



## Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews ranks 14th worldwide

The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) ranked 14 out of 100 worldwide journals in ISI Thomson's *Medicine, General & Internal* category for journals with an impact factor of 4.654 for 2007.

The impact factor is a tool for ranking, evaluating, and comparing journals over a three-year period. It is a measure of the frequency with which the 'average article' in a journal has been cited in a particular year. The more widely a journal article is cited, the more likely it is that the specific article and the journal in which it is published, are perceived to be high-quality, reliable sources of information.

"This fantastic achievement reflects the dedication and hard work of many people over the years, as well as the high regard held for The Cochrane Collaboration's work", comments Nick Royle, CEO of The Cochrane Collaboration.

More about impact factors can be found at:

- ◆ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Impact\\_factor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Impact_factor)
- ◆ [www3.interscience.wiley.com/homepages/106568753/IF\\_FAQs\\_0608.pdf](http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/homepages/106568753/IF_FAQs_0608.pdf)

*Fabienne Reynolds  
John Wiley and Sons Ltd.*



### In this issue...

Impact factor.....	1
Public Health Review Group.....	2
Diagnostic test accuracy update..	3
NIH grant for CAM.....	4
CAM in Explore journal.....	4
CAM Field bursary .....	5
Chinese earthquake .....	6
Australasian symposium .....	7
Archie privacy policy.....	7
RevMan 5 .....	8
Spanish CCN .....	9
Did you know?.....	10
New staff at PaPaS group.....	10
New in <i>The Cochrane Library</i> ..	11
Changes to <i>The Cochrane Library</i> ...	11
<i>The Cochrane Library</i> training .	11
Colloquium update.....	12
James Lind Library .....	13
News and announcements .....	14

## The Cochrane Public Health Review Group now open for business

We are delighted to announce that, after two years of planning and preparation, the Public Health Review Group (PHRG), formerly the Cochrane Health Promotion and Public Health Field, was registered with The Cochrane Collaboration on April 24, 2008. The PHRG was officially launched in Hobart, Tasmania at the Australasian Cochrane Symposium on May 22, 2008 and we thank all those who joined us in celebrating the occasion.

The PHRG will have responsibility for overseeing the production, editing and publication of public health reviews to improve health and other outcomes at the population level in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews held in *The Cochrane Library*. Interventions for review will generally be complex, multi-sectoral and include, for example, policies surrounding income distribution, education, public safety, employment, social networks, food supply, transport and natural and built environments.

We envisage that the overall work program of the PHRG will include:

- ◆ **Systematic reviews** of population level interventions, focusing on building an evidence base of what will increase health equity and reduce inequities
- ◆ **Methodological developments** for research synthesis of public health research
- ◆ **Knowledge translation** and exchange
- ◆ **Strategies to build and improve primary research** and rigorous evaluations of population level interventions (policy, programs, legislation, community interventions).

The demand for a PHRG has arisen out of the call for complex public health review topics in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) that have been outside the scope of existing Cochrane Review Groups but important to decision-making in public health. The PHRG will not address topics already established within existing Review Groups but will continue to build supportive working relationships to ensure collaboration on reviews of joint interest.

Details regarding the Cochrane Public Health Review Group, the editorial team, and the development of a specialised register of studies can be found at [www.ph.cochrane.org/en/about.html](http://www.ph.cochrane.org/en/about.html) and will be included within our module, to be released with Issue 3, 2008 of *The Cochrane Library*.



*Some of the attendees of the editorial and methods advisory meeting*

*Back: Mark Petticrew, Al Mayhew, Peter Tugwell, Alan Shiell, Laurence Moore;*

*Centre: Liz Waters, Josiane Bonnefoy, Omar Abdulwadud;  
Front: Alison Weightman, Laurie Anderson, Maureen Dobbins, Jodie Doyle, Rebecca Armstrong*

*Elizabeth Waters, PHRG Coordinating Editor ([ewaters@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:ewaters@unimelb.edu.au))*

*Jodie Doyle, PHRG Managing Editor ([jdoyle@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:jdoyle@unimelb.edu.au))*

*Rebecca Armstrong, PHRG Senior Research Fellow, Knowledge Translation and Exchange*

## Update - Systematic Reviews of diagnostic test accuracy

### Progress

The past year has seen significant landmarks in the introduction of Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy (DTA) in *The Cochrane Library*. A working group was tasked in 2003 to agree on the methodology for the reviews; produce specifications for the review and publication format; develop the software, a Handbook, and editorial processes; run training events and produce an implementation strategy for introducing the reviews into Cochrane Review Groups (CRGs). Much of this is now complete, and RevMan5 includes the basic software tools to create DTA reviews. At the São Paulo Colloquium in 2007, the start of registration of titles for DTA reviews was announced.

