

Cochrane Methods Adverse Effects	> Annual highlight: AEMG continues to drive more transparent reporting in reports of clinical trials.
Cochrane Methods Bias	> Annual highlight: In 2020 and 2021, the Bias Methods Group actively participated in the rollout of the revised Cochrane tool to assess risk of bias in randomized trials (RoB 2).
	 Isabelle Boutron was Director of Cochrane France and a member of Cochrane's Editorial Board. Julian Higgins was Senior Scientific Editor of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions (updated February 2021). Asbjørn Hróbjartsson was Director of Cochrane Denmark (from January 2021 onwards) and a member of the Cochrane Scientific Committee. Matthew Page was Associate Scientific Editor for the Cochrane Handbook of Systematic Reviews of Interventions (updated February 2021). In July 2020 and March 2021, the Bias Methods Group launched its biannual newsletters informing members and people interested in the work of the Bias Methods Group about new activities and publications. In October 2020, the Bias Methods Group hosted its annual open meeting. Two identical meetings were held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the meetings, we provided updates on our cores activities and research projects. Presentation slides are available here: https://methods.cochrane.org/bias/training-events/annual-meeting-2020.
Cochrane Methods Comparing Multiple Interventions	Network meta-analysis: Not reported. Overviews: Not reported.
Cochrane Methods Economics	Not reported.
Cochrane Methods Equity	Annual highlight: We published a checklist and guidance for when to replicate systematic reviews of interventions in the BMJ. This was a 4 year project funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.
Cochrane Methods GRADEing	Annual highlight: The Cochrane GRADEing Methods Group, through the work of the GRADE Working Group, continues to be productive in developing guidance and concepts that conceptualize the assessment of evidence and using evidence to make transparent and trustworthy healthcare decisions.



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- Annual highlight: Publication of *Individual Participant Data Meta-Analysis: A Handbook for Healthcare Research*, which is a highly practical guide to the relevant concepts and methods (link to <u>publisher website</u>)
- Larysa Rydzewska joined the Cochrane Methods Community Project Advisory Group to provide input from the IPD perspective.



- Annual highlight/headline: Cochrane's Information Retrieval Methods Group piloted the 'A day with...' training and engagement event and completed a substantial update to the searching and selecting studies chapter of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions.
- > Julie Glanville and Carol Lefebvre presented a joint keynote on behalf of IRMG: Methodological development and trends in systematic reviews At the Swedish Medical Library Conference, 6 May 2021 (followed by a workshop, see below)
- Julie Glanville and Carol Lefebvre presented a Workshop Advanced search techniques for systematic reviews. At the Swedish Medical Library Conference, 6 MAY 2021.
- Carol Lefebvre's presentation entitled 'An 'Inside/Outside' Look at Cochrane', which was due to be given in May 2020 on behalf of Wiley at the US Medical Library Association conference in Portland, Oregon, US, including promotion of The Cochrane Library and the Cochrane Interactive Learning materials, was held virtually on 10 August 2020 and again on 19 May 2021.
- Carol Lefebvre continued to act as the IRMG liaison person with the Cochrane Information Specialist community through the Cochrane Information Specialists' Executive and continues to attend meetings of their Executive (in person and by teleconference), when invited to do so.
- Carol Lefebvre continued to act as the IRMG liaison person with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and attends NICE Joint Information Group meetings and NICE Joint Information Days in this capacity.

Publications

- Lefebvre C, Glanville J, Briscoe S, Featherstone R, Littlewood A, Marshall C, Metzendorf M-I, Noel-Storr A, Paynter R, Rader T, Thomas J, Wieland LS. Chapter 4: Searching for and selecting studies. In: Higgins JPT, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston M, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA (editors). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions version 6.2 (updated February 2021). Cochrane, 2021. Available from
 - www.training.cochrane.org/handbook.https://training.cochrane.org/handbook/current/chapter-04
- Lefebvre C, Glanville J, Briscoe S, Featherstone R, Littlewood A, Marshall C, Metzendorf M-I, Noel-Storr A, Paynter R, Rader T, Thomas J, Wieland LS. Technical Supplement to Chapter 4: Searching for and selecting studies. In: Higgins JPT, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston MS, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA (eds). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 6.2. Cochrane, 2021. Available from: www.training.cochrane.org/handbook. www.training.cochrane.org/handbook/current/chapter-04-technical-supplement-searching-and-selecting-studies



