

THE CANADIAN COCHRANE NETWORK AND CENTRE



2002 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.

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Acknowledgements

The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Conference of Deputy Ministers of Health in 2002, and the continuing financial support of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. We also want to recognize the funding provided to the Centre by The Cochrane Collaboration for the special communications role we provide to the international Collaboration.

In addition, the Director, Co-Director and staff of The Canadian Cochrane Centre sincerely appreciate the many volunteers who have contributed their 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

Back in 1726, Jonathan Swift noted, "Vision is the art of seeing things invisible". The history of systematic reviews contains many visionaries. In 1630, the Czech pedagogue Joan Amos Comenius wrote the book "*School of Infancy*" which is the first systematic essay on preschool education. In 1753, James Lind published "*A Treatise of the Scurvy in Three parts. Containing An inquiry into the Nature, Causes and Cure, of that Disease. Together with A Critical and Chronological View of what has been published on the subject*". These publications clearly pre-empted both the Campbell Collaboration and The Cochrane Collaboration. However, it was Archie Cochrane's remarks in 1972; "*It is surely a great criticism of our profession that we have not organized a critical summary by specialty or subspecialty, adapted periodically, of all relevant randomized controlled trials*", that influenced Sir Iain Chalmers to pursue the idea to systematically review the available evidence related to "Pregnancy and Childbirth". His efforts subsequently led to The Cochrane Collaboration, now in its 10th year.

The vision of The Cochrane Collaboration currently reads: "Healthcare decision-making throughout the world will be informed by high quality, timely research evidence" and "The Cochrane Collaboration will play a pivotal role in the production and dissemination of this evidence across all areas of health care". The Cochrane Collaboration clearly has an important role to play in the creation, synthesis and translation of new knowledge.

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) define knowledge translation as: "the exchange, synthesis and ethically-sound application of knowledge – within a complex system of interactions among researchers and users – to accelerate the capture of the benefits of research for Canadians through improved health, more effective services and products, and a strengthened health care system". Knowledge translation becomes the process of bridging the gap between the overwhelming amount of research data/information/evidence, its critical appraisal, synthesis and dissemination, its absorption and resulting action by influential role models and includes ongoing surveillance of the results of such actions. In simple terms, knowledge translation may be defined as "*to make proper use of the sum of what is known*".

As outlined in detail in this report the staff at the Canadian Cochrane Centre, the Network Site Representatives, the Collaborative Review Groups, the Child Health Field, the Reporting Bias Methods Group, the consumers, the Affiliate Organizations and all the reviewers located in Canada have been extremely productive this year in their creation, synthesis and translation of knowledge.

I extend special thanks to Kathie Clark. I recognize her tremendous contributions as Co-Director of the CCN/C, and as member of the Steering Group and the Monitoring and Registration Group of The Cochrane Collaboration. I thank Daren Spithoff, Communications Specialist, who prepared a briefing paper on distance learning for the CCN/C. As a result of our Communications and Marketing Project, he re-designed the CCN/C Web site to which I want to refer you (<http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca>). He is also the Editor of Cochrane News.

I want to thank Diane Gauthier for her excellent contributions during her 3 years of service as Administrative Assistant to the CCN/C and I am very pleased to welcome Jeremy Grimshaw to the Canadian Cochrane family. In January 2002, Jeremy Grimshaw, Co-ordinating Editor of the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organization of Care Review Group (EPOC), took up the positions of the Director of the Clinical Epidemiology Programme, Ottawa Health Research

Institute and of the Director of the Center for Best Practices, Institute of Population Health, University of Ottawa, Canada. As a result, the EPOC editorial base moved from the University of Aberdeen, UK to University of Ottawa, Canada.

In Canada, and internationally, healthcare providers, consumers, policy makers and the general public benefit from The Cochrane Collaboration and its major product *The Cochrane Library*. Issue 4, 2002 of *The Cochrane Library* contains 1519 systematic reviews and 1136 protocols. Reviewers in Canada produced many of these reviews.

Currently people living in Australia, England, Finland, Ireland, Norway and Wales have free Web access to *The Cochrane Library*. I sincerely hope that people living in Canada will have the same free access in the near future.

