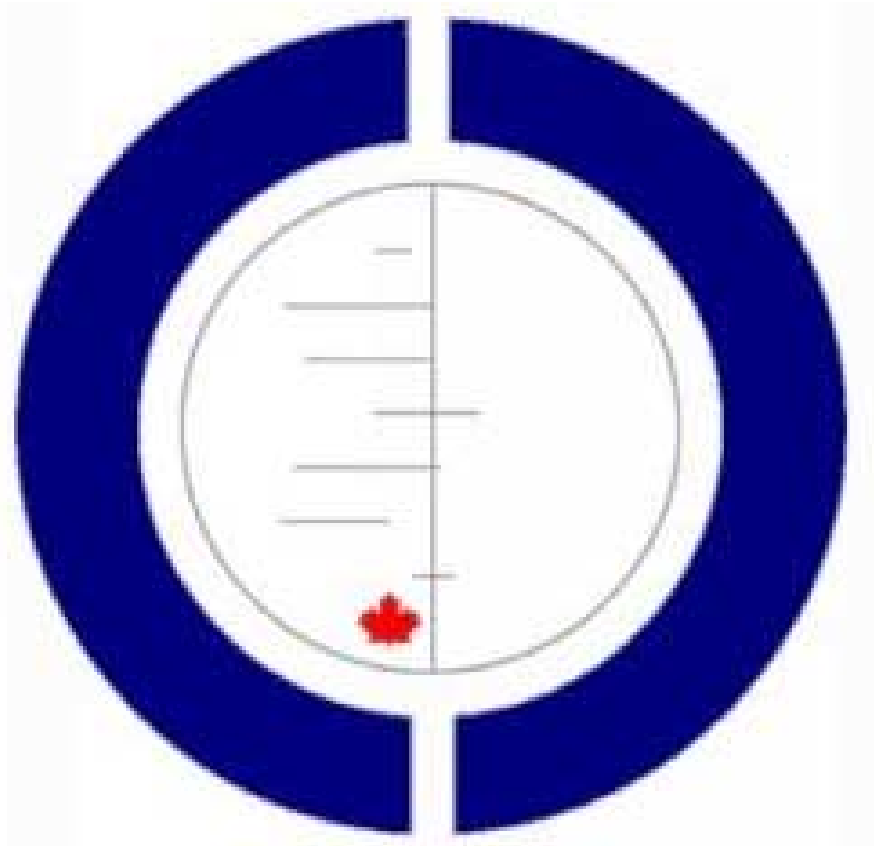


THE CANADIAN COCHRANE NETWORK AND CENTRE



2000 ANNUAL REPORT

The Cochrane Collaboration is an international network of individuals and institutions committed to preparing, maintaining, and disseminating systematic reviews of the effects of health care interventions. In pursuing its aims, the Cochrane Collaboration is guided by ten principles: collaboration, building on the enthusiasm of individuals, avoiding duplication, minimizing bias, keeping up to date, ensuring relevance, ensuring access, continually improving the quality of its work, continuity and enabling wide participation.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	1
Message from the Director.....	2
Contributors to The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre	4
Summary Report	6
Financial Summary	9
Activities of The Canadian Cochrane Centre	10
Reports from the Network Sites	15
University of British Columbia.....	15
University of Alberta	16
University of Manitoba	18
University of Western Ontario.....	19
McMaster University	20
University of Toronto	21
Queen's University.....	24
University of Ottawa	26
McGill University	27
Université de Montréal.....	29
Université de Sherbrooke	30
Université Laval	31
Dalhousie University	33
Memorial University	35
Reports from the Affiliate Organizations.....	38
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists.....	38
Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment	38
Canadian Health Libraries Association	39
Canadian Pharmacists Association	39
Canadian Physiotherapy Association	40
Consumers' Association of Canada	40
Reports from the Field	
The Cochrane Child Health Field	41
Reports from Review Groups	42
The Cochrane Back Review Group	42
The Cochrane Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group	44
The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group	44
The Cochrane Neonatal Review Group	46
Contributions to The Cochrane Library by Cochrane Reviewers in Canada.....	48
The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews	48
Contribution to The Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness	53
Cochrane Controlled Trials Register	53
Contributions to Health Technology Assessment by Cochrane Reviewers in Canada	56
Other Cochrane Related Publications	57

Acknowledgements

The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) gratefully acknowledges the continuing financial support of the Conference of Deputy Ministers of Health and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

The Director, Co-Director and staff of The Canadian Cochrane Centre (CCC) sincerely appreciate the many volunteers who have contributed precious time and energy to the accomplishments of the CCN/C over the past year. Without their commitment and perseverance, the achievements documented in this report would not have been possible.

Message from the Director

The pivotal achievement in 2000 was the receipt of core funding for The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) for the next five years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Funding from the Conference of Deputy Ministers of Health continues, as do in-kind contributions from McMaster University in Hamilton, the University of Toronto and Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, and the Health Science Centres across Canada.

In 2000, a large number of protocols and systematic reviews written by individuals in Canada were peer-reviewed and accepted into The Cochrane Library (CLIB). The CCN/C supports this primary role of the Cochrane Collaboration through entities located in Canada; four Collaborative Review Groups (CRGs), one Field and 16 Network Sites at Health Science Centres across the country. The Network Sites form a unique feature of the CCN/C and has been recognised as a possible model for other Cochrane Centres to adopt. The Centre provides training workshops in collaboration with Site Representatives. Three of the Network Sites offer Master's courses on systematic reviews in affiliation with Graduate Departments of the respective universities. This has proven to be an efficient strategy to add high quality systematic reviews to the CLIB.

By the end of 2000, five Network Sites had organized multidisciplinary Cochrane Site Groups that promote the dissemination of reviews and the incorporation of the CLIB in the curricula of Health Sciences Faculties.

The critical mass of individuals actively involved in Cochrane activities in Canada is increasing rapidly. This growing strength of the CCN/C is exemplified by the relative ease by which we can replace individuals in specific positions when they move to other locations and/or positions. We are pleased that they are always willing to continue their involvement with the Cochrane Collaboration. As the Cochrane Collaboration is a global organization it is expected that individuals and entities will move within and between countries. This should be seen as a strength, as the overriding mission of the Collaboration is to produce high quality systematic reviews of health care that cross national and international boundaries.

In June 2000, Dr. Alejandro Jadad resigned as Co-Director of the CCN/C to assume the directorship of the Program in eHealth Innovation at the University of Toronto. Dr. Jadad has made important contributions to the Cochrane Collaboration both nationally and internationally.

The CCN/C Executive Committee and I were pleased that, in addition to her position as Co-ordinator, Kathie Clark (RN, PhD), agreed to take on the role of Co-Director of the CCN/C. Under her leadership, and with the help of the Executive Committee, the CCN/C has developed a much needed effective governance structure, including an Advisory Board. Mr. Serge Taillon, Director of Client Relations and Communications, Canadian Institute of Health Information, was elected the first Chair of the Advisory Board.

For the first time the "Short Annual Report" was published in both official languages of Canada. The welcome page of the CCN/C web site is now bilingual and there are links to the French Cochrane Centre. In collaboration with the French Cochrane Centre, we hope to increase the number of Cochrane documents published in French in the near future.

In early 2000, the CCN/C assumed responsibility for the publication of Cochrane News – the official newsletter of the Cochrane Collaboration. Diane Gauthier and Laurie Cocking are the Co-Editors. The feedback on the three issues published in 2000 has been very positive.

The Arthritis Society, the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Canadian Medical Association joined the CCN/C as Affiliate Organizations and members of the CCN/C Advisory Board. They contribute to the consumer involvement and multidisciplinary strength of the Network.

In 2001, the CCN/C will assist the Cochrane entities based in Canada in their fund raising efforts. We will support Co-ordinating Editors of CRGs, who want to locate their CRG in Canada. We will encourage additional professional health care and consumer organizations to become Affiliate Organizations. We consider our support of the Site Representatives to be essential in their efforts to establish Site Groups.

To further promote the work of the Cochrane Collaboration nationally and internationally, the CCN/C will host the Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa in October 2004.

It is the hard work of the Site Representatives, the members of the Cochrane entities based in Canada and the Affiliate Organizations that fulfills the mission of the Cochrane Collaboration.

On behalf of all of us at the CCN/C I thank you all for a most successful year. I am looking forward to the challenges and potential rewards at the threshold of a new millennium.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arne Ohlsson', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP
Director

Contributors to The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre

Canadian Cochrane Centre Staff

Director	Dr. Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP
Co-Director	Ms. Kathie Clark, RN, PhD
Communications Specialist	Mrs. Laurie Cocking
Administrative Assistant	Ms. Diane Gauthier

Network Sites and Representatives

University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC	Ms. Arminée Kazanjian, BA, MA, PhD
University of Calgary, Calgary AB	Mr. Rollin Brant, BMath, MMath, PhD and Dr. Lloyd Sutherland, MDCM, FRCPC, FACP
University of Alberta, Edmonton AB	Dr. Joanne Homik, MD** and Dr. Duncan Saunders*, MBBCh, PhD
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK	Ms. Angela Busch** PT, BPT, MSc and Ms. Dorothy Forbes, RN, PhD** Dr. Paul Peloso, MD*
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB	Dr. Michael Moffatt, MD, FRCPC
University of Toronto, Toronto ON	Dr. Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP
McMaster University, Hamilton ON	Dr. Koon K. Teo, MB, PhD, FRCPC
University of Western Ontario, London ON	Dr. J.W.D. McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC
University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON	Dr. Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC and Mr. George Wells, MSc, PhD
Queen's University, Kingston ON	Dr. Tanveer Towheed, BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FACR, DABIM
Université Laval, Québec QC	Dr. France Légaré, MD, MSc, CCMF, FCMF
McGill University, Montréal QC	Dr. Roland Grad**, MD, CM, MSc, CCFP and Dr. Michael Kramer*, MD
Université de Montréal, Montréal QC	Dr. Jacques Lacroix, MD
Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke QC	Dr. Jean-Pierre Tétrault, BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Dalhousie University, Halifax NS	Dr. Robin Whyte, MB, MRCP(UK), FRCPC
Memorial University, St. John's NF	Ms. Sandra LeFort**, RN, MN, PhD and Dr. Roger Thomas*, MD, PhD, CCFP, MRCGP

Collaborative Review Groups, Field and Staff

Back Review Group	Dr. Claire Bombardier, MD, Dr. Alf Nachemson, MD, PhD, Dr. Andrea Furlan, MD, Phys. Med. & Rehab. (Brazil) and Ms. Chantelle Garritty, BA, DCS
Neonatal Review Group	Dr. John Sinclair, MD, Ms. Diane Haughton, and Ms. Sandra Costa
Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group	Dr. John McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC, Mr. John MacDonald, BA, MA** and Mr. Wayne Tucker*, BA, MSc
Musculoskeletal Review Group	Dr. Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Ms. Bev Shea, RN, BScN, MSc* and Ms. Vivian Welch, MSc**

Child Health Field

Dr. Terry Klassen, MD, MSc, FRCPC,
Ms. Elaine Belseck, RN, BScN
Ms. Jacqueline Page**, MSc, MHSc and
Ms. Megan Clark*

Affiliate Organizations and Representatives

Arthritis Society	Ms. Linda Greason, BA, BEd**
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists	Ms. Laurie Snider PhD, OT (C)**, and Ms. Nancy Pollock*, MSc, OT
Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists	Mr. J.B. Orange, PhD
Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment	Ms. Jill Sanders, PhD
Canadian Health Libraries Association	Ms. Davida Glazer, MLIS
Canadian Institute for Health Information	Mr. Serge Taillon, BSc, MHA
Canadian Medical Association	Dr. Todd Watkins**, BSc, MD, CCFP
Canadian Nurses' Association	Ms. Carole Estabrooks**, RN, PhD Ms. Sarah Hayward*
Canadian Pharmacists Association	Ms. Carol Repchinsky, BSP
Canadian Physiotherapy Association	Ms. Dianne Parker-Taillon, BSc PT, MSc, and Mr. Paul Harter**, BSc PT Ms. Ellen Melis*, BSc, MSc
Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care College of Family Physicians of Canada	Dr. John Feightner, MD, MSc, FRCPC Dr. Walter Rosser**, MD, CCFP, FCFP, MRCGP(UK)
Consumers' Association of Canada and Arthritis Society	Ms. Jean Jones, CM, LLD, MSW, and Ms. Linda Greason, BA, BEd

* left during the year or on leave

** joined during the year

Summary Report

Introduction

The detailed 2000 Annual Report of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) has been re-organized this year to reflect the goals and objectives of the 3-year Business Plan (1999-2002).

- Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews.
- Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.
- Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

The short 2000 Annual Report this year focuses on our achievements in relation to the first goal of increasing the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews. The short report is distributed widely while the distribution of the detailed report is limited to CCN/C funders, members of the Network and Cochrane reviewers in Canada as well as the Chair of the Steering Group and the Directors of the Centres in the Cochrane Collaboration

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

The primary role of Cochrane Centres is the provision of support for the production of systematic reviews. The CCN/C has fulfilled its mandate this year in several ways.

The Network recruited 50 new reviewers over the past 12 months. Reviewers in Canada registered thirty-one titles for new Cochrane reviews, and 35 protocols as well as 41 completed reviews were published in The Cochrane Library this year. By the end of the year, The Cochrane Library included a total of 923 completed reviews and 827 protocols.

A major responsibility of the Canadian Centre is the training and support of reviewers. In 2000, we provided two workshops for reviewers from the United States and Canada: a Review Completion Workshop on February 18 for ten participants; and, an Introductory Course on Statistics in Meta-Analysis for 33 participants on November 17, 2000. Three of the Network Sites (University of Manitoba, University of Toronto, and University of Ottawa) offer courses on research synthesis.

The Cochrane Library listed 290,258 trials in Issue 4, 2000. These trials are identified in several ways, including handsearching of international journals for randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and controlled clinical trials (CCTs). The Canadian Cochrane Centre handsearches three general medical journals published in Canada: Canadian Medical Association Journal, Canadian Journal of Nursing Research, and the Canadian Journal of Surgery. With the help of a volunteer and an Ontario Work Study Student, 80 issues of the CMAJ were handsearched this year and 18 RCTs and 10 CCTs were submitted to the New England Cochrane Centre for entry into the register of RCTs and CCTs.

