Dr Joshua Vogel, from Australia, is a Principal Research Fellow at the Burnet Institute and an Associate Editor with Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth. Joshua is a mid-career professional and sat down with the Cochrane Early Career Professionals (ECP) group and shared some thoughts as part of the #WhereAreTheyNow series.

How did you first get involved with Cochrane and what do you do now?

I was first introduced to Cochrane & Cochrane Reviews while a PhD student. I had the good fortune to be working under Metin Gülmezoglu at the Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research at WHO in Geneva. Metin is a long-time Cochraneite and had been deeply involved with Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth since the 1990's. My first review was pretty modest (I think it had only 3 trials) but I was hooked from there on.

What benefits have you gained from being involved with Cochrane?

Definitely a sense of professional community – Cochrane people always seem to be nice people, and often share my methodological obsessions! My wife and I are both involved with Cochrane as authors and editors, and when we relocated from Geneva to Melbourne in 2018 we found a very welcoming community in Australia through our Cochrane networks.
What would your message be to Early Career Professionals who want to get involved with Cochrane’s work but not sure where to start…? 

Having an experienced co-author who can steer you through your first innings is a must. The process and methodological requirements can seem daunting at first, so I generally suggest first getting involved with a Cochrane review that is not too complex or enormous.

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