The Cochrane entities in Canada are grateful for the support provided by the CIHR. We are actively pursuing funding by other partners. In 2002, CIHR also provided interim funding for four Cochrane Collaborative Review Groups in Canada. This year, the CCN/C received funding to produce the Cochrane News and CCInfo from The Cochrane Collaboration. A most disappointing development was the retraction in 2001-2002 of the commitment for funds for 2002/2003 from the Conference of Deputy Ministers of Health. As a result in 2002-2003, we were unable to provide the 16 Cochrane Sites at the Health Sciences Centres across Canada with much needed financial support. The Sites and their representatives form a vital part of Cochrane in Canada and are crucial to the training of reviewers and knowledge translation of the evidence provided by reviews in *The Cochrane Library*. It is certainly encouraging that several Site Representatives have come up with innovative means to raise funds for their sites.

Much of the success of The Cochrane Collaboration is based on the contributions of dedicated volunteer reviewers and consumers. Volunteerism should be applauded. However, consumers, the general public, policy makers, politicians, and healthcare providers, who benefit from the international altruistic contributions to *The Cochrane Library*, should realize that volunteerism is a fragile concept. The Cochrane entities in Canada need secure long-term funding to be able to concentrate on the main objective of producing high quality reviews that when the findings are applied result in improved health outcomes, increased satisfaction with care and sometimes cost savings.

The CCN/C will be holding the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton on November 21 and 22, 2003. The theme of this special Symposium will be knowledge translation. It will be the 10th Anniversary of the registration of the Center and a time for celebration and appreciation to the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics as well as McMaster University that have provided the home for the CCN/C since August 1993.

In October 2004, CCN/C will host the 12th Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa under the theme "Bridging the Gaps". It will be a great opportunity to showcase The Cochrane Collaboration in the context of Global Health. Links to Canadian culture will be visible at social events taking place at the National Gallery of Canada and the Museum of Civilization.

Arne Ohlsson
Director, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre

The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre Advisory Board

Chair of the Advisory Board

Mr. Serge Taillon, BSc, MHA

Canadian Cochrane Centre

Director

Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP

Co-Director

Kathie Clark, RN, PhD

Network Sites

University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Alberta
University of Saskatchewan

Arminée Kazanjian, BA, MA, PhD
Roger Thomas, MD, PhD, CCFP, MRCGP
Joanne Homik, MD

Janet Bangma, MLIS, MA Ed **

Angela Busch, PT, BPT, MSc *

Dorothy Forbes, RN, PhD

Michael Moffatt, MD, FRCPC

University of Manitoba
University of Western Ontario

John W.D. McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC *

George Rice, MD **

McMaster University
University of Toronto
Queen's University

To Be Announced

Rebecca Wong, MD, MB ChB, MSc, FRCPC

Phil Hahn, MSc **

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

University of Ottawa

Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC

George Wells, MSc, PhD

McGill University
Université de Montréal
Université de Sherbrooke
Université Laval
Dalhousie University

Roland Grad, MD, CM, MSc

Jacques Lacroix, MD

Jean Pierre Tétrault, BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC

France Légaré, MD, MSc, CCMF, FCMF

Alexandra Howlett, MD, FRCP(C)

Grace Paterson, BSc, MA, MSc

Memorial University

Sandra LeFort, RN, MN, PhD

Donna Moralejo, RN, PhD

Collaborative Review Groups

Back Review Group
Effective Practice and Organisation of Care
Group
Hypertension Review Group

Claire Bombardier, MD

Jeremy Grimshaw, MBChB, PhD, FRCGP

James Wright, MD, PhD, FRC

Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group

John W.D. McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Musculoskeletal Review Group
Neonatal Review Group

Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC

John Sinclair, MD

Methods Groups

Reporting Bias Methods Group David Moher, MSc

Fields

Child Health Field Terry Klassen, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Affiliate Organizations