As part of evaluating the review and editorial processes, a series of pilot DTA reviews was undertaken. You can see the protocols for these reviews on *The Cochrane Library* website, and they will be formally published within CDSR in Issue 4, 2008; hopefully together with the first completed DTA review.

### Registering Titles for DTA Reviews

Titles for Cochrane DTA reviews are registered through Cochrane Review Groups in a similar way to reviews of interventions (but require a special DTA Title Registration Form). However, as both the methods and the editorial process are very different from preparing reviews of interventions, each CRG is encouraged to have induction training before registering titles, to identify an editor who will take particular responsibility for these reviews and to ensure that they have access to adequate methodological support. Due to these resource implications, and high current workloads, each CRG is making its own decision as to whether and when it can commence registering DTA titles. Many CRGs are initially registering only one or two titles from experienced review teams whilst they learn the new methods and processes. If you are interested in registering a title for a DTA review, contact the relevant CRG, but please be patient if they are not yet ready to accept your request.

### Support and training for DTA reviews

Support and training for CRG editorial teams is being organised through regional *Support Units*. Currently teams are up and running in the UK and Continental Europe. The UK Support Unit (*UKSU*), based in Birmingham and staffed by Jon Deeks, Yemisi Takwoingi, Anne Eisinga, Chris Hyde and Tess Moore, has so far undertaken induction training for Gynaecological Cancer, Eyes and Vision, and Dementia and Cognitive Improvement CRGs. Training is scheduled for several more Groups before the end of 2008. The Continental European Support Unit (*CESU*) based at the Dutch Cochrane Centre in Amsterdam and staffed by Rob Scholten, Hans Reitsma, Lotty Hooft and Mariska Leeftang, is commencing CRG training this September. Funding and lead personnel for regional support units for CRGs in the Americas and Australasia are currently being sought.

*UKSU* and *CESU* have worked together running training events. The next event will be a satellite to the 2008 Freiberg Colloquium on Thursday 2 October 2008, and we would particularly encourage staff from CRGs based in the Americas and Australasia to register (but it will be open for all CRGs). Details are on the Colloquium website.

More information and contact details for *UKSU* and *CESU* can be found at <http://srdta.cochrane.org>.

*Tess Moore and Jon Deeks*  
*UK Regional diagnostic test accuracy support unit*

## NIH grant awarded for complementary therapies

Founded in 1996 and coordinated by the University of Maryland Center for Integrative Medicine, the Cochrane Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM) Field has worked steadily to meet the growing demand for information about CAM therapies among practitioners, clinical researchers, and the general public. The activities of the Field include identifying published reports of clinical trials of complementary therapies; preparing systematic reviews; training systematic reviewers; disseminating Cochrane reviews to the general public, clinical researchers and healthcare providers; and conducting research to improve systematic review methodology.

In May 2007, after the thorough peer-review of our application, the US National Institutes of Health's National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NIH-NCCAM) awarded the Center for Integrative Medicine a five-year 2.1 million-dollar grant (Grant No. R24 AT001293) to help extend the work of the field and support related activities. We assembled a unique team of investigators and consultants who contributed to the application and who will conduct the multiple projects involved, many of which will directly support Cochrane aims and activities.

Projects include:

- ◆ Implementing and disseminating Cochrane CAM evidence through summaries of findings, plain language summaries, and consumer overviews;
- ◆ Expanding the CAM Field register of trials and identifying keywords;
- ◆ Conducting and funding CAM-related systematic reviews and studies related to review methodology; and
- ◆ Providing systematic review training opportunities.

