

Cochrane Bias Methods Group

Annual Report 2018

Asbjørn Hróbjartsson

On behalf of the Co-Convenors

Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine Odense (CEBMO)

Odense University Hospital, Denmark



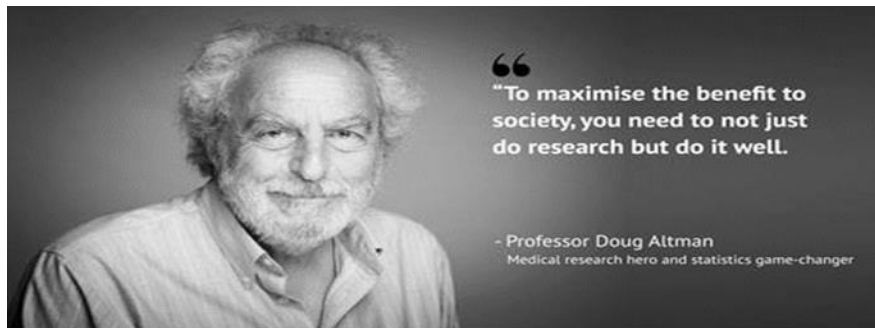
Co-convenors

- Isabelle Boutron, France
- Matt Page, Australia (David Moher stepped down 2017)
- Asbjørn Hróbjartsson, Denmark
- Doug Altman, UK (passed away June 3rd 2018)



“We need less research, better research and research done for the right reasons”

Doug Altman, 1994



Main activities

- Revised RoB tool 2.0 for RCT
- Chapter 8 in the Handbook rewritten
- David Moher Methods Symposium

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

Structure

- Secretariat settled at Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine Odense (CEBMO)
 - Camilla Hansen BMG Research Coordinator
- Strategic Plan
 - Revised division of labour between convenors
 - Restructured communication routines
 - Newsletter every 6 months
 - Revised website
 - Editorials/commentaries

Newsletter



Cochrane Methods
Bias

Newsletter

Issue 02 | August 2018

With this newsletter, the Bias Methods Group wishes to provide some insight into the group's activities, and to keep you abreast of the bias literature. We hope that you find our newsletter informative and enjoyable to read.

In loving memory of Doug Altman



It was with great sorrow that we received the sad news of the passing of our senior co-convenor Doug Altman on Sunday 3rd of June. Doug leaves behind an incredible legacy to medical research and statistics that will have ongoing influence for many years to come. Thank you Doug, for all you gave.

[Read the full obituary written by The Bias Methods Group.](#)

BMG Website



**Cochrane Methods
Bias**

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Informed decisions.
Better health.

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About Us

Training & Events

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Methods Groups



**What is the Cochrane Bias
Methods Group?**

Read more about the group here

Bias-related sessions at the
Colloquium



News

Programme for the Bias Methods
Group Open Meeting now
available



News

August 2018 Newsletter



Newsletter

In loving memory of Doug Altman



Obituary

Tweets by
@CochraneBias

CochraneBias
@CochraneBias
Sign-ups for the 2018
Cochrane Colloquium are
now open. We've provided
a list of bias-related
sessions here:
[methods.cochrane.org/bias/
training-...](https://methods.cochrane.org/bias/training-...)



Bias-re...
method...

♥ ↗ Sep 4, 2018

CochraneBias
Retweeted

Hilda Bastian
@hildabast
The HPV vaccine: a critique
of a critique of a meta-
analysis | New post
@PLOSblogs @PLOS
blogs.plos.org/absolutely-

Embed View on Twitter

Cochrane News

Editorials/commentaries



**Journal of
Clinical
Epidemiology**

Journal of Clinical Epidemiology 97 (2018) 133–136

COMMENTARY

Assessing risk of bias in studies that evaluate health care interventions: recommendations in the misinformation age

Matthew J. Page^{a,*}, Isabelle Boutron^{b,c,d,e}, Camilla Hansen^f, Douglas G. Altman^g,
Asbjørn Hróbjartsson^f

^a*School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University, 553 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004, Australia*

^b*METHODS team, Epidemiology and Biostatistics Sorbonne Paris Cité Center (CRESS), UMR 1153, INSERM, Paris, France*

^c*Faculté de Médecine, Sorbonne Paris Cité, Paris Descartes University, Paris, France*

^d*Centre d'Épidémiologie Clinique, AP-HP (Assistance Publique des Hôpitaux de Paris), Hôpital Hôtel Dieu, Paris, France*

^e*Cochrane France, Cochrane, Paris, France*

^f*Center for Evidence-Based Medicine, University of Southern Denmark & Odense University Hospital, Odense, Denmark*

^g*UK EQUATOR Centre, Centre for Statistics in Medicine, NDORMS, University of Oxford, Oxford OX3 7LD, United Kingdom*

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Plan for 2018-19

- Research plans
 - Tool for assessing conflict of interest (**TACIT**)
 - Tool for assessing risk of publication bias (**ROB-ME**)
- New convenor
 - Autumn 2018
- Bias research framework
 - Registry and protocol repository for bias and methods studies
- Ideas
 - Crowd research: engaging with the collaborative potential of >200 members of the BMG
 - The role of (semi)-automatization in risk of bias assessment

Bias and Methods Studies Registry and Protocol Repository

- No forum for bias and methods researchers
 - to register planned studies
 - to make protocols publicly available
- BMG pilot project
 - Intended for BMG members and others interested in bias and methods research
 - Integrated part of new website
 - Simple set-up
- Reassess after 12 months

Questions, feedback, comments?

Colloquium Workshops and Meetings

- **Monday 17 September**

- 11.00-12.30 Workshop: ‘Screen For Me’: harnessing the efficiencies of machine learning and Cochrane Crowd to identify randomised trials for Cochrane Reviews
- 14:00-15:30 Oral session: Investigating bias
- 14:00-15:30 Workshop: The ROB-ME (Risk Of Bias due to Missing Evidence) tool: a new tool for assessing reporting biases in evidence syntheses

- **Tuesday 18 September**

- 11:00- 12:30 Oral session: Investigating bias
- 14:00-15:30 Workshop: Using ROBINS-I to assess risk of bias in non-randomized studies of interventions