



Update on Cochrane Partnerships

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Purpose of paper: For information. To provide a status update on Cochrane's external partnerships for Q4, 2017 and Q1, 2018

Access: Open access



Cochrane's work with external partners is guided by the [Cochrane Partnership Policy](#) and the Cochrane [Framework for Partnership Development](#). A [dedicated space on the community website](#) has been developed to keep the Cochrane community informed about the key external partnerships that Cochrane is engaged in. [Updates \(including those to Cochrane's Governing Board\)](#) on external partnerships are also available on the community site.

The current document provides a status update on Cochrane's external partnerships for Q4, 2017, and Q 1, 2018. The annex provides a detailed overview per partner, also specifying the plans for the next two quarters. The main developments to note are:

- Following the training session organised by Cochrane at WHO in April 2017 (at the occasion of the mid-year meeting), WHO requested additional training which was provided by several Cochrane Groups (including Cochrane Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and others) in December. The training focused on Cochrane SRs; GRADE; Network Meta-analysis; diagnostic test guidelines, and other topics.
- Cochrane South Africa hosted the Global Evidence Summit, jointly with Cochrane and partners. Many of the sessions were organised jointly with various groups at WHO, and with G-I-N, Campbell, JBI and consumer organisations.
- The [get involved pages](#) on Wikipedia have been updated, and all existing references to Cochrane reviews on English Wikipedia have been replaced by a reference to the most recent review, and any changes in conclusions were verified. A [bot](#) on editing work done by all Cochrane volunteers recruited through TaskExchange, as well as our Wikipedia consultant, shows the results of the continued Wikipedia work.
- The International Network on Patient and Public Engagement in Health Research had a soft launch at GES, as well as a more formal launch prior to the INVOLVE conference in November.
- We continued using Task Exchange for work with external partners: most notably, G-I-N and Wikipedia. For G-I-N we have developed a dedicated entry point to TaskExchange, which was launched at GES and which we will continue to promote. For Wikipedia, we are using TaskExchange to recruit additional volunteers.
- The work on the [Partnership Toolkit](#), an online resource for Cochrane Groups to use for their own partnership development, will evolve alongside the Knowledge Translation Framework, to ensure that they are connected and complementary. The Knowledge Translation Working Group on Partnerships has been established and is working on making partnership development tools easily accessible and usable for Cochrane Groups.

New relationships that we are continuing to explore but are not yet far enough along to be included in the table in the Annex below include:

- 'Choosing Wisely' is a campaign to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments and make smart and effective choices to ensure high-quality care. We participated in the international Choosing Wisely conference that took place in Amsterdam (September 2017) to discuss with participants collaboration with Cochrane. The overall feedback was positive, but this has not yet resulted in concrete joint areas of work. We are now working towards a joint session/workshop for the Edinburgh Colloquium, which would facilitate further discussion between the Cochrane community and Choosing Wisely.

Annex – Update on Key Strategic Partnerships:

Goal	Partner	Activity	Status of partnership	Key achievements Q4, 2017 and Q 1 2018	Q2 and Q 3, 2018 plans
3	Wikipedia https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Cochrane-Wikipedia_Initiative/Welcome	Work towards developing sustainable strategies for our collaboration with Wikipedia	There is no formal MoU currently in place	<p>The get involved pages on Wikipedia have been updated, and all existing references to Cochrane reviews on English Wikipedia have been replaced with a reference to the most recent review, and any changes in conclusions were verified. A bot on editing work done by all Cochrane volunteers recruited through TaskExchange, as well as our Wikipedia consultant, shows the results of the continued Wikipedia work.</p> <p>We held a workshop at GES.</p> <p>We initiated quarterly calls with Wiki Project Med people to discuss any concerns and opportunities, and further build this relation.</p>	<p>Focus on including Cochrane Reviews in Wikipedia that are currently not yet referenced. A new task has been created on the get involved pages to encourage people to work on this.</p> <p>Work on contributions for the Edinburgh Colloquium.</p>
1,2,3,4	WHO (www.who.int)	Implement plan of work 2016-2018	Partnership was evaluated and reported on in 2015 (step 5 of partnership framework). Now in implementation phase.	Following the training session organised by Cochrane at WHO in April 2017 (at the occasion of the mid-year meeting), WHO requested additional training which was provided by several Cochrane Groups (including Cochrane Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and others) in December. The training focused on Cochrane SRs; GRADE; Network Meta-analysis; diagnostic test guidelines, and other topics.	<p>Explore with WHO its interest to co-organise a second Global Evidence Summit, should Cochrane's Governing Board decide to organise one.</p> <p>Start planning the reporting on the 2016-2018 plan of work and the new 2019-2021 plan of work. This will involve a meeting with the new leadership in WHO, especially the new Assistant DG responsible for the official relation with Cochrane.</p> <p>Ongoing follow up on the other items in the joint plan of work.</p>