L'agence d'évaluation des technologies et des modes d'intervention en santé **	Véronique Déry, MD, MSc **
Arthritis Society	Linda Greason, BA, BEd *
	Dennis Jeanes, BA **
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists	Laurie Snider, PhD, OT(C)
Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists	J.B. Orange, PhD
Canadian Chiropractic Association	Allan Gotlib, DC
Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment	Jill Sanders, PhD
Canadian Dental Association	Euan Swan, BSc, DDS, DDPH
Canadian Health Libraries Associations	Ellen Crumley, BA, MLIS *
	Jessie McGowan, MLIS, AHIP **
Canadian Institute for Health Information	Serge Taillon, BSc, MHA
Canadian Medical Association	Todd Watkins, BSc, MD, CCFP
Canadian Nurses Association	Carole Estabrooks, RN, PhD
Canadian Pharmacists Association	Carol Repchinsky, BSP
Canadian Physiotherapy Association	Ellen Melis, BSc, MSc *
	Dorianne Sauvé, BSc, PT **
Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care	John Feightner, MD, MSc, FRCPC
College of Family Physicians of Canada	Walter Rosser, MD, CCFP, FCFP, MRCPG
Consumers' Association of Canada	Jean Jones, CM, LLD, MSW
Dietitians of Canada	Jayne Thirsk, RD, PhD
Physical Medicine Research Foundation	Marc White, BA
The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada	To Be Announced

* left during the year or on leave

**joined during the year

Summary Report

Introduction

The detailed 2002 Annual Report of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) is organized according to the following goals of the Annual Business Plan (2001-2002).

1. Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews.
2. Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of reviews.
3. Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.
4. Organize the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa, Ontario.

The CCN/C annual reports are posted on the Annual Reports page of the CCN/C Web site <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/annualreports.asp> and notices are widely distributed electronically.

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Reviewer Recruitment and Review Production

Cochrane systematic reviews are prepared and updated by volunteer reviewers who commit considerable amounts of time and effort to producing these reviews. A core function of most of the 82 entities in The Cochrane Collaboration is the recruitment, training and support of Cochrane reviewers. Over the past twelve months, the Cochrane entities have recruited 128 new reviewers in Canada. At the end of the year, the total number of reviewers and registered title holders in the CCN/C database was 392.

This year, Cochrane reviewers in Canada have registered 58 titles for new reviews and they have published 37 protocols (reviews in the process of being prepared) and 47 complete reviews. The fourth quarterly issue of *The Cochrane Library* in 2002 included a total of 1136 protocols and 1519 systematic reviews.

Reviewer Training and Support

The University of Ottawa Site offered a set of reviewer training workshops in collaboration with the Canadian Cochrane Centre in November. The demand for these workshops is increasing and this year we had waiting lists for both days. In addition to these workshops for beginning reviewers, the University of Saskatchewan Site offered an advanced workshop on statistics in March with Joseph Beyene, "*Combining Data: Tools & Tips for Systematic Reviewers*". These and other workshops provided training for over 120 reviewers.

In addition to workshops, the Musculoskeletal Review Group engages in considerable one-to-one training. This year they reported supporting seven reviewers this way. The Canadian Cochrane Centre initiated a new support service this year by recruiting Joseph Beyene to

provide statistical consultation services to Cochrane reviewers in Canada. This service is actively promoted with all new reviewers when they register a title.

Academic credit courses serve to train reviewers as well. Drs Terry Klassen and Brian Rowe offer a course on systematic reviews (PHS 799), in the Department of Public Health Sciences, at the University of Alberta. At the University of Toronto, the CCN/C Director, Arne Ohlsson, teaches the course "Systematic Review/Meta-analysis (Cochrane Reviews)" (HAD5309S), a Master of Science course in the Clinical Epidemiology Program, Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation. Sixteen students completed the course this year and submitted systematic reviews to The Cochrane Collaboration. Peter Tugwell and Jeremy Grimshaw at the University of Ottawa are co-teaching a course on Health Technology Assessment in the Department of Community Medicine and Epidemiology.

The handsearching of journals to identify and locate randomized controlled trials and controlled clinical trials is another support service for reviewers. One of the Centre's core functions is the handsearching of the general journals of the region. The Centre staff and students currently search three Canadian journals. The Collaborative Review Groups and the Child Health Field handsearch international journals specific to their scope and interests. In total, the Cochrane entities in Canada handsearch 54 journals.

Finally, all Cochrane reviewers are volunteers but some receive financial assistance. The Child Health Field provides a Bursary Scheme to assist in the completion of child health related Cochrane reviews. In 2002, \$30,000 was available and allocated to support the completion of five child health reviews.

