

## 10 things you may not know about the Cochrane Library

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Information Retrieval Methods Group



**EAHIL**

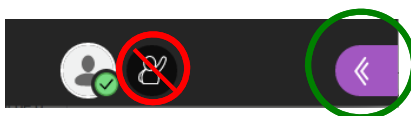
European Association for Health Information and Libraries  
<http://eahil.eu/>

12 Jan 2017

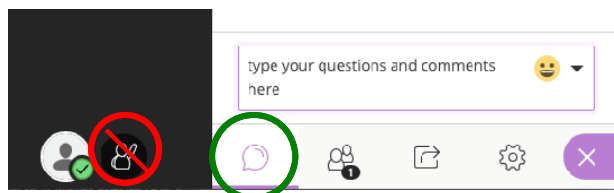
## Welcome, introductions and today's technology

Share questions and comments using text chat.

Open the Collaborate Panel at bottom right:



Type your questions and comments in the Chat area:



Questions posted during the presentation will be gathered and Carol will answer them in the last 15-20 minutes of the webinar.

## Acknowledgements

EAHIL for inviting me to present this webinar

María García-Puente and colleagues - EAHIL online CPD Pilot Program

## Declaration of interests

- founder member of Cochrane (since 1992)
- Co-Convenor of Cochrane Info Retrieval Methods Group
- member of Cochrane Methods Executive
- lead author on searching chapter of the Cochrane Handbook

BUT

- no longer employed within Cochrane (since June 2012)
- not employed by Wiley (CLIB publisher)
- independent view and independent voice!

### Audience experience of use of the Cochrane Library?

Have you ever used the Cochrane Library?

Click on **Yes** or **No** in the pop-up poll box

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### Audience experience of use of the Cochrane Library?

How often do you use the Cochrane Library?

Answer options:

1. **At least once a week**
2. **At least once a month**
3. **Less frequently**
4. **Never used it**

Select the number above, that matches your experience, in the pop-up poll box

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## 10 things you may not know about the Cochrane Library

1. The Cochrane Library does not consist only of systematic reviews of the effectiveness of interventions.

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- **Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews**
  - (CDSR; Cochrane Reviews) **7,137 Reviews / 2531 Protocols**
- **Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects**
  - (DARE; Other Reviews) **36,795** (not being updated)
- **Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials**
  - (CENTRAL; Trials) **992,236**
- **Cochrane Methodology Register**
  - (CMR; Methods Studies) **15,764** (currently not being updated)
- **Health Technology Assessment Database**
  - (HTA; Technology Assessments) **16,842**
- **NHS Economic Evaluation Database**
  - (NHSEED; Economic Evaluations) **17,433** (not being updated)
- **About The Cochrane Collaboration (Cochrane Groups) 81**

(from CLIB, 8 January 2017)

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**Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE) and NHS EED**

searches updated until end 2014 /  
records added until March 2015

- **DARE and NHS EED archives secure on CRD website until at least 2021**
- “CRD would like to reassure our many thousands of users that we are committed to maintaining archive versions of **DARE and NHSEED** until at least 2021 (the point to which we have funds to support maintenance). [Bibliographic records were published on DARE and NHS EED until 31st March 2015. Searches of MEDLINE, Embase, CINAHL, PsycINFO and PubMed were continued until the end of the 2014.]
- We know the databases remain a valuable resource to those seeking to find out if reviews and economic evaluations have already been done before embarking on new projects, and in providing brief critical reviews and bottom line statements of these.
- CRD will continue to maintain and add records to the **HTA database** until 31st March 2017 at which point a decision about future production will be taken in partnership with INAHTA.”

<http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/crdweb/newspage.asp#changesdare>

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**Diagnostic test accuracy reviews e.g.**

[D-dimer test for excluding the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism](#)

(published August 2016)

[Combination of the non-invasive tests for the diagnosis of endometriosis](#)

(published July 2016)

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1. The Cochrane Library does not consist only of systematic reviews of the effectiveness of interventions.

**Overviews of reviews e.g.**

[Conservative interventions for urinary incontinence in women: an \*\*Overview of Cochrane systematic reviews\*\*](#)

(published Sept 2016)

[Treatments for women with gestational diabetes mellitus: an \*\*overview of Cochrane systematic reviews\*\*](#)

(published August 2016)

1. The Cochrane Library does not consist only of systematic reviews of the effectiveness of interventions.

**Prognosis reviews e.g.**

[Individual recovery expectations and \*\*prognosis\*\* of outcomes in non-specific low back pain: prognostic factor exemplar review](#) – (protocol)

(published Sept 2014)

