

# Sharing US evidence in a free online repository



Given the great deal of information and misinformation about COVID19, people are unsure who to trust. We developed a free online repository of research and guidance created by US Network member groups to provide an easily accessible and trusted source of evidence.

## What we did



### Aim

Members of the public, health professionals and researchers told us that there is ‘information overload’ about the COVID-19 pandemic, with lots of mistrust and misinformation. We wanted to help people find trustworthy evidence about COVID-19 in the US by leveraging the strengths of the members of the new US Network.



### Activity

We created a comprehensive online repository to share COVID-19 research, projects and guidelines from trustworthy sources. We offer this free on our website. This is a living resource that we add to and update in real-time.

Examples of material in the repository include:

- a [rapid review](#) about universal screening for COVID-19;
- a [living systematic review](#) about COVID-19 and breastfeeding;
- a report identifying [priority research questions for health systems](#).

We also included [videos](#) about systematic reviews, Plain Language Summaries of evidence and other easy to understand resources.



### Collaboration

Cochrane US is a network of 23 Cochrane centers, research groups and affiliates. We collaborated within the Network and with US professional societies and academies to develop and promote our evidence repository.

# What we achieved

We have created a comprehensive, up-to-date, free resource for anyone wanting to find US projects, evidence or guidelines about COVID-19.

“Given the breadth of information included, there is truly something for everyone, from seasoned healthcare professionals and research experts to consumer groups and patients.”

Tiffany Duque  
Coordinator, Cochrane US Network

The repository is our second most visited webpage, so people are interested and using it. Some of the resources our members created have contributed to World Health Organization [global guidance](#).

We were invited to present a ‘live’ statement at the 58<sup>th</sup> Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization in September 2020. Our statement (which we also submitted to PAHO in writing) included a brief description of the repository.

“This resource is varied and comprehensive and from great sources. I recommend taking a look.”  
Professor of Clinical Epidemiology



See more here: <https://us.cochrane.org/covid19-repository>

# What we learned

1

**Cochrane US provides ways for organizations to work together.** Cochrane US affiliate groups and partner organizations have worked quickly to organize and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have shown how to leverage the strengths of working in partnership and this will lead to more collaborations in the future.

2

We learned that it **is important to consider what the gaps are before launching new initiatives.** This helps to understand how we can help fill gaps, who the intended audience is, and what will really help end-users. Doing this helps to increase our impact and the return on the time we invest.

3

**Committing to evaluate our impact is central to what we do.** We plan to survey people using our website and members of our network to learn whether they are using the repository and how we can continue to improve it.



## Learn more

For more information contact:

[Tduque@cochrane.org](mailto:Tduque@cochrane.org)



October 2020