Consumer Involvement

Each of the Collaborative Review Groups in Canada has some form of consumer involvement. The Musculoskeletal Review Group continues to prepare structured abstracts that are posted on the Arthritis Society Web site. The newly recruited consumer in the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group is also assisting with the preparation of consumer synopses. The Back Review Group has two consumers actively working with them and the Child Health Field has a consumer on their Advisory Board.

In addition to recruiting consumers to participate in Cochrane activities in Canada, the Network is also enlisting consumers to work with the Collaborative Review Groups internationally.

At Dalhousie University there is an Office of Learning Technologies funded project, HealthInfoRx: Lifelong Learning for Chronic Disease Patients and Their Caregivers. The Site Coordinator, Deirdre Harvey, worked with consumers from the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic, Capital Health District Authority, and used Cochrane reviews to help develop a glossary for the patient curriculum.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of reviews

CCN/C Communications and Marketing Project

This project concluded early in the year. The reports for both Phases are available at <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/downloads.asp> (under Publications). Within the limits of the

Centre's resources, the recommendations in the reports are being implemented. A major outcome of the project has been the re-design of the CCN/C Web site by Daren Spithoff, Communications Specialist. The site has been reorganized to make it more accessible and useful for specific target users such as reviewers, clinicians, consumers, policy makers and the media (<http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca>).

The Internet is clearly a major communications tool and the eight Cochrane entities based in Canada also have Web sites. The Centre Web site has links to each of our Affiliate Organizations and they in turn have links on their Web sites to the CCN/C and The Cochrane Collaboration. We are aware that many institutions and organizations include links to The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library* to facilitate access to the abstracts of the systematic reviews (<http://www.cochranelibrary.com/cochrane/abstract.htm>) and information about the Collaboration.

Media Relations

The GPC Canada communications strategic plan for the CCN/C stressed the need for an active program of media relations. Within the limits of our current resources, we are developing relationships with media representatives in Canada and distributing media advisories and releases for special events.

Other Cochrane entities in Canada are also promoting their reviews through the media. With the support of the Knowledge Transfer and Exchange Team at the Institute for Work & Health, the Back Review Group sends out press releases when their reviews are published in *Spine* and other journals.

Conference Presentations and Exhibits

An effective way of raising the awareness of The Cochrane Collaboration and promoting the use of systematic reviews is through a combination of presentations and information booths at professional conferences. This year the Université Laval Site staffed information tables at the Canadian Conference on Research in Nursing Sciences on June 14, 2002 in Québec, the Société Québécoise d'Informatique Bio-médicale et de la Santé) on May 6-7, 2002 in Québec, and the Association francophone pour le savoir (ACFAS) conference from May 13 to 16, at Université Laval, Québec. There were Cochrane presentations by France Légaré (Université Laval Site), Roland Grad (McGill University Site) and Jacques Lacroix (University of Montréal Site) at the 70^e congrès de l'ACFAS, which brought together some 60 clinicians, policy makers and researchers to discuss the impact of systematic reviews on knowledge transfer and practice change.

Carol Repchinsky, Affiliate Representative of the Canadian Pharmacists' Association (CPhA) continues to organize Cochrane presentations at the CPhA Annual Conference. This year James McCormack, Anita Kozyrskyj and Elske Hildes-Ripstein provided two presentations on "How and What to Tell Patients?" to 40 community and hospital pharmacists in Winnipeg, Manitoba in May.

The Canadian Cochrane Centre had an information exhibit at the Annual Conference of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Ottawa in September. In October, the Director made a presentation at the 8th Annual Conference on Advancements in Chiropractic in Toronto and the CCN/C staff provided an exhibit to promote Cochrane systematic reviews among chiropractors.

Communications Role with The Cochrane Collaboration

The Canadian Cochrane Centre continues to have a special communications role within The Cochrane Collaboration. This year the staff of the Centre posted 38 entity newsletters to the Collaboration Web site. We published three issues of the Cochrane News and 26 issues of the biweekly electronic newsletter CCIInfo. All of these newsletters are available at (<http://www.cochrane.org/newslett/>). The Centre is very grateful for the financial support provided this year by The Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group for this work on behalf of the Collaboration.