1. The Cochrane Library does not consist only of systematic reviews of the effectiveness of interventions.

#### **Editorials**

- [This Cochrane Review is closed: deciding what constitutes enough research and where next for pulmonary rehabilitation in COPD](#)  
Yves Lacasse, Christopher J Cates, Bernard McCarthy, Emma J Welsh - 18 November 2015
- [Regulatory agencies hold the key to improving Cochrane Reviews of drugs](#)  
Jeppe Schroll, Lisa Bero - 20 April 2015  
<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/home/editorials-full-listing.html>

### 10 things you may not know about the Cochrane Library

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Cochrane reviews are based on:

the results of published studies

results of unpublished studies (e.g. results obtained from trials registers such as ClinicalTrials.gov)

results of studies obtained from Clinical Study Reports (detailed reports submitted by the pharmaceutical industry to regulatory agencies (such as the European Medicines Agency (EMA)) to support licensing applications)

## 2. Cochrane Reviews are not based only on trial results published in journals.

### **Example: Cochrane Review of Tamiflu / Relenza**

- based on Clinical Study Reports produced by the manufacturers (GSK and Roche)
  - not based on published data from journal articles or study records from trials registers
  - major implications for Information Specialists
  - need to search trials registers and regulatory agency sources

Jefferson T, Jones MA, Doshi P, Del Mar CB, Hama R, Thompson MJ, Spencer EA, Onakpoya IJ, Mahtani KR, Nunan D, Howick J, Heneghan CJ. Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2014, Issue 4. Art. No.: CD008965. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD008965.pub4.



## 2. Cochrane Reviews are not based only on trial results published in journals.

**Methods:** 2014 update based on full internal reports (CSRs)  
20 Tamiflu and 26 Relenza trials  
>24,000 participants

**Results:** shortens duration of symptoms by 0.5 days on average; little evidence re reduction in hospital admission or the risk of developing confirmed pneumonia; insufficient evidence re preventing 'person-to-person' spread of influenza

**Cost:** stockpiling in the UK (alone) cost 0.5bn GBP

## 2. Cochrane Reviews are not based only on trial results published in journals.

- Tamiflu and Relenza: getting the full evidence picture - Cochrane editorial
  - [Tamiflu & Relenza: how effective are they?](#) Cochrane/BMJ press release, 10 April 2014
  - [What the Tamiflu saga tells us about drug trials and big pharma](#) by Ben Goldacre, *The Guardian*, 10 April 2014
  - [Clinical trial data for all drugs in current use](#), by Fiona Godlee, *BMJ*, 29 October 2012
  - [Drug data shouldn't be secret](#) by Peter Doshi and Tom Jefferson, *The New York Times*, 10 April 2012
- [Tamiflu open data campaign](#) (<http://www.bmj.com/tamiflu>)

<http://www.cochrane.org/features/tamiflu-and-relenza-getting-full-evidence-picture>

## 2. Cochrane Reviews are not based only on trial results published in journals.

**Ongoing project:** Cochrane interim guidance on the inclusion of Clinical Study Reports and other regulatory documents in Cochrane Reviews

**Objectives:** To draft interim guidance to help Cochrane authors decide **whether** to include data from CSRs and other regulatory documents in a Cochrane review (together with or instead of data from published studies / trials registers etc.)

## 2. Cochrane Reviews are not based only on trial results published in journals.

**Methods:** Guidance will be based upon the research literature on reporting biases and their impact on evidence synthesis and on exploration of indicators or 'triggers' that might indicate when it is most important to access and use this type of data.

In addition to the research literature, guidance will be informed by the results of a survey of review authors regarding their use of CSRs and other regulatory documents in their reviews.

**Funding:** This project is funded in part by a Cochrane Methods Innovation Fund award.

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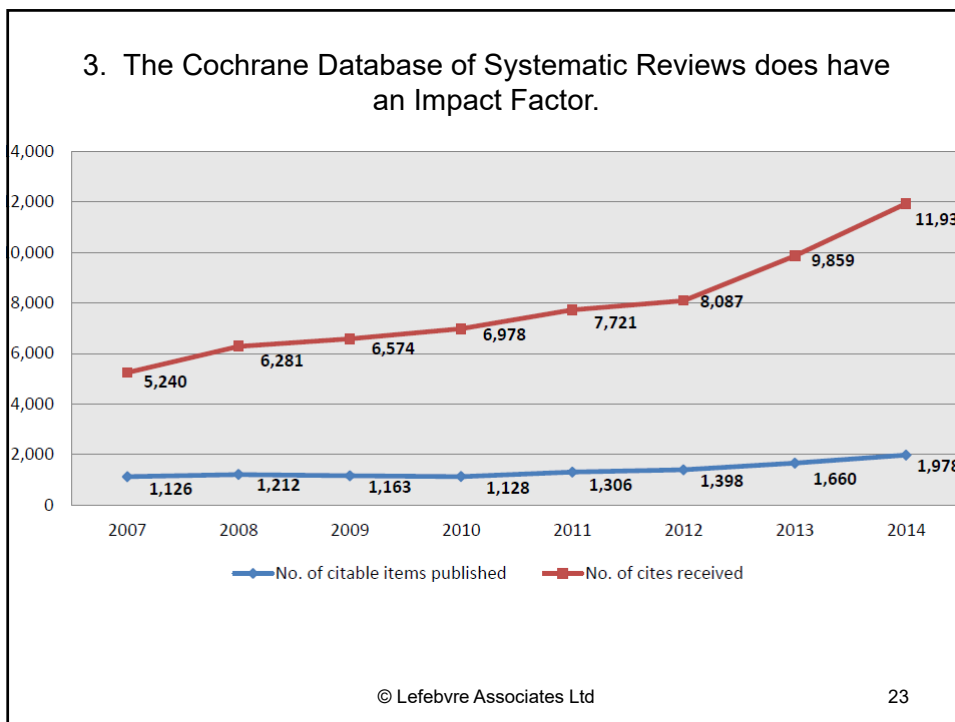
3. The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews does have an Impact Factor.