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				<p>We worked with WHO departments towards GES. There was substantial involvement in sessions and workshops across a number of WHO departments and groups (including: Guideline Review Committee, Tropical Diseases Research programme; Human Reproductive Health; Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research; Health Workforce). TDR and the Alliance also provided financial support to GES.</p> <p>We updated our profile (as non state actor in official relations with WHO) on the WHO website: https://publicspace.who.int/sites/GEM/Profile/P00083.aspx</p>	
2,3	Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) www.gesiinitiative.com	GESI seeks to develop the production capacity and use of synthesized evidence in low- and middle-income countries.	Implementation phase	<p>The GESI network is being established, and involves institutions from various LMICs.</p> <p>One of the main activities of GESI is the training they provide for their network members. Cochrane Training is supporting the delivery of some of the online training (webinars) provided. GESI also organised several workshops at GES.</p>	<p>Continuation of webinar series jointly with Cochrane Training.</p> <p>Main focus for 2018 will be to fundraise for GESI activities.</p>

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				Regular meetings with the GESI governance group continued.	
2	Epistemonikos (http://www.epistemonikos.org)	To explore a long-term joint venture	Step 2 of partnership framework.	Official partnership and MoU launched in December 2016 . Year one work focused on the incorporation and testing of Epistemonikos' database within the new federated search feature on the new Cochrane Library platform. This is now complete and ready for the launch. Epistemonikos has also been improving its own databases of systematic reviews. The partnership's year two priorities and funding were agreed.	Awaiting launch of new CL platform. Cochrane will also be evaluating Epistemonikos's 'Living Overview of Evidence (LOVE)' project for potential collaboration in future.
2	G-I-N www.g-i-n.net	To build stronger connections with G-I-N members and Cochrane as well as begin to explore further connections.	Implementation phase	Adjusted Task Exchange to the needs of GIN. Platform launched mid July 2017 and was presented at GES. Delivered Special Session at GES.	Communicate and disseminate information re TaskExchange wider to encourage use and learn from user experiences. Documenting and disseminating success stories of collaboration between guideline developers and systematic reviewers (can also help support use of TaskExchange). Review plan of work and decide on priority activities for the year (by partnership advisory group in February meeting).
3	Campbell G-I-N ISEHC Joanna Briggs	Co-host the Global Evidence Summit in Cape Town in 2017.	Implementation phase	Delivered GES.	Decide on a 'GES 2' meeting in four years' time (2021), and the partners that could be involved in organising it. Meeting in Antwerp in late April 2018 to decide this.