From the inception of the Cochrane Collaboration, there has been a commitment to the involvement of consumers in the preparation and dissemination of Cochrane reviews. This year the CCN/C recruited the Arthritis Society as an Affiliate Organization and they named Linda Greason as their Affiliate Representative on the CCN/C Advisory Board. Ms. Greason joins Jean Jones of the Consumers' Association of Canada as consumer representatives for the CCN/C. With the assistance of these two consumers, the CCN/C has volunteered to recruit consumer representatives from Canada for 13 international review groups.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

The initial step in promoting the dissemination and uptake of evidence from Cochrane reviews in Canada involves informing our target users about the Cochrane Collaboration and The Cochrane Library. This year the CCN/C established a fourth Strategic Planning Team on Communications and Marketing with Arminée Kazanjian (University of British Columbia Site Representative) as its Chair. Over 900 Information Kits were distributed at workshops, conferences, meetings, and presentations.

Each Cochrane Centre makes a special contribution to the support of the Cochrane Collaboration. The Canadian Cochrane Centre's contribution is communications. We publish an electronic newsletter (CCInfo) for the Collaboration. This year 22 issues of CCInfo were distributed.

Early in 2000, we assumed responsibility for the publication of the Cochrane News – the official newsletter of the Cochrane Collaboration. Diane Gauthier and Laurie Cocking are the Co-Editors and they have produced three issues this year. Our Communications Specialist, Laurie Cocking, carried out an audit of the CCN/C web site. She also provided considerable assistance with the web site of the Cochrane Collaboration.

Two general articles about the CCN/C were published this year – one in Volume 3, Number 3, Fall 2000 issue of Health Policy Forum, and the other in the June 15, 2000 issue of L'Actualité in Québec.

The CCN/C has continued to provide key documents in both official languages to promote the dissemination and use of Cochrane reviews in all parts of Canada. A second short annual report is being prepared in French as well as English. In addition the CCN/C brochure and the Cochrane Collaboration brochure are being translated into French. We are collaborating with the French Cochrane Centre to make as many Cochrane documents as possible available in French as well as English.

Over the past year the abstracts of new and updated Cochrane reviews were compiled by the University of Calgary Site and distributed by the CCN/C to the other Network Sites for dissemination. At the CCN/C Annual General Meeting in November it was decided we would develop an alert system and direct people to the UBC web site where the abstracts of new and updated reviews are posted (<http://www.chspr.ubc.ca/bcohta/>).

This year, the Cochrane Collaboration launched the publication of summaries of Cochrane reviews specifically for consumers and their caregivers. The “consumer synopses” are 2-3 paragraphs of plain language summaries of the results of systematic reviews. So far there are 80 synopses available on the web (<http://www.cochrane.org/cochrane/synopses.htm>). By the end of 2001 it is intended that each review will contain a consumer synopsis.

The CCN/C is eager to evaluate and extend the work of the Musculoskeletal Review Group with consumers. A Letter of Intent was submitted to The Change Foundation for a consumer health information project. The proposal was not funded but we continue to seek funds for this project that will contribute to the dissemination of evidence of effective health care interventions to the public.

The CCN/C web site has a new look (<http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca>). This year there was an average of 3053 visitors per month.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

We have reported on the reviewer training workshops and courses in relation to Goal 1. In 2000, members of the CCN/C also offered a total of 30 other workshops, 60 presentations, as well as 10 lectures and seminars.

The Network of 16 geographic sites and the professional organization affiliations enables the achievement of the mission and mandate of the Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C across Canada.

The Network was strengthened this year with the addition of organizational affiliations with the Arthritis Society, the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Canadian Medical Association.

Five of the 16 Sites now have active Site Groups with members from various health professions, health librarians, health educators, consumers and policy-makers. These Site Groups are intended to support and extend the Cochrane activities of the Site Representatives.

The CCN/C continues to create opportunities to expand and develop collaborative relationships with organizations that will promote the dissemination and use of Cochrane reviews. Our focus this year has been on policy-makers. With the support of the Centre staff, the University of Toronto Site has been collaborating with staff from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to plan a workshop for policy-makers on evidence-based decision-making and the Cochrane Collaboration.

In December, the Director and Co-Director visited Health Canada to provide an introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration and The Cochrane Library. The visit served to establish contacts between the CCN/C and the staff of Health Canada. A similar visit is planned for the Canadian Institutes of Health Research early in 2001.

Other Achievements

The Executive Committee of the CCN/C Advisory Board examined the governance of the CCN/C this year. A Governance Policy and Procedure Manual has been developed with Terms of Reference for the major elements of the CCN/C. The roles and functions of the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee were clarified. At the 2000 Annual General Meeting, Serge Taillon, Director of Client Relations and Communications, Canadian Institute of Health Information, was chosen to Chair the Advisory Board.

The CCN/C is in its second year of three years of support from the Conference of Deputy Ministers of Health. In July, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research awarded the CCN/C five additional years of core funding as a special project grant. We are grateful to both our funders for their continued financial support

Now that the CCN/C's funding is secure for the next 2-5 years, the Centre is engaged in joint fundraising for the Cochrane entities based in Canada. These include the four Review Groups and the Child Health Field. We are also interested in supporting the development of other entities in Canada.

Acknowledgements

At the end of June, Dr. Alex Jadad resigned his position as the CCN/C Co-Director. His enthusiasm and energy launched many creative Cochrane initiatives over the past several years. As of July 1, Kathie Clark, RN, PhD was named Co-Director in addition to her role as Co-ordinator.

Farewell and thank you was also extended to Alba DiCenso (McMaster University Site Rep.), Sarah Hayward (Canadian Nurses Association Affiliate Rep.) Michael Kramer (McGill University Site Rep.) Paul Peloso (University of Saskatchewan Site Rep.), Duncan Saunders (University of Alberta Site Rep.), and Roger Thomas (Memorial University Site Rep.). We welcomed new Site Reps and Affiliate Reps. Koon Teo, Carole Estabrooks, Roland Grad, Angela Busch and Dorothy Forbes, Joanne Homik, and Sandra LeFort.

Activities of The Canadian Cochrane Centre

Dr. Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP, Ms. Kathie Clark, RN, PhD,
Mrs. Laurie Cocking, Ms. Diane Gauthier

Introduction

The detailed activity report of The Canadian Cochrane Centre (CCC) has been organized according to the goals and objectives of the 3-year Business Plan:

- Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews.
- Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.
- Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

The subsequent annual activity reports of the Network Sites, Affiliate Organizations and Cochrane Collaboration (CC) entities based in Canada have been prepared in the same format.

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- The Centre recruited one, possibly two, reviewers as a result of our participation in the Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference in Saskatoon in June.

Training and Support of Reviewers

- The Centre offered a Review Completion Workshop on February 18, 2000. There were 10 participants.
- The Centre provided an Introductory Course on Statistics in Meta-analysis on November 17, 2000. There were 33 participants.
- The Communications Specialist supported reviewers by telephone, in person and by electronic mail. The topics ranged from how to download RevMan software, how to enter data, how to use MetaView and analyze information, how to ftp, where to find information and contacts, and how to run searches in The Cochrane Library. Laurie Cocking occasionally ran searches for reviewers and provided assistance with presentations.
- A number of changes were made to the web site in direct support of reviewers and based on some of the inquiries that the Communications Specialist has received. These include: addition of a resource page which points to electronic and paper resources; a frequently asked questions page; and, distribution and a repository of commonly used communications and training material.

Handsearching

- The CCC handsearches three general journals published in Canada - Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ), Canadian Journal of Nursing Research, and the Canadian Journal of Surgery.
- One volunteer handsearcher was recruited and trained. Fulvia Baldassarre was a master's nursing student who helped the CCC from April 8th – June 15th. She searched the CMAJ, volume 156, 158 to 160. Fulvia identified eight RCTs and four CCTs.
- The CCC made application and received approval for an Ontario Work Study (OWS) Student. The OWS provides part-time employment to eligible McMaster students by offering the employer 75% of the student salary. Students are eligible to work for up to 10 hours per week to a maximum OWS contribution of \$2,000 per student. We received six applications and hired Leila Salehi, a third year biology student, to contribute to our handsearching efforts. Leila began

training on October 16th and will continue in the position until April 2001. Leila has searched volumes 160 to 163 of the CMAJ and has identified 19 RCTs and 9 CCTs.

Consumer Involvement

- A second consumer representative was recruited for the Advisory Board. The Arthritis Society agreed to become an Affiliate Organization and nominated Ms. Linda Greason to be their Affiliate Representative.
- In August, the CCC offered to recruit consumers for the international CRGs. We will have a project in the coming year to develop partnerships with national disease-related organizations to work with us to recruit consumers for the 13 CRGs that accepted our offer.
- The CCC is actively pursuing financial support for a Consumer Health Information Project in collaboration with the Musculoskeletal Review Group and the Back Review Group. Consumers will be an integral part of the development and implementation of this project.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- This year the CCC assumed responsibility for the publication of Cochrane News - the official newsletter of the Cochrane Collaboration. Diane Gauthier and Laurie Cocking are Co-Editors and have produced three issues this year. An Advisory Committee was recruited to assist them. The Committee has a representative from each of the following groups: the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group; Co-ordinating Editors; Review Group Co-ordinators; Trials Search Co-ordinators; Centres; Consumer Network; Methods Groups; Fields/Networks; as well as the CCN/C Director, the CCN/C Co-Director, and the Co-Editors. The Advisory Committee is comprised of people from the UK, Norway, Germany, China, USA and Canada. When possible, each issue will have a theme. The themes for this year have been: *Accommodating Diversity (Issue 18)*, *Impact of Cochrane Systematic Reviews on Health Policy (Issue 19)*; and Issue 20 focused on the *South African Colloquium*.
- The CCC publishes an electronic newsletter for the Collaboration. Twenty-two issues of CCInfo have been distributed this year.
- The CCC provided Information Kits and promotional material for the following workshops and meetings:
 - Health Librarian Workshop (15), McMaster University, January 18
 - Mr. Paul Howard, Director, Advancement, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University (1), January 25
 - Meeting with Mr. Noel Fraser, CE&B Manager (1), McMaster University, March 8
 - Workshop: Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration (Library and RevMan) (50), University of Western Ontario, March 14
 - Public Health Nursing Workshop (9), McMaster University, March 29
 - HEALNet Conference (100), Toronto, April 2-4
 - Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis MSc Course (22), Toronto, April 25
 - Workshop: Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration (Library and RevMan) (50), University of Western Ontario, April 26
 - Family Medicine Workshop (200), Quebec, May 11 and 12
 - CHEPA Conference (50), Hamilton, May 17 to May 19
 - Evidence-based Health Care Workshop (25), McMaster University, June 13
 - Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in Canada AGM (30), Montreal, June 17
 - INFOCUS 2000 Conference (100), Vancouver, June 24-27
 - Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference, Saskatoon, June 26-27
 - OT/PT Workshop (32), Saskatoon, June 27
 - Librarian Workshop (15), Saskatoon, June 28
 - Meeting with the College of Family Physicians of Canada (8), Mississauga, Sept. 12
 - Canadian Co-ordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment Conference, (100), Ottawa, Oct.12-13
 - Family Medicine Forum Conference, Workshop on Cochrane Collaboration (20), Ottawa, Oct. 20
 - E-Health 2000 Conference (5), Ottawa, Oct. 23
 - Consensus Panel on Clinical Practice Guidelines Conference (3), Toronto, Nov. 3

- The Annual Meeting of Francophone Health Planners in Ontario (30), Toronto, November 5-7, 2000
- Presentation to staff of Health Canada (70), Ottawa, December 14, 2000.
- The Director and Co-Director provided information for a spotlight article on the CCN/C in the Fall 2000 issue of Health Policy Forum.
- The CCC provided information for an article on the CCN/C in the June 15, 2000 issue of L'Actualité featuring Jacques Lacroix, the Université de Montréal Site Representative.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- The CCC prepared and distributed the first bi-lingual Annual Report of the CCN/C. We have received many favourable comments.
- In August, we conducted a survey of the Network to identify the other key documents that should be translated into French in 2000-2001. The priority documents for translation are: 1) the CCN/C web site; 2) the CCN/C brochure; and, 3) the Cochrane Collaboration brochure.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- The CCC distributed the new and updated abstracts provided by the University of Calgary Site to the other Network Sites for the four issues of The Cochrane Library this year.
- The University of British Columbia Site also distributes the new and updated abstracts to interested people at UBC.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Laurie Cocking and Kathie Clark provided a workshop to the Golden Horseshoe Health Librarians on January 18, 2000. There were 15 participants. Topics covered an overview of the Cochrane Collaboration, the CCN/C, and systematic reviews and meta-analyses.
- Laurie Cocking and Kathie Clark provided a workshop for Public Health Nurses in the Hamilton-Wentworth area on March 29, 2000. There were 9 participants who were especially interested in synthesized evidence about health care interventions and the elderly.
- Diane Gauthier and Kathie Clark provided a workshop at the INFOCUS Conference in Vancouver on June 25. There were 9 participants. This conference explored all aspects of Health Information, The Cochrane Library being one source of evidence-based health care information.
- Kathie Clark presented a workshop on the Cochrane Collaboration and The Cochrane Library for OT/PT's in Saskatoon on June 27.
- Kathie Clark presented a workshop on the Cochrane Collaboration and The Cochrane Library for Librarians in Saskatoon on June 28.
- Kathie Clark participated on a panel presentation on Electronic Health Records and Physician-Patient Relationships at the Canada E-Health 2000 Conference in Ottawa on October 23, 2000.
- Arne Ohlsson presented Evidence-Based Pediatrics and the Cochrane Collaboration at a workshop. May 14, 2000, Year 2000 for the Pediatric Academic Societies/American Academy of Pediatrics Joint Meeting, Boston, MA May 12-16, 2000.
 - Workshop organizers and presenters: Moyer V, Lau J, Ohlsson A.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- The CCC staff provided support to the Education and Training Team that prepared and distributed a letter to the Network Sites for use in the promotion of the integration of Cochrane in the curricula.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- The CCC has encouraged the development of Site Groups across the Network. We have provided staff support to the University of Toronto Site Group that had its first meeting on May 26, 2000. The group has 18 members representing consumers, librarians, policy-makers, and the following professions – dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and physiotherapy.

Affiliate Organizations

- Four Affiliate Organizations were recruited to the Advisory Board this year – The Arthritis Society, The Canadian Task Force of Preventative Health Care, The College of Family Physicians of Canada, and The Canadian Medical Association.

