

By Group



- Joey Kwong has recently joined Cochrane Central Editorial Service as Managing Editor, working on fast-track reviews for the COVID-19 response as well as the ongoing Editorial Independence and Efficiency Project.
- Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
- We continue to review and submit comments on the changes to editorial and review processes, and are happy to support methods implementation projects if any requests come our way.



- The Bias Methods group actively participated in the implementation and rollout of RoB 2 in Cochrane.
- Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
- The Bias Methods Group participated in organising RoB 2 Web Clinics in July 2020, September 2020, November 2020, February 2021, March 2021, and May 2021; available here: https://methods.cochrane.org/about/methods-support-unit/methods-support-unit-web-clinic-schedule.
- Bias Methods Group convenor, Matthew Page, delivered a webinar on the ROB-ME tool to the Children and Families Network meeting on 23 June 2021 and to the Methods and Review Support (MARS) team on 10 May 2021.

Training events:

- Webinar: RoB 2 Domain 3: Bias due to missing outcome data; part of the RoB 2: Learning Live Webinar series; August 2020; available here: https://training.cochrane.org/resource/rob-2-domain-3-bias-due-missing-outcome-data.
- Webinar: RoB 2 Domain 4: Bias in measurement of the outcome; part of the RoB 2: Learning Live Webinar series; September 2020; available here: https://training.cochrane.org/resource/rob-2-domain-4-bias-measurement-outcome.
- Webinar: RoB 2 Domain 5: Bias in selection of the reported result; part of the RoB 2: Learning Live Webinar series; October 2020; available here: https://training.cochrane.org/resource/rob-2-domain-5-bias-selection-reported-result.
- Webinar: RoB 2 Bias in other types of studies: cluster-randomised and cross-over; part of the RoB 2: Learning Live Webinar series; December 2020; available here: https://training.cochrane.org/resource/rob-2-bias-other-types-studies-cluster-randomised-and-cross-over.



Network meta-analyses:

- Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
- Provided input to author/editor/Review Group queries related to the network meta-analysis methodology

Overviews:

- Relevant presentations:
 - 1) Gates M, Gates A, Pollock M, Fernandes RM, Pieper D, Tricco AC, Hartling L. Progress toward a reporting guideline for overviews of reviews of healthcare interventions: Preferred Reporting Items for Overviews of Reviews (PRIOR). North American Systematic Review Methods Virtual Research Day, October 30, 2020.
 - 2) Gates M, Gates A, Pollock M, Fernandes RM, Pieper D, Tricco AC, Hartling L. Progress toward a reporting guideline for overviews of reviews of healthcare interventions: Preferred Reporting Items for Overviews of Reviews (PRIOR). 27th International Cochrane Colloquium, Toronto, Ontario, October 4-7, 2020 (in-person event cancelled due to COVID-19)



	3) Gates M, Gates A, Guitard S, Pollock M, Hartling L. Guidance for overviews of reviews continues to accumulate, but important challenges remain: A scoping review update. 27 th International Cochrane Colloquium, Toronto, Ontario, October 4-7, 2020 (in-person event cancelled due to COVID-19)
Cochrane Methods Economics	Not reported.
Cochrane Methods Equity	 The group has been supporting the Cochrane Priority Setting Initiative. Kevin Pottie presented the FACE approach at the GRADE Working Group meeting (2021).
Cochrane Methods GRADEing	 Hold bimonthly Summary of Findings Clinics for Cochrane authors that are well attended. Cochrane authors pose questions and challenges and they are discussed with one of the convenors (H. Schünemann). Recordings available upon request. Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups.
Cochrane Methods IPD Meta-analysis	 Re-engaged with Cochrane Methods regarding specific guidance on using IPDMA in Cochrane. Having been invited (in 2017) to establish a working group to consider key questions concerning the potential future role of IPD synthesis within Cochrane to inform development of the diverse data component development of Cochrane Content Strategy (<i>Lesley Stewart</i>, <i>Jayne Tierney and Mike Clarke</i>). The consensus was that Cochrane should engage more with IPD synthesis as increasing numbers of Cochrane Reviews were revealing that synthesis of published aggregate data is insufficient with the direction of travel in the wider community towards more sophisticated methods of synthesis, and more widespread use of IPD. The report made a series of recommendations about what actions Cochrane might take to initiate this. The Group continues to respond to requests for help from Cochrane members planning an IPD meta-analysis (<i>From Lesley Stewart</i>, <i>Jayne Tierney and Mike Clarke</i>).
Cochrane Methods Information Retrieval	 Julie Glanville and Anne Eisinga are co-authors on the new chapter on searching for DTA studies for the revised updated Cochrane Handbook for DTA reviews (most recently in July 2021). Julie Glanville peer reviewed search strategies for Cochrane DA reviews throughout the year. Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups The following courses / workshops were conducted by the Convenors / Co-ordinator throughout the last year: Advanced searching techniques and advanced strategy design [online courses]. 22 and 23 Sept 2020. CL and JG Advanced Search Techniques and Resources for Systematic Reviews and Other Evidence Syntheses. Online training course for the (US) Medical Library Association. 7 October 2020 and 20 October 2020 CL and JG Information sources for economic evaluations [online course]. 15 October 2020. JG A day withInformation Retrieval Methods Group - Cochrane pilot event 22 October 2020 Convenors and Co-ordinator Presentation on searching for utilities at a one day training event on health utilities [online course]. 23 Oct 2020 JG



