



A word from Council

2020 has been a challenging year in many ways, which makes all the more remarkable the huge amount of work undertaken across Cochrane in order to pull together, create vital knowledge resources for policy and practice, advance methodology in rapid reviews, network globally to share, disseminate and capture vital priority topics for further research and engage with the global community as a significant partner. In this brief paragraph, the professional contribution and good will of Cochrane staff, members and volunteers has been one of the most significant and comprehensive contributions toward trusted evidence in a year where trusted evidence has been such a critical part of policy making worldwide.

Many council members have been engaged in this work, in clinical care, and research, and as so many have, Council has adapted to our changed world, continued meeting and operations. This paper presents a summary of work undertaken by Council in 2020. It does not include the communication between group reps and their groups. Each elected group representative has been in touch with their groups throughout the year, not only to hear what representation or discussion items Council might need to consider, but also to hear from you, to hear how you are going and to stay connected. As elected representatives, we are pleased to present this summary of work from 2020 and look forward to enhancing and increasing our representation in 2021.

On behalf of Cochrane Council,

Craig Lockwood & Miranda Langendam

Overview of the Council work in 2020

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, in 2020 the Council has met by teleconference four times:

- On 21st April;
- On 23rd June;
- On 8th October (replacing the in-person meeting at the cancelled Colloquium);
- On 8th December (pending).
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In January 2020 elections were held to replace the following positions:

- Co-Eds: 1 vacancy to replace Graziella Filippini;
- Methods: 2 vacancies: one to replace Yemisi Takwoingi and one for Miranda Langendam's end of term;
- Authors: 1 vacancy to replace Maria Ximena Rojas-Reyes;
- Geographic Groups: 2 vacancies for Erik von Elm and Lotty Hooft's end of terms;
- Information Specialists: 1 vacancy for Rene Spijker's end of term;
- Managing Editors : 1 vacancy for Gail Quinn's end of term.

Following an election process, Jo Morrison (Co-eds), Sarah Nevitt (Methods) and Vanessa Jordan (Authors) were elected.

In addition, five members sought and obtained the re-election through their Executives: Miranda Langendam (Methods), Rene Spijker (Information Specialists), Erik von Elm (Geographic Groups), Lotty Hooft (Geographic Groups) and Gail Quinn (Managing Editors).

As of December 2020, the membership of the Council is as follows:

Co-Chairs:

Craig Lockwood & Miranda Langendam

Council members:

Authors

Agustín Ciapponi (Argentina)

Vanessa Jordan (New Zealand)

Information Specialists (CISs)

Rene Spijker (The Netherlands)

Maria-Inti Metzendorf (Germany)

Co-ordinating Editors

Robert Dellavalle (USA)

Jo Morrison (United Kingdom)

Cochrane Consumer Network Executive

Rachel Plachcinski (United Kingdom)

Fields

Craig Lockwood (**Co-Chair**) (Australia)

Stefano Negrini (Italy)

Geographic Groups Directors

Erik von Elm (Switzerland)

Lotty Hooft (The Netherlands)

Managing Editors

Gail Quinn (United Kingdom)

Liz Dooley (Australia)

Methods Groups

Miranda Langendam (**Co-Chair**)

(The Netherlands)

Sarah Nevitt (United Kingdom)

OVERVIEW OF THE 2020 WORK AGAINST THE REMIT IN THE TORs

Meeting	Remit	Key activity	Key Achievement
April 2020	The Council may provide an opinion or position or Refer an issue to the Board for consideration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental changes paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The paper went to the Board for discussion
May 2020	The Council may provide an opinion or position or Refer an issue to the Board for consideration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detailed Feedback on Spokesperson Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council contribution to the Spokesperson Policy (via feedback to the Board)
April and June 2020	The Council is accountable to its constituent communities and their Executives to communicate back to constituents following Council meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council communication strategy document 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Auditable track record of communications between Council members and their respective constituent groups.
April 2020	The Council may consider any matter its members consider to be of importance. Issues may also be referred to the Council for consideration or to request input by: Cochrane Groups or Executives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consumer Strategy paper (audit of Cochrane's support for consumers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Strategy to set out the vision, commitment and approach of the Cochrane Consumer Network Executive to patient and public involvement in evidence-informed health decision making, within The Cochrane Collaboration

Meeting	Remit	Key activity	Key Achievement
April 2020	The Council may consider any matter its members consider to be of importance. Issues may also be referred to the Council for consideration or to request input by: Cochrane Groups or Executives	- Input to the Cochrane KT Dissemination Checklist	
June 2020	The Council is accountable to its constituent communities and their Executives to provide an open forum for the consideration of issues.	- Establishment of the Authors Forum	- Improved communication with the Authors
June 2020	The Council may consider any matter its members consider to be of importance. Issues may also be referred to the Council for consideration or to request input by: Cochrane Groups or Executives	- Feedback on the EMS-COI workflow options paper	
December 2020	Following consideration of an issue, the Council may provide a collated summary of the findings of a consultation.	- Feedback on the Strategic framework from the constituencies	- Input to the new strategic framework
2020	Where needed, other individuals may be invited to	Council representation within working groups:	

Meeting	Remit	Key activity	Key Achievement
	<p>join working groups of the Council to inform particular projects.</p>	<p>-Robert Dellavalle and Stefano Negrini (Colloquia, Meetings and Events working group)</p> <p>-Miranda Langendam (Diversity Project working group)</p> <p>-Craig Lockwood (Conflict of Interest working group)</p>	
2020	<p>The Council is accountable to its constituent communities and their Executives to communicate back to constituents following Council meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes, papers and documents are published on the Council page. 	<p>(part of 2021 workplan- call for items before each Council meeting)</p>