We are very grateful to Lex Bouter and Andrew Vickers who, though not a part of this grant, have generously provided important contributions to the application and have been helpful through their long-term and dedicated support of the CAM Field and The Cochrane Collaboration. This NIH-NCCAM grant award will substantially contribute to the continued growth and sustainability of the CAM Field and encourage practitioners and clinicians to join the Field.

For more information about the CAM Field and how to get involved, please go to:

[www.compmmed.umm.edu/cochrane.asp](http://www.compmmed.umm.edu/cochrane.asp) or contact Eric Manheimer ([emanheimer@compmmed.umm.edu](mailto:emanheimer@compmmed.umm.edu))

*Eric Manheimer, CAM Field Administrator*

## Read about CAM in Explore journal

The Cochrane CAM Field publishes a column in the journal *Explore* to improve the understanding of Cochrane reviews among CAM researchers and practitioners. Recent columns include a commentary by Karen Sherman of the Cochrane review of massage for neck pain and a commentary by Gloria Yeh on the Cochrane review of Tai Chi for rheumatoid arthritis.



These columns address the scientific principles behind, and applications of, evidence-based healing practices from a wide variety of sources, including conventional, alternative, and cross-cultural medicine. They are available (with subscription) in *Explore*, at [www.explorejournal.com/current](http://www.explorejournal.com/current).

*Eric Manheimer, CAM Field Administrator*

**Submission deadline for next issue of Cochrane News - 30 October 2008**

## Complementary Medicine Field bursary scheme

### Call for Applications

The Cochrane Collaboration Complementary Medicine Field is pleased to announce our 2008 bursary scheme made possible through funds from the US National Institutes of Health's National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. The purpose of this bursary scheme is to ensure that reviews relevant to complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) are completed and published in *The Cochrane Library*.

#### Funding offered:

- ◆ Two review proposals in the amount of \$5000 USD each will be funded.

#### Eligibility requirements:

- ◆ Review must be registered with a Cochrane Review Group, and the relevant protocol/review have been published in *The Cochrane Library*
- ◆ The topic of the review must relate to CAM (see scope in Call for Applications)
- ◆ Bursaries will be targeted to reviews for which substantial progress has already been made and whose completion has been stalled due to a lack of funding

#### Timeline:

Completed application forms and letters of support should be e-mailed to Eric Manheimer ([emanheimer@compmed.umm.edu](mailto:emanheimer@compmed.umm.edu)) by 29 August 2008. Forms and letters sent by post or fax will not be accepted. Successful candidates will be notified by 15 September 2008. Funds will be distributed to successful applicants in a single instalment, after the award notification. Funds must be paid to the individual recipients of the bursary, and not to their institutions.



For more information (e.g. the assessment criteria, additional details about eligibility and application procedures), please see the full Call for Applications and Application Form (available at: [http://www.compmed.umm.edu/cochrane\\_bursary.asp](http://www.compmed.umm.edu/cochrane_bursary.asp)).

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2007 CAM Field bursary scheme awards:

- ◆ Suzanne Grant, for the Cochrane Metabolic and Endocrine Disorders Group review *Chinese herbal medicine for impaired glucose tolerance or impaired fasting glucose*
- ◆ James Tacklind, for the Cochrane Prostate Group review *Serenoa repens for benign prostatic hyperplasia*

*Eric Manheimer, CAM Field Administrator*

*Each year, CAM reviews rank among the top 20 reviews accessed worldwide from The Cochrane Library:*

- *Glucosamine therapy for treating osteoarthritis (2005, 2006, 2007)*
- *Acupuncture for low-back pain (2005, 2006)*
- *Vitamin C for preventing and treating the common cold (2005, 2006, 2007)*
- *Cranberries for preventing urinary tract infections (2006)*
- *Echinacea for preventing and treating the common cold (2006)*

Please email articles (500 words max.), pictures and announcements to: [cochrane@uottawa.ca](mailto:cochrane@uottawa.ca)

## Wenchuan earthquake medical rescue

### A new column launched in the *Chinese Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine* by the Chinese EBM/Cochrane Center

The disastrous earthquake in May 2008 that hit Sichuan, a population-dense province in western China, has resulted in the largest disaster-affected area, the highest death toll and the largest numbers of seriously wounded in Chinese earthquake history. The earthquake posed a serious challenge to Chinese and worldwide disaster relief and medical aid efforts, and strained regional rescue capabilities.

