

Reviews and Methods Digest

22nd July 2016

Dear Colleagues

The CEU Review and Methods Digest this week covers the following areas:

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For Action:

1. Structure and Function webinars for Centres, Branches, and Networks

There are still two opportunities to participate in the *Structure and Function Review* webinars. These webinars are open to all Cochrane Groups, so if you are from a CRG, Field or Methods Group you are also welcome to attend. All Centre and Branch staff are recommended to attend one of the four webinars.

If you have any queries about this series of webinars or anything else relating to the structure and function review of Centres and Branches, please contact Chris Champion (cchampion@cochrane.org).

Date	UK time (GMT+1)	Go-to-meeting invitation
2 nd Aug 2016	08:00-9:30	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5561201546146818051 Webinar ID: 105-944-395
4 th Aug 2016	16:00-17:30	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4927439745361868035 Webinar ID: 105-647-435

2. Methods Structure & Function review webinars

Following on from the *Methods Structure & Function Review 2015 – Key messages and proposals*, circulated at the beginning of the year a series of webinars will discuss where the current Methods infrastructure (Board, Executive, Methods Groups and Methodology Review Group) fit into plans for Group consolidation and integration. This follows recent Mid-Year discussions, subsequent Structure and Function webinars and meetings for both CRGs, and Centres and Networks. It is only necessary to register for one Webinar. Key supporting documents are: April doc and S&F doc.

[9.00 am UK BST 22nd September](#)

[2.00 pm UK BST 27th September](#)

[12.00 pm UK BST 5th October](#)

3. Updating Classification System: release in Archie and webinars

The new 'Updating' tab on a review's properties has been released in Archie. This allows Cochrane Review Groups to classify individual Cochrane Reviews using the Updating Classification System. The classifications will not be published at this time, but CRGs can now use the system to classify reviews. Publication will follow later in the year. For further information about the Updating Classification System: <http://community.cochrane.org/editorial-and-publishing-policy-resource/cochrane-review-management/updating-classification-system-cochrane-reviews>.

The third introductory webinar, for Cochrane Review Groups in Australia and New Zealand, will take place on 26 July at (local time) 1400 Melbourne/Brisbane and 1600 Auckland, and 2100 in Vancouver (on 25 July). If you would like to participate, sign up via this Doodle link:

<http://doodle.com/poll/w9irech678zvqzgc>. Join via GoToMeeting:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/857842037>.

We will share a recording of these introductory webinars and will repeat in August/September.

Contacts for queries: Harriet MacLehose (hmaclehose@cochrane.org) and Monaz Mehta (mmehta@cochrane.org)

For Information:

1. Cochrane mid-year meeting in Geneva

Save the date for the Mid-Year Meeting 2017 and reserve your hotel room!

The [2017 Mid-Year Meeting](#) will be hosted by Cochrane Switzerland in Geneva, on the 4-5 April 2017, alongside other meetings held that week that Mid-Year attendees will be welcome to join.

Key dates: Cochrane Switzerland Symposium: 3 April, WHO/Cochrane training workshop: 3 April, morning, WHO/Cochrane meeting: 3 April, afternoon, WHO/Cochrane drinks reception: 3 April, evening, Mid-Year Meeting: 4 April - 5 April, Steering Group meeting: 6 April - 7 April (TBC).

Reserve your hotel as soon as possible

Geneva is a busy location and hotels book up quickly, so it is important you reserve your room as soon as possible. Hotel options are provided in the link.

2. Strategic Methods Fund – calls for proposal

A new Cochrane grant – the Strategic Methods Fund (SMF) – targets improving the implementation and use of methods for Cochrane Reviews to meet the needs of healthcare policy makers, professionals and consumers by the 2020s. The grant will support both established methods and

those identified as strategically important. This fund will run for three years. We will allocate 200,000 GBP each year to fund one or more projects. [For further information and application form.](#)

Deadline for submission: 15th September 2016

3. MECIR Standards - Update

We will circulate revised conduct and reporting standards and new standards for protocols and updates, for Cochrane Intervention Reviews in the next few weeks. We are preparing a short summary of What's new? Methods.cochrane.org will house these standards. Please check this site for any future updates. A live version of the standards with links to resources standard by standard is in development, please check site for progress. We will make available a downloadable PDF booklet version of all the standards. We plan to produce a hard copy later this year. For an overview introduction to MECIR standards and recent changes please go [here](#).