Other Achievements

Funding

- The CCC prepared and submitted a Special Grant Application to the Medical Research Council of Canada for the March 1, 2000 competition. The new Canadian Institutes of Health Research has funded the CCN/C \$200,000 per year in core funding for five years.
- A letter of Intent was submitted to The Change Foundation for a consumer health information project (April 26). We did not receive the invitation to submit a full proposal so we are searching for other sources of financial support for the project.

Strategic Planning

- The CCC provided staff support to three strategic planning teams on Funding, Education and Training, and Dissemination and Impact. A new strategic planning team on Communications and Marketing was established this fall.
- The Funding Team met on March 27 and Sept. 25.
- The Dissemination and Impact Team met on Nov. 1 and Dec. 8.
- The Communications and Marketing Team had its first meeting on Nov. 10.
- The Education and Training Team met on Nov. 14.

Dissemination

- Canadian Nurses' Association – NurseInfoNet (NIN)
 - Kathie Clark met with Sandra MacDonald-Rencz, Director, Policy, Regulation and Research Division, on September 20 to discuss the inclusion of The Cochrane Library in the C.N.A. portal. It was decided that a link to the abstracts and consumer synopses would be sufficient.
- Canada E-Health 2000 Conference (Oct. 22-24)
 - Kathie Clark was invited to attend this conference in Ottawa and participate on a panel addressing the electronic health records and the practitioner – patient relationship. The conference was most useful for making contacts and gathering current information on health informatics.
- Research Transfer Conference (Oct. 26 & 27)
 - Kathie Clark attended the Research Transfer Conference in Toronto on November 26 and 27, 2000. An interest group on Research Transfer is developing.
- Clinical Practice Guideline Consensus Panel (Nov. 2)
 - Kathie Clark was invited to participate on a consensus panel on the development and dissemination of clinical practice guidelines.
- The CWHPIN Needs/Impact-Based Planning and Resource Allocation Workshop (Nov. 3)
 - Kathie Clark attended this workshop to gather information relevant to the dissemination project being considered by the Dissemination and Impact Team.
- Consumer Drug Information Network Proposal
 - The Director and Co-Director are Co-Investigators on a dissemination related research project that will use Cochrane systematic reviews to produce and then disseminate Consumer Drug Guides to consumers and practitioners.
- The Director and Co-Director are collaborators on an application to CIHR's IHRT "Preterm Birth: Causes, Outcomes and Prevention".

Communications

- The CCC distributed seven issues of Canadian Update - an electronic newsletter that is sent to subscribers in Canada.
- The CCC staff attended and provided an information booth at the HEALNet conference, April 3-4.
- Kathie Clark attended and provided an information booth at the CHEPA conference, May 18-19.

- Kathie Clark and Diane Gauthier attended, provided sponsorship and an exhibit for the INFOcus 2000 workshop, June 24-25.
- Kathie Clark attended and provided an information booth at the CPhA conference, June 26-27.
- Laurie Cocking attended Canarie's 1st Annual E-Learning Conference, Toronto, October 3-4.
- Laurie Cocking undertook an audit of the CCN/C web site that was completed in October. The purpose of the CCN/C web site is to provide information about the CCN/C to the world. This includes other members of the Cochrane Collaboration as well as consumers and policy-makers. The site is constantly evolving and is used as a communication tool with the development of new strategies for two-way communication. Feedback and participation is solicited from the entire Network. Extensive changes have been made this year as well as several recommendations for the future direction of the site. In the year 2000, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre's web site received an average of 3,053 visits per month.
- The CCC contributes to the Cochrane Collaboration by posting group newsletters to the web, by maintaining a mirror of the Cochrane Collaboration web site, by managing an ftp site, and by contributing to the contact database in HIREx. The Cochrane Collaboration mirror web site received an average of 87,394 hits per month in the year 2000.

Administration

- The Executive Committee met three times this year on March 16, Sept. 13, and Nov. 8, 2000.
- With the support of Debbie Billings (Financial Co-ordinator, Dept. of Clinical, Epidemiology and Biostatistics), Diane Gauthier has developed and maintained a system of financial accounting specifically for the CCN/C.
- The major activity of the Executive Committee this year has been work on the development of an appropriate model of governance for the CCN/C. This includes clearer Terms of Reference for the Advisory Board and Executive Committee. Terms of Reference were also prepared for the Affiliate Organizations Representatives, the Site Representatives, and the Strategic Planning Teams. Guidelines were developed to assist the Site Groups developing across the Network. These Terms of Reference will be part of the Governance Policy Manual.
- The CCN/C staff is also developing a Management Policy and Procedure Manual.

Reports from the Network Sites

University of British Columbia and British Columbia Office of Health Technology Assessment

Ms. Arminée Kazanjian, BA, MA, PhD

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Training & Support of Reviewers

- The BC Office of Health Technology Assessment (BCOHTA) offers continuing instruction, collaboration and leadership in the field of systematic review methodology, and in the purpose and role of the Cochrane Collaboration to many groups such as the Workers' Compensation Board of BC and the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC).
- Guidance for identifying relevant studies was offered to researchers working with the Centre for Community Health and Health Evaluation Research (CCHHER). The CCHHER is conducting a Cochrane systematic review on the effect of tobacco advertising on children and youth.
- The Palliative Care group from the BC Cancer Agency received two informational sessions on the Cochrane Collaboration and on systematic review methodology. They were also provided with contacts in their field through a search in The Cochrane Library.
- An introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration was given by Dr. Arminée Kazanjian for the Cochrane Child Health Field held by the Children's & Women's Health Centre. This presentation was part of a three-day workshop, entitled "How to Practice Evidence-Based Child & Women's Health".
- BCOHTA funded a collaborative project with the BC Centre for Epidemiologic & International Ophthalmology (EIO) on gender and blindness. BCOHTA provided support in the area of systematic review methodology.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Searches of The Cochrane Library are a standard element of BCOHTA search protocols. Information from The Cochrane Library is included in reviews wherever possible.
- Individual demonstrations are provided to post-doctoral, nursing and medical students, and to affiliated health care workers in BC.
- BCOHTA librarians liaise on a regular basis with other medical librarians across the province, and provide assistance and information as required about the CC and about systematic reviews.
- The Centre for Health Services & Policy Research hosted a conference in November 1999, which featured speakers from the BCOHTA, focusing on how research evidence is currently being used by different interest groups and contrasting between systematic appraisal of the literature and other types of evidence.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- New and updated items from The Cochrane Library are extracted and organized into specific categories. These Cochrane Updates are distributed to interested individuals at the University of British Columbia through an e-mail listserv to approximately 50 people. They are also available on the BCOHTA web site <http://www.chspr.ubc.ca/bcohta/>. The Cochrane Update is also distributed through the Medical Library Service (College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC) newsletter, Cytes & Bytes, that has a wide readership across the province of British Columbia.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- The BCOHTA systematic review bibliography is continuously updated to include systematic review methodology. The bibliography is distributed to new researchers and visitors who have an interest in systematic reviews, and is available in full text on the BCOHTA web site. <http://www.chspr.ubc.ca>

Other Achievements

- Carolyn Green attended the CCN/C Annual General Meeting and the Education & Training Strategic Planning Meeting on behalf of Dr. Kazanjian. Dr. Isabelle Savoie made two presentations at the Canadian Cochrane Symposium and one presentation at the VII Cochrane Colloquium in Rome.

Presentations

- Green CJ, Kazanjian A. A systematic review of acupuncture in the management of alcohol and drug dependence. Presentation ISTAHC 16th Annual Meeting, The Hague, June 18-21 2000 BCOHTA 00:16C
- Morettin D, Green CJ. Health technologies: Are they helping women? Canadian Women’s Health Network. Spring 2000. 3;1/2:10-11. BCOHTA 00:8R
- Savoie I, Helmer D, Green CJ, Kazanjian A. Improving the efficiency of the fugitive search: Effectiveness of various methods. Presentation ISTAHC 16th Annual Meeting, The Hague, June 18-21 2000. BCOHTA 00:12C
- Savoie I, Kazanjian A. “Is the horse out of the barn?” Systematic review of newborn hearing screening guidelines and provincial policy. Presentation ISTAHC 16th Annual Meeting, The Hague, June 18-21 2000. BCOHTA 00:13C



University of Alberta

Dr. L. Duncan Saunders, MBBCh, PhD, and Dr. Joanne Homik, MD

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Dr. Rick Spooner, Department of Family Medicine, Airways Group

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Financial assistance from the Site Group for completing ongoing Cochrane projects.
 - Nedocromil or cromoglycate compared to bronchodilator agents for preventing exercise-induced bronchoconstriction, C. Spooner.
 - Nebulized MgSO4 treatment for acute asthma, C. Spooner.
 - Inhaled beta-agonist and anticholinergic agents for emergency management of asthma in adults, C. Spooner.
 - Calcium and vitamin D for corticosteroid induced Osteoporosis, J. Homik .
 - Antimalarials for treatment of Lupus Erythematosus, J. Homik.
 - Conservative treatment of urge incontinence, K. Moore.
 - Acyclovir in the treatment of immunocompetent children, T. Klassen.
 - Non-lactose milk with gastroenteritis, B. Lee.
 - Best “quick” filters for MEDLINE searches, J. Buckingham.

- Kirk Magee, \$5000.00 Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians. Low molecular weight heparin versus unfractionated heparin for acute coronary syndromes.

Handsearching

- Erica Ewen, Airways Group, European Respiratory Journal.

Consumer Involvement

- We are very pleased that Ms. Wendy Armstrong, Consumers' Association of Canada has joined our Site Committee.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration Presentations

- The Cochrane Collaboration at the annual University of Alberta Family Medicine Spring Seeding session, June 2, 2000, Elaine Belseck.
- Integrating evidence-based resources in clinical practice as a continuing medical education session targeted to family physicians, Marlene Dorgan.

Other

- Sarah Hayward has been involved in a number of workshops for Regional Health Authority staff on Evidence-based Practice, which include introductions to systematic reviews, critical appraisal and of course the Cochrane Collaboration. She has also given seminars in the graduate public health nursing program on EBP.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- Notified site members of the availability on the web site.
- Distributed 10 copies of the program from the 1999 symposium.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- All new abstracts of reviews from Issue 2 and 3 to 32 individuals resulting in 3 phone calls requiring assistance in accessing the library and one thank you letter.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Postponed to 2001; to be offered just prior to 2001 Canadian Cochrane Symposium.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- We surveyed various departments within the Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Rehabilitation and the Faculty of Nursing regarding the use of, and instruction about, The Cochrane Library.
- Systematic reviews are introduced to undergraduate students in the Nursing, Rehabilitation and Medical Faculties and to all graduate students in the Department of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine.
- Several Master's students in epidemiology have undertaken systematic reviews as part of their theses.
- The John Scott Health Sciences Library staff includes The Cochrane Library in sessions on computerized databases and encourages and supports the use of The Cochrane Library. All students and faculty have access to The Cochrane Library through the Internet.
- In the Public Health Sciences Master's program two courses discuss The Cochrane Library in some depth:
 - In PHS #709 (Technology Assessment in Health Care), one 3-hour session is devoted to information sources & a large part of this session is spent on The Cochrane Collaboration & The Cochrane Library.

- In PHS 673, one 3-hour session is devoted to systematic reviews (including The Cochrane Library). In addition, another 3-hour session is devoted to searching computerized databases including The Cochrane Library.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- The Site Committee is now firmly established. It is very active and enthusiastic and is actively recruiting new members. The 10 core members (from a variety of backgrounds) meet regularly every second month. The Site Committee continues to approach AHFMR for financial support for synthesis activities. Our application to co-host the Canadian Cochrane Symposium 2001 was successful. We are excited about this and are planning a stimulating program around the theme "Marketing the Evidence".

Other Achievements

- Ms. Elaine Belseck was hired as the part-time Site Coordinator this year. She has made an outstanding, wonderful contribution to the Site. Duncan Saunders has stepped down as the Site Representative.
- Dr. Joanne Homik is the new Site Representative for the University of Alberta.



University of Manitoba

Dr. Michael Moffatt, MD, FRCPC

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- 9 potential.

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Graduate course in Clinical Trials given by Drs. Moffatt and Taback – 6 students.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Posted. Many interested parties signed up for CCInfo and Cochrane News.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Twice to 14 clinical heads in Medicine. Feedback has been positive. Will distribute the ones from vol 4 to Medical Rehabilitation and Nursing as well.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Medical Rehabilitation has a session on systematic reviews and The Cochrane Library in their undergraduate curricula.
- Librarians with the Centres for Health Evidence (CHE) taught The Cochrane Library to pediatric residents, nurses and faculty during academic half-days, journal clubs and monthly training sessions. Promoted as the best evidence-based resource to answer therapy questions.

- The Neil John Maclean Library continues to offer Cochrane training workshops to undergraduate, graduates and faculty.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- We have achieved the goal of having a functioning site group before the end of the year.

Other Achievements

- On October 1, 2000, Ellen Crumley was hired to promote The Cochrane Library around the University of Manitoba. Ellen is a librarian who has been working on an evidence-based informatics project on a full-time basis. We have sent letters to all relevant Department Chairs and have offered to provide presentations. One presentation has been completed at Pediatric Grand Rounds and was well received. Ellen also organizes the local and international workshops as well as helping organize the Site Group.
- The six students who took the graduate course prepared two Cochrane-style reviews. In both cases they tried to register the protocols. In one case, the ARI Group felt that the question was too narrow (Azithromycin for streptococcal pharyngitis). They wanted a review on all antibiotic treatments for strept pharyngitis. They have given that title to another group and our data will be incorporated into a review, for which we will be given credit. In the case of the second review (Treatment of Gastro-oesophageal reflux in developmentally normal infants), the review needs to be broadened, and we are looking for collaborators before entering it into The Cochrane Library. We had some difficulty getting the GI Review Group to recognize the graduate course as appropriate training. This may need to be formalized. A journal article has been submitted and is under peer review.
- We have had a major informatics project going in the Children’s Hospital and the Department of Pediatrics. We are developing the Pediatric content for the Centres for Health Evidence (CHE), which has offices at both the University of Alberta and University of Manitoba. We have placed computers with Internet access on every ward, conference room and call room. We have given all our residents and fellows access to many resources including The Cochrane Library from these sites and they can download the software that holds The Cochrane Library at home too. Most Faculty now have it and we are rolling it out to nurses. The Cochrane Library has featured prominently in our teaching to residents regarding access to evidence. They have become adept at using it.



University of Western Ontario

Dr. John McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- We have identified a number of potential reviewers after we held two workshops at the University of Western Ontario (UWO). One new reviewer is a 2nd year fellow in Pediatric Gastroenterology at the Hospital for Sick Children.