- Noel-Storr AH, Dooley G, Wisniewski S, Glanville J, Thomas J, Cox S, Featherstone R, Foxlee R. Cochrane Centralised Search Service showed high sensitivity identifying randomized controlled trials: A retrospective analysis. J Clin Epidemiol. 2020 Nov;127:142-150. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2020.08.008. Epub 2020 Aug 13. PMID: 32798713.
- Glanville J, Kotas E, Featherstone R, Dooley G. Which are the most sensitive search filters to identify randomized controlled trials in MEDLINE? J Med Libr Assoc. 2020 Oct 1;108(4):556-563. doi: 10.5195/jmla.2020.912. PMID: 33013212; PMCID: PMC7524635.
- Rethlefsen, M.L., Kirtley, S., Waffenschmidt, S. et al. PRISMA-S: an extension to the PRISMA Statement for Reporting Literature Searches in Systematic Reviews. Systematic Reviews 2021;10: 39. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13643-020-01542-z {JG]
- Page M J, McKenzie J E, Bossuyt P M, Boutron I, Hoffmann T C, Mulrow C D et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews BMJ 2021; 372:n71 doi:10.1136/bmj.n71 [JG]
- Page M J, Moher D, Bossuyt P M, Boutron I, Hoffmann T C, Mulrow C D et al. PRISMA 2020 explanation and elaboration: updated guidance and exemplars for reporting systematic reviews BMJ 2021; 372:n160 doi:10.1136/bmj.n160 [JG]
- Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, et al. (2021) The PRISMA 2020 statement: An updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. PLoS Med 18(3): e1003583. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003583 [JG]
- Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: An updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology. 2021. [JG]
- Page, M.J., McKenzie, J.E., Bossuyt, P.M. et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. Syst Rev 10, 89 (2021). https://doi.org/10.1186/s13643-021-01626-4 [JG]
- Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: An updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. International Journal of Surgery. 2021:105906. [JG]
- Isojarvi J, Glanville J. Evidence-based searching for health technology assessment: keeping up to date with SuRe Info. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care 2021;37(1):E51. doi:10.1017/S026646232100009X
- Beute F, Andreucci M B, Lammel A, Davies Z, Glanville J, Keune H, Marselle M, O'Brien E, Olszewska-Guizzo A, Remmen R, Russo A, de Vries S (EKLIPSE EWG).
- Green space in urban and peri-urban areas and mental health: which green space types and characteristics are most beneficial? IN: Green and blue spaces and mental health: new evidence and perspectives for action. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2021. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.
- Noel-Storr A, Dooley G, Elliott J, Steele E, Shemilt I, Mavergames C, Wisniewski S, McDonald S, Murano M, Glanville J, Foxlee R, Beecher D, Ware J, Thomas J. An evaluation of Cochrane Crowd found that crowdsourcing produced accurate results in identifying randomized trials. J Clin Epidemiol. 2021;133:130-139. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2021.01.006.
- Beute F, Davies Z, de Vries S, Glanville J, Keune H, Lammel A, Marselle M, O'Brien E, Olszewska-Guizzo A, Remmen R, Russo A, Andreucci M B (EKLIPSE EWG). Blue space in urban and peri-urban areas and mental health: which blue space types and characteristics are most beneficial? IN: Green and blue spaces and mental health: new evidence and perspectives for action. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2021. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.
- Tordrup D, van den Ham HA, Glanville J, Mantel-Teeuwisse AK. Systematic reviews of ten pharmaceutical pricing policies a research protocol. J Pharm Policy Pract. 2020; 13: 22. doi: 10.1186/s40545-020-00228-0 Tordrup D, van den Ham HA, Leopold



By Group

C, Joosse I, Glanville J, Kotas E, Mantel-Teeuwisse AK. Web Annex A: Systematic reviews for the update of the WHO Guideline
on country pharmaceutical pricing policies. In: WHO guideline on country pharmaceutical pricing policies, second edition.
Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020.