4. Changes related to the Cochrane Editorial and Publishing Policy Resource (EPPR)

4.1 Frequency of updating Cochrane Reviews

Wording updated to reflect the need to update based on need:

<http://community.cochrane.org/editorial-and-publishing-policy-resource/cochrane-review-development/cochrane-review-updates>.

4.2 Date 'Assessed as up-to-date': no longer published

From 30 July 2016 (approximately), the date 'Assessed as up-to-date' will no longer be displayed in published Cochrane Reviews. It will not show in the html versions and also in the PDF versions.

Since January 2015, the guidance has been to use the same date for the 'Date of search' and date 'Assessed as up-to-date' so that one date is used to reflect the search and full incorporation of all search results into the review. The 'Date of search' will be published in Cochrane Reviews in the enhanced Cochrane Library platform in January 2017. Removing this the date 'Assessed as up-to-date' is also necessary for the display of the update status of a Cochrane Review (up to date, update pending, no update planned), as part of the Updating Classification System that is being rolled out.

RevMan guidance: The date 'Assessed as up-to-date' will be removed from RevMan at a later date, but in the meantime continue to complete the Date 'Assessed as up-to-date' with the 'Date of search' to avoid validation errors.

Relevant links:

- Enhanced Cochrane Library project: <http://community.cochrane.org/review-production/enhanced-cochrane-library-project>
- Cochrane policy on reporting search dates: <http://community.cochrane.org/editorial-and-publishing-policy-resource/cochrane-review-management/reporting-search-dates-cochrane-reviews>
- Information about the Updating Classification System: <http://community.cochrane.org/editorial-and-publishing-policy-resource/cochrane-review-management/updates-classification-system-cochrane-reviews>

Contacts for queries: Harriet MacLehose (hmaclehose@cochrane.org) and Ruth Foxlee (rfoxlee@cochrane.org)

4.3 Fraud and misconduct policy

The CEU is currently developing a policy on fraud and misconduct. The scope of the first phase of the policy is outlined below:

How to deal with fraud or misconduct in studies identified for inclusion in a Cochrane Review

1. Where there is suspicion
2. Where there is a published expression of concern/informal note
3. Where a study has been retracted

How to deal with fraud or misconduct in studies included in a published Cochrane Review

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We will shortly be recruiting interested representatives from the following groups to participate in the policy development working group: Co-ordinating Editors; Managing Editors; Information Specialists; and Authors. Further information will be sent to all executive groups next week but, in brief, participation in the working group will include attending monthly policy development meetings (via GoToMeeting), providing comments on iterations of the draft policy document, contributing to implementation plans, and suggesting areas for future policy development.

If you would like to participate in this project, or have any questions about it, please don't hesitate to contact Bryony Urquhart (burquhart@cochrane.org).

4.4 Peer review survey update

Many thanks to the 19 Managing Editors who have completed the survey so far and have taken the time to send their peer review policies and materials to us. There's still plenty of time to start or complete the survey, which will close on 30th July:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CochranePeerReview2016>

If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please contact Bryony Urquhart (burquhart@cochrane.org).

5. Systematic reviews update

Paper published today at the BMJ reporting a consensus and checklist of when and how to update systematic reviews: <http://www.bmj.com/content/354/bmj.i3507>

6. Blogs on the Cochrane Community site

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

- [Putting Cochrane evidence in the spotlight at conferences](#)
- [Chris Silagy Prize: recognizing the extraordinary](#)
- [Screening Notes: Planning methods for using GRADE and preparing Summary of Findings tables](#)