

# **Cochrane Bias Methods Group**

## **Annual meeting 2020 and report for 2018-2020**

Asbjørn Hróbjartsson

Isabelle Boutron

Julian Higgins

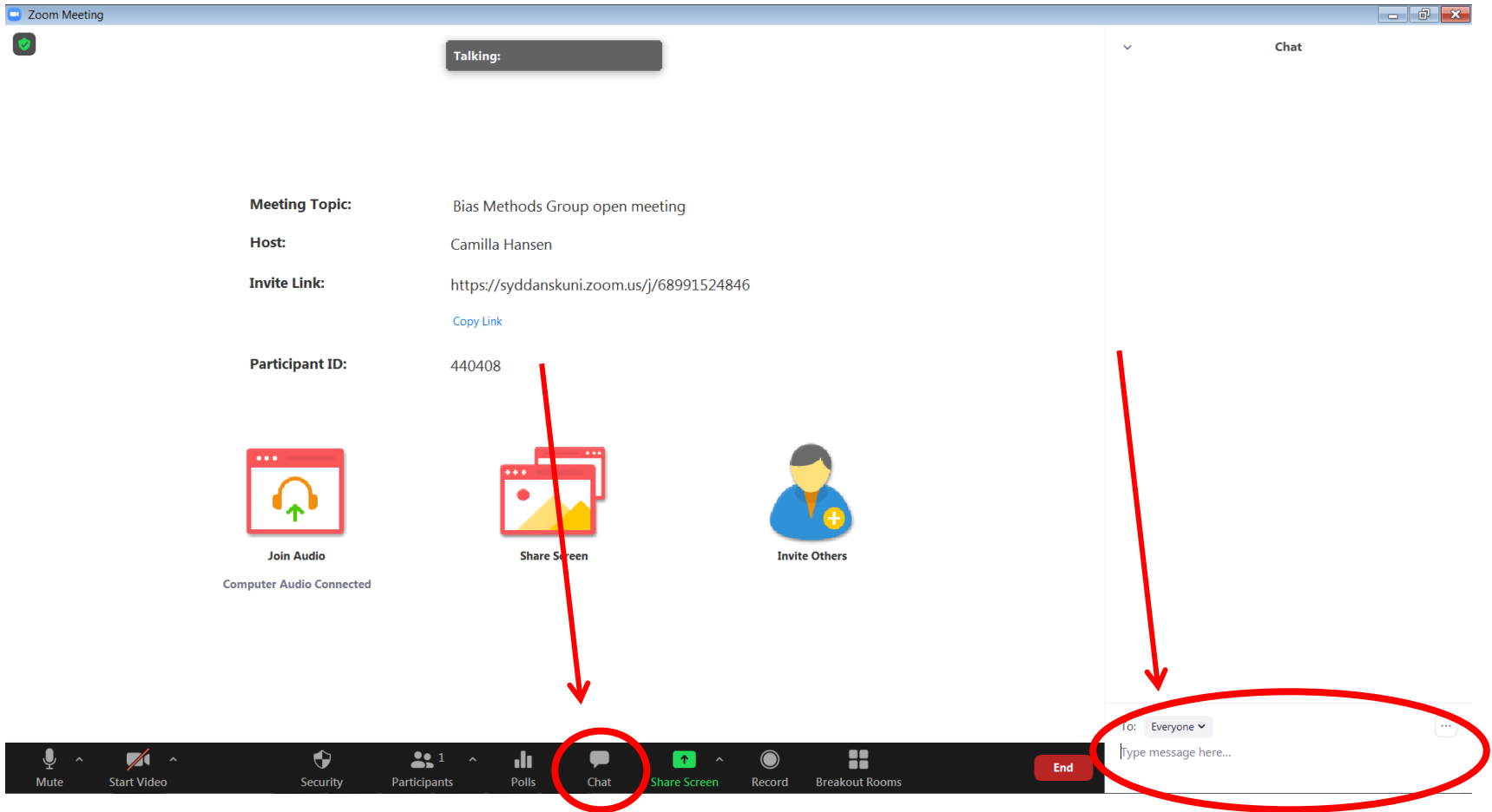
Matt Page

BMG Co-convenors

# Programme

Time (CET)	Title	Presenter/ moderator
10.00 - 10.07	Bias Methods Group activities 2018-2020 (7 minutes)	Asbjørn Hróbjartsson
10.07 - 10.22	Updates on core projects - TACIT (5 minutes) - RoB2 implementation and training (5 minutes) - Living network meta-analysis on COVID-19 trials (5 minutes)	Asbjørn Hróbjartsson Julian Higgins Isabelle Boutron
10.22 - 10.30	Discussion (8 minutes)	Asbjørn Hróbjartsson
10.30 - 10.50	Launching a preliminary version of ROB-ME (20 minutes)	Matt Page
10.50 - 11.00	Discussion & Wrapping it up (10 minutes)	Julian Higgins

# Questions and comments in Zoom



# Santiago and Toronto

**2019**



**2020**

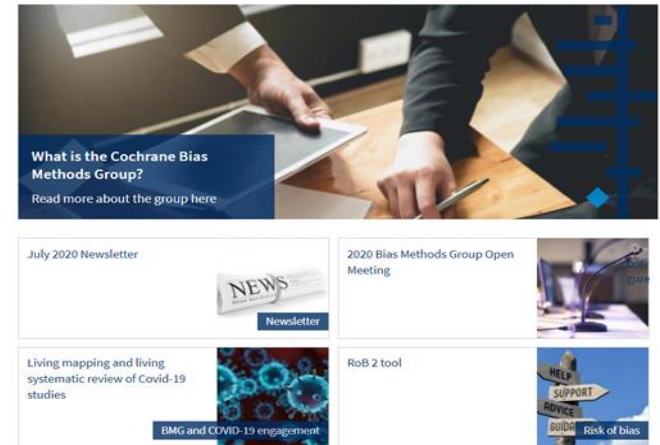


# BMG Key numbers

- BMG members 259
- e-mail list 230
- Twitters 1.946
- Website users
  - Since September 2018 120,269
  - 2020: 60,220

# Activities

- 2018-2019
  - Five teleconferences
  - One newsletter
  - Webpage updated and revised
  
- 2019-2020
  - Five teleconferences
  - Two newsletters
  - 1 letter to the editor (JCE 2019)



## Newsletter

Issue 05 | July 2020

### Update on the revised tool for assessing risk of bias in randomized trials (RoB 2)

The BMG is involved in providing a series of nine Cochrane Learning Live webinars dedicated to the RoB 2 tool for assessing risk of bias in randomized trials. The sessions are being held between June 2020 and January 2021 and hosted by leading experts in the field. The webinars cover a range of RoB 2 related topics, including how to assess each domain of bias