Immediately after the quake, saving lives was the first priority. The Chinese government began real-time video/audio broadcasting, organized relevant units, teams and experts to take prompt action for rescue, and decided to accept assistance from the international professional medical rescue teams. The rescue efforts have been enormous resulting in many miraculous outcomes.

A new section called *Wenchuan Earthquake Medical Rescue* has been launched in the Chinese Journal of Evidence-based Medicine (CJEBM). This series of articles is considered to be an academic report presented to those countries, organizations and individuals that raised concern about the earthquake and provided generous support for the disaster relief work. Based on the overall perspective and evidence-oriented characteristics of evidence-based medicine, this section features a series of original articles, review articles, articles on management research, policy research, economics research and practice and communication related to the medical rescue in response to the Wenchuan disaster. Also, photos are presented with concise texts, chronicling the development efforts following the quake. Beginning in issue 6, 2008, articles are now available online at: [www.cjebm.org.cn/](http://www.cjebm.org.cn/). English abstracts are presented for each article and reprints or translations of the original manuscript are welcome, as long as the source is clearly specified.



*Quake survivors are received at the Emergency Department of West China Hospital*

*Li You-ping*

*The Chinese Cochrane Center / Editorial Board of Chinese Journal of Evidence-based Medicine*



*A Japanese medical team arrived at West China Hospital to help with the rescue and relief efforts in quake-ravaged Sichuan*



*Delivery of quake survivors at Fenghuangshan Airport outside Chengdu.*

## Australasian Cochrane symposium - Hobart, May 2008

Over 70 Cochrane contributors from Australia and New Zealand met in Hobart recently for the annual Australasian Symposium. Sessions on the first morning included a personal account from Sophie Hill on the evolution of the new co-ordinating editors' editorial board and a glimpse into the future of the Cochrane Information Management System (IMS) from its Director, Monica Kjeldstrøm. There were several presentations on the emerging methodologies involved in evidence mapping, a technique that promises to be valuable for prioritising Cochrane reviews.



*Monica Kjeldstrøm*



Practical workshops included new methods for combining continuous data and how to generate the summary of findings tables that are now available in RevMan. Peter Jüni showed us the possibilities that lie ahead by presenting his work exploring mixed treatment meta-analyses. The focus of the second day was on the use of evidence by policy makers and we were delighted to have a senior representative speak at the session from the Department of Health and Ageing.

*Opening, Hobart Symposium* The chance to catch up socially and to network is always a feature of these meetings. This year we marked the arrival of the Collaboration's newest entities, the Public Health Review Group and the Prognosis Methods Group. The Public Health Group was officially launched at the Symposium dinner. We thank everyone who participated and contributed to the meeting.

*Steve McDonald*  
Australasian Cochrane Centre

## Archie Privacy Policy

There is now an official Privacy Policy for Archie. It was developed in collaboration between the IMS team and the Secretariat, and we have aimed to keep it short, clear and reader-friendly. The Privacy Policy can be accessed from Archie's login page: [www.archie.cochrane.org](http://www.archie.cochrane.org).



## RevMan 5

### Rollout progress

Version 5 of the Collaboration's review authoring tool, RevMan, was released in March 2008. Bringing improvements to the review structure and lots of new functionality, it is a major advance. As a mandatory update, however, it also means that thousands of busy people across the Collaboration find themselves with the additional task of installing and learning to use the new software. Review Groups face the challenge that by November 2008, all reviews in Archie must have been converted to the new format.

Overall, the introduction of RevMan 5 has been a success. There have been some technical problems, but generally these have been fixed quite quickly with an update to the software. Both authors and Review Groups appear to be doing well, and as of July, 43 per cent (2435/5723) of the protocols and reviews on Archie are in RevMan 5 format.

*Jacob Riis  
IMS Team  
Nordic Cochrane Centre*

### Keeping RevMan up-to-date

RevMan 5 includes a function to check automatically if an update is available. By default, this happens every two weeks. Based on the statistics from these checks, we can see that a surprisingly large number of users are still using RevMan versions that are many months out of date. Now, there may be good reasons for not updating too frequently, but we would recommend that most users have one of the latest versions.