•	Advanced Search Strategy Design for Complex Topics: Strategy Development Including Text Mining. Online training	3
	course for the (US) Medical Library Association. November 3 & November 17, 2020 JG and CL	

- Identifying clinical trials and trial related publications [online course]. 5 November 2020. CL and JG
- Advanced searching techniques and advanced strategy design [online courses]. 9 and 10 November 2020. CL and JG
- Citation analysis [online course] 11 November 2020. JG and AW
- Advanced search training course for Public Health England (PHE) Information Specialist staff [online course] 12 November 2020 CL
- Identifying clinical trials and trial related publications [online course for Cochrane information specialists hosted by Cochrane UK]. 10-11 Feb 2021 CL and JG
- Specialist Unit for Review Evidence (SURE) Systematic Review Course, Cardiff University (held virtually). 12-14 and 19-20 April 2021.. AW and BC.
- Advanced Search Techniques and Resources for Systematic Reviews and Other Evidence Syntheses. Online training course for the (US) Medical Library Association. 13 and 19 April 2021 CL and JG
- Advanced Search Strategy Design for Complex Topics: Strategy Development Including Text Mining. Online training course for the (US) Medical Library Association. 22 and 29 April 2021 JG and CL
- Advanced Search Techniques for Systematic Reviews, Health Technology Assessment and Guideline Development Training Course, [online] 11 and 14 May 2021 JG and CL.
- Julie Glanville, Anna Noel-Storr and Lise Estcourt. Workshop on identifying diagnostic test accuracy studies and studies for prognosis reviews. Virtually Cochrane meeting. 20-22 May 2021
- Identifying clinical trials and trial related publications [online course]. 25 May 2021. CL and JG
- Search Techniques for Systematic Reviews, Health Technology Assessments (HTAs) and Guidelines Evidence Synthesis Ireland / Cochrane Ireland online workshop, 1st and 2nd June 2021 CL
- Advanced Search Strategy Design for Complex Topics: Strategy Development, Text Analytics and Text Mining Training Course, York, UK. 10 and 15 June 2021. JG and CL.
- The IRMG co-ordinated and chaired (JG) a webinar for Cochrane members on the new PRSMA-S guidance. The webinar was delivered by Melissa Rethlefsen. 14 June 2021
- Citation analysis discovering new uses within systematic reviews. 16 and 23 June 2021. JG and AW.
- Future training: Searching for studies for inclusion in Cochrane Reviews: an introduction for Cochrane Review authors and others. Workshop planned for the Cochrane Colloquium Toronto, Canada, September 2022.



- The NRSIMG collaboration with the Editorial and Methods Department to develop a protocol template for systematic reviews of interventions is ongoing; comments have been provided on NRSIs for the relevant section. We are awaiting a revised version to comment on.
- The NRSIMG is contributing advisors to four of the five projects recently initiated by the Editorial and Methods Department on Cochrane Methods for Public Health Reviews.



	 The NRSIMG proposed a convenor (HW) as speaker for the Cochrane 2021 Methods Symposium: on how to plan, and key considerations for using, non-randomised studies of interventions in public health reviews One convenor (BR) has agreed to talk about ROBINS-I to the Cochrane Anaesthesia Group and the Cochrane Emergency and Critical care Group (their choice of topic). One convenor (BR) has given presentations on AMSTAR v2 (used for reviews that include NRSI and as well as RCTs): https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D61dKq6 RfmDl&data=04%7C01%7Ceflemyng%40cochrane.org%7C5b31b5dc0ab44a1c2d1d08d96334be7c%7Cb6c2e21e4d b74533916398c1451c1caa%7C0%7C1%7C637649900451501288%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwM DAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiIGlkIhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=miohW4zUuBZBKE2xuXhYThWpACtJCY UEVJLe7uy3l2c%3D&reserved=0. Peter Tugwell, Senior Editor of Cochrane Musculoskeletal, Oral, Skin and Sensory Network and member of NRSIMG, has been instrumental in getting the relevant teams to work together to address the inclusion of non-randomized studies in systematic reviews. Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
Cochrane Methods Patient Reported Outcomes	Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
Cochrane Methods Priority Setting	 We provided consultation to the movement disorder group and the new climate health working group to help them inform their decisions on priority setting Support priority setting guidance of Cochrane's Knowledge Translation Department (KTD) Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
Cochrane Methods Prognosis	 We have developed an online module on systematic reviews of prognosis studies. The module is intended for researchers and clinicians with an interest in reading a systematic review of prognosis studies or as an introductory course for researchers planning to perform one. The module can be followed for free by everyone with a Cochrane account via: https://training.cochrane.org/online-learning/cochrane-methodology/systematic-review-prognosis-studies Reviews of prognosis studies are becoming increasingly popular within Cochrane. We are continuously updating our material to support the implementation within Cochrane, e.g. title proposal from, protocol and review templates, peer review templates for protocols and full reviews, a full workflow from title registration up to publication of the full review, and a FAQ for authors and editors. All tools are easily accessible via our website https://methods.cochrane.org/prognosis/welcome. During the past year, 4 reviews of prognosis studies were published: 2 prognostic model reviews and 2 prognostic factor reviews. 10 protocols were published during the past year (compared to 3 in the year before). In total, we now have 8 published reviews, 18 published protocols, 21 titles registered and 2 title in preparation. This is causing increased



