Reviews and Methods Digest

10th June 2016

This issue of the CEU Review and Methods Digest covers the following areas:

For information

1. Structure and Function webinars: June and July 2016
2. MECIR Standards important update
3. Blogs on the Cochrane Community site

Survey

4. Methods Innovation Fund (MIF) project on inclusion of data from regulatory documents within systematic reviews

For Information:

1. Structure & Function webinars: June and July 2016

As reported in the last issue of the Review and Methods Digest, the Cochrane Editorial Unit (CEU) is initiating a process of consultation on behalf of the Central Executive Team (CET) with the wider Cochrane Community. We will be running a series of webinars, led by David Tovey, and we welcome your participation. For the first two, we will focus on review production and impact and this may be more relevant to Review Group teams (Co-eds, MEs and Information Specialists) but the later webinars will address proposals that are more wide-ranging in their impact. The webinars will run for 60-90 minutes and will be recorded. Each webinar will start with a PowerPoint presentation followed by time for questions and feedback. In addition, at least one of the later webinars will be recorded and made available via the Cochrane Community website.

Instructions for joining:

- To join any of the allocated webinars and to be able to view the PowerPoint presentation, you must click the relevant link below. *
- All times listed are UK time, but the meetings have been planned in order to be accessible to everyone irrespective of time zone. Local times can be found at http://www.timeanddate.com/
- If you need more information or assistance with joining the webinars, please contact Hilary Simmonds (hsimmonds@cochrane.org).
- **If you are on a mobile device,** first download the iOS, Android or Windows Phone app. Then open the app and enter the Meeting ID (last nine digits on the link below)

Date	UK time (GMT+1)	Go-to-meeting invitation
16th June 2016	08:00 (AM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/320099861
16th June 2016	15:00 (PM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/923729893
27th June 2016	08:00 (AM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/199338997

27th June 2016	16:00 (PM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/218135957
28th June 2016	09:00 (AM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/849895333
30th June 2016	16:00 (PM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/593856981
11th July 2016	16:00 (PM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/691393061
14th July 2016	08:00 (AM)	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/141007141

***** For more information on GoToMeeting please see the **GoToMeeting support page**

Please note: if you or your colleagues are unable to attend of the times specified above, please contact Hilary Simmonds (hsimmonds@cochrane.org) and we will try to organize a meeting to suit your diary.

2. MECIR Standards: important update

In the next few weeks we will launch a revised set of conduct and reporting standards for intervention reviews. We will also introduce standards for reporting of protocols, and the planning, conduct and reporting of updates.

Reflections on the implementation of current standards and feedback from the screening and audit project have enabled improvements to the standards. We hope that this will increase their clarity in order to support improved consistency of reporting across the reviews. Both conduct and protocol standards emphasize the need for earlier planning and the explicit reporting of intentions. The standards for updates encourage authors to re-evaluate their review to determine whether a new protocol is needed. Some unnecessary or repetitive standards are removed.

We will launch a downloadable booklet of all standards, and will create an online version of the standards that will allow PDF download section by section. We will also include additional online information to resources supporting execution of the standards. We will also produce a hardcopy booklet.

All standards should be read in conjunction with the *Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions*. For groups that have previously disseminated the standards we will produce a 'What's new' report.

We will ensure that other applications and services, including RevMan and training packages are also updated to incorporate the new standards. Further information is available here on the Cochrane Training website.

3. Blogs on the Cochrane Community site:

You may be interested to read these recent blogs that were published on the Cochrane Community site.

Get information and updates on the Plain Language Summaries pilot project on the Community site https://community.cochrane.org/review-production/production-resources/plain-language-summaries

Announcing the Cochrane Review Ecosystem infographic
https://community.cochrane.org/news/announcing-cochrane-review-ecosystem-infographic

Announcing the Brazilian Cochrane Network
https://community.cochrane.org/news/announcing-brazilian-cochrane-network

Call for nominations: Cochrane Consumers' Executive
https://community.cochrane.org/news/call-nominations-cochrane-consumers%E2%80%99-executive

Call for nominations: Co-Chair of the Cochrane Steering Group
https://community.cochrane.org/news/call-nominations-co-chair-cochrane-steering-group

Survey

4. Methods Innovation Fund (MIF) project on inclusion of data from regulatory documents within systematic reviews

Data from regulatory documents could fundamentally change the way that systematic reviews are done in future - Have your say ….

Reporting bias is widespread and can lead to distorted representation of trial results in journal publications. This could undermine the reliability of systematic reviews that use data extracted from such publications.
Clinical study Reports (CSRs) produced as part of the pharmaceutical licensing process, which are much more detailed than journal articles, are becoming increasing accessible as a result of transparency and data sharing initiatives. Data from such reports could supplement or replace information from publications.
We are developing guidance for Cochrane, exploring the rationale for and readiness to consider CSRs and other regulatory documents in systematic reviews. To consider where this might be most valuable, we want to find out what has previously motivated authors to use CSRs and other data from regulatory documents. More generally, we want to understand levels of familiarity with regulatory documents and any barriers to using them in Cochrane reviews.
We are therefore seeking views from authors who have and have not considered using information from regulatory reports in their systematic review(s).

- If you have previously sought CSRs or other regulatory documents for inclusion in a review (i.e., requested information and may or may not have received anything)
  Please click here: https://york.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_3gd4OnFjv0MZgsl

- If you have considered using CSRs or other regulatory documents but decided against it (i.e., no requests for regulatory information were made)
  Please click here: https://york.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_3Cpa243glvdmgUB

- If you have never contemplated seeking CSRs or other regulatory documents
  Please click here: https://york.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_0DPOpuDR9dHznKZ

The above links will direct you to short on-line surveys that should take **no more than 10 minutes** to complete. **Participation in these surveys is entirely voluntary, and responses will remain anonymous.**

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