#### ***How to proceed when RevMan alerts you to a software update:***

- 1. Download the update file, and close RevMan.***
- 2. Locate the downloaded file and run it to install the update.***

## The Cochrane Consumer Network goes Spanish

Not satisfied with an English-only survey about prioritising existing Cochrane Review titles of interest to consumers, the Cochrane Consumer Network (CCNet) now has a Spanish version. This is fitting since Spanish is one of the four most commonly spoken languages in the world.



Por favor complete la encuesta CCNet en español:  
[www3.cochrane.org/surveys/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=12K36o2](http://www3.cochrane.org/surveys/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=12K36o2)

The purpose of this project is to encourage the implementation and use of Cochrane Reviews by the public and to promote evidence-based practice. It is funded by the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group for prioritization projects by Cochrane groups.

The English online survey was closed in mid-March with 522 valid responses received in English. Of those who responded:

- ◆ 21.3% were men and 73.2% were women;
- ◆ 13.4% were aged less than 30 years;
- ◆ 52.5% were 30 to 55 years; and
- ◆ 28.4% were older than 55 years.

Most responses were from Canada and the USA: 197; South America: 23; UK: 72; Scandinavia: 4; Continental Europe: 36; Eastern Europe: 2; Middle East: 43; Africa: 22; Asia: 28; Australia and New Zealand: 95.

Respondents were asked to select a health topic (Cochrane Review Group) and assess the titles of Cochrane reviews, divided into broad categories, for their importance or relevance to them. The health

areas that received the greatest number of responses (38 to 20 responses) were: breast cancer, consumers and communication, gynaecological cancer, depression and anxiety, pregnancy and childbirth, and musculoskeletal conditions. Next came (15 to 10 responses): heart, colorectal, effective practice of care, bone joint and muscle trauma, back, HIV/AIDS, acute respiratory infection, methodology, metabolic and endocrine disorders, tobacco addiction, and skin conditions. We could not identify any rationale for the number of responses (popularity) in the specific health areas.



*The Consumer Group*

*"La Biblioteca Cochrane Plus ([www.update-software.com/Clibplus/Clibplus.asp](http://www.update-software.com/Clibplus/Clibplus.asp)) provides The Cochrane Library to people who are Spanish-speaking and has been available through Update Software for six years. Similarly, Pregnancy and Childbirth reviews are widely disseminated in Spanish since 1997 through the WHO Reproductive Health Library.*

These are the results of a global and collaborative effort. Information about the survey and calls for responses were sent to Cochrane Review Groups asking them to contact their consumer and patient support groups and other relevant organizations with whom they work. We used whatever contacts we had or could

make with patient and consumer support organizations and many responded. Online patient groups, networks and discussion groups provided good responses as well. Personal contacts also worked well. We look forward to the results of the Spanish survey as well as further input from its English counterpart.

*Maria Belizan, CCNet, South Africa/Argentina*  
*Sita Vij, CCNet, Alemania.*

## Did you know?

- ◆ ASQUS is a new discussion list for sharing methodological developments and other important information around qualitative systematic reviews. Sponsored by the Cochrane Collaboration Qualitative Research Methods group. Got questions? Just ASQUS! Visit <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/asqus.html>
- ◆ You can visit [www.cochrane.org/news/workshops.htm](http://www.cochrane.org/news/workshops.htm) to get a full listing of Cochrane events.
- ◆ A full listing of important dates can be found at [www.cochrane.org/news/calendar.shtml](http://www.cochrane.org/news/calendar.shtml)
- ◆ Oral and poster abstracts of many past Colloquia are available at [www.cochrane.org/colloquia/abstracts/](http://www.cochrane.org/colloquia/abstracts/)
- ◆ The news column of The Cochrane Collaboration is available as an Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feed. Visit [www.cochrane.org/news/index.shtml](http://www.cochrane.org/news/index.shtml) to set up the feed today.
- ◆ Cardiff University and investor Gerald Walsh are joining forces to create a new research appointment: the Cochrane Public Health Chair. The announcement for the new professorial position was made on April 22, 2008 and the search is underway to find a world-class academic to fill the position. The Chair is a result of a £2.5 million investment into public health research. For more details visit: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/news/articles/25m-investment-will-boost-public-health-research.html](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/news/articles/25m-investment-will-boost-public-health-research.html)

## New staff at the Cochrane PaPaS Group

The Cochrane Pain, Palliative and Supportive Care (PaPaS) Review Group has undergone several changes over the last year.

