



Cochrane Methods Information Retrieval

2025

Convenors: Carol Lefebvre (CL) (Lead) and Jessie McGowan (JMcG)

Co-ordinator: Anne Cleves (AC)



Highlight:

Produced substantial updates to the searching chapter for the Cochrane Handbook of Systematic Reviews of Interventions (main text & technical supplement) and to the Searching Module for Cochrane Interactive Learning materials.



Research and development

- CL continued to serve on the Editorial Board of the [Cochrane Evidence Synthesis and Methods journal](#).
- CL continued to serve as a Co-Editor and to maintain and develop the [InterTASC Information Specialists' Sub-Group Search Filter Resource](#), and continued to maintain and develop the [SuRe Info \(Summarized Research in Information Retrieval\)](#) web site.



Best practice and guidance

- CL and co-authors produced a substantial update of the [Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Searching for and Selecting Studies chapter](#). CL and Anne Littlewood led a major update of the [Cochrane Interactive Learning materials Searching Module](#).
- CL was invited to peer review the searching for studies chapter for the forthcoming Campbell-Cochrane Handbook for Qualitative Evidence Synthesis and Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Prognosis Studies.



Methods implementation

- CL and JMcG continued regular joint meetings with the Cochrane Information Specialists' (CIS) Executive until they requested that the meetings should be changed to an 'ad hoc' basis.
- AC continued to undertake peer review of search strategies for several Cochrane groups as a volunteer member of the Cochrane Search Peer Review Team.
- CL was interviewed as part of the Oral History of Evidence Synthesis and Evidence-Based Medicine series to [highlight the essential role of Information Specialists in Cochrane since its inception](#).