- Figueiredo FC, Glanville JM, Arber M, Carr E, Rydevik G, Hogg J, Okonkwo A, Figueiredo G, Lako M, Whiter F, Wilson K. A systematic review of cellular therapies for the treatment of limbal stem cell deficiency affecting one or both eyes. Ocul Surf. 2021;20:48-61. doi: 10.1016/j.jtos.2020.12.008.
- Glanville, J.M., Perry, A.E., James, M.MS. et al. Pharmacological interventions for drug-using offenders: an update to a systematic review and meta-analysis. J Exp Criminol (2021). https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-020-09453-8
- Lefebvre C, Duffy S. (2021). Peer review of searches for studies for health technology assessments, systematic reviews, and other evidence syntheses. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care, (2021) 37(1), E64. doi:10.1017/S0266462321000210
- Cooper C, Dawson S, Lefebvre C. Searching for medical devices practical guidance. Research Synthesis Methods 2021 (in press).



- Annual highlight/headline: Involved in the development of a protocol template to ensure authors are considering NRSIs implications at the right time and place in Cochrane Reviews
- The NRSIMG has recruited a new convenor, Hugh Waddington. Hugh is an economist, and an environmental health and evaluation specialist. He has relevant expertise and represents a distinctly different constituency (and kinds of evidence) to the other convenors. He has established a Bias Assessment Group under the Campbell Collaboration, which is developing a guidance for Campbell authors on risk of bias assessment for randomised and non-randomised designs, drawing on the work of Cochrane and others.
- NRSIMG members have published the following methodological papers / documents:
 - Kelly A, Crimston-Smith L, Tong A, Bartlett SJ, Bekker CL, Christensen R, De Vera MA, de Wit M, Evans V, Gill M, March L, Manera K, Nieuwlaat R, Salmasi S, Scholte-Voshaar M, Singh JA, Sumpton D, Toupin-April K, Tugwell P, van den Bemt B, Verstappen S, Tymms K. Scope of Outcomes in Trials and Observational Studies of Interventions Targeting Medication Adherence in Rheumatic Conditions: A Systematic Review. J Rheumatol. 2020 Oct 1;47(10):1565-1574. Epub 2019 Dec 15. Erratum in: J Rheumatol. 2020 Oct 1;47(10):1597 Nielsen SM, Rasmussen MU, Boers M, de Wit M, Beaton D, Shea B, Escorpizo R, Furst D, April KT, Boonen10 A, Scholte M. Defining and identifying contextual factors within rheumatology: Protocol for semi-structured interviews of experts and Delphi surveys. Ann Rheum Dis. 2021;242:80.
 - Nielsen SM, Rasmussen MU, Boers M, van der Windt D, de Wit M, G Woodworth T, A Flurey C, Beaton D, Shea B, Escorpizo R, Furst DE, Smolen JS, Toupin-April K, Boonen A, Voshaar M, Ellingsen T, Wells GA, Reeves BC, March L, Tugwell P, Christensen R. Towards consensus in defining and handling contextual factors within rheumatology trials: an initial qualitative study from an OMERACT working group. Ann Rheum Dis. 2020 Oct 14: annrheumdis-2020-217895. doi: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2020-217895. Online ahead of print. PMID: 33055082 Eldridge S, Campbell MK, Campbell MJ, Drahota AK, Giraudeau B, Reeves BC, Siegfried N, Higgins JPT. Revised Cochrane risk of bias tool for randomized trials (RoB 2) Additional considerations for cluster-randomized trials (RoB 2 CRT).

