

Cochrane exists so that healthcare decisions get better.

In the past 20 years, Cochrane has helped to transform the way health decisions are made.

Our mission is to promote evidence-informed health decision-making by producing high-quality, relevant, accessible systematic reviews and other synthesized research evidence.

A Cochrane Systematic Review investigates the effects of interventions for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation as well as assessing the accuracy of a diagnostic test for a given condition. This is done through locating all research on a particular topic, assessing this research for quality and synthesizing the results of the research.

"Cochrane is a fabulous organization, producing gold standard 'systematic reviews' summarizing all the data that's ever been collected on important questions in medicine." Ben Goldacre, Bad Science

"We made this grant primarily for the purpose of 'good citizenship', in recognition of the important role Cochrane Reviews play in the research that GiveWell, working in partnership with Good Ventures, does on evidence-backed charities serving the global poor." GiveWell

Trusted evidence. Informed decisions. Better health.



Cochrane is:

A global independent network of researchers, professionals, patients, carers, and people interested in health.

"Every day someone, somewhere searches the Cochrane Library every second, reads an abstract every two seconds and downloads a full-text article every three seconds." Wiley, Cochrane Library publishers

What do Cochrane Reviews do:

- Inform guidelines, practice, and protocols
- Contribute to wider health knowledge
- Aim to change practice based on good evidence
- Highlight research gaps
- Help prevent duplication in research
- Offer multi-lingual content

Cochrane Reviews inform guidelines:

The World Health Organization

Cochrane is an organization in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO draws extensively on Cochrane Reviews when formulating guidelines.

Between 2008 and 2015 450 Cochrane Reviews were used to inform more than 130 WHO Guidelines.

- Subjects ranged from nutrition and mental health to labour and child injury
- In 2015, 87 Cochrane Reviews were used in 75% of WHO guidelines





Cochrane Reviews change practice:

A 2014 Cochrane Review challenged established eye disease treatment policies. The review, which compared two drugs used to treat eye disease, showed how a cheaper alternative to a licensed drug has a similar safety record to the more costly option. This Cochrane Review caused Aravind Eye Hospital, a large India-based hospital system, to change its treatment policies – potentially saving substantial costs.

A cost analysis applying the findings of this review to the Brazilian public health system estimated that adopting a similar change in policy could save Brazil \$5 US billion over four years.*

Cochrane Reviews save lives and resources:

The Cochrane Review 'Anti-fibrinolytic drugs for acute traumatic injury' from the Cochrane Injuries group, showed there is a 10% reduction in death if bleeding traumatic injury patients are given the drug tranexamic acid. Based on the results of the trial, the British military began to use the drug, and it is now used by US, NATO and other armed forces around the world. Many national ambulance services now use TXA, and it has been added to the WHO list of essential medicines.

* Treatment Options for Age-Related Macular Degeneration: A Budget Impact Analysis from the Perspective of the Brazilian Public Health System PLOS ONE | DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0139556 October 12, 2015



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Cochrane delivers research results that matter

"We save our resources and we save lives using guidelines based on Cochrane Reviews." Professor Ashraf Nabhan, University of Ain Shams, Cairo in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

"We have found that its reports generally review a large number of studies and are very clear about the findings, strengths and weaknesses of these studies. For health programmes, when there are often many high-quality studies available, we therefore use Cochrane as our main source of information on "micro" evidence when possible." GiveWell

Join us in delivering the best evidence to improve health

As an individual, a foundation, a public funder or a partner, support for Cochrane is a targeted investment in the future of research evidence.

As the amount of health evidence increases, Cochrane's role of synthesizing the best available information has never been more important or useful for improving global health.

To find out more, contact:

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Our Partners:











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