



Dear Colleagues,

This Centre & Fields 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) 2017 Financial & Resource Monitoring of Cochrane Groups – Deadline Today!

This is a reminder that the deadline for completing the 2017 Financial & Resource Monitoring Form is 3rd November 2017.

All registered Cochrane Groups are required, as a condition of their involvement in the organisation, to complete the Financial Monitoring Form for their last complete financial year by Friday 3rd November 2017. This includes registered Affiliates and Satellites of Groups. More information and a link to the reporting survey is available [here](#).

2) Launch of 'Involving People' – Webinar on Wednesday 8 November

Cochrane Training and the Cochrane Consumer Network are delighted to announce the launch of 'Involving People', a new online resource for systematic review editors and authors about involving people in the production of Cochrane reviews. The resource is a 'one-stop-shop' with best practice and practical suggestions for finding and involving people throughout the review process; including useful resources, guidance documents, interviews about first hand experiences, and links to case studies and examples of good practice. Involving People is supported throughout by the evidence base identified through the ACTIVE research project. You can see the resource [here](#).

If you are interested in hearing more about the resource, we are holding a webinar on Wednesday 8th November 14.00 UTC. This is an opportunity to join the development team to find out about how the learning was developed, and how it can support you with getting people involved in your reviews. We'll be presenting the findings from the ACTIVE project, which looked at the evidence base in this area, and how this was developed into a learning resource. The sessions will also demonstrate

the Involving People resource and how it can be useful to you, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions of the development team. You can read more about the webinar and sign up [here](#).

3) Seeking external committee member for the Bill Silverman Prize – Deadline 30 November 2017

The Bill Silverman Prize is awarded to acknowledge explicitly the value of criticism of Cochrane, with a view to helping to improve its work, and thus achieve its aim of helping people make well-informed decisions about health care by providing the best possible evidence on the effects of healthcare interventions. It is awarded every year at the Cochrane Colloquium.

We are seeking someone external to Cochrane, to join the Bill Silverman Prize Committee. Deadline: 30 November. For more information, please see Cochrane.org.

ITEMS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

4) CRG Transformation Programme Update

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Below are details from Karla Soares-Weiser, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, on the latest developments in the Cochrane Review Group Transformation Programme.

1 Structure and Function updates

1.1. Launch of the CRG Networks Portal

Cochrane is creating eight new Networks of Cochrane Review Groups (CRGs) responsible for the efficient systematic reviews that address the research questions that are most important to decision makers. They formally take place during Quarter 1 2018 and a new, online resource for CRGs – the Cochrane's Review Group Networks Portal – will house important information, documents, Community FAQs and up-to-date resources for CRGs and our members. We will provide this information in the bi-weekly Digest and also as part of this online resource.

Your feedback is welcome on how we can continue to improve this information for CRGs, and we welcome your email: SFinfo@cochrane.org

1.2. Re-accreditation process for CRGs

At the Governing Board meeting held in Cape Town (11-12 September 2017), the Governing Board approved the [Transformation Programme](#) Implementation Plan and delivery timelines.

As part of this plan, all CRGs will need to be re-accredited every five years, in order to continue as Cochrane CRGs. It was necessary to demonstrate that adequate resources were available to sustain the Group in the short term, the identification of funding for the Editorial Base, as well as enthusiasm, commitment, and leadership from within the CRG. A new requirement for five-yearly re-accreditation ensures that CRGs, which are well-resourced and have the sound leadership to deliver high-quality reviews on priority topics in the long term, continue to be part of the Cochrane Review Group. The re-accreditation process will begin in November 2017. This [document](#) sets out the revised core functions and areas relevant to the accreditation process. A very similar process will be followed if applications are received from new CRGs, or if an existing team is unable or unwilling to continue running a CRG and open applications are invited.

A second document describes the process for [changes to the management and structure of CRGs](#).

The Cochrane Editorial Unit (CEU) and the newly appointed Senior Editors (SEs) will engage with CRGs and provide support throughout the accreditation process.

The Central Editorial Unit is planning a series of webinars led by David Tovey and Karla Soares-Weiser to help support CRGs. Details will be available in the [CRG Networks Portal](#).

