

The Newsletter of the Cochrane Lung Cancer Collaborative Review Group (LCG)  
October 2010

## Another year of the LCG

It is time once again to reflect on what we all have achieved over the past year. The fact that there has only been one new review added to our list is not as disappointing as it may first appear. First, that one review from Sarah Burdett and colleagues (Chemotherapy and supportive care versus supportive care alone for advanced non-small cell lung cancer) is very important. It is a reworking for *The Cochrane Library* of their individual patient data meta-analysis and is probably the definitive summary of the evidence on this topic. Secondly there can only be a finite number of questions in any area such as lung cancer that are likely to be the subject of RCTs and so suitable for review. We are probably near that limit and certainly a number of potential topics that we have been asked to consider in recent years are ones where the body of evidence is insufficient to justify a review.

However we have published a number of updates – 6 in all – a real achievement, knowing as I do how difficult it is to maintain enthusiasm and actually do this in the face of competing pressures on one's time. They are also almost as much work for the editorial team as a new review. It is worth saying that two updates (Concurrent chemoradiotherapy in non-small cell lung cancer and Surgery for local and locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer) were supported by grants from the NHS because it was needed to inform the updated NICE lung cancer guideline.

I was in an odd position being a co-author of the first review and overall responsible for the guideline because of my job at NICE, though not directly involved in developing it.

Our most accessed reviews are:

- Non-invasive interventions for improving well-being and quality of life in patients with lung cancer.
- Screening for lung cancer.
- Platinum versus non-platinum chemotherapy regimens for small cell lung cancer.

And our most cited ones are:

- Second or third additional chemotherapy drug for non-small cell lung cancer in patients with advanced disease
- Elemen for the treatment of lung cancer (an empty review being updated at the moment with no new studies)
- Platinum versus non-platinum chemotherapy regimens for small cell lung cancer.

Those figures seem to reflect a broad spectrum of interest in our reviews.

So I would like to thank all of you for the hard work and contributions you have made to the group. Finally I would like to pay tribute to my fellow coordinating editor, Sera Tort, and her colleagues at the Iberoamerican Cochrane Centre who, with limited resources, have continued to provide exemplary support to all of us.

**Fergus Macbeth**

### THE LCG NEWS TEAM

Sera Tort  
Fergus Macbeth  
Ivan Solà  
Marta Roqué

## What have we been up to?

Updated Reviews published in the Cochrane Library January - June 2010  
(Issues 1-10)

Surgical sealant for preventing air leaks after pulmonary resections in patients with lung cancer	Belda-Sanchís J, Serra-Mitjans M, Iglesias Sentis M, Rami R
Radiotherapy for malignant pleural mesothelioma	Chapman E, García Diéguez M
Surgery versus radiosurgery for patients with a solitary brain metastasis from non-small cell lung cancer	Fuentes R, Bonfill Cosp X, Expósito Hernandez J
Surgery for local and locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer	Manser R, Wright G, Hart D, Byrnes G, Campbell D, Wainer Z, Tort S
Concurrent chemoradiotherapy in non-small cell lung cancer	O'Rourke N, Roqué i Figuls M, Farré Bernadó N, Macbeth F
Prophylactic cranial irradiation for preventing brain metastases in patients undergoing radical treatment for non-small cell lung cancer	Patel N, Lester JF, Coles B, Macbeth F

New Reviews published in the Cochrane Library January - June 2010  
(Issues 1-10)

Chemotherapy and supportive care versus supportive care alone for advanced non-small cell lung cancer	Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Collaborative Group
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Titles under development or for consideration

Pharmacotherapy for the prevention of radiation-induced pneumonitis
Topotecan for NSCLC
Topotecan for SCLC

See complete list of our published reviews and protocols in <http://www2.cochrane.org/reviews/>

### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH RESEARCH COCHRANE REVIEW INCENTIVE SCHEME 2009

This year the LCG was offered two National Institute for Health Research Incentive awards of £5,000 (UK pounds) each to update the following reviews in an agreed time:

- Surgery versus radiosurgery for patients with a solitary brain metastasis from non-small cell lung cancer
- Concurrent chemoradiotherapy in non-small cell lung cancer

Many thanks to the authors and the editorial team who worked hard to make possible to meet tight deadlines!