addressed by the tool, how to reach an overall RoB judgement, how to assess bias in cluster-randomised and cross-over trials, and editorial considerations for Cochrane Review authors. For more information on the webinars and how to sign up to attend, please click [here](#).

We are delighted that the first webinar introducing the RoB 2 tool is now available [online](#). In the webinar, the presenters provide an overview of the tool, introduce the five domains of

# Main activities

- **RoB2 for randomised clinical trials included in Cochrane reviews**
  - BMJ publication 2019
  - Implementation and training process for Cochrane
  - Webinar series
- **Cochrane Handbook**
  - Published 2019 (Julian Higgins Senior Scientific Editor and Matt Page Associate Scientific Editor)
  - Chapter 7: Considering bias and conflicts of interest among the included studies
  - Chapter 8: Assessing risk of bias in a randomized trial
  - Chapter 13: Assessing risk of bias due to missing results in a synthesis
  - Chapter 25: Assessing risk of bias in a non-randomized study

# Main activities

- **Tool development**

- to assess bias due to missing data in a meta-analysis (ROB-ME)
- to address conflict of interest in trials included in a systematic review (TACIT)

- **Other**

- Covid-nma initiative: Coordinate development of training material and quality control of RoB2 assessments for covid-19 trials
- Participate in SPIRIT-CONSORT revision



# Plan for activities 2020-21

- **Tool development**
  - for assessing risk of publication bias (ROB-ME)
  - for addressing conflict of interest (TACIT)
- **Implementation** and training of RoB2
- Contribute to **Covid-19 nma**: risk of bias in trials

**Questions, feedback, comments?**