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	 pressure on the limited capacity of the Prognosis Methods Group as all title proposals, protocols and full reviews are being peer reviewed. Facilitated a formal 3-day online Cochrane PMG workshop in September 2020. Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
Cochrane Methods Prospective Meta-analysis	 Anna Lene Seidler became a member of Cochrane Methods Advisory Group, and provided input on the planned improvements of Cochrane Task Exchange Frequent responses to methods queries that are directed to our group's email address Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups
Cochrane Methods Qualitative and Implementation	 Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups We have undertaken and provided close support to several Cochrane authors when undertaking their qualitative evidence synthesis. Booth has supported the Cochrane rapid review efforts during Covid 19 and delivered a virtual ESQUIRE training course in Sheffield. All our planned training workshops at the Colloquium were put on hold this year. Convenors also provide an on-call service for Cochrane QES authors. We work closely with CRGs and entities such as EPOC who undertake a large volume of reviews. We provide continued input from title registration through to publication of the QES. Support from Cochrane Training to develop training modules and a webinar series.
Cochrane Methods Rapid Reviews	Over the past year, the RRMG has supported the implementation of Cochrane COVID-19 Rapid Reviews by publishing the interim Cochrane RR Methods Guidance. Further, co-convenors (BNS, AS, GG, DD) provided methodological support to various teams undertaking rapid reviews. Specifically, Gerald Gartlehner and Declan Devane directly supported the Cochrane COVID-19 Response working group. Cochrane-related: Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups. Nussbaumer-Streit B. Cochrane's Rapid Review Methods in Response to the COVID-19 Crisis, virtual talk at the PhD course "Introduction to Cochrane Methodology" at Cochrane Sweden, May 2021. Nussbaumer-Streit B. Cochrane's Rapid Review Methods in Response to the COVID-19 Crisis, virtual talk at Navigation Guide Workgroup meetings at University of California San Francisco, March 2021. Garritty C. An overview of the newly published Cochrane Rapid Reviews Methods Guidance. Methods and Review Support (MARS) Unit, Cochrane Editorial and Methods Department (virtual session). Dec. 2020. Nussbaumer-Streit B. Cochrane Rapid Reviews (virtual talk), Cochrane International Mobility Programme, Cochrane Croatia, Dec. 2020. Nussbaumer-Streit B. The Cochrane rapid review on quarantine for COVID-19 (virtual talk), PhD seminar, Cochrane Sweden. Nov., 2020.



	 Garritty C. Discussing the new Cochrane Rapid Review Methods. Cochrane Public Health and Health Systems Network (virtual session). Oct., 2020. External to Cochrane: Nussbaumer-Streit B. Rapid Reviews – if decision making is urgent (virtual talk), "Rapid generation of evidence in times of COVID-19 - challenges and potential" German Research Foundation (DFG), Jan. 2021. King VJ and colleagues. Evidence-informed Health Policy Workshops. Half-day workshops introducing evidence synthesis products and role of evidence in developing health policy for US state policymakers. Recent workshops: Alabama (December 2020), Louisiana (March 2021), Wisconsin (April 2021). King VJ. Assessing the Methodological Quality of Clinical Practice Guidelines & Conflicts of Interest Considerations.
	OHSU Human Investigations Program (HIP), Course number 507A. March 10, 2021.
Cochrane Methods Screening and Diagnostic Tests	 We continue to support CRGs through the Cochrane DTA editorial process that we organise and our members contribute to as editors and peer reviewers. Provided feedback on the Review Proposal Forms for the Editorial Manager rollout across Cochrane Review Groups Organise and participate in the DTA Editorial Team Support development of RevMan DTA functionality
Cochrane Methods Statistics	 The Convenors and members of the SMG provide ongoing support activities to other Cochrane groups, including peer review and consultation. The Convenors respond to questions from the Methods Support Unit. The Convenors and members of the SMG are co-authors of many Cochrane reviews.