



## Update on partnerships

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Purpose of paper: For information. To provide a status update on **Cochrane's** external partnerships for Q2 and Q 3, 2018

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.

The **current document provides a status update on Cochrane's external partnerships for Q 2 and 3, 2018**. The annex provides a detailed overview per partner, also specifying the plans for the next two quarters. The main developments to note are:

- The Knowledge Translation Working Group on Strategic Partnerships developed a [guidance document](#) to support partnership development by Cochrane groups. The guidance document, case studies and related resources are available from the [KT partnership pages on the community website](#). This resource will be expanded further, and webinars around partnership development are expected to be developed in 2019 as well.
- **To maintain and continue Cochrane's official relation with WHO, a report of the activities from 2016 to date, as well as a plan of work for 2019-2021** have been submitted to WHO. The plan of work was informed by a series of meetings David Tovey and Sylvia de Haan held in April 2018 with the new leadership of WHO, as well as with Directors of various departments. The new plan of work responds to [WHO's 13<sup>th</sup> Global Programme of Work](#). **The plan of work is being reviewed by WHO, and we expect a decision re the continuation of Cochrane's status as NGO in official relation with WHO after the WHO Executive Board in January 2019.**
- It has been agreed that the Global Evidence Summit (GES) will be organised as an ongoing quadrennial event, and the next Summit is planned for 2021.

## Annex – Update on Key Strategic Partnerships:

| Goal | Partner  | Activity  | Status of partnership                     | Key achievements Q2 and 3, 2018   | Q4, 2018 and Q1, 2019 plans   |
|------|--|---|---|---|---|
| 3    | Wikipedia<br><a href="https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Cochrane-Wikipedia_Initiative/Welcome">https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Cochrane-Wikipedia_Initiative/Welcome</a> | Work towards developing sustainable strategies for our collaboration with Wikipedia | There is no formal MoU currently in place | <p>Continued the work on including Cochrane Reviews in Wikipedia that are currently not yet referenced. A <a href="#">new task</a> has been created on the get involved pages to encourage people to work on this.</p> <p>Successfully launched an improved project page that flags Cochrane Reviews on Wikipedia that need updating: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Medicine/Cochrane_update">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Medicine/Cochrane_update</a>. This page searches Wikipedia on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for reviews that have been updated and flags them for the Wikipedia Medical Editing community to verify and update accordingly in Wikipedia. This page also automatically archives the updates that have been completed by volunteers once a month.</p> <p>Continued the support to Cochrane Groups asking for training and guidance on Wikipedia editing. Support was requested and provided to: Cochrane Nursing Care, Cochrane Rehabilitation, Cochrane Incontinence, Cochrane UK, Cochrane Skin, Cochrane Work,</p> | <p>A <a href="#">Special Session</a> and a <a href="#">Workshop</a> will be organised at the Edinburgh Colloquium.</p> <p>Discussions are ongoing with the Data Science Institute of the University of Virginia around a Capstone project. The project would develop an article recommendation tool for Cochrane articles in Wikipedia, and would seek to match medical Wikipedia articles with suggestions of publication from Cochrane which match the subject matter content. This work is currently done manually, and automation would facilitate adding Cochrane evidence to Wikipedia.</p> |

| Goal    | Partner   | Activity                         | Status of partnership   | Key achievements Q2 and 3, 2018  | Q4, 2018 and Q1, 2019 plans                                   |
|---------|---|----------------------------------|---|--|---|
|         |   |                                  |   | <p>Cochrane Russia, Cochrane Africa, Acute Respiratory Infections</p> <p>A member of Cochrane Africa participated on behalf of Cochrane in the <a href="#">Wiki Project Med</a> meeting in Cape Town (which was held in the context of the annual Wikimania conference). annual Wikimania conference).</p>   |   |
| 1,2,3,4 | WHO<br>( <a href="http://www.who.int">www.who.int</a> ) | Implement plan of work 2016-2018 | Partnership was reported on in June 2018. Now awaiting approval from WHO of new plan of work (response expected in January 2019). | <p><b>To maintain and continue Cochrane's</b> official relation with WHO, a report of the activities from 2016 to date, as well as a plan of work for 2019-2021 have been submitted to WHO. The plan of work was informed by a series of meetings David Tovey and Sylvia de Haan held in April 2018 with the new leadership of WHO, as well as with Directors of various departments. The new plan of work responds to <a href="#">WHO's 13<sup>th</sup> Global Programme of Work</a>, and focuses on:</p> <p><b>Supporting the WHO's normative</b> guidance work through providing, in a timely manner, evidence syntheses on topics of relevance to WHO, that will help inform guidelines, the essential medicines list, as well as other technical normative guidance. The collaboration will also focus on advancing methods for normative work, and providing training support in interpreting evidence syntheses. In addition, emphasis is given to activities that facilitate use of evidence</p> | Ongoing follow up on the all items in the joint plan of work. |

