



Update on partnerships

Document prepared by: Sylvia de Haan and Emma Thompson, CEO

Purpose of paper: For information. To provide a status update on Cochrane's external partnerships for Q2, 2019 and Q3 2019

Access: Open access



Cochrane’s work with external partners is guided by the [Cochrane Partnership Policy](#), and the [Guidance for Partnership Development](#). A [dedicated space on the community website](#) has been developed to keep the Cochrane community informed about the key external partnerships that Cochrane is engaged in. [Updates \(including those to Cochrane’s Governing Board\)](#) on external partnerships are also available on the community site.

This report provides a status update on Cochrane’s external partnerships for Q2 and Q3 2019. A detailed overview per partner is set out below, also specifying the plans for the next two quarters. The main developments to note are:

- The [Partnerships page on the community website](#) has been updated in order to make it easier to access information about our external partnerships (including details of Partnership Advisory Groups, Terms of Reference and news updates).
- At the Santiago Colloquium, workshops are planned on stakeholder mapping and Wikipedia editing skills, as well as an open meeting on the WHO–Cochrane partnership.
- In light of the new Cochrane Advocacy Strategy, which will involve collaboration with both new and existing partners, we will do a wider review of organizational partnerships and a mapping exercise at the end of 2019 to identify those with whom we should be working.

Annex – Update on Key Strategic Partnerships:

Goal	Partner	Activity	Status of partnership	Key achievements Q2 and Q3 2019	Q 4 2019 and Q1 2020 plans
3	Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Medicine/Cochrane	Develop sustainable strategies for our collaboration with Wikipedia	<p>There is no formal MoU currently in place.</p> <p>Cochrane has been collaborating with WikiProject Medicine, the non-profit organization that helps to maintain, monitor, and develop medical articles on Wikipedia, since 2014.</p>	<p>1. Development of a “Wikipedian-in-Training” Resource and a Cochrane-Wikipedia project page.</p> <p>Goal: Provide community members with a place to learn more about the partnership, access Cochrane-Wikipedia training resources, and view examples of present projects (and access Project Lead contact info). The Wikipedian-in-Residence (Wikipedia Consultant) is still available for troubleshooting; however, the goal is for Cochrane Review Groups, Centres, Volunteers, and Networks to design their own project and independently learn how to edit Wikipedia and use Cochrane evidence to improve health-related information shared on Wikipedia.</p> <p>The project page includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An improved “how to” section that gives step by step instructions on how to edit Wikipedia and participate in the initiative (including the Wikipedian-in-Training Resource). • A section that organizes all the Cochrane Reviews not yet on Wikipedia by CRG Network. This also 	<p>Continue support to Cochrane Groups asking for training and guidance on Wikipedia editing, using the new project page (with useful resources) to facilitate this work.</p> <p>Maintain regular communication and collaborative relationship with WikiProject Medicine (now Wikimedia Medicine) as we work together to improve Wikipedia articles.</p> <p>Participate and contribute to Wikipedia events held by members of the Cochrane community.</p> <p>Data Analytics: We have a new collaboration with The Insight Centre for Data Analytics. The aim of this project is to expand on the work done by the University of Virginia students and develop an automated indexing system that links available reviews from the Cochrane Library with disease-related Wikipedia articles, to subsequently evaluate the relationship between the quality and importance of these articles with the number of relevant and cited Cochrane reviews, and to identify evidence gaps to inform future research. The project team has already developed a free, open-source indexing system prototype which can be installed as an extension in Google Chrome web browsers that identifies relevant Cochrane Reviews for disease related Wikipedia articles (available here: https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/wikipedia-</p>

