the challenges it faces in relation to the future production of a comprehensive collection of timely, high-quality reviews, relevant to our stakeholders.

The new CRG Networks provide an opportunity to optimize resources, support and leadership. Please read the introductory messages from our newly-appointed Senior Editors: [Dr Nicole Skoetz \(Cochrane Cancer\)](#) and Professor [Lisa Bero \(Cochrane Public Health and Health Systems\)](#).

9. Announcing the launch of the Community Support Team

A new Cochrane Community Support Team has been established. The team will be providing a helpdesk-style support service to the Cochrane community, managing support areas such as IT support, learning enquiries and general contact enquiries. For most enquiries from the Cochrane community this team will be the first point of contact.

For more information: [Cochrane Community website](#).

10. Cochrane seeks six senior leaders to join its vibrant Review Networks

Senior Editors will support and co-ordinate a wide range of activities within the thematic Networks, assisted by an Associate Editor. They will be primarily responsible for ensuring review quality within their networks, will oversee prioritization and coverage assessment activities, and support innovation that leads to reviews that are better able to meet the needs of end users. The following networks are recruiting for senior editors: Acute and Emergency Care, Brain, Nerves and Mind, Children and Families, Circulation and Breathing, Long-term Conditions and Ageing (that includes two distinct Networks).

For more information about the roles and recruitment process: [Cochrane.org](#).

11. Implementation Science publishes a series of 7 articles on GRADE-CERQual

Findings from syntheses of qualitative research are being used increasingly to inform decisions about health and social policies. The [GRADE-CERQual](#) (Confidence in the Evidence from Reviews of Qualitative research) approach helps decision makers use these syntheses by indicating how much confidence they should place in each finding. This work received support from Cochrane to ensure greater rigour in qualitative evidence syntheses published in the Cochrane Library, and to facilitate the use of findings from these syntheses in decision making processes. Members of GRADE-CERQual and Cochrane will support training events to actively disseminate this new guidance on the CERQual approach, and Cochrane members should look out for future training opportunities.

For more information: [Cochrane Community website](#).

12. Cochrane welcomes new Cochrane Fertility Regulation Group

Cochrane is delighted to announce the establishment of a new Cochrane Fertility Regulation Group, based in Oregon, which becomes part of Cochrane's new Children and Families Review Group Network. The new Group will join the family of 52 Cochrane Review Groups, each of whom is responsible for supporting the preparation and maintenance of systematic reviews in a specific area of health research. The Group will produce systematic reviews on interventions in fertility regulation.

For more information: [Cochrane.org](#).

13. Cochrane Colloquium Edinburgh 2018 has been officially granted 'Patients Included' status

The 25th annual Cochrane Colloquium, to be held in Edinburgh between 16-18 September, has now been officially granted 'Patients Included' status, appearing on the [official list of 'Patients Included' accredited conferences](#). The Patients Included conference charter provides conference organisers with 'a means of demonstrating that their events are committed to incorporating the experience of patients as experts in living with their condition while ensuring they are neither excluded nor exploited'. You can read about these criteria, and the steps being taken to meet them, [on the Colloquium website](#).

For more information: [Cochrane.org](#).

14. January 2018 Meeting of Cochrane Portugal

On 25 January 2018, Cochrane Portugal held a Meeting in Coimbra. The goal of this meeting was to discuss the best way to adapt to the new geographical organisation and structure of Cochrane and the Iberoamerican Cochrane Network. For more information: [Cochrane.org](#).

15. Current Cochrane Jobs

There are several exciting opportunities currently available. For more information, please see [Cochrane Jobs](#).

16. More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [Tender and Funding Round-Up](#) - A round-up of active tender and funding opportunities that may be of interest to Cochrane contributors, authors, and groups - updated through the month.
- [Cochrane Airways Group looks ahead to 2018](#) - Rebecca Normansell, Joint Co-ordinating Editor of Cochrane Airways, shares some of her personal views on the work of her group this year, and outlines the opportunities and challenges facing Cochrane Airways in 2018
- [Evaluating the Health in my Language project – a tale of two translation approaches](#) - Hayley Hassan, Translation Support Officer, presents the results of an evaluation task aiming to use advances in machine translation to make health content available in different languages
- [Cochrane Iberoamérica teams up with Spanish nutrition network Red-NuBE](#) - Cochrane Iberoamérica has been working on a blogshots translation project with a Spanish evidence-based nutrition network
- [Chris Silagy Prize: recognizing the extraordinary](#) - Livia Puljak, Translations Coordinator, Cochrane Croatia wins the 2017 Chris Silagy Prize
- [First aid for reviews – 11 top tips for editors](#) - This Blog presents commentary and personal opinion on topics of interest from a range of contributors to the work of Cochrane
- [Looking ahead at 2018 with Cochrane Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma](#) - Dr Helen Handoll, Co-ordinating Editor of Cochrane Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group, shares some of her personal views on the work of her group this year
- [Covidence continues improvements to streamline Cochrane 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 Centre & Fields Digest is created by the Chief Executive Officer's Office. We intend to make it available every month 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.

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