Welcome to the RoB 2 Pilot

Risk of Bias 2 (RoB 2) is being introduced in Cochrane Reviews using a phased implementation process. The Cochrane Review Group (CRG) that your review is part of is moving from the initial pilot stage into scale-up. This means your Managing Editor and/or CRG staff have experience of reviews using RoB 2 and will be providing the necessary support for your team. However, as RoB 2 is not yet fully implemented, your Managing Editor will seek support and receive feedback regarding RoB 2 from the Methods Support Unit on your behalf, as needed.

From your perspective as authors, please liaise with your Managing Editor as usual.

The key resource for using RoB 2 in Cochrane Reviews is the **Pilot Starter Pack**, which includes:

- Guidance
- Training
- Tools
- Considerations for protocol development
- Considerations for reporting the full review
- Support

Please ensure you familiarise yourself with the **RoB 2 Pilot Starter Pack**

Your Cochrane Review protocol

The RoB 2 assessment of bias is specific to a single trial result (and is therefore outcome based). This, together with other key differences, distinguish it from the original risk of bias tool. For these reasons there are some key considerations that must be prespecified in the protocol otherwise you will be at risk of using the tool incorrectly. Your Managing Editor will check the RoB 2 considerations as part of the peer review process. Please ensure you address these comments and ask questions if anything is unclear. **See the ‘RoB 2 considerations for protocol development’ section in the Starter Pack**

RoB 2 in RevMan Web

This **four-minute video introduces you to RoB 2 in RevMan Web**. Key points to emphasise are:

- RoB 2 must be switched on manually for your review when you are ready to input your RoB 2 data (this switch breaks compatibility with the desktop RevMan 5 version; if you are using Covidence, you must ensure that you import all data in RevMan 5 (desktop) before you ask for the RoB 2 function to be switched on).
- We advise data is input and analysed in RevMan in this order: 1) input main results data -> 2) input RoB 2 data -> 3) duplicate inputted results and RoB 2 data for sensitivity and/or subgroup analyses.
- Check the **RevMan Web Knowledge Base** if you have any questions. **Also, see the ‘What guidance is available’ section in the Starter Pack**

Your full Cochrane Review

As RoB 2 is outcome based, the implications of the risk of bias assessments should be discussed in the ‘Effects of intervention’ section. **See the ‘RoB 2 considerations for reporting the full review’ section in the Starter Pack**

If you have any questions, please contact your CRG Managing Editor.