Electronic newsletters and bulletins are effective communications tools. The Centre staff distribute an electronic newsletter in Canada (Canadian Update) with Cochrane news and information of particular interest to people in Canada. The Child Health Field and the Musculoskeletal Review Group also use this strategy for communicating with their members.

Resource Sheets

The CCN/C collaborated with two Affiliate Organizations, the Canadian Coordinating Council of Health Technology Assessment and the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care, to prepare two electronic and paper resource sheets. One sheet offers Web sources of health information for consumers and the other lists Web sites of interest to health professionals. A third sheet for policy makers is still in production. These sheets are posted on the Web at <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/eblinks.asp> and they were printed and distributed at appropriate workshops and conferences.

Publications

The publication of professional papers and articles for the public are conventional methods of communication and dissemination. The publications of the Cochrane entities in Canada in 2002 are listed in the final sections of this report. In this summary we highlight the initiative of the Musculoskeletal Review Group and the Arthritis Society. Starting in December 2002, the newsmagazine Arthritis News features a regular column on The Cochrane Collaboration and the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group (CMSG), including new CMSG abstract topics.

In addition, we point to the achievement of the Site Co-Representatives at Memorial University (Donna Moralejo and Sandra Lefort). They have worked with the Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (ARNNL) to establish a series of articles on incorporating evidence into practice in ARNNL ACCESS, the quarterly newsletter sent to all RNs in the province.

A "Cochrane Corner" has been established as a regular part of the Dietitians of Canada online newsletter. Cochrane activities, new reviews and other information are being shared with dietitians across Canada on a regular basis.

Finally, Dorianne Sauvé reported that the Canadian Physiotherapy Association published an article in the July/August 2002 issue of their national newsletter that included contact information for The Cochrane Collaboration and suggestions for physiotherapists in Canada who want to get involved in Cochrane activities including the preparation of systematic reviews.

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada

Needs Assessment

In various ways, the Back Review Group and four of the Network Sites (University of Saskatchewan, University of Western Ontario, Dalhousie University and Memorial University) undertook the assessment of learning needs of their “constituents”. Two of the projects included surveys of the current use of Cochrane systematic reviews. We await the results of this work with interest.

Workshops, Seminars and Presentations

In addition to the reviewer training workshops reported in relation to Goal 1, the CCN/C offers other workshops, seminars and presentations to our various target audiences (consumers, clinicians, policy makers, educators and students). These educational programs respond to various needs and interests related to Cochrane systematic reviews. This year the Network activity reports include a total of 92 educational programs for over 2600 reported participants.

Integrating Cochrane in Health Sciences Curricula

A major advantage of having the geographic network sites located at the 16 academic health sciences centres is that it provides excellent opportunities to ensure that health sciences faculty, undergraduates, graduate students, and residents are introduced to the existence and value of evidence-based health care and the contribution of the high quality, up-to-date systematic reviews prepared and maintained by The Cochrane Collaboration.

From the University of British Columbia to Memorial University, each Network Site uses various strategies to integrate Cochrane into the curricula. Courses, parts of courses, lectures, rounds presentations, graduate student theses and journal clubs are all documented in the individual activity reports.

Distance Learning

Given the size of the country and the dispersion of people in Canada who want to learn about The Cochrane Collaboration and the preparation of systematic reviews, we have for some time recognized the need to provide distance learning alternatives for our face-to-face educational workshops and programs. This year, Daren Spithoff, CCN/C Communications Specialist, prepared a briefing paper on distance learning for the CCN/C. The paper can be read and downloaded from <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/downloads.asp> (under Publications). It provides both immediate and long-term recommendations for the CCN/C in relation to alternative reviewer training and educational options.

Goal 4: Organize the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

12th Cochrane Colloquium

The planning for the Colloquium in Ottawa (October 2-6, 2004) increases with each passing month. This year we made arrangements for the conference facilities, hotels and social events. International Conference Services initiated their sponsorship and exhibitor recruitment plan and the promotional plan was launched with the distribution of the first announcement at the Cochrane Colloquium in Stavanger, Norway. The Canadian Cochrane Centre established the various international and local planning committees. The initial meeting of the Canadian Coordinating Committee was held on November 4, 2002.