Handsearching

- Gastroenterology

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- The UWO site held two workshops (March 14, 2000 & April 26, 2000) entitled “Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration and Its Role in Evidence-Based Patient Care.” Approximately 40 people attended each workshop. The workshops received a very positive evaluation from the participants.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- We have approached the Faculty of Health Sciences at UWO regarding the possibility of incorporating the Cochrane Collaboration within the curricula of the Faculty of Health Sciences. The Faculty of Health Sciences provides a rich opportunity for promotion of the Cochrane Collaboration since this faculty encompasses five schools – Communication Sciences and Disorders, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Nursing, and Kinesiology. We have received a positive response from the Faculty of Health Sciences and we are currently organizing presentations within this faculty to promote the Cochrane Collaboration. We are continuing with annual presentations to medical students in the first year at UWO.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- We held our first Site Group meeting on June 21, 2000, - approximately 20 people attended. We are planning to hold our next meeting Fall 2000. The Site Group has representatives from various disciplines including: nutrition, clinical epidemiology, pharmacy, nursing, communication disorders, medicine, and occupational therapy.



McMaster University

Dr. Koon K. Teo, MB, PhD, FRCPC

First off, we wish to acknowledge the fine groundwork laid by our predecessors, Dr. Alba DiCenso and Ginny Brunton. Much of our initial work was based on the manual they devised, which provided contact names, sample letters, workshop materials, and information about relationships established. Our thanks go out to them.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

After we confirmed details for the contacts listed in the manual, we sent letters to those that were based on the example provided by Phil Hahn, but edited for our specific purposes, offering information sessions and demonstrations of The Cochrane Library. We sent letters to:

- Ms Sue Baptiste, Chair BHSc (OT) Programme
- Dr. M.W.C. Hatton Associate Dean, Graduate Studies (Health Sciences)
- Dr. K. Kaufman, Chair, Midwifery Education Programme
- Dr. M. McQueen, Director, Laboratory Medicine Programme
- Ms Joanne Mousseau, Nurse Practitioner Regional Coordinator, School of Nursing
- Dr. A. Neville, Chair, Undergraduate MD Programme
- Dr. P. Solomon, Chair, BHSc(PT) Programme
- Dr. C. Tompkins, Chair, BScN Programme
- Dr. J. Turnbull, Assistant Dean, Continuing Medical Education
- Dr. K. Verma, Director Occupational and Environmental Health Laboratory
- Of those sent letters, we received responses from Drs. Kaufman and Neville.

Presentations

- Trish Colton demonstrated The Cochrane Library to the Practice Based Small Group Learning Group (six individuals).
- Trish also gave a demonstration of The Cochrane Library to a class of 12 incoming Midwifery students.
- In late September, Dr. Teo attended the Annual Conference of the Japanese Society of Clinical Pharmacology, where he presented an introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration to an audience of clinicians and scientists.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

- This year the Dean of the Undergraduate M.D. program invited us to give a demonstration of The Cochrane Library at their October curriculum committee meeting. There, committee members asked questions about the utility of The Cochrane Library to new medical students. We distributed information packages and offered training resources.

Strengthening the Network

- We have begun the creation of a Site Group by meeting with representatives from nursing, internal medicine, pharmacology, rehabilitation, and endocrinology. With the skills and interests of these group members we hope to expand our activities in the next year.

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## **University of Toronto**

Dr. Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP

### **Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.**

#### ***Recruitment of Reviewers***

- Fourteen new reviewers were recruited through the MSc Course in “Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis (Cochrane Reviews) HAD5309S” in the Department of Health Administration at the University of Toronto (UofT).
- Two additional reviewers performed systematic reviews as Research Internships in the Clinical Epidemiology Program, Department of Health Administration at UofT.
- Three Fellows in the Shared Program in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Program at UofT were recruited as reviewers.
- Total reviewers recruited = 19.

#### ***Training and Support of Reviewers***

- The course HAD5309S [“Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis (Cochrane Reviews)"] was introduced as a reading course in 1999 and is now a fully accredited course in the Clinical Epidemiology Program (Health Administration) at UofT. It is given as 12 to 13 weekly sessions from April to July each year.
- The course “Introduction to Perinatal Clinical Epidemiology” for Fellows in the Neonatal/Perinatal and the Maternal/Fetal Medicine Program at UofT includes a 2 hours session devoted to randomized controlled trials and a 2 hours session on systematic reviews/Cochrane reviews. This course (9 weekly 2 hour sessions) alternates on a yearly basis with a course on statistics, which includes methods used in meta-analysis.



### **Handsearching**

- Outside of the Back Review Group there is currently no systematic handsearching of the literature undertaken in Toronto.

### **Consumer Involvement**

- A consumer representative was recruited for the Toronto Cochrane Site Group at its initiation and she has attended two meetings. One additional consumer has recently been recruited for the Site Group.

## **Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.**

### **Communications Support to the Collaboration**

- Dr. Ohlsson is advisor to the editors of Cochrane News.
- As chair of the Fetus and Newborn Committee of the Canadian Paediatric Society, Dr. Ohlsson is working on integrating Cochrane Reviews in the production of Clinical Practice Guidelines. A joint statement "Prevention and management of pain and stress in the neonate" of the Fetus and Newborn Committee, Canadian Paediatric Society, and Committee on Fetus and Newborn, Committee on Drugs, Section on Anesthesiology and Section on Surgery, American Academy of Pediatrics includes reference to two Cochrane reviews and two other systematic reviews.

### **Use of Documents in Both Official Languages**

- The annual report has been distributed at local, national and international workshops/presentations/courses. It was also distributed to a large number of participants at the "Meet the Entities Event" at the 8<sup>th</sup> Cochrane Colloquium in Cape Town, SA, October 2000.

### **Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts**

- The abstracts identified by the Calgary Site Group were distributed to the UofT Site Group in the Spring of 2000.
- Work is in progress to publish Neonatal Review Group abstracts in the Swedish Medical Journal (Chief editor Josef Milerad in collaboration with Martin Hofringa of the Dutch Cochrane Centre).

## **Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.**

### **Workshops**

- Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration and Its Role in Evidence-Based Patient Care. Canadian Cochrane Network, UWO Site Seminar. March 14, 2000, London Health Sciences Centre. Organizers Wayne Tucker, John McDonald.
  - Ohlsson A. The Canadian Cochrane Network, Centre and Review Groups.
  - Ohlsson A. Current problems and opportunities within the Cochrane Collaboration and General Discussion.
- Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration and Its Role in Evidence-Based Patient Care. Canadian Cochrane Network, UWO Site Seminar. April 26, 2000, London Health Sciences Centre. Organizers Wayne Tucker, John McDonald.
  - Ohlsson A. The Canadian Cochrane Network, Centre and Review Groups.
  - Ohlsson A. Demonstration of The Cochrane Library as a resource for the seminar participants.
  - Ohlsson A. Current opportunities within the Cochrane Collaboration and general discussion.

### **Chair at International Meetings (promoting the Cochrane Agenda):**

- 19<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Neonatal Intensive Care. Auditorium of the Province of Milan, Via Corridoni, 16, Milan, Italy, October 13-15, 2000.
  - Ohlsson A. Chair of Session on Neurological Outcome.
- Cochrane Colloquium, Cape Town, South Africa, October 25-29, 2000.
  - Ohlsson A. Chair of Stream 1 Session, October 28.

### **Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula**

- Dr. Vibhuti Shah was recruited in July, 2000 as a research assistant to address the integration of The Cochrane Library in the curricula at Health Sciences Faculties at UofT. The work is progressing well.
- Dr. Arne Ohlsson gives a talk on “Evidence-based Neonatal Care. Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration and The Cochrane Library” on a regular basis in the Paediatric Residency Programme at University of Toronto.

### **Strengthening the Network**

#### **Site Groups**

- A University of Toronto Site Group was established in 2000 with the first meeting taking place on May 26<sup>th</sup>. A second meeting was held in September of 2000. The group consists of the Director (neonatologist), the Co-Director (adult education) of the CCN/C, two consumer representatives, a librarian, two CRG editors (Back, Pregnancy and Childbirth), a CRG co-ordinator (Back), two policy-makers (Ministry of Health, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario), a physiotherapist, a pharmacist, a nursing researcher, a paediatrician, a family physician, and a statistician. A workshop for policy-makers is planned for the spring of 2001.

### **Other Achievements**

#### **Presentations at National and International Conferences:**

- Ohlsson A. Knowledge management in health care. Putten, Holland, April 10, 2000. “Toepassen van Evidence-Based Medicine in de Neonatologische en Pediatrische Intensive Care, Putten, Holland, April 10-12, 2000. (Workshop on evidence-based neonatal and paediatric intensive care, Putten, Holland, April 10-12, 2000).
- Ohlsson A. The Cochrane Library. Mooi Veluwe, Putten, Holland, April 11, 2000. “Toepassen van Evidence-Based Medicine in de Neonatologische en Pediatrische Intensive Care, Mooi Veluwe, Putten, Holland, April 10-12, 2000. (2<sup>nd</sup> National Workshop on how to practice evidence-based neonatology and pediatric intensive care, Putten, Holland, April 10-12, 2000).
- Ohlsson A. Generating new evidence. Putten, Holland, April 11, 2000. “Toepassen van Evidence-Based Medicine in de Neonatologische en Pediatrische Intensive Care, Mooi Veluwe, Putten, Holland, April 10-12, 2000. (2<sup>nd</sup> National Workshop on how to practice evidence-based neonatology and pediatric intensive care, Putten, Holland, April 10-12, 2000).
- Ohlsson A. The Cochrane Collaboration and Evidence-based Perinatal and Neonatal Care. Grand Rounds Emma Kinderziekenhuis, Academische Medical Center. Universiteit von Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Holland, April 13, 2000.
- Ohlsson A. Evidence-based medicine: The Cochrane Library in Neonatology. 3<sup>rd</sup> World Congress on Pediatric Intensive Care, June 25-29, 2000, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- Ohlsson A. Preterm birth and perinatal brain damage. Perinatal Brain Damage. Fetal Medicine Workshop. XVI FIGO World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics. September 3-8, 2000. Washington D.C. Abstract FM4.04.01
- Ohlsson A. The small for gestational age fetus/the intrauterine growth restricted fetus – short and long term risks. Presented at “When pregnancy becomes Complicated”. The Hospital for Sick Children, September 28, 2000.
- Ohlsson A. Consequences neonatales de l’inhalation meconiale. (Short and long term outcomes following inhalation of meconium in the neonate). Universite Libre de Bruxelles. Actualites en Perinatologie 2000-2001. H.U.D.E.R.F. – C.H.U. Brugmann. Auditoire P.P. Lambert – Campus Brugmann. Place Van Gehuchten, 4 –1020 Bruxelles. October 11, 2000.
- Ohlsson A. Newborn individualized care and assessment program (NIDCAP): a systematic review and meta-analysis. 19<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Neonatal Intensive Care. Auditorium of the Province of Milan, Via Corridoni, 16, Milan, Italy, October 13-15, 2000.
- Ohlsson A. Evaluation and outcomes of preterm infants. Basic/Clinical Practice Thematic. Preterm Birth: Causes, Outcomes and Prevention. 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Perinatal Investigators Meeting at Kingston Donald Gordon Centre, Kingston, Ontario, November 9-11, 2000.
- Ohlsson A. Assessments and outcomes of preterm infants. Tri-hospital Perinatal Rounds, University of Toronto, Mount Sinai Hospital, November 22, 2000.

### ***Presentations to Professional Societies and Other Organizations***

- Ohlsson A. Knowledge management and the Cochrane Collaboration. Presentation to the Advisory Committee on Health Services. Aylmer, Quebec, May, 2000.
- Ohlsson A. The Cochrane Collaboration, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre, The Cochrane Library. Presentation to the Canadian Medical Association, Ottawa, May 2000.
- Ohlsson A. The Cochrane Collaboration, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre, The Cochrane Library. Presentation to the College of Family Physicians of Canada, Mississauga, Ontario, September 12, 2000.
- Ohlsson A. The Cochrane Collaboration, the Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre, The Cochrane Library. Presentation to Health Canada Staff, Banting Hall, Banting Building, Ottawa, December 14, 2000.

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Queen's University

Dr. Tanveer Towheed, BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FACR, DABIM

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Handsearching

- For RCTs evaluating the efficacy of glucosamine therapy for osteoarthritis (Tanveer Towheed).

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

- Evidence-Based Medicine Reviews (EBMR) Collection installed in the spring 1999 on the Queen's University Ovid Network. Includes: Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR), ACP Journal Club and Evidence-based Medicine. Students, faculty and staff can search these databases from any computer on campus or from home.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Distribution of CCN/C Annual Report to 20 obstetricians/gynaecologists. Part of Workshop entitled "Medical Informatics and the Internet." AGM of the Society of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC), Montreal, P.Q. (Phil Hahn, June 17).

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Cochrane Library Abstracts (Issue 2, 2000) to Division Heads (Tanveer Towheed, November).

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Distribution of draft letter to CCN/C Site Representatives re: Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula (Phil Hahn, Education & Training Strategic Planning Team, May and August).
- Letters sent to Associate Deans, Undergraduate Studies in Medicine, Nursing and Rehab Therapy, Queen's University (Tanveer Towheed, November).

Faculty of Health Sciences Curriculum

- Presentation (60 minutes) entitled 'Evidence-based Medicine' incorporating systematic reviews to Phase IIA undergraduate medical students (Duncan Hunter, Dept. Community Health & Epidemiology).

- Small group critical appraisal session entitled 'Systematic Reviews & Overviews' to Phase IIB undergraduate medical students (Tanveer Towheed, Duncan Hunter, Kristan Aronson, Dept. Community Health & Epidemiology).
- Demonstration and small group hands-on sessions of The Cochrane Library to 45 Phase III medical students (Health Sciences Librarians).
- Demonstration of The Cochrane Library to 20 Medical Residents (Margaret Darling, Manager, Kingston General Hospital Library).
- Presentation on systematic reviews in Advanced Epidemiology course to graduate students (Kristan Aronson, Dept. Community Health & Epidemiology).
- Computer demonstration of Cochrane Database of Systemic Reviews, OVID EBM Reviews version (45 minutes) to 34 residents. Part of Introduction to Research Methodology & Critical Appraisal Course, Queen's University Postgraduate Medical Education (Phil Hahn, May 31).
- Graduate Teaching Session for Residents in OBGYN. Access and use of The Cochrane Library at Queen's: CD-ROM, OVID and KFinder versions. (Phil Hahn, December 12).