- ◆ Professor Christopher Eccleston from the University of Bath now leads the team as our Co-ordinating Editor
- ◆ Chris replaces Phil Wiffen who will stay on with the PaPaS Group as an Editor
- ◆ Caroline Struthers is our new Trials Search Co-ordinator
- ◆ Sylvia Bickley is retiring as Trials Search Co-ordinator - Happy retirement!
- ◆ Laila Tyrrell has started as Assistant Review Group Co-ordinator
- ◆ Yvonne Roy in the UK, Rebecca Gray in our Headache Group in the USA and Ewan McNicol in our Pain Satellite in the USA continue as Assistant Review Group Co-ordinators (RGCs) along with Jessica Thomas, the RGC for the Group.

We invite anyone to attend our open meeting and learn more about the Group or come along with any questions about a review title at the Freiburg Colloquium on Sunday 5 October at 8.00 a.m.

Contact Jessica Thomas, Tel +44 1865 225762 or [Jessica.thomas@pru.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Jessica.thomas@pru.ox.ac.uk) to register a title or for more information.

*Jessica Thomas*  
PaPaS Group



*Joining, moving, leaving? Keep our mailing list up-to-date by writing to [Cochrane@uottawa.ca](mailto:Cochrane@uottawa.ca)*

## What's new in *The Cochrane Library*?

Among the Cochrane reviews that were recently updated or appear for the first time in Issue 3, 2008 there are 75 [new reviews](#), 89 [updated](#) reviews, 98 new protocols and 10 updated protocols. These include custom-made insoles known to reduce foot pain and metrifonate and praziquantel to combat urinary schistosomiasis. The Library now contains more than 3500 full Cochrane reviews covering a wide range of healthcare interventions. Some of these reviews have been highlighted in Evidence Podcasts that you can listen to by clicking: [www.cochrane.org/podcasts](http://www.cochrane.org/podcasts).

This issue also sees over 9691 records added to The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL; Clinical Trials) from 37 specialised registers, hand-search results and a download from MEDLINE.

This issue also introduces one of the new features of Cochrane Reviews – the summary of findings table. These tables present the main findings of a review in clear and simple tabular format, found near the start of the review and also under the heading Quick Links. In the future most reviews will be expected to have a summary of findings table. Please see the [release notes](#) for more information on the developments.

## Important changes to *The Cochrane Library*

### Improved status flags

One of the strengths of Cochrane reviews is that they are updated on a regular basis. Flags indicate the status of reviews in the search results of *The Cochrane Library*. The **Update** flag no longer exists and instead has been replaced with the more accurate flags **New search**, **Conclusions changed** and **Major change**.

### Changes to the way reviews are displayed

Starting with Issue 2, 2008 of *The Cochrane Library*, Cochrane Reviews will be enhanced progressively with the following additional features to reflect the upgrade to RevMan 5:

- ◆ Author Affiliations and Contact details are now displayed
- ◆ What's New? section added
- ◆ Introduction of Summary of Findings Table
- ◆ Introduction of Risk of Bias Table

For full details of the changes, go to [www.thecochranelibrary.com](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com) and select **Important changes to *The Cochrane Library*** under **What's New in Issue 2, 2008?**

### Free training and user guides

You can take part in an instructor-led virtual training session in *The Cochrane Library* <http://interscience.wiley.com/training> or access a self-paced online tutorial [www.interscience.wiley.com/tutorials](http://www.interscience.wiley.com/tutorials).

You can also download user guides and PowerPoint presentations from the [Help](#) page on [www.thecochranelibrary.com](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com)

Fabienne Reynolds  
John Wiley and Sons Ltd.

# 16<sup>th</sup> Cochrane Colloquium in Freiburg - update



## 16th Cochrane Colloquium Evidence in the era of globalisation Freiburg, Germany 3 - 7 October 2008



We cordially invite you to have an inspiring scientific meeting and a lot of fun at the 16<sup>th</sup> Cochrane Colloquium in Freiburg im Breisgau!