1.3. Frequently Asked Questions

Following its meeting in Cape Town in September 2017, Cochrane's Governing Board approved the [Structure and Function Implementation of the Networks and Editorial Board Plan](#). During the last few months we have spoken with the vast majority of CRGs about many questions about what this means for them and the future functionality of CRGs. Here is a summary of those frequently asked questions and answers from the Structure and Function Project Team. These Q/As will be regularly updated and reviewed. If you have any questions, please submit them to SFinfo@cochrane.org

1.4. Cochrane is seeking new editorial leadership to work with its Review Networks

The creation of eight new Networks of Cochrane Review Groups (CRGs) provides an exciting opportunity for experts in editorial leadership and help the organization deliver its *Strategy to 2020* objectives.

Post: Senior Editor

Location: Flexible

Specifications: Maximum of 0.2 FTE

Salary: competitive salary

Closing date for applications: 13th November 2017

Post: Associate Editor

Location: Flexible

Specifications: Full time/part-time. Permanent contract, subject to 6-month probationary period

Salary: Up to £45,000 dependent on skills and experience

Closing date for applications: 30th November 2017

For more information please visit our [website](#).

To apply please send a letter, Curriculum Vitae, and letter of support to recruitment@cochrane.org by Monday 30th

5) Cochrane in numbers: July–September 2017

Cochrane's organizational Dashboard presents our achievements in key metrics. We use it as an excellent tool to reflect on our accomplishments on a quarterly basis. For the Q3 2017 highlights, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

6) Cochrane Classmate – where your students want to learn

[Cochrane Classmate](#), launched at the Global Evidence Summit in September, could change how evidence production is taught in classrooms around the world. From the people that brought you [Cochrane Crowd](#), we present Cochrane Classmate: a trainers' toolkit that lets you create exciting, interactive tasks to help your students learn about evidence production. Cochrane Classmate is available to everyone. Join the growing number of teachers and trainers using this innovative online learning environment. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

7) Cochrane welcomes Cochrane Argentina

Cochrane is delighted to announce the official launch of [Cochrane Argentina](#), a new Cochrane centre with a vision to increase the use of best evidence to inform healthcare decision making throughout Argentina. For more information, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

8) 2017 Annual General Meeting presentations now available

The recordings from this year's Annual General Meeting are now available! The 2017 AGM was the first to be held under Cochrane's new Articles of Association, with every member entitled to vote. For all the videos and results from the AGM, please see the [Cochrane Community website](#).

9) The Cochrane Library - iPad edition

The [Cochrane Library iPad edition](#) presents the latest up-to-date evidence from the Cochrane Library in a convenient, easy to navigate format which provides you with relevant, accessible research, when you need it, from the world's leading experts in evidence-informed health care. For more information, please see [Cochrane.org](#).

10) Rapid Reviews to Strengthen Health Policy and Systems

Rapid reviews are a type of knowledge synthesis for which the steps of a systematic review are streamlined or accelerated to produce evidence in a shortened timeframe. This webinar is the fifth in a series that Cochrane Learning Live is running in partnership with [GESI](#) (the Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative). It takes place on 31 October and is now fully booked. The recording will be made available after the webinar. For more information, please see [Cochrane Training](#).

11) Become a Cochrane citizen scientist!

Become a Cochrane citizen scientist at [crowd.cochrane.org](#)! This platform will enable anyone to get involved with Cochrane and help identify the evidence we need to make informed healthcare decisions. For more information, please see [Cochrane.org](#).

12) More Cochrane Community news posts and blogs

- [Upcoming events](#)
- [Farewell to Miranda Cumpston](#) our Head of Learning and Support, will be leaving us at the end of the year.
- [Cochrane Methods 2017](#) - This is a new format for presenting the Methods Annual Report previously reported in *Cochrane Methods*. It includes the Methods Group Annual Reports.
- [Cochrane-Wikipedia Initiative: Keeping Wikipedia content up to date](#)
- [The Recommended Dose: Episode 2 with Dr Allen Frances](#) - Leading US psychiatrist Dr Allen Frances today warns of the increasing dangers of over-medicalisation and overdiagnosis in Australia and around the world, saying 'people are way too frightened of disease, and way too little frightened of the treatments for disease'

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,

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