Continuing Medical Education (CME)

- Online Demonstration: The Cochrane Library, Knowledge Finder Edition (45 minutes) to 20 obstetricians/gynaecologists. Part of Workshop entitled "Medical Informatics and the Internet." AGM of the Society of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC), Montreal, P.Q. (Phil Hahn, June 17).
- Presentation: Rheumatology: Advances in Therapy. Osteoarthritis Management: Visco-supplementation and glucosamine. Highlighting Cochrane reviews on the management of osteoarthritis. Target audience: Family Practitioners. Donald Gordon Centre, Queen's University. (Tanveer Towheed, November 8).
- Online Demonstration (45 minutes): The Knowledge Finder Cochrane Library via OBGYN.net.
 - Forum: SOGC Ontario CME Program. Location: Ryerson Polytechnic University, Toronto, Ontario. Participants: 20 Obstetricians/Gynaecologists (Phil Hahn, December 1, 2000).
- Online Demonstration (45 minutes): The Cochrane Library CD-ROM and Knowledge Finder Cochrane Library via OBGYN.net.
 - Forum: Introduction to Research Course for Canadian Residents in OBGYN under the auspices of the Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
 - Location: The Joseph L. Rotman Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
 - Participants: 32 OBGYN Residents from across Canada (Phil Hahn, December 3).

Other Achievements

- Phil Hahn is the Team Leader of the CCN/C Education & Training Strategic Planning Team.
- Tanveer Towheed is a member of the newly formed CCN/C Communications and Marketing Strategic Planning Team.
- Tanveer Towheed and Phil Hahn attended the Reviewer Training Workshop, Introductory Course on Statistical Methods in Meta-Analysis, (November 17) and the CCN/C Annual General Meeting (November 18), Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Ontario.



University of Ottawa

Dr. Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC, and Mr. George Wells, MSc, PhD,

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Twelve new reviewers in Ottawa have been recruited to The Cochrane Collaboration, Erica Eason, Ray Viola, Stephanie Langford, Keith O'Rourke, Craig Earle, Nancy Edwards, Ian Graham, Jennifer Clinch, Ron Sigal, Dean Fergusson, Tom Psarras and Jeff Perry.

Handsearching

- The Ottawa site has contacted the New England Cochrane Centre to identify a journal for handsearching. The Ottawa site coordinator will perform this task.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Vivian Welch distributed information kits at the Early Assessment of Health Technologies conference in October 2000 held by the Canadian Coordinating Office of Health Technology Assessment.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- The Annual report was distributed locally at the University of Ottawa.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- The Ottawa Site distributed the new Cochrane abstracts from "the Calgary Project" twice to all relevant departments. Some of these were hand-distributed to nursing stations, where they were well received. Four of the people from Ottawa responded to the fax survey and all considered the abstracts useful.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- George Wells and Beverley Shea taught a course on meta-analysis from January to April 2000 at the University of Ottawa.
- Beverley Shea conducted one day, hands-on, one-on-one RevMan training with six reviewers from different review groups (J. Perry, K. Johns, T. Towheed, S. McConnell, J. Campbell, R. Sigal).

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Lucie Brosseau suggests Cochrane reviews as projects for fourth year students in physiotherapy at the University of Ottawa.
- Jessie McGowan has made The Cochrane Library available to University of Ottawa students, staff and faculty through an Internet subscription on the University of Ottawa Library web site (<http://www.uottawa.ca>).

Strengthening the Network

- Jessie McGowan is strengthening the Network through improved access to The Cochrane Library by making it available on the Ottawa Hospital web site and the University of Ottawa web site to all students and staff. Results of Cochrane reviews have been presented at the Clinical Epidemiology rounds. However, the Network needs to increase the visibility of The Cochrane

Collaboration in other fields related to medicine such as psychology, sociology, occupational therapy and physiotherapy in the next year.

Site Groups

- The Ottawa Site will work on developing an Ottawa Site Group in the first 6 months of the year 2001.

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**McGill University**

Dr. Michael Kramer, MD

**Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.**

**Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Drs. Hema Patel and Robert Platt have been recruited to the cadre of McGill Site reviewers. They are currently at work on a systematic review of both inpatient and outpatient treatment for bronchitis in children.

**Substantive Updates of Previous Existing Systematic Reviews**

- Michael Kramer substantively updated two of his Cochrane Reviews, one on balanced energy-protein supplementation during pregnancy, and the other on aerobic exercise during pregnancy.
- Francine Ducharme substantively updated two of her Cochrane Reviews, one on corticosteroids to prevent relapse after an acute asthma exacerbation, and the other on combined anticholinergic agents and  $\beta$ -agonists for initial treatment of acute asthma in children.

**New Cochrane Reviews**

- Anita Gagnon converted her protocol on antenatal education for childbirth/education to a full Cochrane review.
- Michael Kramer and Ritz Kakuma began work on a systematic review of the optimal duration of exclusive breastfeeding, which was requested by the Nutrition Unit of the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Training and Support of Reviewers**

- Michael Kramer provided individual training on the use of the RevMan software to Drs. Platt and Patel to facilitate their systematic review of treatments for bronchitis in children.

**Handsearching**

- Colin Chalk of the Department of Neurology continued to handsearch the Journal of Neurological Sciences, Volumes 95-120 (1990-1993) inclusively.

**Research Grants**

- The Role of Anti-Leukotrienes in the Management of Asthma: A Systematic Review. (Dr. Francine Ducharme, co-PI; PI: David Moher, Thomas C. Chalmers Centre). Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment, 1999-2000, \$39,343.

**Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.**

**Communications Support to the Collaboration**

- Ritz Kakuma provided presentations on systematic reviews, meta-analysis, the Cochrane Collaboration, and the use of The Cochrane Library:
  - February 2000 to McGill-wide ICU residents and fellows,

- March 2000 to Internal Medicine residents, Royal Victoria Hospital,
- May 2000 presentation to psychiatric epidemiology students, Allan Memorial Institute,
- June 2000 to Pediatrics residents, Montreal Children's Hospital,
- August 2000 to Obstetric and Gynecology residents, Royal Victoria Hospital.
- Ilana Greenstone (Pediatrics resident) and Francine Ducharme:
  - Safety and Effectiveness of Adding Long-Acting  $\beta$ 2-Agonists to Inhaled Corticosteroids in the Management of Chronic Childhood and Adult Asthma. American Thoracic Society, Toronto, Ontario, May 2000.
- Francine Ducharme:
  - Anti-Leukotrienes: Add-on or Replacement of Inhaled Corticosteroids? Symposium de l'Axe Asthme, Réseau en Santé Respiratoire du FRSQ, Mont St-Anne, Québec, March 2000,
  - Emergency Treatment of Acute Pediatric Asthma. Pediatric Emergency Medicine Retreat, Chateau Montebello, April 2000.
- Roland Grad:
  - Evidence-Based Medical Care seminar series for residents, Department of Family Medicine, October-December 1999, March-May 2000, and October-November 2000.
  - Finding Answers to Your Clinical Questions, Department of Family Medicine, St. Mary's Hospital, October 2000.
  - Finding Answers to Your Clinical Questions, Introduction to Evidence-Based Medicine course for second year medical students, April 2000.

***Access to The Cochrane Library***

- Purchase of multi-site subscription to The Cochrane Library for the McGill University Health Sciences Library.

***Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts***

- New Cochrane abstracts relevant to pediatrics, ICU-critical care, internal medicine, psychiatry, and obstetrics and gynecology were distributed to the resident and fellow groups at the time of the presentations (mentioned above) by Ritz Kakuma.

**Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.**

***Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula***

- Michael Kramer and Ritz Kakuma: all-day teaching sessions on systematic reviews, meta-analysis, and hands-on use of The Cochrane Library, required course in evidence-based medicine for second-year medical students, McGill University Faculty of Medicine, February and April 2000.
- Roland Grad: session on finding answers to clinical questions, required course in evidence-based medicine for second-year medical students, McGill University Faculty of Medicine, April 2000.

***Cochrane Editorial Activities***

- Francine Ducharme, pediatric co-editor, Cochrane Airways Review Group.

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Université de Montréal

Dr. Jacques Lacroix, MD

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Training and Support of Reviewers

- The committee on the Cochrane Collaboration of the Faculté de Médecine de l'Université de Montréal now includes the following list of members: Dr. James Brophy (Hôtel-Dieu de Montréal), Dr. Anne-Claude Bernard-Bonnin (Sainte-Justine Hospital), Dr. France Gauvin (Sainte-Justine Hospital), Dr. Marie-Claude Guertin (Ph.D. in biostatistics, Saint-Luc Hospital), Mme Marie Hatem-Asmar (Nursing, Université de Montréal), Mr. Louis-Luc Lecompte (librarian, Hôpital Sainte-Justine), Dr. François Madore (Sacré-Cœur Hospital), Mr. Sylvain Morneau (respiratory therapist, Hôpital Sainte-Justine), Mme Sylvie Vandal (nurse, Research Center, Hôpital Sainte-Justine).
- Dr. Anne-Claude Bernard-Bonnin became a reviewer for the Airways Group.
- Dr. Jacques Lacroix became a reviewer for the Infectious Diseases Group.
- Mme Chantal Roy, who was hired by the Randomized Clinical Trial Unit of the Jewish General Hospital, will also support the Cochrane activities at the Université de Montréal. She has good experience doing this, since she had worked with Dr. Fraser at the Université Laval for many years. Mme Roy has a master's degree (M.Sc.) in Clinical Epidemiology.
- Students: Véronique Poirier, Romain Mandel, Daniel NG-Kwor-Keung and Krishnan Parameswaran.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Access to The Cochrane Library

- The Cochrane Library is now available at the following sites:
 - Central library of the Faculté de Médecine de l'Université de Montréal;
 - Library of Sainte-Justine Hospital: The Cochrane Library can be read from all computers in the hospital, including the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, the Emergency Room, the residents' room.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- We supported the presentation of a Symposia entitled "EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE: THE COCHRANE LIBRARY IN NEONATOLOGY" presented by Dr. Arne Ohlsson at the 3rd World Congress on Pediatric Intensive Care that was held at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal, June 29, 2000. The attendance at the congress included 2792 registrants from 81 countries. This lecture allowed us to sensitize at least 200 registrants to The Cochrane Library. A wrap-up of the symposium given by Dr. Ohlsson was repeated at the end of the day, with an attendance of 500 registrants.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Last year, knowledge about the Cochrane Collaboration and The Cochrane Library became an integral part of the curricula of all students registered to get a Masters Degree in Clinical Epidemiology at the Université de Montréal. This year, it was implemented that the same will hold true for all residents in the Program of Pediatrics and the Program of Pediatric Intensive Care of the Faculté de Médecine de l'Université de Montréal. All residents in the two programs benefit from the following activities:
 - A course on what is a systematic review (2 hours; J. Lacroix);
 - A workshop on the content of The Cochrane Library (1 hour);
 - Journal clubs (at least one review will be read each year).

- A workshop on RevMan 4.04 was given to 6 students with the help of Francine Ducharme from McGill University; it was held at Sainte-Justine Hospital, on October 21, 2000.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Presentation by J. Lacroix and L.L. Lecompte during a Grand Rounds of the Department of Pediatrics, of a lecture on The Cochrane Library and the Cochrane Collaboration, March 8, 2000. Attendance: about 100 physicians and students in medicine.
- A workshop on The Cochrane Library was held on May 11, 2000 - 10 physicians attended.
- Dr. Anne-Claude Bernard-Bonnin and Dr. Jacques Lacroix get trained (reviewer training program).

Publications in Progress

- Dr. Romain Mandel (Paris, France) and Dr. J. Lacroix are presently preparing a systematic review on the effect in critically ill patients of red blood cells with respect to survival, nosocomial infections (cross infections) and multiple organ dysfunction syndrome.
- Dr. Véronique Poirier (Clermont-Ferrand, France) and Dr. J. Lacroix are presently doing a meta-analysis on the treatment of shock with naloxone.
- Drs. Anne-Claude Bernard-Bonnin, Élizabéth Rousseau, Daniel NG-Kwor-Keung and Krishnan Parameswaran are preparing a review for the Airways Group, which is entitled: PDE4 inhibitors for treatment of asthma in adults and children (Editor: Francine Ducharme).

Other Achievements

- Dr. Jacques Lacroix participated to the activity of the Funding Committee. He also attended the CCN/C Annual General Meeting.

Funding

- Most funding came from CCN/C.
- \$1000 was given by Sainte-Justine Hospital.



Université de Sherbrooke

Dr. Jean-Pierre Tétrault, BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

- Interviewed (as well as other Québec reps) by L'Actualité magazine. Dr. Tétrault was contacted by 4 fellow citizens who inquired on various subjects and asked if information on their health problems could be found in The Cochrane Library.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- A formal introduction to meta-analysis was on the 8th December 2000. The target audience was first year residents of the following programs: surgery, anaesthesiology, and pediatrics.

- An online workshop was held the next morning, with the same attendance, where The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews were visited via the Ovid database. The reviews are also available on the PC stations of the University hospital wards.
- This should be extended to all residency programs in 2001 and 2002. It will be part of evidence-based activities, with sessions on EBM and reviews, under the tutelage of the vice-dean for residency programs.
- The people in charge of the activity will be the following members of our Cochrane Site Group:
 - Gina Bravo, PhD
 - Frederic Leblanc, MSc Student
 - Tehophile Niyonsenga, PhD
 - Claire Mueller, MD MSc
 - Jean-Pierre Tetrault, MSc, BA, MD, FRCPC
 - Dominique Dorion, MSc FRCPC
 - Danielle Pilon, MSc FRCPC
 - Sophie Michaud, FRCPC
 - Donald Echenberg, FRCPC
 - Sophie Laflamme, FRCPC
- All these people are familiar with the design and/or analysis of reviews, or are experienced users of The Cochrane Library.
- The first meeting of the group was held on May 28th, and the second meeting of all these usually busy people was held on the 23rd November.
- Pregraduate level: Presentations will be made to the vice-dean, pregraduate studies.

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## Université Laval

Dr. France Légaré, MD, MSc, CCMF, FCMF

### **Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.**

#### ***Recruitment of Reviewers***

- There are already 3 active reviewers at Université Laval and 2 more have started working on new protocols.

#### ***Training and Support of Reviewers***

- The potential reviewers had individual training. Two of them were supported by our Cochrane budget for the time allowed.