Updated information about plenaries, oral and poster presentations, workshops and invited sessions is now available on our website: [www.colloquium.info](http://www.colloquium.info). The programme covers a broad spectrum from health care and globalisation to themes specific to The Cochrane Collaboration.

Please also have a look at our social events: the evening programme in the most picturesque Freiburg locations, and the free afternoon programme with biking tours, Freiburg city and solar city tours, a bus trip to Alsace and a wine tasting in the beautiful setting of the 'Jesuitenschloss', a winery with roots back to the medieval times.

For the first time at a Colloquium, we offer a professional **Child Care Service**. To find out more about this service and to register, please click on 'Freiburg & Venue' >> 'Child Care Service'. For further enquiries please contact: [cochrane@intercongress.de](mailto:cochrane@intercongress.de). By offering this service, we want to help Colloquium participants reconcile their work and family life. We are looking forward to many parents using the service, and we hope that it becomes a regular feature at future Cochrane Colloquia.



Looking forward to see you in Freiburg.

*Bärbel Schätzle and Britta Lang  
and the Team of the German Cochrane Centre*

### Important Dates

03 September 2008	Cancellation Deadline (no refunds after this date)
23 September 2008	Hotel Registration Deadline
03-07 October 2008	16th Cochrane Colloquium

[www.colloquium.info](http://www.colloquium.info)



**COCHRANE NEWS****News and Announcements**

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**Cochrane Video**

A new introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration is now available on video—an easy way to learn about the Collaboration and meet some members. [www.cochrane.org/multimedia/index.htm](http://www.cochrane.org/multimedia/index.htm)

Many thanks for their patience and skills to Dave Motion (musician, photographer and film producer) for producing the soundtrack, and to Chris Mavergames at the German Cochrane Centre for producing the slidecast.

**Updates to the Cochrane Manual**

The following updates to the Cochrane Manual are now available on the Cochrane website at [www.cochrane.org/admin/manual.htm](http://www.cochrane.org/admin/manual.htm):

Section 2.2.11 How to cite our products (citation format for the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions, February 2008)

[update]

Section 2.4.1 Discretionary Fund [update]

Section 2.4.2 Visiting Fellowship [update]

**Steering Group News**

The latest Steering Group Bulletin is now available at [www.cochrane.org/newslett/2008PostVelloreCCSGBulletinv3.pdf](http://www.cochrane.org/newslett/2008PostVelloreCCSGBulletinv3.pdf)

The full minutes of the Steering Group meeting are available at [www.cochrane.org/ccsg/index.htm#ccsg](http://www.cochrane.org/ccsg/index.htm#ccsg)

The results of this year's elections to the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group are below. New representatives will join the Steering Group for three years at the Freiberg Colloquium on October 5.

- ◆ Representing Centres: Steve McDonald (Australia)
- ◆ Representing Cochrane Review Groups ('at large' position) : Hans van der Woude (Netherlands); re-elected for a second term
- ◆ Representing Cochrane Review Groups (author position) : Donna Gillies (Australia); re-elected for a second term
- ◆ Representing Review Group Co-ordinators: Sonja Henderson (UK)
- ◆ Representing Methods Groups: Julian Higgins (UK) - sole nominee
- ◆ Representing Co-ordinating Editors: Roger Soll (USA) - sole nominee

**Strategic Review**

The Cochrane Collaboration is undertaking a Strategic Review of its structures, processes and governance. No small task, to be sure. "Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's off to work we go!" Please visit [www.cochrane.org/ccsg/review](http://www.cochrane.org/ccsg/review) for more information.

**South Asian Cochrane Centre**

The South Asian Cochrane Centre was officially registered with the Collaboration on 15 July 2008. The Centre Director is Prathap Tharyan, MD, MRCPsych. Email: [prathap@cmcvellore.ac.in](mailto:prathap@cmcvellore.ac.in)

**Cochrane Prognosis Methods Group**

The Cochrane Prognosis Methods Group was officially registered with the Collaboration in early February 2008. For more information contact the Convenor, Katrina Williams, at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Australia. Tel. +61 2 9382 8183  
 E-mail [katrina.williams@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:katrina.williams@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au)

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