## EDITORIAL TEAM

### Co-ordinating editors:

Fergus Macbeth - UK  
Sera Tort - Spain

### Managing Editor:

Vacant position

### Statistical editor:

Marta Roqué - Spain

### Editors:

Xavier Bonfill - Spain  
Kwun Fong - Australia  
Alan Neville - Canada  
Noelle O'Rourke - UK  
Nick Rowell - UK  
Ramon Rami – Spain

### Trials Search Co-ordinator:

Ivan Solà - Spain

## Tips for writing or updating your review

1. Those of you who need to update a review or start a new one, you'll need to get familiar with **Revman 5**. You can download the software at <http://ims.cochrane.org/revman>, where you can also find extremely useful documents like 'Top Tips for Authors', that will help you going through the process to get used to this new software.

2. Remember that the Cochrane Collaboration has a **Cochrane Style Guide**, designed to help review authors to use a consistent style when copy-editing Cochrane Reviews. You can find it at: <http://www.cochrane.org/training/authors-mes/cochrane-style-guide>

3. Risk of bias tables are compulsory now in new or updated reviews. The following domains should be considered: sequence generation, allocation concealment, blinding of participants, personnel and outcome assessors, incomplete outcome data. Please check Chapter 8 of the Cochrane Handbook for more details: <http://www.cochrane.org/training/cochrane-handbook>

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The LCG team will provide you methodological support to write a protocol, a review or update it. Besides our response times are pretty fast:

- TITLE PROPOSALS: we send feedback from editorial team in three weeks at the latest
- PROTOCOLS: we send feedback from peer review in two weeks at the latest
- REVIEWS and UPDATES: we send feedback from peer review in three weeks at the latest

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## COCHRANE REVIEWS PUBLICATION FREQUENCY

As of January 2010, the timetable for module submission to Wiley Publications has changed from quarterly to monthly. Consequently, there will be 12 issues of the Cochrane Library published annually. This means more opportunities to submit your reviews and protocols, as well as increased flexibility with deadlines. To view the schedule for copyedit support deadlines, submission deadlines, and publication dates, visit:

<http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/WebsiteUpdates.html#Deadlines>

Email: [LCG@cochrane.es](mailto:LCG@cochrane.es)  
Webpage: [www.cochrane.es/LCG](http://www.cochrane.es/LCG)

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## Do you know the Impact Factor of Cochrane Reviews?

The 2009 impact factors (IF) have now been published by Thomson ISI and The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews has an **IMPACT FACTOR OF 5.653**, ranked 11th out of 132 in the ISI category Medicine, General & Internal. This is an increase from last year - the 2008 IF was 5.182 and the ranking was 12th out of 107 journals. The 2007 IF was 4.654 with a ranking of 14th out of 100. For more information, visit the "About the Cochrane Library" section on The Cochrane Library Website: <http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/>

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE LCG EDITORIAL TEAM

### CHANGES AT THE EDITORIAL TEAM

José Angel Expósito resigned as a Managing Editor (formerly Co-ordinator) of the LCG last April. We are very thankful for his hard work and commitment to the group, and we wish him great opportunities for the future. His place has not been replaced for the time being but you'll always find Sera at the very end of the LCG mail: [lcg@cochrane.es](mailto:lcg@cochrane.es)

### DIAGNOSTIC TEST ACCURACY REVIEWS

The LCG has decided it is about time to start preparing Diagnostic Test Accuracy reviews. We are in the process of registering our first title and we have the support of the Continental Europe Support Unit. Looking forward to this new challenge!