Why is it difficult to implement methods consistently in Cochrane?

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Some of my best friends are methodologists (even Cochrane methodologists)

No point in trying to appear intellectual when you are talking after John Ioannidis, you are bound to fail.
Dangerous minds ...

- **Lex Luthor** is one of the most dangerously intelligent men on the planet - a super-villain, a brilliant scientist, a billionaire industrialist

From: the Lex Luthor disambiguation page
http://dc.wikia.com/wiki/Lex_Luthor
Dangerous minds of Cochrane methodologists

- **Lex Luthor** is one of the most dangerously intelligent men on the planet - a super-villain, a brilliant scientist, a billionaire industrialist,

From: the Lex Luthor disambiguation page
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Mild mannered
Mild mannered ... review authors
The Cochrane problem…

- Many Lex Luthors

- **Review** authors are really mild mannered human beings…

... who wear underwear under their clothes!
Best laid plans of mice and mad dangerously intelligent men

(A stereotypical view)

- Cochrane methods:
  - developed in rather ad hoc way
  - may not address key concerns of review authors or CRGs
  - introduced when (not quite) ready
  - review authors and review groups blamed for failures in implementation
• Build stronger motivation (in review authors and CRG)
  – Why is this relevant for my review?
  – Give me the skills to do the new behaviour
  – Help me feel confident that I can do the new behaviour
  – Create social norms (will it help me get Lois Lane?)

• Translating motivation into action
  – Planned processes
  – Social support

• Supporting physical and psychological environment
  – Editorial processes and support
  – Editorial resources
  – Tools

Methodological innovation requires behaviour change by review authors & CRGs
Key challenges (1)

- Methodological innovation that meets needs of review authors and CRGs
- Methodological innovation appropriate for range of issues in Cochrane reviews
- Planned and phased process
- Communicated for mild mannered human beings
- Globally co-ordinated training for CRGs and review authors
- Support tools (eg embedded in Revman)
PRINTS principle for methodological development

- **P** - Pragmatic
- **R** - Robust
- **I** - Intelligible
- **N** - Necessary
- **T** - Timely
- **S** - Supported
• Methodological innovations add to burden for updating
• Need to develop policies about when and how updates should implement methodological innovation
• Need to develop supports for implementing methodological innovations
Mild mannered human beings around the world will thank you, Lex and Lexess