

March 8th

This is the second digest to come from the Cochrane Editorial Unit. The first was published and circulated on the 24th February 2016 and is available [here](#). Our aim is to collect and circulate anything that we think will be of broad interest to the CRG and methods communities in Cochrane, to try to reduce the volume of emails that groups and individuals receive and to co-ordinate communications. Emails intended for individual groups will continue as normal.

In this digest, as for the first one, all the content comes from the CEU. We will seek to change this for future issues. We will encourage other groups within the Central Executive Teams (CETs) to use this digest for communications that are targeted at the CRG and methods communities, and we also invite groups within these communities to submit content to be shared in this way. We also encourage feedback. Our plan is to publish the digests every two weeks, on Monday or Tuesday, with an editorial deadline of midday (UK time) the previous Friday.

One of the items included here is the current draft of the Co-ordinating Editors Board. This is a conscious statement, as we are inviting members of the ME, TSC and Methods Executive to join part of the meeting. However, we also think it is important that the agenda is shared widely.

Finally, as you read through the document on changing the requirements for the Cochrane Priority Reviews List you will come across a reference to early awareness and alert systems (EAA) and Euroscan (<https://www.euroscan.org>). It occurred to me that this may be an unfamiliar world to some of you, as it was to me until recently. As the name implies, these are agencies that seek to provide early identification and assessment of new and emerging health technologies for organizations such as national HTA agencies. Despite the name, Euroscan includes groups based in Australasia, New Zealand, Canada, and Korea. It has developed a toolkit that guides readers through the process: including horizon scanning, filtration and prioritisation of the information identified, and assessment. The toolkit is available [here](#). At a Euroscan meeting I was fortunate enough to attend recently, I was impressed by the potential for Cochrane and its groups to work with Euroscan and also the quality of the work presented, which included a report of work carried out in the Basque Country. This work, presented, by Dr Ina Gutierrez-Ibarluzea, described the use of the [PriTec tool](#) within a sophisticated multi-stage process.

I very much hope that you will find this digest useful, and as already mentioned, I welcome your feedback

David Tovey

Items for action or feedback

- [Revised criteria for priority list](#)
- [Cochrane Review Support Programme: round 2](#)
- [Co-ordinating Editors Board Agenda](#)

Reminders

- [Conflict of interest declaration: Editorial and Publishing Policy Resource \(EPPR\) update](#)

Adverts

- [Cochrane is looking for a new home for Fertility Regulation reviews](#)
- [Experienced editors needed by the Cochrane Colorectal Cancer Group](#)
- [Quality and Standards sub-committee](#)

Items for action or feedback:

Co-ordinating Editors Board Agenda

The Co-ordinating Editors Board meeting will take place on the 4th and 5th April 2016 at the King's Fund in London.

The latest draft of the agenda is [here](#).

On behalf of the CEU and Co-Eds Executive, we would like to invite those attending the ME, TSC and Methods Executive to attend the meeting from 4 – 5.30pm on the 4th April.

The major part of the first day will be spend considering issues related to Goal 1 of the Strategy to 2020 – the efficient production of high quality reviews that meet the needs and priorities of decision makers. Much of the meeting will be spent in small groups. We intend to circulate short papers for each proposed small group that will describe the key questions for discussion and also the desired outputs and decisions. As with last year we intend this to be a decision making forum.

There is flexibility in the programme and also the option of creating new small groups 'on the fly' so that participants have the greatest opportunity to discuss the issues that matter to you.

For information:

Editors or editorial staff as authors of Cochrane Reviews from their Cochrane Review Group:
Cochrane Editorial and Publishing Policy Resource update

This section has been revised and expanded to provide more detail around this scenario: <https://community.cochrane.org/editorial-and-publishing-policy-resource/authorship-and-contributorship#editors-as-authors>. There are practical implications for editorial teams, and we recommend that all editorial teams read the updated policy.

Reminders:

Conflict of interest declaration: Editorial and Publishing Policy Resource (EPPR) update

Each year between January and March, people with the following Cochrane Review Group editorial roles must add or update their conflict of interest declarations via Archie: Assistant Managing Editor, Assistant Trials Search Co-ordinator, Consumer Co-ordinator, Co-ordinating Editor, Deputy Co-ordinating Editor, Editor, Feedback Editor, Managing Editor, Statistician, Trials Search Co-ordinator.

For details regarding how to update conflict of interest declaration: http://www.cochrane-net.org/imshelp/conflict_of_interest_forms.htm

For details regarding conflict of interest policy: <http://www.cochrane.org/editorial-and-publishing-policy-resource/conflic...>

Adverts:

Quality and Standards sub-committee

The previous issue of the CEU Digest included an advertisement for membership of the Quality and Standards Advisory Committee. We recognize that the time commitment required of the committee members was unfeasible for individuals who bring the leadership qualities, experience and expertise that were being sought. We have decided to withdraw this advertisement and will be consulting with colleagues before re-submitting our proposals.