Cochrane Library

Irina Ibragimova
HealthConnect International
ibra@zadar.net
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Cochrane Collaboration

• Founded in 1993
• 13 centers
• 52 specialties
• Analytical research methodology
• More than 5600 systematic reviews
• DB of controlled clinical trials (CENTRAL)
• Impact on healthcare and research policy

http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/mrwhome/106568753/HOME

What is a systematic review?

• Type of a study
• research method planned in advance
• Object of research – results of original studies
• The possibility to reduce bias in research

Approaches used (7 steps)

• Formulating the clinical problem
• Locating and selecting studies
• Quality assessment of studies
• Collecting data
• Analyzing and presenting results (statistical methods, meta-analyses)
• Interpreting results
• Improving and updating reviews

The value of systematic reviews (1)

• An answer to a well formulated clinical question
• Based on a planned literature search
• Analyzing evidence-based data
• Comparing quality data
• Are updated regularly

The value of systematic reviews(2)

They permit to make the conclusion:

- that the intervention is effective
  - that the intervention is not effective
- that the intervention is harmful
- that its harm or usefulness are not evident and more research is needed
Who needs systematic reviews?
- Health care practitioners
- Health care managers
- Medical researchers
- Patients

Cochrane Library Includes (1)
- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)
- Cochrane Controlled Trials Register (CENTRAL)
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE)
- Cochrane Methodology Register
- Health Technology Assessment Database (HTA)
- NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHS EED)
- About (Cochrane groups, networks, centers)

Cochrane Library - main screen

**Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews**
- Full-text of completed reviews carried out by Cochrane Collaboration
- Protocols for reviews currently in preparation
- reviews of RCT (randomized controlled trials)
- statistical methods of putting results together (meta-analyses)

Statistical analyses

**Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE)**
- structured abstracts of high-quality systematic reviews published in the scientific literature.
- the reviews are identified by searching through key medical journals, bibliographic databases and less widely-available "grey literature". A paper will be included if it reviews the effectiveness of health care interventions or organization
- 5500 abstracts

**Cochrane Controlled Trials Register (CCTR/CENTRAL)**
- References to Randomized Controlled Trials
- Designed for use by members of the Collaboration's Review Groups and others performing systematic reviews
- Contains more than 564 000 CTs
- Hand searching / DBs
- Medical Editors Trials Amnesty (unpublished trials)

**Cochrane Methodology Register**
- References to articles dealing with the science/methods of systematic reviews, RCTs
- 11200 records
contains information on healthcare technology assessments (defined as prevention and rehabilitation, vaccines, pharmaceuticals and devices, medical and surgical procedures and the systems within which health is protected and maintained)

- systematic reviews
- primary research
- INAHTA projects
- http://www.inahta.org/

NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHS EED)
- Structured abstracts of economic evaluations of health care interventions
- 24400 records

Browse articles in each DB
Browse by Topics
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