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3	PAHO www.paho.org	Deliver MoU (detailed plan of work developed in 2015).	Implementation phase	Developing the collaboration with PAHO has been slow. Several meetings took place to discuss concrete activities to be included in the PAHO 2018-2019 budgetary cycle. A meeting tentatively set for February in Washington has been delayed by PAHO.	Wait for PAHO to take initiative to move the partnership forward.
3	The International Network for Public Involvement and Engagement in Health and Social Care Research	Develop collaboration with existing consumer groups; and explore the feasibility of an international network.	Step 1 & 2 of partnership framework	The International Network for Public Involvement and Engagement in Health and Social Care Research was launched on 27 th November in London. The launch event was attended by 35 people from around the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of launching event to be circulated to attendees and 130 organisations and individuals who have expressed an interest in joining • A series of consultative webinars and Twitter chats in March 2018 • Launch of new website and social media in March 2018 • Two-day meeting in May to determine legal structures, governance and develop top five priorities from consultation • First symposium at Cochrane Colloquium, September 2018
1,2,3	GRADE (http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org)	To deliver the MoU as well as a licensing agreement for software use.	Step 2	<p>IKMD tested the integration of GRADEPro GDT/ Archie integration. Because of delayed release of Archie integration, this work did not progress much further yet.</p> <p>Discussion started between Cochrane Innovations and Evidence Prime on integration of Cochrane's Linked Data work.</p>	Release RevMan Web beta for intervention reviews, and resume discussion of how RevMan and GRADEPro integration could facilitate better user experience for SoF.
2	MAGIC (http://magicproject.org)	To explore strategic partnership	Step 1 & 2	Meeting with MAGIC team held in Q4 to agree pilot projects related to the use of MAGIC tools in the Cochrane systematic	Implement and complete projects to test and demo the use of MAGIC tools and services. IT Services to test the integration of MAGICApp with Cochrane systems.

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		opportunities for review production and guideline tools.		review production and publication workflows, with the aim to present results in Sept 2018. Projects include use of MAGICApp for production of SoF tables and production of SHARE IT patient decision aids.	
3	REWARD (http://research.waste.net)	Continue to develop and explore Cochrane's relationship with the REWARD alliance.	Step 1 & 2	The Cochrane-REWARD prize was awarded in Amsterdam in May 2017 during the World Congress on Research Integrity. The call for 2018 will be announced shortly and the 2018 prize will be awarded during the 2018 Cochrane Colloquium.	Developing closer linkages with the funders group that came out of the REWARD alliance, and explore how Cochrane can contribute to their discussions and thinking re reducing research waste.
3	Joanna Briggs Institute (http://joannabriggs.org)	Exploring opportunities for scientific and methodological research, as well as sharing of data for the efficiency of evidence synthesis processes, and joint representation at major healthcare events.	MoU signed Implementation phase	Focus of partnership so far is on co-organising GES; work on the KT strategy (JBI is member of the KT working group); and exploring using Wikipedia for nursing topics.	The CEOs of Cochrane and JBI have been exploring future collaboration work. The initial MoU with JBI has expired and discussions will continue in Q2 to discuss expanded future joint areas of work and renew the MoU. JBI will host discussions on GES 2 (see above) ahead of its annual conference in Antwerp in late April.
	The Campbell Collaboration		Implementation phase	Quarterly update meeting held. Joint work around Global Evidence Summit.	MoU will be renewed and agreement to work in the following main areas:

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campbell Collaboration contributors approved to use Cochrane systems for Review Production (Archie and RevMan). • Streamlining editorial and production processes for cross-published systematic reviews. • Establishing closer collaboration on methods development, building on the extensive interactions already made (including Campbell's adoption of adapted MECIR standards) to update and improve guidelines, standards and use. • Exploring the provision of access to <i>The Campbell Library of Systematic Reviews</i> via a federated search from <i>The Cochrane Library</i>. • Exploring the development of a shared advocacy platform and common advocacy initiatives.
	VIVLI	VIVLI aims to promote, coordinate, and facilitate clinical research data sharing through the creation and implementation of a sustainable global data-sharing enterprise	MoU signed starting implementation phase	Cochrane has provided PICO meta-data and annotation services to support the beta development of the Vivli clinical trials data sharing platform. The services include the use of the Cochrane PICO ontology and vocabulary to enhance the discoverability of clinical trials data.	We plan to work with Vivli to support the promotion of the new clinical trials data sharing platform, finalise access rights for Cochrane authors, and continue to provide PICO meta-data and annotation services.