

Working together to share research evidence



Cochrane Germany is working with university medical centres, the media, researchers and other Cochrane Groups to share evidence about COVID-19 in a user-friendly format. Working together helps us all reach a wider audience.

What we did



Aim

Cochrane Germany aims to make the findings from Cochrane systematic reviews accessible to German-speaking audiences. During the COVID-19 pandemic we wanted to build partnerships to share the best available evidence with as many people as possible.



Activity

- Highlighting Cochrane evidence and advocacy related issues on the news section of our website (52 new items since the beginning of 2020, 23 of these related to COVID-19)
- Highlighting Cochrane evidence and other trustworthy resources related to the pandemic on a [COVID-19 tab](#) on our website.
- Developing COVID-19 related blog posts (6 thus far), together with Cochrane Switzerland and Cochrane Austria on our collaborative blog [Wissen was wirkt \(https://wissenwaswirkt.org\)](https://wissenwaswirkt.org).
- Disseminating COVID-19 related press releases (6 thus far) to accredited journalists, via the science news service idw-online.de. We also kept close contact with the Science Media Center (SMC) Germany.
- Cochrane Germany and the associated Institute of Evidence in Medicine (IfEM) at the Medical Center - University of Freiburg initiated and coordinate the *COVID-19 Evidence Ecosystem* (CEOsys). CEOsys aims to provide a pool of pre-assessed studies and to produce continuously updated 'living' evidence syntheses and guidelines.



Collaborations

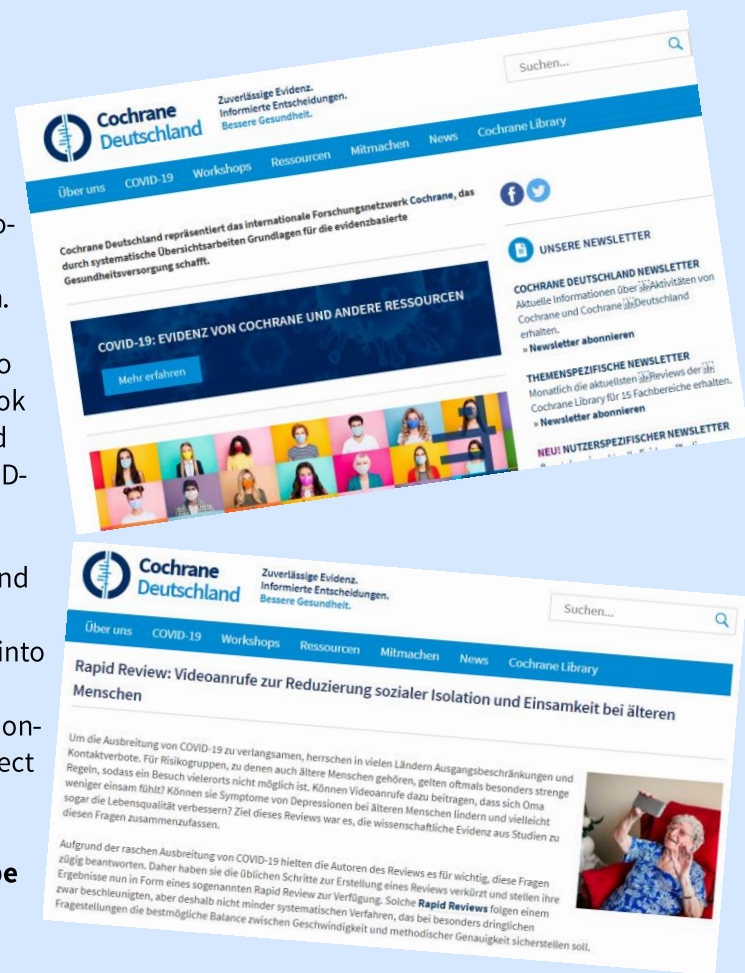
- 21 German university medical centres and several other partners (e.g. Cochrane CET, Cochrane France) make up CEOsys, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
- Science Media Center Germany
- Cochrane Austria, Cochrane Switzerland & Cochrane France

What we achieved

We provided the German-speaking public, healthcare professionals and other decision-makers with the most up-to-date research evidence about COVID-19. Plain language summaries of COVID-19 reviews are now available in German.

We worked closely with the Science Media Center Germany to help with their targeted messaging to national media and took part in an online press briefing of the SMC. Between April and August 2020, 20% of all visitors to our website accessed COVID-19 resources.

We are working with 21 German university medical centres and others to create a COVID-19 evidence ecosystem named 'CEOsys.' The "**living evidence syntheses**" are transformed into up-to-date recommendations for policy and practice disseminated to stakeholders (e.g. clinicians, patients, decision-makers) by a team of knowledge translation experts. We collect and evaluate the scientific literature published on multiple aspects of COVID-19 in a "living evidence ecosystem" as new data is constantly being produced and evaluated. **This will be the central reservoir for COVID-19 evidence in Germany**, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.



See more here:

<https://www.cochrane.de/de/covid-19-evidenz-von-cochrane-und-andere-ressourcen>

What we learnt

1

Building meaningful relationships with journalists helps to share evidence with the public. Sometimes researchers concentrate on publishing in journals or online, but the media can help share messages with a wider range of people expanding Cochrane's reach and profile in Germany.

2

Working in partnership with universities, the media and other Cochrane Groups meant that we could all provide better content and support health decision-making than by ourselves. We are now partnering in a formal project funded by the German government.

3

There is high demand for research summaries using plain and native language. Cochrane has specialists in research, language translation and knowledge translation to help support informed decision-making using Cochrane evidence in a fast-changing situation.



Learn more

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