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				<p>includes the present progress of the CRG Networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of Cochrane Reviews that are already used in Wikipedia articles. • A summary of specific Cochrane-Wikipedia projects, contact information, and information on how to sign up on project dashboards and how to get involved. <p>2. A workshop will be held at the 2019 Santiago Colloquium. This workshop will include a general overview of the project (and approaches to contributing), and a hands-on component that will cover creating a Wikipedia account and working through the Wikipedian-in-Training resource to begin to share evidence on Wikipedia. There will also be an opportunity to meet with the Wikipedia Consultant (J. Dawson) to troubleshoot and obtain support for individual Wikipedia projects.</p> <p>3. Improving the efficiency of Cochrane-Wikipedia. There is a need for IT support to ensure this process is efficient and kept up to date. Cochrane presently has two different IT/data science tools to organize Wikipedia content:</p>	<p>cochrane-libr/cehpfefpnicpmejgidpkgeenapnfcakm?hl=en-US).</p> <p>Support the launch of the Cochrane Spanish Wikipedia Project.</p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A “Reviews to Consider for English Wikipedia” project page that contains a list of Cochrane Reviews that are not yet included in Wikipedia is updated quarterly. Over 4,000 Cochrane Reviews are on the list. • Computer programming volunteers at WikiProject Medicine run the “Cochrane update bot”. This bot flags Wikipedia articles that cite Cochrane Reviews for which an updated version has been published in the Cochrane Library (see the Cochrane Update Project Page) and generates a list for volunteers to work from, monitoring and performing these updates. <p>To complement these two advancements, an additional tool that matches Cochrane Reviews with potential Wikipedia articles and vice versa was identified as being useful for Wikipedia volunteers and students looking to improve Wikipedia with Cochrane content. Starting in October 2018, this challenge was tackled through a Cochrane-University of Virginia collaborative initiative, the “Cochrane Wikipedia Article and Citation Matching Project”. A prototype was developed, however further work is required to improve the accuracy and efficiency of this tool.</p>	

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				4. Ongoing work with numerous Cochrane Groups who are establishing and improving their strategies to share Cochrane evidence in Wikipedia articles	
1,2,3,4	WHO (www.who.int)	Implement plan of work 2019 – 2021.	Implementation phase	<p>Attended the World Health Assembly in May 2019, and held meetings with various WHO staff to build relations and monitor implementation of plan of work.</p> <p>Facilitated participation of local Cochrane groups at regional meetings: Cochrane Nordic attended EURO Regional Committee; Cochrane Iran attended EMRO Regional Committee.</p> <p>Linked several Cochrane Groups to departments in WHO at the request of WHO (mainly in support of guideline development processes).</p> <p>Continuation of the ‘Cochrane at the WHO’ blog series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cochrane at the WHO: Interview with Joerg Meerpohl, Cochrane-WHO Working Group • Cochrane at the WHO: supporting health research in the African Region and advising on immunization at the global level • Cochrane at the WHO: Cochrane Rehabilitation support Rehabilitation 2030 	<p>Ongoing follow-up on all items in the joint plan of work.</p> <p>Continue to facilitate participation from local Cochrane Groups in regional/local meetings.</p> <p>Plan meetings for Cochrane Editor in Chief with key contacts at WHO HQ in December to share vision and look for future collaboration opportunities.</p> <p>Plan to attend the WHO Executive Board meeting in 2020.</p> <p>Through the Cochrane Advocacy Strategy, monitor opportunities to make statements and to work with WHO on advocacy efforts (e.g., with ICTRP on clinical trial transparency).</p> <p>Continue the blog series to illustrate the wide range of interactions and collaboration the Cochrane community has with WHO, and to encourage people to share their experiences:</p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO cognitive decline and dementia guideline cites three Cochrane Reviews • Cochrane’s status as NGO in official relations with WHO renewed • Eleven Cochrane Reviews inform a WHO guideline on digital healthcare guideline • Cochrane at the WHO: EVIPNet and the European Advisory Committee on Health Research • Cochrane at the WHO: Department of Reproductive Health and Research’s Scientific and Technical Advisory Group • Cochrane at the WHO: Identifying and charting the impact of Cochrane evidence 	
2,3	Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) www.gesiinitiative.com	GESI seeks to develop the production capacity and use of synthesized evidence in low- and middle-income countries.	Implementation phase (contract extended until June 2020)	<p>One of the main activities of GESI is the training they provide for their network members. Cochrane Training is supporting the delivery of some of the online training (webinars).</p> <p>A meeting is scheduled in Santiago.</p>	Regular meetings with the GESI governance group will continue and will focus on strategies for sustaining the work of the network.
2	Epistemonikos (http://www.epistemonikos.org)	Continue to develop Cochrane’s relationship with the Epistemonikos.	Implementation of current MoU	Following discussions in Q1/Q2 2019, it has been agreed to expand the Epistemonikos API with new endpoints, to enrich the search experience for Cochrane Library users. The Cochrane Library product team has also changed	Epistemonikos is expanding their API to support additional search fields within the Cochrane Library. Once this work is complete, users will be able to search Epistemonikos reviews across abstract, title, author, source, DOI and accession number. Going forward, this will offer the opportunity for Epistemonikos to be