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**2015 Impact Factor for Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews:** is 6.103

i.e. no. of citations in 2015 to reviews publ. in 2013-2014 /  
no. of reviews publ. in 2013-2014

<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/cochrane-database-of-systematic-reviews/index.html>



### 10 things you may not know about the Cochrane Library

4. Cochrane is working towards open access to all new and updated Cochrane Reviews by 2020.

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##### Open access

- on 1 February 2013, open-access options were introduced for the CDSR. Authors can choose one of two options for publishing their articles:
- **Gold open access:** immediate open access upon payment of an article publication charge fee.
- **Green open access:** publication via the 'standard' model, with free access to the full article 12 months after publication.
- (this does not mean you should stop subscribing!)  
<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/help/open-access-options-for-the-cochrane-library.html>

#### 4. Cochrane is working towards open access to all new and updated Cochrane Reviews by 2020.

##### Future plans for extending open access

“As part of Cochrane's commitment to putting the needs of our users at the heart of our content design and delivery, we are **working towards the goal of achieving universal open access to new and updated Cochrane Reviews by the end of our current strategic plan in 2020**. Our plan for reaching this goal includes a process for providing **open access immediately upon publication for both new and updated reviews**, and later for our substantial archive of published reviews.”

<http://www.cochrane.org/about-us/open-access>

## 10 things you may not know about the Cochrane Library

5. There is an iPad edition of the Cochrane Library.

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### **The Cochrane Library iPad Edition**

- the latest up-to-date evidence from CLIB
- convenient, easy to navigate iPad format (abridged)
- monthly issues feature Cochrane Systematic Reviews selected by the Editor-in-Chief
- reviews enriched with multimedia content including podcasts, videos and slide decks

<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/more-resources/the-cochrane-library-ipad-edition.html>



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### Podcasts

- audio-summaries of selected reviews since Jan 2008
- from the [Health evidence section](#)
- you can also look up the [full list of health evidence](#) and use the 'Has podcast' option on the left column to retrieve Reviews with a podcast
- also available [on iTunes](#)  
<http://www.cochrane.org/podcasts>



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### **Cochrane Clinical Answers (CCAs)**

- readable, digestible, clinically-focused entry point to rigorous research from Cochrane systematic reviews
- designed to be actionable and to inform decision making at the point of care
- contain a clinical question, a short answer, and an opportunity to 'drill down' to the evidence from relevant Cochrane reviews
- evidence is displayed in a user-friendly format, mixing narrative, numbers and graphics
- target audience is healthcare practitioners and professionals, and other informed health care decision-makers
- developed by Cochrane Innovations Ltd. and Wiley

(soon to be included in the 'Enhanced Cochrane Library' – Q2 2017)

<http://cochraneclinicalanswers.com/aboutus>



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### **Social Media**

- The Cochrane Library is active on Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms. Connect with us for exclusive access to the latest content, news, and more.
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- Google+
- YouTube
- LinkedIn



<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/about/social-media.html>

## 8. You can follow the Cochrane Library on social media and using RSS feeds.

### Subscribe to RSS

- Users can subscribe to RSS feeds of Editorials, Special Collections and Highlights of New and Updated Cochrane Reviews.
- Visit [Cochrane Clinical Answers](#) to subscribe to RSS feeds of new and updated Cochrane Clinical Answer topics.
- The Cochrane Collaboration website also offers various RSS feeds, such as Podcasts, Workshops, and News items.