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	 <u>8kJilUdbongK99sx7RFI-</u> %2Fview&data=04%7C01%7Ceflemyng%40cochrane.org%7C5b31b5dc0ab44a1c2d1d08d96334be7c%7Cb6c2e21e 4db74533916398c1451c1caa%7C0%7C1%7C637649900451501288%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAw MDAiLCJQljoiV2luMzliLCJBTilGlk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=qNdw%2BrrPkouaS2KeiaBVmj2TfDphj FXYADY6OT1TLBY%3D&reserved=0 Nielsen SM, Boers M, de Wit M, Shea B, van der Windt DA, Reeves BC, Beaton D, Alten R, Toupin K, Boonen A, Escorpizo R, Flurey C, Furst DE, Guillemin F, Leong A, Pohl C, Rasmussen MU, Singh JA, Smolen JS, Strand V, Verstappen SMM, Marieke Voshaar M,Woodworth TG, Ellingsen T, March L, Wells GA, Tugwell P, Christensen R. OMERACT consensus-based operational definition of contextual factors in rheumatology clinical trials: a mixed methods study. Semin Arthritis Rheum. Semin Arthritis Rheum. 2021 Apr 2: S0049-0172(21)00044-5. doi: 10.1016/j.semarthrit.2021.03.013. Online ahead of print. PMID: 33875246
Cochrane Methods Patient Reported Outcomes	Annual highlight/headline: Improving standards of reporting in MID estimation studies, and development of guidelines for use of MID estimates in clinical trials and Cochrane Reviews
Cochrane Methods Priority Setting	 Annual highlight/headline: We have been involved in methods development to develop more inclusive and transparent approaches to set priorities for research and developed new guidance in collaboration with the World Health Organization. Mona Nasser is on Scientific Committee and Knowledge Translation group Vivian Welch, Sandy Oliver and Sumanth Kumbargere are editors with Cochrane groups Sumanth delivered "Research Priority Setting" webinar delivered during the Symbiosis 2020 – 2nd National Symbiotic Interdisciplinary Conference and Competition hosted by Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha, India on 10th December 2020 and another Research Priority Setting" webinar delivered on 24th April 2021 organised by Institute of Dental Sciences, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan Deemed to be University, Cochrane Affiliate Centre, India.
Cochrane Methods Prognosis	Annual highlight/headline: Launch of a brand new interactive, online module introducing the Cochrane community to systematic review of prognosis studies. Many of our members are involved in a living review in which all covid-19 diagnostic and prognostic models are summarized. This review is the first living review published by the British Medical Journal, it received a lot of (social) media attention, it has been cited >1200 times and the full text has been accessed >210,000 times.
Cochrane Methods Prospective Meta-analysis	Annual highlight: Cochrane Prospective Meta-Analysis Methods Group uncovers lack of coordination and collaboration in research response to COVID-19 in Australia, and explains how prospective meta-analyses and other collaborative methods can be utilised to reduce research waste and increase impact Our team are chair/members of Advisory Committees for a number of ongoing:



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	 PMA/nested PMA, for example PROMPT (prospective meta-analysis of pessaries to prevent preterm birth), EPOCH (prospective meta-analysis of childhood obesity prevention trials), iCOMP (systematic review and network meta-analysis (with a nested PMA) with individual participant data on cord management at preterm birth), and two PMAs addressing the COVID-19 pandemic Lisa Askie is an invited member, Cochrane IPD Working Group, York, Associate Editor, Cochrane Collaboration Neonatal Collaborative Review Group, and member of peer review panel for Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews Anna Lene Seidler is an invited member of Australian Data Research Commons (ARDC), Health Studies National Data Asset program (HeSANDA) Information Design Working Group Our team was very active in teaching systematic review and prospective meta-analysis methodology this year and received excellent participant feedback, including: Systematic Review Concept Development Workshop, 2-day Zoom online Workshop, faculty member, National University of Singapore (March 2021, November 2020) 'Different Review Types' Workshop for Cooperative Trials Group for Neuro-Oncology. April 2021. Systematic Reviews Workshop for Cooperative Trials Group for Neuro-Oncology. 18 November 2020
Cochrane Methods Qualitative and Implementation	Annual highlight: Initiated work to develop a Cochrane-Campbell Handbook for Qualitative Evidence Synthesis with Wiley
	 The convenors have delivered virtual training sessions to AHRQ in the US. Noyes sits on the Methods Executive and Editorial Board. Thomas is Handbook Editor.
Cochrane Methods Rapid Reviews	Annual highlight/Headline: Rapid review methods guidance from Cochrane's Rapid Reviews Methods Group aids researchers all over the world to address urgent health questions rapidly
	Co-Convener Support Activities including Cochrane Involvement:
	Declane Devane:
	 Member, COVID-19 Public Health Rapid Review Methods Working Group (McMaster University-led initiative)
	Chantelle Garritty:
	(New) Member, COVID-19 Public Health Rapid Review Methods Working Group (McMaster University-led initiative)
	(New) Providing consultancy to Cochrane Public Health (ongoing editorial support for a rapid review of non-pharmacological massures implemented in the setting of lang term core for silities to prove the SARS CoV 3 infections and their consequences).
	measures implemented in the setting of long-term care facilities to prevent SARS-CoV-2 infections and their consequences) • Providing ongoing consultancy to Cochrane Response as a Senior Advisor
	 Rapid Reviews Editor, Cochrane, London, UK (temporary, part-time secondment from OHRI) (Sept-Dec. 2020)
	 Provided consultancy to Cochrane's Brain, Nerves and Mind Network (editorial support for a scoping review) (Eyes & Vision Group) – completed winter 2021.
	Member of the Health-Climate Change Exploratory Cochrane Field Working Group
	Steering Group Member, Rapid Review Methodology Priority Setting Partnership (PRioRiTy III) - Evidence Synthesis Ireland

