

What's new from the Cochrane Back Review Group January 2012

The Cochrane Back Review Group submitted one protocol to *The Cochrane Library* 2012, issue 2. Our numbers stand at 56 published reviews (including one review of diagnostic test accuracy and six withdrawn reviews) and 15 published protocols (including two protocols for reviews of diagnostic test accuracy). We have 3724 records in CENTRAL.

New Protocol

Rehabilitation following surgery for lumbar spinal stenosis, A McGregor. This protocol will be published in *The Cochrane Library* 2012, issue 2 in February.

Other CBRG news

Request for photos

We need your help to add color and personality to our website. Do you have any photos that we could post online? We would welcome photos of anything related to the Back Group – it could be a picture of you, your review team, your research institute, your clinical practice, or anything else you think might be relevant.

CENTRAL Register of Clinical Trials gets an update!

On Jan 17, 2012 the *Live Version 1.0* of the *Cochrane Register of Studies* (CRS) was made available to the CBRG for maintaining our Trials Register. We are very excited about this new software! Rachel's favourite feature is that it links automatically to ClinicalTrials.gov, using the Trial ID#. For example, the Prevention of Low Back Pain in the Military (POLM) trial <http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?term=NCT00373009> was completed in May 2011 and currently has half a dozen publications associated with it.

The CRS will link all of these records together, and alert us to follow-up publications as they appear. Links to other trials registers will be to the CRS in due course. Currently we are still using the "Training Version" of CRS. Once we are checked out on the new system by the Canadian CRS representatives, Doug Salzwedel and Michelle Fiander, we will start using the *Live Version 1.0*.

In the meantime, our contributions to the CENTRAL Register of Clinical Trials in *The Cochrane Library* (currently 3724 RCTs and CCTs of back and neck pain) will not be updated for Issue 1 of 2012. If you need an updated search for RCTs and CCTs on a particular topic, please contact the Trials Search Co-ordinator, Rachel Couban at rcouban@iwh.on.ca.

Canadian Cochrane Center Training

Two-Day Standard Author Training Workshop

McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Event Date: 7 – 8 July 2012

Are you thinking of undertaking a Cochrane Review? Have you recently registered a review title with a Cochrane Group? If so, please join us at McMaster University for Cochrane's Standard Author Training course this July.

Mentored Training: Systematic Reviews in Health Care February – July 2012

The program provides a supportive environment for participants to develop and complete their own systematic review.

Course information and registration is available through C2E2's website:
<http://c2e2.vchri.ca/education.htm>

Fridays in February: 2012 Priority Setting Series - FREE webinars brought to you by Cochrane Canada.

- Meet the Cochrane Priority and Agenda Setting Methods Group
- Make sure that your priority-setting exercises address the needs and concerns of disadvantaged populations
- Consider how to prioritize Cochrane reviews for updating

More information about these workshops and webinars can be found [here](#).

Other Cochrane News

Media Release: International Leading Medical Research Non-Profit Wins Plain Language Award

Only recently launched, the Cochrane Summaries website (www.summaries.cochrane.org) has received global attention, which reached a pinnacle when The Cochrane Collaboration was awarded the runner-up trophy for the best public website by the Plain English Campaign, which has been “fighting for crystal-clear communication since 1979.” Click [here](#) for more information.

New descriptive analysis of more than 22,000 Cochrane meta-analyses published in BMC Medical Research Methodology

A new descriptive analysis of more than 22,000 meta-analyses within Cochrane Reviews has just been published in an open access article in BMC Medical Research Methodology. Click [here](#) for more information.

Tips for Authors

Did you know that The Cochrane Collaboration offers many excellent resources for review teams that include a [guide for review teams on effective remote collaboration](#) (user account required) and a [guide for review teams working internationally and across cultures](#)? Also, registered authors with a user account can access the [Cochrane Community](#) to find policy and procedure documents, the authors' discussion forum and more.

Food for thought...

Mark J. Hancock, Chris G. Maher, Mark Laslett, Elaine Hay and Bart Koes.
[Discussion paper: what happened to the 'bio' in the bio-psycho-social model of low back pain?](#) *European Spine Journal*. 2011;20(12):2105-10.

*Cheers,
Teresa, Allison and Rachel*