#### ***Handsearching***

- The searching done was only for the protocols in preparation.

### **Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.**

#### ***Communications Support to the Collaboration***

- October 14, 1999: One day workshop by Dr. Michel Cauchon with The Cochrane Library for physicians with teaching implication in family practice out of the Quebec immediate area. Attendance of 28 physicians.
- October 29, 1999: Three-hour workshop by Dr. Michel Cauchon with The Cochrane Library for 8 Laval University professors at the Faculty of Medicine. Attendance of 8 professors.

- December 4, 1999: Two three-hour workshops by Dr. Michel Cauchon with The Cochrane Library for the professorial personnel in Family Practice in the Quebec area. Attendance of 10 for each workshop.
- Personal training of gynecologists or residents on the utilisation of The Cochrane Library by different resource persons.
- Conferences of Dr. France Légaré and Dr. William Fraser at a course called “Introduction à la Recherche” given at Université Laval on May 9 and 10, 2000, for residents in any speciality, organised by Dr. Sylvie Dodin, MD, MSc, assistant-professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Université Laval. Dr. Légaré’s conference was entitled “Des données déjà digérées: la Librairie Cochrane”, and Dr. Fraser’s conference was entitled: “Pourquoi faire une méta-analyse?”
- First francophone meeting on “Evidence-Based Medicine”, May 11-12, 2000, at the Hotel Loews Le Concorde in Québec, organised by the Family Medicine Department of Laval University, the Quebec College of family physicians and the Cochrane Collaboration with partnership of “L’Actualité médicale” and “L’Omnipraticien”. Dr. Légaré was member of the scientific committee of the meeting’. An information booth on The CCNC was present, with distribution of information kits and demonstration in the use of The Cochrane Library and RevMan. There were 300 inscriptions. The evaluation on the meeting was excellent and the organising committee was asked to repeat the meeting in spring 2001. The demand was accepted for 2002.
- May 26: Cochrane formation by Dr. Michel Cauchon for professors of the Family Medicine Department, 26 participants.
- May 30 : Information booth on The Cochrane Library at “La journée de la recherche de la faculté de médecine”.
- June 13, Conference of Dr. France Légaré “The Cochrane Library: une source d’information sur les données probantes dans le domaine de la santé”, at the Centre de santé publique de Québec, with an attendance of 20 persons. Its evaluation was very positive since attendees took good note that Cochrane reviews also deal with organisation of care and not only with “medical treatment” impact.

#### ***Use of Documents in Both Official Languages***

- Information kits were sent to the Fonds de la Recherche en Santé du Québec (FRSQ), the Minister of Health and the Minister of Sciences and Technologies (see below).
- All the above-mentioned presentations were in French: slides, transparencies, etc.
- The workshop in Ottawa (see below) was bilingual

### **Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.**

#### ***Workshops***

- First francophone meeting on “Evidence-Based Medicine”, May 11-12, 2000

#### ***Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula***

- Presentation by Dr. France Légaré, Dr. Roger Thomas and Lynn Dunikowski at the Family Medicine Forum 2000 at Ottawa, October 19-21 2000. The conference was entitled “The Cochrane Collaboration”.
- Poster on the CCNC presented by Dr. France Légaré and Dr. Roger Thomas at the FM Forum 2000 at Ottawa, October 19-21, 2000.

### **Strengthening the Network**

#### ***Site Groups***

- Dr. France Légaré brought to the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) section of researcher (executive committee) a motion to have the CFPC as an affiliate organisation to the CCNC. Dr. Ohlsson and Kathie Clark met with CFPC representatives in the fall of 2000. In the week of October 16<sup>th</sup>, the board of CFPC accepted to join the CCNC as an affiliate organisation.
- Last August, letters were prepared for the FRSQ, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Sciences and Technologies for help in funding for the CCNC. The three other sites of the Province of Québec were contacted. After corrections and approbation of the letters by each site

representative and the CCNC, the letters were finally sent on October 24, 2000, signed by Drs. France Légaré and William Fraser for Université Laval, Dr. Jean-Pierre Tétrault for the Université de Sherbrooke, Dr. Jacques Lacroix for the Université de Montréal, and Drs. Michael Kramer and Roland Grad for McGill University.

- Participation of Drs. William Fraser and France Légaré in interviews for "L'Actualité" (McClean's type of publication), with the participation of Dr. Jacques Lacroix, for an article on The Cochrane Library, entitled "Le 9-1-1 des toubibs", published on the June 15, 2000 issue of the Journal.

### **Other Achievements**

- Preparation of a web site both in French and English on the evaluation of evidence-based sites on the Internet. The address is: <http://www.medecine.quebec.qc.ca>.

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Dalhousie University

Dr. Robin Whyte, MB, MRCP(UK), FRCPC

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- We had one new recruit (Dr. Abbass).
- R.K. Whyte has completed and submitted his final protocol "Allogeneic erythrocyte transfusion for preventing morbidity and mortality in critically ill newborn infants".
- V. Scott Kapoor has had his protocol accepted and is now completing his review, "Interventions for preventing ophthalmia neonatorum".
- Dr. Allan Abbass will be writing a protocol for a systematic review of Brief Psychodynamic Psychotherapies.
- Dr. A. Howlett upgraded her systematic review of Inositol.

Support of Reviewers

- *V. Scott Kapoor* is a Medical Student who holds a Master's degree in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He was sent to London, England to the Institute of Child Health where he was trained in the Systematic Reviews Training Unit from the 29th of June to the 2nd of July 1999. We supported Scott on two summer studentships, one from the Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation, and one from the IWK Grace Research Fund, which funded his review writing and provided salary support of just over \$4048. We obtained further funds from the DMRF for the year 2000. Mr. Kapoor has successfully designed a sorting form for publications and has completed his selection of papers and is writing his final review.
- *Dr. Allan Abbass*, Head of the Department of Education in Psychiatry prepared and submitted an abstract for the Cochrane Colloquium that was accepted. \$1500 was offered for travel from this Site with a request for matching from his clinical department but these funds were not forthcoming. Dr. Abbass will be supported in review writing in 2000/2001.
- *Grace Paterson* is a Librarian in the Division of Medical Education and Medical Informatics in the Faculty of Medicine Dalhousie University. Ms Paterson was given funding for a student (Maria Migas) to assist her in the electronic recovering and categorizing of outcome measures from The Cochrane Library to develop a knowledge engineering methodology to allow users, particularly policy-makers, to identify the health care outcomes related to policy interventions and expenditures. This work was presented at the Canadian Cochrane Symposium in November 1999 and the Canadian Health Libraries Association Meeting in May 2000.
- *Neil Hanlon Ph.D.*, School of Health Services Administration, was the successful winner of a competition proposed and organized by Dean L. MacIntyre of the Faculty of Health Professions to

provide the best proposal for a systematic review, "Effectiveness of Integration of an electronic patient record by physicians or nurse practitioners in primary care practice settings".

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

Cochrane presentations:

- Dalhousie Department of Ophthalmology, Scott Kapoor, R.K. Whyte, G.L. LaRoche
- Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation Research day, poster presentation Scott Kapoor, R.K. Whyte, G.L. LaRoche
- The Division of Neonatology by Dr. Whyte.
- Training sessions are repeatedly offered on at least an annual basis by Library staff, and specifically by Mr. T. Ruggles.
- Several Power Point presentations have been assembled and distributed through web site.
- Announcements and brochures describing the Cochrane Colloquium at Cape Town, South Africa distributed to all heads of departments. Any accompanying letter explained what the Colloquium was and support was offered for anyone who might be prepared to write an abstract.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- The 1999 Annual Report has been distributed to all clinical heads of departments.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- New Cochrane abstracts were not distributed until Issue 4, which was distributed with Issue 3.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Dr. Whyte was not able to organize a workshop this year. The librarians, are all very keen supporters of the Cochrane Collaboration. They give regular courses in the use of The Cochrane Library to faculty and medical students. However a workshop is planned for year 2001 that is broader in scope and is addressed in next year's budget proposal.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- A problem-based paper problem addressing the use of steroids in bronchopulmonary dysplasia was written for the Year 1 curricula by Dr. A. Allen, which supplements the three previous Cochrane based problems constructed by Dr. Whyte. This problem was discussed over two tutorials in small groups by all students and tutors in the (compulsory) Epidemiology and Biostatistics undergraduate module.
- We now have four complete years, and approximately 400 students, who have used The Cochrane Library to solve a problem specifically designed to teach them these skills.
- All students and faculty have access to The Cochrane Library (see below).

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- Department heads were asked specifically to identify people who were prepared to join an interest group and to indicate their support for having The Cochrane Library available on the campus. There were 11 affirmative responses from people who wished to maintain correspondence and to have access to The Cochrane Library.

Other Achievements

Expanding Access to The Cochrane Library

- **Universal Faculty access to The Cochrane Library.** Dalhousie University has an extensive electronic library, the Dalhousie electronic library (DELI), that contains a very large number of

medical databases and electronic journal subscriptions. It is available to institutions, including the university hospitals, through a proxy server. Faculty members from home using a high-speed Internet service may access this proxy server. The provider of the service recognizes a legitimate connection from a faculty member from the address of the ethernet card. This Site has supported the instalment of The Cochrane Library on this extended database by paying half of the annual fee for three users.

- **Province-wide Medical Access to The Cochrane Library.** The Medical Society of Nova Scotia has assembled a database (The Electronic Bookshelf) that will allow access for all members of the medical society. Again, they had requested a license for three concurrent users, but because we have close to 2000 members in the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, Update Software charged US\$3000 (approx. CDN\$4500) for six months use. This site paid CDN \$3000 to support the six months use and is trying to obtain a six-month extension from Update Software. We were able to take advantage of the huge launch publicity for the Medical Society of Nova Scotia electronic bookshelf. The society conducted a publicity campaign to advertise for new accessible databases by sending each physician mousepads, bookmarks, adhesive labels and other formats on which their web site and their new electronic bookshelf could be advertised. We have thus gained in addition to universal dissemination of The Cochrane Library to all physicians in the province the supportive, expensive and very widespread advertising campaign. Funds have not allowed us to pursue this initiative in the other two maritime provinces, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

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## **Memorial University**

Dr. Roger Thomas, MD, PhD, CCP, MRCGP

### **Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.**

#### ***Handsearching***

- Roger Thomas, searched while working on an article on RCT's of educational innovations in undergraduate medical education.

#### ***Consumer Involvement***

- Ms. Arlene MacDonald, Cochrane Dissemination worker, has been performing individual searches for patients, (September-November 2000).

### **Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.**

#### ***Use of Documents in Both Official Languages***

- The Annual Report has been distributed to all faculty involved in evidence-based medicine activities.

#### ***Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts***

- Distributed abstracts to all Memorial University medical faculty to whom new abstracts are relevant, quarterly with each new issue of The Cochrane Library.

### **Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.**

#### **Workshops**

- Roger Thomas
  - Cochrane Collaboration workshop for a delegation of the Minister of Health, the Chief Surgeon of the University hospital, a health economist and a hospital administrator of the Chuvash Republic of the Russian Federation. They also undertook a hands-on Cochrane and MEDLINE workshop on the web with topics relevant to the patients of the Minister of Health (who is an obstetrician). Family Medicine Clinic and Rural Research Centre, Whitbourne, Newfoundland, June 2000.
  - Seminar on Helping Smokers Quit: Family Physicians can help smokers quit (based on Cochrane systematic reviews). Family Medicine residents, St. John's, Newfoundland, 18 July 2000.
  - Preventing Children from Starting Smoking: A Seminar for Residents: A Cochrane Collaboration Systematic Review of RCT's to Prevent Children and Adolescents from Starting Smoking. Family Medicine residents, St. John's, Newfoundland, 18 July 2000.
  - Cochrane Collaboration Systematic Review of Randomised Controlled Trials (RCT's) to Prevent Children and Adolescents Starting Smoking. (Presentation to the Residents and Faculty of the Department of Family Medicine, Calgary, August 11 2000).
  - A Review of Randomised Controlled Trials (RCT's) of Telemedicine Relevant to Practising Family Medicine in Rural and Remote Areas of the World (4<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Rural Physicians, Calgary, August 14 2000).
  - Workshop for the Family Medicine Residents and Faculty on the Cochrane Collaboration and Evidence-Based Medicine (Anchorage, Alaska, August 19, 2000) [no cost to Cochrane -- all costs were supported by the Anchorage residency programme].
  - Workshop for the Family Medicine Faculty on Assessing the Quality of Systematic Reviews in the Cochrane Collaboration (Anchorage, Alaska, August 21, 2000) [no cost to Cochrane -- all costs were supported by the Anchorage residency programme].
  - August 2000. Systematic Review of RCT's of Telelearning (workshop presented at the Fourth Congress of Rural Physicians, Calgary, August 2000).
  - Remote Screening for Diabetic Retinopathy: Suggested Plan for the Use of Telemedicine in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Légaré France, Thomas R. The Cochrane Collaboration. (90-minute bilingual workshop, 22 participants, including real-time searching of The Cochrane Collaboration on the Web, 20 October 2000). Canadian College of Family Physicians Family Medicine Forum 2000, Ottawa 19-21 October 2000.
- September-November 2000. Cochrane Collaboration outreach by Ms. Arlene MacDonald. Ms. MacDonald has contacted individual faculty, students, residents and patients in family medicine and oncology clinics, and has contacted nursing and physiotherapy students offering one-on-one tutorials in the Health Sciences Library on searching and using The Cochrane Library. This is a joint project with the librarians of the Health Sciences Library. See attached report.
- Légaré F, Thomas, R, Clark, K, Jadad A, Ohlsson, A, Gauthier, D and Cocking L. The Cochrane Library: A reliable source of health information for family physicians and their patients (20 October 2000). Canadian College of Family Physicians Family Medicine Forum 2000, Ottawa 19-21 October 2000 (poster).

#### **Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula**

- Roger Thomas consulted with the designers of the undergraduate medical curricula, and proposed that undergraduate students in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and physiotherapy do joint evidence-based and Cochrane Collaboration searches based on the stated information needs of individual patients. This is now fully implemented for all undergraduate medical students.
- January-December 2000: Individual tutoring of family medicine residents on the web version of The Cochrane Library.
- The librarians of the Health Sciences Library (who are all members of the Cochrane Committee) have undertaken weekly workshops and individual one-on-one tutorials for all medical, nursing, physiotherapy, pharmacy students, nurse practitioner and LPN students.