Advisory Board Member, Cochrane Complementary Medicine Field Advisory Board



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• Peer review for various journals (e.g., Journal of Clinical Epidemiology)

Gerald Gartlehner:

- Member of the highest advisory board for the Austrian Ministry of Health
- Member of the scientific advisory committee of the German Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care
- Member of the scientific advisory committee of the Austrian Public Health Institute

Chris Kamel:

- Director of HTA and Rapid Response at CADTH and is actively involved in
- Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi) and International Network of Agencies for Health Technology Assessment (INAHTA)
- Peer review for various journals (e.g. Systematic Reviews)

Valerie King:

- Methodologist for WHO requested review of Risks and Impact of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors or Angiotensin-Receptor Blockers on SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Adults
- Peer review for Cochrane Fertility Regulation group
- Peer review for various journals (e.g., Systematic Reviews)
- Research director and evidence synthesis methods lead for large collaborative of state Medicaid programs in the US
- Evidence synthesis lead for multiple state-based public HTA programs in the US
- Facilitate Evidence-informed Health Policy Workshops for public decision makers in US states

Barbara Nussbaumer-Streit:

- Advisory board member of Cochrane Germany
- Advisory board member of Cochrane Sweden
- Advisory board member of Cochrane Russia
- Peer Review for Cochrane Systematic Reviews and other various journals
- Member of the Editorial Board of the journal "Zeitschrift für Evidenz, Fortbildung und Qualität im Gesundheitswesen"

Adrienne Stevens:

- Co-leading Cochrane Canada entity discussions and strategic planning
- Methodological support for Cochrane COVID Rapid Reviews
- Member of Ontario's Evidence Synthesis Network, Canada
- Methods Team, COVID-19 rapid living reviews and recommendations, McMaster GRADE and American Society of Hematology

Lisa Affengruber:

- Peer review for various journals (e.g., Systematic Reviews, Research Synthesis Methods)
- Co-convenor involvement in Health-Climate Change Exploratory Cochrane Field Working Group
- Co-convenor involvement in Rapid Review Methodology Priority Setting Partnership (PRioRiTy III) Evidence Synthesis Ireland/Cochrane Ireland
- Co-convenor involvement in GRADE Rapid Guidelines group (Group leads: Kris Thayer, Elie Akl) (ongoing)
- Member of the management committee of the EVBRES (evidence-based research) COST Action https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.evbres.eu%2F&data=04%7C01%7Ceflemyn



	g%40cochrane.org%7Cee2d3be1f76745eaf22108d951d57980%7Cb6c2e21e4db74533916398c1451c1caa%7C0%7C1%7C6376 30799577227258%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCl6Mn0 %3D%7C1000&sdata=JJns4eXtMLLJr%2FYUXibC%2F7OCEFOr8WoW0kRfR8LQp5E%3D&reserved=0 • Grant Co-Applicant and Executive Team Co-Lead, COVID-19 living evidence and recommendations map (CIHR-funded). Led by Cochrane Canada, McMaster GRADE, WHO Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases, Research Methods, and Recommendations. June 2020-May 2021. Candyce Hamel: • Peer review for various journals (e.g., BMJ Open, Value in Health) • Editorial Board Member, Associate Editor, BMC Medical Research Methodology • ISPOR Good Practices Task Force member: Systematic Reviews with Economic Outcomes
Cochrane Methods Screening and Diagnostic Tests	Annual highlight: Launch of the first chapters of the major update of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy (version 2) to be published by Wiley in 2022
Cochrane Methods Statistics	 Annual highlight: the virtual 'A day with the Statistical Methods Group', which provided an important forum for bringing together our Cochrane Statistical Methods community. The group contributes to the Methods Executive through one of the Convenors (Joanne McKenzie) who is a co-chair of the committee. Our group provides a forum in which statistical issues related to Cochrane reviews can be discussed. In this forum, members of our methods group contribute to discussion on statistical and methods issues. We currently have 279 signed up to the SMG discussion list. The group has an active twitter account (@CochraneStats) through which new publications, methodological developments and training events related to systematic reviews and meta-analysis are circulated. This account has 1160 followers.