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				the way search results are rendered to provide Epistemonikos with more granular usage and referral data, and provided them with an API of all Cochrane Reviews for their database.	included in the advanced search functionality on the Cochrane Library. The work for this improved integration has been completed from the Cochrane Library perspective, with the outstanding actions sitting with Epistemonikos and likely to begin after the Colloquium.
2	G-I-N www.g-i-n.net	To build stronger connections between G-I-N members and Cochrane; and promote the use of Cochrane evidence in guidelines worldwide.	Implementation phase	Exploring opportunities to bring Cochrane and G-I-N communities together between both organizations' Toronto meetings in 2020. Cochrane involvement in session on collaboration in guidelines at G-I-N Conference in Adelaide. Cochrane promoted G-I-N Adelaide Conference to local contacts; G-I-N promoted Santiago Colloquium to local contacts. Cochrane will have an exhibition stand at G-I-N meeting in Adelaide.	Explore sessions on collaboration between guideline developers and Cochrane Review Groups for Toronto meetings. Focus on communication and advocacy – highlighting examples of joint work between guideline developers and systematic reviewers.
3	Campbell G-I-N Joanna Briggs	Co-host the 2 nd Global Evidence Summit in 2021.	Planning phase	Cochrane Czech Republic (and its affiliations) confirmed as hosts for GES 2 . Partner and programme matrix being developed by Global Organizing Committee.	Develop plan for partners and programme. Start making approaches to high-profile individuals/organizations.
3	The International Network for Public Involvement	Develop collaboration with existing consumer groups; and create	Developing and setting up the network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business plan drafted and out for consultation. • Social media offer completed (LinkedIn and Twitter). • Webinar series under development – 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website about to be launched. • Further 9 webinars planned on a range of topics including: stakeholder involvement in evidence synthesis; Danish, Australian and Canadian

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	and Engagement in Health and Social Care Research	an international network.		first webinar delivered September 2019.	experiences of involvement and engagement; engagement in Australian aboriginal communities; development of core outcome sets; reporting involvement in research.
1,2,3	GRADE (http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org)	To deliver the MoU as well as a licensing agreement for software use.	Renewing the MoU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewed MoU finalized (to be signed-off imminently). GRADE Methods group to serve as PAG. 	
1,2,3	Evidence Prime (https://evidenceprime.com/)		No formal MoU in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRADEpro GDT integrated with RevMan Web for easy creation of summary of findings tables. Release is pending UAT and sign-off by EMD. Ongoing discussion between Cochrane Innovations and Evidence Prime on integration of Cochrane's Linked Data work. 	Sign off and release GRADEpro GDT / RevMan Web integration.
2	MAGIC (http://magicproject.org)	To explore strategic partnership opportunities for review production and guideline tools.	Implementation	Limited activity as we decided to complete the GradePro integration before completing the MAGIC Summary of Findings integration.	<p>Completing work on MAGIC App for Cochrane SoF integration work.</p> <p>Ongoing discussion on the integration of Cochrane's PICO vocabulary and onotology work.</p> <p>Review opportunities associated with Interactive Summary of Findings tables.</p>
3	REWARD (http://researchwaste.net)	Continue to develop Cochrane's relationship with	Implementation	The Cochrane REWARD prize call for 2019 received 9 nominations from a diverse range of initiatives. The winners will be announced and have the opportunity to	Further communications about past applications and winners – thus increasing Cochrane's visibility in the area of reducing research waste.