***Strengthening the Network***

***Site Groups***

- Three meetings of the Memorial University Cochrane committee. Planning and implementation of dissemination of Cochrane Reviews by the Health Sciences librarians.

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Reports from the Affiliate Organizations

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT)

Ms. Nancy Pollock, MSc, OT

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Regular contributions to evidence-based practice columns in bi-monthly national newsletter.
- Distribution of Cochrane annual reports to Hamilton area faculty, clinicians and managers.
- Cochrane review process integrated into occupational therapy evidenced-based practice guidelines and sample reviews completed as part of an outcomes research programme through the national OT Foundation.

Strengthening the Network

- Recruitment of Site Representatives for McMaster Site Group.
- Drafted revisions to the Affiliate Representatives Terms of Reference in collaboration with Affiliate Reps and Cochrane staff.
- Web site links to Cochrane sites added to multiple OT related sites.
- Continued participation on Impact and Dissemination Team.



Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment (CCOHTA)

Ms. Jill Sanders, PhD

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

- CCOHTA provided an invitation and space for a cochrane booth at the October 12-13, 2000 Symposium on the Early Assessment of Health Technologies, "Do The Risks Justify the Benefits?" The symposium was held in Ottawa.
- Dave Clements, CCOHTA's External Relations Officer, serves on the CCN/C Communications and Marketing Strategic Planning Team.
- Dave Clements represented CCOHTA at the CCN/C Annual General Meeting in Toronto.

Canadian Emerging Technology Assessment Program (CETAP)

- McGahan L. *Lotronex™: therapy for diarrhea predominant irritable bowel syndrome* [Issues in emerging health technologies no 11]. Ottawa: Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment; 2000.
- Entacapone in Parkinsonian syndrome (CETAP)
- Linezolid in Gram-positive antimicrobial (CETAP)
- Tenecteplase in Myocardial Infarction (CETAP)



Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA/ABSC)

Ms. Davida Glazer, MLIS

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

- Provided assistance to colleagues on the implementation of a Cochrane resource in the library community.
- Continued to update the library community with information about Cochrane activities.
- Answered questions of the library community about The Cochrane Library, (e.g. implementation, purchase, and courses).
- Member of the CCN/C Dissemination and Impact Team.
- Provided monthly updates to the Team of articles relating to research utilizing The Cochrane Library.

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## Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA)

Ms. Carol Repchinsky, BSP

### **Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.**

#### ***Recruitment of Reviewers***

- Aware of one pharmacist reviewer recruited after the Introductory Workshop by Paul Peloso in conjunction with the Canadian Pharmacists Association Annual General Meeting in Saskatoon, June 2000.

### **Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.**

#### ***Communications Support to the Collaboration***

- Introductory Plenary Session to approximately 100 pharmacists at CPhA AGM, June 2000.
- Introductory Workshop by Paul Peloso to approximately 25 pharmacists at above meeting.

#### ***Use of Documents in Both Official Languages***

- 1999 Annual Report distributed to the Executive Committee of CPhA.

#### **Other Achievements**

- Promoted use of evidence-based information, and Cochrane reviews in particular, by authors of Therapeutic Choices, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, published September 2000 by CPhA.
- Purchased The Cochrane Library on-line for use by editors of CPhA publications, i.e., Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties, Therapeutic Choices, Herbs – Everyday Reference for Health Professionals, Nonprescription Drug Reference for Health Professionals, Compendium of Nonprescription Products.

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Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA)

Ms. Dianne Parker-Taillon, BSc PT, MSc and Mr. Paul Harter, BSc PT

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

- The Cochrane Library and The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre are part of all evidence-based practice presentations given by CPA.
- Proposed link to CCN/C from CPA web site with explanation of Cochrane Collaboration (part of web site revisions planned for 2001).
- Clinicians made aware of The Cochrane Library when asking for information on evidence-based practice.
- The Cochrane Collaboration is featured in the evidence-based practice inventory and guide of clinical practice guidelines, systematic reviews and meta-analyses developed by the Canadian Physiotherapy Association and the Ontario Physiotherapy Association.
- D. Parker-Taillon (Director of Education, Practice and Research) continues to be part of the advisory board of the Rehabilitation and Related Therapies Field.

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## **Consumers' Association of Canada and Arthritis Society**

Ms. Jean Jones, CM, LLD, MSW and Ms. Linda Greason, BA, BEd

### **Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.**

- Consumer representation on the Advisory Board of The CCN/C doubled this year with the appointment of Linda Greason from the Arthritis Society of Canada.
- The consumer representatives are working with staff of The CCN/C in recruiting consumers in Canada to serve in a variety of roles with the CRGs who have requested such assistance.
- The consumer representatives continue to use any opportunity through their Associations' contacts, such as, in a presentation to a plenary policy session at the AGM of the Consumers' Association of Canada in October, to inform Canadian consumers about The Cochrane Collaboration.
- The CCN/C and the Consumers' Association of Canada collaborated with researchers from McMaster, Dalhousie and UBC in developing a proposal for a joint research project concerning drug information for consumers that has been submitted for funding.

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Reports from the Field

The Cochrane Child Health Field

Dr. Terry Klassen, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Ms. Elaine Belseck, RN, BScN
and Ms. Megan Clark

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Natasha Wiebe, Department of Pediatrics, Child Health Field
- Bonita Lee, Department of Pediatrics, Child Health Field

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Financial assistance from the Site Group for completing ongoing Cochrane projects.
 - Elaine Belseck. Acyclovir for the treatment of varicella in immunocompetent children.
 - Bonita Lee. Non-lactose milk with gastroenteritis.
- Financial assistance by way of a bursary program to:
 - E. Boxall. Vaccines for preventing hepatitis B in high-risk new-borns. Vaccines for preventing hepatitis B in new-born infants
 - M. Meremiku. Drugs and other methods for managing fever in children.
 - K. Anie. Psychological therapies for sickle cell disease and pain.
 - D. Bassler. Ketotifen alone or as additional medication for long-term control of asthma and wheeze in children.
 - D. Moher. Methylphenidate for attention deficit disorder individuals aged 18 years and younger.
 - D. Vimalachandra. Growth hormone treatment in children with chronic renal failure.
 - C. Flynn. Decongestants and antihistamines in children with acute otitis media.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

Presentations

- Dr. Terry Klassen. The Cochrane Collaboration Child Health Field. University of Alberta Public Health Sciences grand rounds, April 26, 2000.
- Elaine Belseck. The Cochrane Collaboration at the annual University of Alberta Family Medicine Spring Seeding session, June 2, 2000
- Elaine Belseck. The Cochrane Collaboration and The Canadian Neonatal and Pediatric Nutrition Network, July 16-19, 2000



Reports from Review Groups

The Cochrane Back Review Group

Dr. Claire Bombardier, MD, Dr. Alf Nachemson, MD, PhD
Dr. Andrea Furlan, MD, Phys. Med. & Rehab. (Brazil)
and Ms. Chantelle Garritty, BA, DCS

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Nine reviewers recruited in 2000
 - Raymond Ostelo
 - Maria Kerckhoffs
 - Pieter Leffers
 - Dr. Arianne Verhagen
 - Gwendolijne Peeters
 - Dr. Rob Oostendorp
 - Dr. Gerard Urrutia
 - Dr. Xavier Bonfill
 - Dr. Pedro del Poze

Handsearching

- Chantelle Garritty (RGC/TSC), Andrea Furlan (RGC Coordinator), Emma Irvin (Institute for Work & Health Librarian) contribute to the handsearching of publications
- The following journals are being actively handsearched:
 - Spine Journal (1976 – Sept. 15, 2000 complete)
 - Journal of Spinal Disorders (ongoing)
- The following journals are registered to be handsearched by the Back Review Group:
 - European Spine Journal
 - American Journal of Orthopedics
 - J. American Osteopathic Association
 - J. of Back & Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation
 - Seminars in Spinal Surgery

Consumer Involvement

- Mark Schone (Back Group Consumer) who is responsible for a publication entitled, the BackLetter featured a Cochrane Review as its cover story in October, 2000. It is the review by Karjalainen et al., on Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation for Subacute Low Back Pain. The BackLetter circulates to 7000 spine-care doctors, and health care policy-makers and insurers.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- In 2000 there was no formal communications support to the Collaboration. However, the Back Group recently appointed Rhoda Reardon, from the Institute for Work & Health, as Research Transfer Associate for the Back Review Group.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- The Back Group distributed approximately 10 copies of the 1999 Annual Report to its Canadian Reviewers.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- With each new release of The Cochrane Library, the Back Group Coordinator sends a list of New Cochrane Abstracts to approximately 100 members of the Back Group worldwide.
- The Back Review Group lists all of its abstracts and highlights new abstracts on its official web page. The Back Group web site receives approximately 200 unique hits per month on its index page and approximately 60 unique hits per month on its list of reviews and abstracts page.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Listed below are presentations/workshops that Andrea Furlan and/or Chantelle Garritty were involved with during 2000. However, they were not all sponsored specifically by the Back Review Group.

External Scientific/Academic:

Poster Presentation

- Furlan A, Brosseau L, Welch V, Wong J. Massage for Low Back Pain: A Cochrane Systematic Review of the Literature. The Fourth International Forum for Primary Care Research on Low Back Pain. Eilat, Israel, March 16-18, 2000.

Internal Plenary - Institute for Work & Health:

- Furlan A, Bombardier C. The Cochrane Back Review Group. Institute for Work & Health Plenary Session. February 29, 2000. (*Audience: Employees of the Institute for Work & Health, Number of Participants 30*)

External/Allied Health Care Professionals:

- Furlan A. Invited lecturer: Evidence-based practice of Acupuncture. III Simposio Internacional da SOMA-SP. Sao Paulo, Brazil. May 19-20, 2000. (*Audience: Physician Acupuncturists & Psychiatrists; Number of Participants: 140*)
- Garritty C, Peloso P. Cochrane Systematic Reviews Workshop - A Brief Outline for the Uninitiated. The 88th Annual Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, June 27, 2000. (*Audience: practicing pharmacists, industry researchers, & pharmaceutical company representatives, 60*)
- Garritty C, Peloso P. Cochrane Systematic Reviews Workshop - A Brief Outline for the Uninitiated. Presentation to the Saskatchewan Physical Therapists Association & other Provincial Allied Health Care Professionals. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, June 28, 2000. (*Audience: physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists; Number of Participants: 30*)

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

Lecture:

- Furlan A. Guest Lecturer. The Work of a Cochrane Review Group. HAD 5308H Systematic Review/Meta Analysis (Cochrane Reviews) course. Clinical Epidemiology and Health Care Research Program. Department of Health Administration. University Health Network. June 13, 2000. (*Audience: Graduate Students; Number of Participants: 15*)

Strengthening the Network

- The Back Review Group has participated in two University of Toronto Site Group meetings (June & September, 2000). Chantelle Garritty (RGC & TSC) and Rhoda Reardon (Back Group Research Transfer Associate) are representing the Back Group.
- Chantelle Garritty and Rhoda Reardon are participating on a University of Toronto Site Group subcommittee that is planning a Policy-Makers workshop for the spring of 2001. This committee met in November 2000.

Other Achievements

- In April, 2000, Chantelle Garritty joined the Back Review Group at the Institute for Work & Health as the Co-coordinator of the Back Review Group and Coordinator of the Trials Search Registry.

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## The Cochrane Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group

Dr. John McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC and Mr. Wayne Tucker, BA, MSc

### Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

#### *Recruitment of Reviewers*

- We have identified two new reviewers. One new reviewer is a 2nd year fellow in Pediatric Gastroenterology at the Hospital for Sick Children. She has nearly completed a review, which had been at the protocol stage for a prolonged period. A second new reviewer is a gastroenterology resident at the London Health Sciences Centre, London. He has completed a protocol on a new topic, which will be included in the next submission to The Cochrane Library.

#### *Training and Support of Reviewers*

- There were no specific training workshops for IBD reviewers, although support was provided in the way of telephone support, email, meetings, etc.

#### *Handsearching*

- Gastroenterology

### Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

#### *Strengthening the Network*

- The functioning of this group is integrated to a considerable extent with the University of Western Ontario site of the CCN/C.

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The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group (CMSG)

Dr. Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Ms. Bev Shea, RN, BScN, MSc,
and Ms. Vivian Welch, MSc

Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.

Recruitment of Reviewers

- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group recruited 23 new reviewers from Thailand (1), Canada (11), Netherlands (3), Norway (1), UK (4), Australia (3).
- Our very active consumer group recruited 3 new consumers from Halifax (Sue Hadfield), Belgium (Dammy Vermeesch) and Quebec (Celine Jubinville).
- We recruited one new external editor from the UK, a retired physiotherapist (Aileen Cunningham).

Training and Support of Reviewers

- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group provided one-on-one training to four reviewers from Toronto, London and Kingston. Jane Campbell, Sara McConnell, Tanveer Towheed visited Ottawa for training from George Wells and Beverley Shea. Vivian Welch will travel to London, Ontario and to Boston for one-on-one training of two reviewers.
- Sara Browning and John Kirwan provided the results of handsearching of British Journal of Rheumatology, Journal of Rheumatology and the Annals of Rheumatology. These 249 records have been downloaded from MEDLINE and added to the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Specialized Registry.

Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Peter Tugwell presented information about The Cochrane Collaboration at the International Society of Health Technology Assessment Conference in June 2000 and the Miami Rheumatology Conference on Advances in Therapeutics (proceedings published in Annals Rheum Diseases). In addition, Peter Tugwell presented information to policy-makers and clinicians on how Cochrane can be used to make evidence-based decisions in health care at a plenary session at a conference on evidence-based medicine at the University of Colorado.
- George Wells presented validation work of the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (a quality assessment scale for non-randomized studies in meta-analysis) at the 3rd Oxford Symposium on Systematic Reviews: Beyond the Basics (available at <http://www.his.ox.ac.uk/csm/Oralabstract2K.htm> #Wells).
- Lucie Brosseau presented the results of a Cochrane systematic review on laser therapy at the Department of Epidemiology and Community Medicine Rounds at the University of Ottawa.
- Lucie Brosseau, Beverley Shea and Vivian Welch presented the results of Cochrane reviews of rehabilitation interventions for musculoskeletal pain at the Loeb Research Institute Clinical Epidemiology Rounds.
- Doug Coyle presented the results of an economic analysis of Calcitonin for postmenopausal osteoporosis, which used a Cochrane systematic review to determine the efficacy of calcitonin on fractures at the Loeb Research Institute Clinical Epidemiology Rounds and at International Society of Health Technology Assessment conference (ISTAHC).
- Paul Peloso presented results of a systematic review at the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) meeting Nov 2000 in Philadelphia to an audience of rheumatologists.
- Vivian Welch distributed information kits and access to The Cochrane Library at the American College of Rheumatology Conference, Oct 30-Nov 1, 2000 in Philadelphia. Approximately 100 postcards and information kits were distributed.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- The Annual Report was distributed locally. The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group publishes French translations of its consumer summaries on the French site of the Arthritis Society web site (<http://www.arthritis.ca>). We need to improve the availability of French translated material.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group publishes consumer summaries of the Cochrane reviews on the Arthritis Society web site (<http://www.arthritis.ca>). Furthermore, the Musculoskeletal Group has a link to the Update Software listing of all published Cochrane reviews and their abstracts.

Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Two Canadian Experiences Utilising Systematic Reviews: Physiotherapy Guidelines for Back, Knee, Neck, Shoulder pain - Peter Tugwell. Reference Cases for Cost-effectiveness- Proposal

for a Core Data Set - Doug Coyle : ISTAHC workshop on "Technology Assessment in Health Care" Audience: people interested in technology assessment (e.g., policy-makers, government, academics). Attendance: about 50 people.

- Advances in Targeted Therapies, Miami March 29, 2000: "Efficacy and Toxicity of Old and New DMARDs". Audience: about 100 experts in rheumatology.
- Plenary session at Second Rocky Mountain Workshop on Evidence-Based Medicine, August 2000: "Efficacy and Toxicity of Old and New DMARDs". The audience consisted of about 10 policy-makers, mostly senior state level politicians or bureaucrats from the US. The rest (60 to 70 participants + 15 faculty) were mostly clinicians.
- 3rd Symposium on Systematic Reviews: Beyond the Basics Improving Quality and Impact, St. Catherine's College, Oxford, UK 3rd to 5th July 2000

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Peter Tugwell and Jessie McGowan have worked towards incorporating Cochrane as part of the curricula. In particular, Dr. Tugwell maintains an evidence-based medicine and critical appraisal binder, which contains information on the Cochrane methodology.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group will be a part of the Site Group that is planned by the Ottawa site.
- Members of the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group have attended international conferences and presented information about Cochrane at each of these.

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## **The Cochrane Neonatal Review Group**

Dr. John Sinclair, MD, Ms. Diane Haughton and Ms. Sandra Costa

### **Goal 1: Increase the Quality, Quantity and Timely Update of Cochrane Systematic Reviews.**

#### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Total active reviewers & co-reviewers = 107 (active defined as having published protocols or reviews in The Cochrane Library)
  - 20 Canadian
  - 87 Other
- Registered titles = 5 Canadian

#### **Training and Support of Reviewers**

- Review Groups do not specifically do workshops but provide support to reviewers on an ongoing basis through email, phone and direct communication. This support could be technical, statistical or in the form of any other assistance as required.
- Announcements of reviewer training workshops are provided to all reviewers as we receive the information. All new reviewers are directed to the workshop training web page and are encouraged to attend a reviewer training workshop

#### **Handsearching**

- Handsearching has fallen behind but this is currently being reorganized and it is anticipated that this activity will begin again by the start of the new year (2001).
- The Neonatal Group contributes to the overall handsearching effort of the Cochrane Collaboration by hand-searching the following specialty journals in the fields of Pediatrics and Neonatology:

- o Acta Paediatr, Am J Clin Nutr, Am J Perinatol, Arch Dis Child, Arch Fr Pediatr, Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med, Biol Neonate, Child Develop, Clin Pediatr, Crit Care Med, Dev Med Child Neurol, Dev Pharmacol Ther, Early Human Dev, Eur J Pediatr, J Paediatr Child Health, J Parenteral Enteral Nutr, J Pediatr, J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr, J Pediatr Surg, J Perinatol Med, J Perinatol, JOGNN, Neonatal Pulmonol, Pediatr Infect Dis J, Pediatr Pulmonol, Pediatr Res, Pediatr Surg Int, Pediatrics

**Consumer Involvement**

- No active consumer involvement currently. Discussions regarding this are ongoing with editorial staff and CCN/C staff.

**Goal 2: Promote the Dissemination and Uptake of the Evidence from Cochrane Reviews Among Potential Users of the Reviews.**

**Communications Support to the Collaboration**

- Neonatal Review Group web page <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/neonatal/>
- NICHHD web site - neonatal reviews and Cochrane information posted on this web site <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/cochraneneonatal/>

**Goal 3: Make Education and Training Opportunities for the Creation and Dissemination of High Quality Systematic Reviews More Readily Available Throughout Canada.**

**Workshops**

- New Course, Introduction to Evidence-based Health Care, Yale University School of Epidemiology and Public Health, Spring Term 2000. To be repeated, fall term 2001.
- Oxford-Vermont Network Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 1999. Cochrane workshop on systematic reviews.

**Other Achievements**

- The Neonatal Module of The Cochrane Library, Disk Issue 1, 2001 contains a total of 100 reviews and 33 protocols.

**Funding**

- The Neonatal Review Group was successful in obtaining a five-year contract renewal from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (USA) to support the ongoing work of the Neonatal Review Group.



# Contributions to The Cochrane Library by Cochrane Reviewers in Canada

## The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)

The following is a list of completed systematic reviews from people in Canada in the year 2000 as well as all submitted protocols. The citations were taken from The Cochrane Library 2000 Issue 4. Names of reviewers in Canada are highlighted in bold typeface. If you would like to see reviews and protocols by Canadian authors from previous years, please refer to past issues of our Annual Report or visit our web site at <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/reports.htm>.

### Acute Respiratory Infections Review Group

#### Reviews

- Randolph AG, **Wang EEL**. Ribavirin for respiratory syncytial virus infection of the lower respiratory tract (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- Smucny J, Fahey T, Becker L, **Glazier R, McIsaac W**. Antibiotics for acute bronchitis (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- Kozyrskiy AL, Hildes-Ripstein GE, **Longstaffe SEA**, Wincott JL, Sitar DS, **Klassen TP, Moffatt MEK**. Short course antibiotics for acute otitis media. In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 1, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

#### Protocols

- **Patel H, Platt R**, Lozano JM, **Wang EEL**. Glucocorticoids in hospitalized infants and young children with acute viral bronchiolitis (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

### Anaesthesia Review Group

#### Reviews

- **Sokol J**, Jacobs SE, **Bohn D**. Inhaled nitric oxide for acute hypoxemic respiratory failure in children and adults (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

#### Protocols

- **Novak F**, Avenell A, **Heyland DK**, Croal BL, **Drover JW**, Jain M, Noble D, Su X. Glutamine supplementation for critically ill adults (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Perry J, Lee J, Wells G**. Rocuronium versus succinylcholine for rapid sequence induction intubation (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

### Airways Review Group

#### Reviews

- **Ducharme FM**, Hicks GC. Anti-leukotriene agents compared to inhaled corticosteroids in the management of recurrent and/or chronic asthma (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- Edmonds ML, Camargo CA Jr, Pollack CV Jr, **Rowe BH**. Early use of inhaled corticosteroids in the emergency department treatment of acute asthma (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- Edmonds ML, Camargo CA Jr, Brenner BE, **Rowe BH**. Inhaled steroids in acute asthma following emergency department discharge (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

- **Ferreira IM, Brooks D, Lacasse Y, Goldstein RS.** Nutritional supplementation for stable COPD (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Kelly K, Spooner CH, Rowe BH.** Nedocromil sodium vs. sodium cromoglycate for preventing exercise-induced bronchoconstriction in asthmatics (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Parameswaran K, Belda J, Rowe BH.** Addition of intravenous aminophylline to beta2-agonists in adults with acute asthma (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Plotnick LH, Ducharme FM.** Combined inhaled anticholinergics and beta2-agonists for initial treatment of acute asthma in children (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Rowe BH, Spooner C, Ducharme FM, Bretzlaff JA, Bota GW.** Early emergency department treatment of acute asthma with systemic corticosteroids (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Rowe BH, Spooner CH, Ducharme FM, Bretzlaff JA, Bota GW.** Corticosteroids for preventing relapse following acute exacerbations of asthma (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

#### Protocols

- **Barr RG, Rowe BH, Camargo CA.** Methyl-xanthines for exacerbations of COPD (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Graham V, Lasserson T, Rowe BH.** Antibiotics for acute asthma (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Levy M, Sheikh A, Rowe B.** Oxygen vs air for nebulising beta-agonist bronchodilators in acute asthma (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Spooner CH, Rowe BH, Spooner GR.** Mast-cell stabilising agents to prevent exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

### Back Review Group

#### Reviews

- **Furlan AD, Brosseau L, Welch V, Wong J.** Massage for low back pain (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Tulder MW van, Malmivaara A, Esmail R, Koes BW.** Exercise therapy for low back pain (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

#### Protocols

- **Peloso P, Gross AR, Aker P, Goldsmith CH.** Drug therapy for mechanical neck disorders (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Gross AR, Hondras MA, Aker PD, Peloso P, Goldsmith CH.** Manual therapy for mechanical neck disorders (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Guzman J, Esmail R, Malmivaara A, Karjalainen K, Irvin E, Bombardier C.** Multidisciplinary team approaches for chronic low back pain (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

### Consumers and Communication Review Group

#### Protocols

- **O'Connor AM, Fiset V, Rostom A, Tetroe JM, Entwistle V, Llewellyn-Thomas HA, Holmes-Rovner M, Jones, B.** Decision aids for people facing health treatment or screening decisions (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

### Depression Anxiety and Neurosis Review Group

#### Reviews

- **Furukawa T, Streiner DL, Young LT.** Antidepressant plus benzodiazepine for major depression (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Review Group

### Protocols

- Zwarenstein M, **Stephenson B**, Johnston L. Case management: effects on professional practice and health care outcomes (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## Eyes and Vision Review Group

### Protocols

- Kapoor VS, **Whyte RK**, LaRoche GL. Interventions for preventing ophthalmia neonatorum (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## Heart Review Group

### Protocols

- **Magee KD, Sevcik W, Moher D, Rowe BH**. Low molecular weight heparins versus unfractionated heparin for acute coronary syndromes (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## HIV/AIDS Review Group

### Reviews

- **Haddad M, Inch C, Glazier RH**, Wilkins AL, Urbshott GB, **Bayoumi A**, Rourke S. Patient support and education for promoting adherence to highly active antiretroviral therapy for HIV/AIDS (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## Hypertension Review Group

### Protocols

- **Wright JM, Musini VM, Lee CH**, Chambers GK. Comparison of pharmacological interventions for hypertension (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group

### Protocols

- **Zachos M**, Tondeur M, **Griffiths AM**. Enteral Nutritional Therapy for Inducing Remission of Crohn's Disease (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 1, 2001. Oxford: Update Software.

## Injuries Review Group

### Reviews

- **Juurlink DN, Stanbrook MB, McGuigan MA**. Hyperbaric oxygen for carbon monoxide poisoning (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

### Protocols

- **Fergusson D, Laupacis A**, Moxey AJ, **O'Connell D**. Erythropoietin for minimising perioperative allogeneic blood transfusion (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## Menstrual Disorders and Subfertility Review Group

### Reviews

- **Daya S, Gunby J**. Recombinant versus urinary follicle stimulating hormone for ovarian stimulation in assisted reproduction cycles (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

## Musculoskeletal Review Group

### Reviews

- **Brosseau L, Welch V, Wells G**, deBie R, Gam A, Harman K, Morin M, **Shea B, Tugwell P**. Low level laser therapy (Classes I, II and III) for treating Osteoarthritis (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.

- **Haugenauer D, Welch V, Shea B, Tugwell P, Wells G.** Fluoride for treating osteoporosis (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Osiri M, Welch V, Brosseau L, Shea B, McGowan J, Tugwell P, Wells G.** Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation for knee osteoarthritis (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Suarez-Almazor ME, Belseck E, Shea B, Homik J, Wells G, Tugwell P.** Antimalarials for treating rheumatoid arthritis (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Suarez-Almazor ME, Spooner CH, Belseck E, Shea B.** Auranofin versus placebo in rheumatoid arthritis (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
- **Suarez-Almazor ME, Spooner C, Belseck E.** Azathioprine for treating rheumatoid arthritis (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 4, 2000. Oxford: Update Software.
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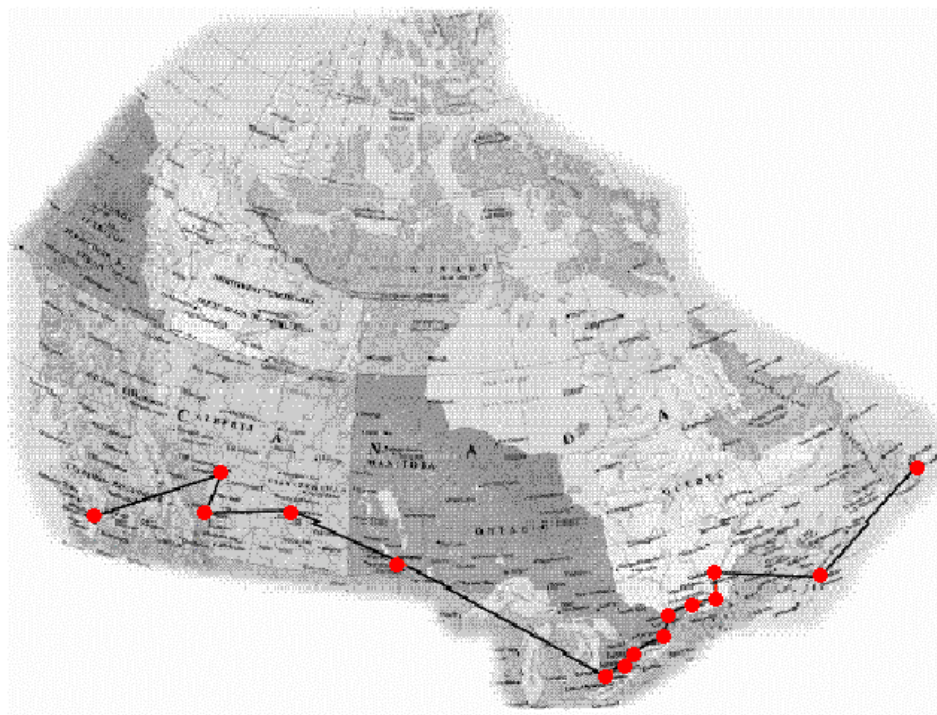
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