To ensure the involvement of consumers in the planning of the Colloquium and the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium, a reference group of consumers was established to work with Jean Jones, the CCN/C Advisory Board Consumer Representative and member of both coordinating planning committees.

3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium

The CCN/C is creating a tradition of biannual symposia to provide people in Canada with an opportunity to meet, learn, and exchange ideas and experiences related to preparing, disseminating and using Cochrane systematic reviews. The first Symposium was held in Hamilton in 1999. In 2001, the second Symposium was offered in Edmonton, Alberta. The CCN/C will be pleased to host the 3rd Symposium in Hamilton where McMaster University has been the home of the CCN/C since August 1993. This will be a special Symposium since we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Canadian Cochrane Centre.

Planning for this event commenced in the summer this year. The theme of the Symposium is knowledge translation. The program will include plenary sessions, roundtable discussions, mini-workshops, paper presentations and posters. The Symposium will be held at the Sheraton Hamilton Hotel on November 21 and 22, 2003.

Special 10th anniversary celebrations are being planned including a free public lecture on November 20 with keynote speaker Dr. Muir Gray, Director of the National electronic Library of Health (NeLH) in the United Kingdom.

Other Achievements

Network Site Groups

The CCN/C continues to strengthen the geographic network of 16 Sites across the country. An active, enthusiastic network serves to fulfil the mission of the CCN/C in all regions of Canada. There are now seven established Site Groups that include representatives of different health professions and consumers (University of Alberta, University of Saskatchewan, University of Western Ontario, University of Toronto, Queen's University, University of Montreal and Dalhousie University). These groups meet to plan and carry out Site activities such as learning needs assessments and regional workshops.

Funding

The achievement of our goal for a secure and stable infrastructure funding base for the Cochrane entities in Canada continues to elude us. This year the support of the Conference of Deputy Ministers of Health came to an end and as a result the CCN/C made the difficult but necessary decision not to financially support the 16 Network Sites. In addition, the Centre was required to reduce its staff, the amount of release time support for the Director, and its operating budget for 2002-2003.

Considerable time and effort was spent exploring different funding alternatives. There were meetings with representatives of CIHR and Health Canada. We are very grateful to CIHR for providing short-term emergency funds (\$163,000) to four of the Collaborative Review Groups for the period (July 1 to December 31, 2002). The Canadian Cochrane Center and the entities based in Canada collaborated on a Special Project Grant application to CIHR for the September 1, 2002 competition. Regrettably, this application was not approved.

Evidence-Based Practice Centres

Another significant accomplishment this year by people associated with the CCN/C was the successful application by McMaster University to renew its Evidence-Based Practice Centre with the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality (AHRQ). The Canadian Cochrane Centre was a "bidding partner" supporting the application. This was the first AHRQ Evidence-Based Practice Centre (EBPC) in Canada. Now there are three. This year two more were added with the successful applications by teams at the University of Alberta and the University of Ottawa. These EBPCs and the connections with Cochrane entities provide excellent opportunities for the development of collaborative and cooperative partnerships.

Acknowledgements

Over the year, the CCN/C welcomed a new Affiliate Organization, l'Agence d'évaluation des technologies et des modes d'intervention en santé (AETMIS). Dr. Renaldo N. Battista, Président-directeur general, named Dr. Véronique Déry to be their Affiliate Representative. Other new Affiliate Representatives included Dianne Sauvé (Canadian Physiotherapy Association), Jessie McGowan (Canadian Health Libraries Association), and Allan Gotlib (Canadian Chiropractic Association). In November, Dr. Gotlib was selected by his Affiliate Organization colleagues to represent them on the CCN/C Executive Committee. We sincerely thank J.B. Orange, Affiliate Representative for the Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, who served on the Executive Committee for two years.

The CCN/C also welcomed Jeremy Grimshaw. In January 2002, Jeremy Grimshaw, Co-ordinating Editor of the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organization of Care Review Group (EPOC), took up the positions of the Director of the Clinical Epidemiology Programme, Ottawa Health Research Institute and of the Director of the Center for Best Practices, Institute of Population Health, University of Ottawa, Canada. As a result the EPOC editorial base moved from the University of Aberdeen, UK to University of Ottawa, Canada. Laura McAuley was recruited in April 2002 to be the EPOC Review Group Coordinator.