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|------|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
|      |  |  |                               | <p>in policy making at country, regional and global levels.</p> <p>Our proposed plan of work is being reviewed by WHO, and we expect a decision re the continuation of <b>Cochrane's status as NGO in official relation with WHO</b> after the WHO Executive Board in January 2019.</p>                            |  |
| 2,3  | Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) <a href="http://www.gesiinitiative.com">www.gesiinitiative.com</a> | GESI seeks to develop the production capacity and use of synthesized evidence in low- and middle-income countries. | Implementation phase          | <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) provided. GESI also organised several workshops at GES.</p> <p>Regular meetings with the GESI governance group continued.</p> | <p><b>Cochrane's</b> support to GESI formally ends in June 2019. In the coming months a decision needs to be taken re continuing our investment in GESI. This will depend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the progress the GESI Secretariat made and the expected impact the initiative could have in the longer term;</li> <li>the commitments of the other key funding partners (Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research; 3IE; and the American Institutes for Research); and</li> <li>the prospects of receiving additional funding beyond 2019 from other funders.</li> </ul> |
| 2    | Epistemonikos ( <a href="http://www.epistemonikos.org">http://www.epistemonikos.org</a> )                      | To explore a long-term joint venture   | Implementation of current MoU | <p>Official partnership and MoU <a href="#">launched in December 2016</a>.</p> <p>Year one work focused on the incorporation and testing of <b>Epistemonikos' database within the new federated search feature on the new Cochrane Library platform</b>. This is now complete and launched.</p>                    | Because of the delay in the launch of the Cochrane Library, year 2 activities have been delayed. During a meeting scheduled for early September, year 2 activities will be discussed and decided upon jointly with Epistemonikos.  |

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|------|---|--|--|--|--|
| 2    | G-I-N<br><a href="http://www.g-i-n.net">www.g-i-n.net</a> | To build stronger connections with G-I-N members and Cochrane as well as begin to explore further connections. | Evaluation of work to date and planning extension of partnership | <p>The Partnership Advisory Group started review of joint work during the past two years, and will discuss this during a meeting in Edinburgh.</p> <p>Key achievements over the past two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Evidence Summit</li> <li>• TaskExchange adjusted to G-I-N</li> <li>• Joint sessions at GES and Edinburgh</li> <li>• Sharing relevant Cochrane systematic reviews with guideline community</li> </ul> | Meeting in Edinburgh with key people from both organizations to strategize re how a continued partnership can support the organizations reach its respective aims. This discussion will inform the renewal process of the MoU (current MoU ends in October 2018).  |
| 3    | Campbell<br>G-I-N<br>ISEHC<br>Joanna Briggs               | Co-host the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Global Evidence Summit in 2021.  | Planning phase   | <p>It has been agreed that the Global Evidence Summit (GES) will be organised as an ongoing quadrennial event, and the next Summit is planned for 2021.</p> <p>We held discussions with WHO re their involvement in GES 2 – there is a general interest and GES 2 has been included in the proposed plan of work with WHO.</p>   | <p>Cochrane together with GES partner organisations are developing a series of governance and planning documents for the event including Global Evidence Summit Terms of Reference which includes financial investment and financial liability, a MoU, and a Partners and Supporters guidance notes. These will be further developed in late 2018 and a call for global submissions to host GES2 in 2021 will be announced by 31st January 2019.</p> <p>The Organising Partners Meeting will meet quarterly from September 2018.</p> |
| 3    | PAHO<br><a href="http://www.paho.org">www.paho.org</a>    | Deliver MoU (detailed plan of work developed in 2015).   | Ending partnership   | Developing the collaboration with PAHO has been slow. Recent staff changes mean there is no expectation we can move this work forward in the near future. The collaboration with PAHO has  | Communicate to PAHO that Cochrane is not planning to extend current MoU. However, ongoing activities between PAHO and individual Cochrane Groups can continue (and have been continuing during the past three years).  |

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|-------|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
|       |  |   |                                       | not been included in the new plan of work with WHO.  |  |
| 3     | The International Network for Public Involvement and Engagement in Health and Social Care Research | Develop collaboration with existing consumer groups; and explore the feasibility of an international network. | Developing and setting up the network | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch of new website and social media in March 2018</li> <li>• Two-day meeting in May to determine legal structures, governance and develop top five priorities from consultation</li> <li>• 2 x webinars held in March 2018</li> <li>• 200 organizations have now signed up as interested in this network</li> <li>• Second meeting of Network held 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 online and at Royal Society (see <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLxFw8aTvtq-dCjVzpZ1DUO7ocLt-sZby2&amp;time_continue=4&amp;v=cD2A7urMq0I">https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLxFw8aTvtq-dCjVzpZ1DUO7ocLt-sZby2&amp;time_continue=4&amp;v=cD2A7urMq0I</a>)</li> <li>• Workshop abstract submitted for International Network Workshop at International Measurement Conference, November 2018</li> <li>• Mission, Vision and Objectives now agreed</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First symposium at Cochrane Colloquium, September 2018</li> <li>• Special session to be held at Colloquium</li> </ul> |
| 1,2,3 | GRADE ( <a href="http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org">http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org</a> )          | To deliver the MoU as well as a licensing agreement for software use.   | Step 2                                | <p>GRADEpro GDT / Archie integration is implemented and pending release.</p> <p>Approach for GRADEpro GDT integration with RevMan Web has been agreed, and the same approach has been adopted for MAGICapp integration.</p>  | Implement integration of GRADEpro GDT and RevMan Web to enable better user experience for creating summary of findings tables.                                 |