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		the REWARD alliance.		<p>present at the 2019 International Clinical Trials Methodology Conference.</p> <p>Cochrane REWARD prize panel consulted during the development of Cochrane Advocacy Strategy.</p> <p>Started to publish communications about past winners and research waste initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SYRCLE • NIHR Adding Value in Research • EVBRES 	<p>Potential session at REWARD-EQUATOR Conference highlighting the prize winners and to launch 2020 prize call.</p> <p>Engage with REWARD panel and prize winners on advocacy work under ‘research waste’ theme.</p>
3	Joanna Briggs Institute (http://joannabriggs.org)	Exploring opportunities for scientific and methodological research, as well as sharing of data for the efficiency of evidence synthesis processes, and joint representation at major healthcare events.	MoU being re-developed	JBI is conducting an assessment of evidence eco-system and the various organisations contributing to this. This assessment will help inform the new MoU.	Still waiting for JBI to finalise and share this mapping work. Rediscussing renewal of the MoU afterwards.
1,3	The Campbell Collaboration (https://campbellcollaboration.org/)	Continue to develop Cochrane’s relationship with	Implementation phase	<p>Discussions about challenges on co-registration of titles ongoing.</p> <p>Healthy Ageing is now a combined Cochrane and Campbell Field.</p>	Exploring the development of a shared advocacy platform and common advocacy initiatives as both organizations look to raise their profile and promote evidence-informed decision making.

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		the Campbell Collaboration.		Cochrane Croatia's annual symposium organized in collaboration with Campbell .	Plan Cochrane presence at next year's Campbell annual event. Deliver other activities as agreed in the MoU.
2,3	VIVLI	VIVLI and Cochrane aim to promote, coordinate, and facilitate clinical research data sharing through the creation and implementation of a sustainable global data-sharing enterprise	Commercial license in place. PICO metadata between VIVLI and Cochrane and Cochrane PICO ontology and vocabulary are being used to enhance the discoverability of clinical trials.	Continued to deliver Cochrane PICO services to Vivli.	Continue to work with Vivli to enhance the Cochrane PICO services and support the promotion and use of the new clinical trials data sharing platform.
2,3	Choosing Wisely	'Choosing Wisely' is a campaign to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments and make smart and effective choices to ensure high-quality care.	No formal MoU in place	New Cochrane Field on Sustainable Healthcare re-engaging with Choosing Wisely – connecting with new Choosing Wisely Denmark group and Cochrane Geographic Groups that have a partnership with local Choosing Wisely groups. Sustainable Healthcare Field to attend international Choosing Wisely meeting in Berlin.	Further explore collaboration with Choosing Wisely through new Sustainable Healthcare Field.

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3	Health Systems Evidence (HSE) and Social Systems Evidence (SSE)	Exploring partnering to offer users the opportunity to search HSE and SSE from within CLIB's Federated Search feature.	Implementation phase	Following discussions, it has been agreed to add HSE and SSE to the Cochrane Library federated search. The design and specifications for this integration have been agreed and signed off by both parties and work is underway. A new Topic – health systems arrangements – will be added to the Cochrane Library.	<p>There have been some delays on behalf of HSE and SSE with setting up the API endpoints and their database rebuild, but the work is progressing.</p> <p>An MoU is being discussed to formalize the arrangement and will be in place before any live deployment.</p> <p>There are further discussions about a phase II integration, linking relevant Cochrane Reviews to the policy brief 1-siders within HSE.</p>