Among the geographic Network Sites Representatives, we said farewell and thank you to Angela Busch who stepped down as the University of Saskatoon Site Co-Representative. Janet Bangma was elected to replace Angela. We welcomed Dr. George Rice who replaced Jack

McDonald when he stepped down as the Site Representative for the University of Western Ontario. At Queen's University, the CCN/C Executive Committee was pleased to endorse Tanveer Towheed's nomination of Phil Hahn as Queen's first Site Co-Representative.

In addition, we want to extend our sincere thanks to the people leaving the Network. Their contributions have helped make us grow and mature as an organization. This year we say thank you to Ellen Crumley (Canadian Health Libraries Association), and Ellen Melis (Canadian Physiotherapy Association). We also said a fond farewell to Diane Gauthier after three years of service as the CCN/C Administrative Assistant. We have had two part-time Administrative Assistants since Diane left in April. Angela Taylor, and subsequently Rosalind Brenneman, have provided essential administrative support. We are also grateful for the assistance provided by McMaster students this year: Doreen Day, Lisa Milani, Aleksandra Plumb and Denise Wallis.

Financial Summary

The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre 2001-2002 Financial Summary

Revenue

Source	Revenue
Cash Reserve 2000-2001	\$ 114,687.31
CIHR	\$ 200,000.00
ACHS	\$ 215,970.00
OTHER	\$ 27,537.68
Total Revenue	\$ 558,194.99

Expenditures

Source	Expenditure
Personnel	\$ 186,832.62
Communications	\$ 44,113.39
Network Site Support	\$ 115,842.57
Travel	\$ 32,450.08
Technological Support	\$ 18,308.06
Supplies and Services	\$ 63,134.98
Total Expenses	\$ 460,681.70
Cash Reserved for Future Projects	\$ 97,513.29

Report from The Canadian Cochrane Centre

Director: Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP

Co-Director: Kathie Clark, PhD, RN

Communications Specialist: Daren Spithoff, BKin

Administrative Assistant: (Jan – April): Diane Gauthier

Administrative Assistant (Sept – Dec): Rosalind Brenneman

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- The Director, Arne Ohlsson, coordinates the following course HAD5309S “Systematic Review/Meta-analysis (Cochrane Reviews)”, Master of Science Course in the Clinical Epidemiology Program at UofT, Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation. (Teachers: Arne Ohlsson, Joseph Beyene, Elizabeth Uleryk, Maurits van Tulder). In 2002, the course ran from April 16 to July 5, 2002 and 16 students completed the course and submitted systematic reviews: Mary-Anne Aarts; Osman Al-Radi; Cornelia Borkhoff; Karen Burns; Edward Chow; Elizabeth Darling; Andrea Doria; Andrew Dueck; Joel Gagnier; Jill Hayden; Brigitte Jolles; Jennifer Naik; Kelly O’Brien; Raj Padwal; Gabrielle van der Velde; and, Duminda Wijeyesundera.
- As a result of an article published in the Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association, the Centre has recruited three potential new reviewers who have been referred to various Collaborative Review Groups.

Training and Support of Reviewers

- The Centre collaborated with the University of Ottawa Site to offer a set of Reviewer Training workshops on November 22 and 23, 2002. Thirty attended the Protocol Preparation day and thirty participated in the Undertaking a Review day. The resource people were Jeremy Grimshaw, Maria Judd, Laura McAuley, Jessie McGowan, David Moher, Arne Ohlsson, Vicki Pennick, Nancy Santesso, Bev Shea, Peter Tugwell, and George Wells.
- The Centre initiated a new support service this year for reviewers in Canada. Joseph Beyene, Scientist, Population Health Sciences, Research Institute, The Hospital for Sick Children and Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Toronto, kindly volunteers his time to provide a statistical consultation service to Cochrane reviewers in Canada.
- Daren Spithoff, CCN/C Communications Specialist, undertook a major project this year to prepare a briefing paper on distance learning for the CCN/C. The paper can be read and downloaded from <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/downloads.asp> (under Publications). It provides both immediate and long-term recommendations for the CCN/C in relation to alternative reviewer training and educational options.