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|      |  |   |                        | Discussion started between Cochrane Innovations and Evidence Prime on <b>integration of Cochrane's Linked Data</b> work.  |   |
| 2    | MAGIC ( <a href="http://magicproject.org">http://magicproject.org</a> )    | To explore strategic partnership opportunities for review production and guideline tools. | Implementation         | <p>Continued work on pilot projects to test and demo the use of MAGIC tools and services. Some of these projects will be <b>reported during 'evidence eco-system'</b> sessions during the Edinburgh Colloquium.</p> <p>Continued work on joint funding applications.</p> <p>Completed a positive internal assessment of MAGICApp to understand implications for Cochrane authors for the production of Summary of Findings tables.</p> <p>Agreed on MAGICApp integration with RevMan Web using the same approach as for GRADEpro GDT.</p> | <p>Special session at the Colloquium on the evidence eco-system.</p> <p>Several sessions at G-I-N and Colloquium, also including reflection on MAGIC-Cochrane partnership.</p> <p>Continue pilot projects and share results. Helps inform work towards integrating MAGICApp as tool for Cochrane authors.</p> <p>Continue work on joint funding applications.</p> <p>Implement integration of MAGICApp and RevMan Web to enable better user experience for creating summary of findings tables.</p> |
| 3    | REWARD ( <a href="http://researchwaste.net">http://researchwaste.net</a> ) | Continue to develop and <b>explore Cochrane's</b> relationship with the REWARD alliance.  | Implementation         | The Cochrane REWARD prize call for 2018 received 15 nominations. The prize committee selected the winners, who will be announced during the 2018 Cochrane Colloquium.   | <p>Communication about 2018 applications and winners.</p> <p>Start process for 2019 prize round.</p> <p>Initiate discussion with EQUATOR on joint work for reducing research waste.</p>   |
| 3    | Joanna Briggs Institute  | Exploring opportunities for   | MoU being re-developed | JBI is conducting an assessment of evidence eco-system and the various  | Discuss and agree new (and more generic) MoU.   |



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|      | <a href="http://joannabriggs.org">http://joannabriggs.org</a> | scientific and methodological research, as well as sharing of data for the efficiency of evidence synthesis processes, and joint representation at major healthcare events. |                       | organisations contributing to this. This assessment will help inform the new MoU.  |  |
|      | The Campbell Collaboration                                    |   | Implementation phase  | <p>New MoU agreed and signed. Focus areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campbell Collaboration contributors are approved to use Cochrane systems for Review Production (Archie and RevMan).</li> <li>• Streamlining editorial and production processes for cross-published systematic reviews.</li> <li>• Exploring how to offer training initiatives in areas of particular <b>expertise to both organizations'</b> authors and editors.</li> <li>• Establishing closer collaboration on methods development, building on the extensive interactions already <b>made (including Campbell's</b> adoption of adapted MECIR standards) to update and improve guidelines, standards and use.</li> <li>• Exploring inclusion of The Campbell Library of Systematic Reviews in a</li> </ul> | Monitor partnership and keep an eye on overlap – avoiding duplication. |

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|      |                       |  |  | <p>federated search function in The Cochrane Library.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>Partnership Advisory Group set up, its ToR agreed, and first meeting held.</li> </ul> |   |
|      | <a href="#">VIVLI</a> | VIVLI aims to promote, coordinate, and facilitate clinical research data sharing through the creation and implementation of a sustainable global data-sharing enterprise | Research and development license signed for the implementation and launch stage. | Vivli platform was successfully launched in July 2018. Cochrane attended and presented at the Washington launch. PICO metadata and Cochrane PICO ontology and vocabulary used to enhance the discoverability of clinical trials.   | 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.   |
|      | Choosing Wisely       | ‘Choosing Wisely’ is a campaign to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments and make smart and                        | No formal MoU in place   | We participated in the international Choosing Wisely conference that took place in Amsterdam (September 2017) to discuss collaboration with Cochrane. The overall feedback was positive, but this has not yet resulted in concrete joint areas of work.  | <p>We are organizing a joint Special Session at the Edinburgh Colloquium, which will facilitate further discussion between the Cochrane community and Choosing Wisely.</p> <p>In addition, Cochrane will be on a panel at the international Choosing Wisely meeting to be held in October in Zurich, Switzerland, which allows for further discussion with the international Choosing Wisely community.</p> |

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|------|---------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|      |         | effective choices to ensure high-quality care. |                       |                                 |                             |