<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/about/social-media.html>



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### Cochrane Journal Club

- based on a recent / updated Cochrane review
- relevant background information and related resources
- podcasts by the lead author explaining the key points
- discussion questions to explore methods and findings
- downloadable PowerPoint slides c. key figures and tables plus 'free to all' PDF of the review
- focuses on a review of special interest, such as a review that will change practice or employs a new statistical method
- 62 issues currently available



<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/more-resources/cochrane-journal-club-.html>

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## 10 things you may not know about the Cochrane Library

10. There are now 'rules' (standards) for the conduct and reporting of Cochrane Reviews (in addition to the Cochrane Handbook).

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10. There are now 'rules' (standards) for the conduct and reporting of  
Cochrane Reviews  
(in addition to the Cochrane Handbook).

**Reminder: The Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions**

Chapter 6 – Searching for Studies

- lists of sources including databases, trials registers etc
- search hints and tips
- RCT filters for MEDLINE

useful when supporting systematic reviews etc  
essential when supporting Cochrane Reviews!

currently under revision  
major revision underway for publication late 2017

10. There are now 'rules' (standards) for the conduct and reporting of  
Cochrane Reviews  
(in addition to the Cochrane Handbook).

Where to find the Cochrane Handbook Chapter 6

Lefebvre C, Manheimer E, Glanville J, on behalf of the Cochrane Information Retrieval Methods Group. Chapter 6: Searching for studies. In: Higgins JPT, Green S, editors. *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions*. Version 5.1.0.[updated March 2011].

The Cochrane Collaboration, 2011.

Available from: <http://handbook.cochrane.org>

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**Improving quality in Cochrane Reviews (MECIR)**

- Methodological Expectations in Cochrane Intervention Reviews
- Expectations / standards / recommendations
- Mandatory / highly desirable / good practice
  
- Conduct of reviews - published Oct 2011 - updated 2016
- Reporting of reviews - published Oct 2012 - updated 2016
- Conduct and reporting of protocols - published 2016
- Updating of reviews - published 2016
  
- <http://methods.cochrane.org/resources>

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**Searching key databases C24**

Search the **Cochrane Review Group's Specialized Register** (internally, e.g. via the Cochrane Register of Studies, or externally via CENTRAL). Ensure that **CENTRAL**, **MEDLINE** (e.g. via PubMed) and **Embase**, if it is available to either the CRG or the review author, have been searched (either for the review or for the Review Group's Specialized Register).

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**Searching for different types of evidence C26**

If the review has specific eligibility criteria around study design to address **adverse effects, economic issues** or **qualitative research** questions, undertake searches to address them.

**Searching trials registers C27**

Search trials registers and repositories of results, where relevant to the topic through **ClinicalTrials.gov**, the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (**ICTRP**) portal and other sources as appropriate.

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**Searching reference lists C30**

Check **reference lists in included studies** and **any relevant systematic reviews** identified.

**Structuring search strategies for bibliographic databases C32**

**Inform** the structure of search strategies in bibliographic databases around the main concepts of the review, **using appropriate elements from PICO** and study design. In structuring the search, **maximize sensitivity** whilst striving for reasonable precision. Ensure correct use of the AND and OR operators.

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**Developing search strategies for bibliographic databases C33**

Identify appropriate **controlled vocabulary** (e.g. MeSH, Emtree, including 'exploded' terms) **and free-text terms** (considering, for example, spelling variants, synonyms, acronyms, truncation and proximity operators).

**Restricting database searches C35**

**Justify** the use of any **restrictions** in the search strategy on **publication date** or **publication format**.

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**Documenting the search process C36**

Document the search process in enough detail to ensure that it can be reported correctly in the review.

*(Note: 'reporting standards' separate from 'conduct standards')*

**Rerunning searches C37**

**Rerun or update searches** for all relevant databases **within 12 months** before publication of the review or review update, and screen the results for potentially eligible studies.

## 10 things you may not know about the Cochrane Library

... and there is always help available from the Cochrane Library help files / help pages.

## Cochrane Library help files / help pages

### **Cochrane Library Help**

From the CLIB Home Page / Help / **How to use CLIB Search Guide**, [Search Function](#), or the [Search Page](#).

### **The Cochrane Library Reference Guide (PDF)**

<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/help/how-to-use-cochrane-library.html>

### **Virtual webinars / live online workshops**

#### **Online self-paced tutorials**

[Part 1 - An introduction to the Cochrane Library](#)

[Part 2 - Browsing and Searching the Cochrane Library](#)

[Part 3 - Using MeSH and Search Manager](#)



## Cochrane Library help files / help pages

### Cochrane Library Help (cont.)

From the CLIB Home Page / Help:

#### Database help

[Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials](#)

(CENTRAL; Clinical Trials) and the

[Cochrane Methodology Register](#) (CMR; Methods Studies)

<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/help/how-to-use-cochrane-library.html>

<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/help/central-creation-details.html>

## Summary: 10 things you may not have known about the Cochrane Library

1. The Cochrane Library does not consist only of systematic reviews of the effectiveness of interventions.
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Questions / Comments / Discussion

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