- Lisa Milani, the CCN/C Summer Student Project Assistant, conducted a survey of Cochrane reviewers based in Canada to initiate a program of regular communication and gather data on their support needs. Of the 240 mailed surveys, only 28 responses were received, giving a response rate of 11.7 percent. The most frequently identified need for help was with RevMan (53.6%). Almost 30%, asked for assistance assessing the quality of observational studies and abstracting data from these studies. The third need for support was search strategies and skills (25%).

Workshop Productivity

- In April 2002, the CCN/C Student Project Assistant, Doreen Day, measured the productive output of reviewer training workshops in terms of registered titles, current protocols and systematic reviews completed by those who attended CCN/C workshops. The supplementary objective of this project was to provide baseline information for future analyses.
- Participant lists were collected for the six Reviewer Training workshops held by the CCN/C from 1999 to 2001. The names of the participants were cross-referenced against *The Cochrane Library* (Issue 1, 2002) in order to determine if the individual participants had authored any protocols and/or reviews. The participants were then checked against a list of registered titles sent from Review Group Coordinators to determine if any has a current title registered.
- The data collected were then compiled to list the number of people who attended a certain workshop and the collective number of titles, protocols and reviews prepared by the participants of the workshop.
- Six Reviewer Training workshops were included in the study: Developing a Protocol, Hamilton, Ontario, 1999; Completion of a Cochrane Systematic Review, Hamilton, Ontario, 2000; Introductory Course on Statistical Methods, Toronto, Ontario, 2000; Developing and Completing a Cochrane Systematic Review (two days), Winnipeg, Manitoba, 2001; Introduction to *The Cochrane Library* (two days), Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, 2001; Developing and Completing a Cochrane Systematic Review (two days), Edmonton, Alberta, 2001.
- The total number of participants at all six workshops was 184. The total number of registered titles from participants of all six workshops combined was nine, the total number of protocols was 33, and the total number of completed reviews was 22. These totals include participants who may have attended more than one workshop, and who may have more than one title, and/or protocol, and/or review.
- Three participants in each of the Hamilton 1999, Hamilton 2000, Toronto 2000 workshops, and two in the Manitoba 2001 workshop were from the United States. They completed four protocols and one review.

Handsearching

- Daren Spithoff recruited, trained and supervised volunteers and students to conduct the handsearching of the three general journals searched by the Canadian Cochrane Centre (Canadian Journal of Nursing Research, Canadian Journal of Surgery, and the Canadian Medical Association Journal). Two hundred and seventy journal issues were searched and a total of 24 records of RCTs (17) and CCTs (7) were submitted to the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) this year. The Centre appreciates the handsearching efforts of Fulvia Baldassarre, Rob Bonin, Doreen Day, Lisa Milani and Alex Plumb.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- The Canadian Cochrane Centre commissioned GPC International to conduct a major communications and marketing project in 2001. The reports of Phase One – the Situational Analysis, and Phase Two – the 3-Year Strategic Plan were completed in 2002. Both reports can be read and downloaded from <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/downloads.asp> (under Publications). This project served to reinforce the need for the Centre to initiate significant communications activities to increase the awareness of The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library* among our target users. Aspects of the 3-year communications strategic plan have been incorporated in the 2002-2003 CCN/C Business Plan.
- Daren Spithoff undertook a major re-design of the CCN/C Web site this year. Readers are encouraged to visit <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca> to see the results of his work. He introduced a new system for tracking visitors to the site in August. Since then the number of visitors have been 21,986.
- This year, the Centre staff has distributed a total of 2,808 Information Kits to the Network Sites and following individuals, groups and conferences.
 - Cochrane Presentation to Health Canada, Ottawa, March 11, 2002 (60)
 - Interprofessional Pain Week Conference, Toronto, March 18 to 22, 2002 (100)
 - International Back Meeting, Montreal, April 2002 (40)
 - Society for Biomedical and Health Informatics, Quebec, May 6-7, 2002 (200 French)
 - Association francophone pour le savoir (ACFAS), Quebec City, May 13-17, 2002 (300 French)
 - Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference, Winnipeg, May 12, 2002 (70)
 - Back Review Group, May 16, 2002 (24)
 - Dietitians of Canada Educators Meeting, June 6, 2002 (50)
 - Canadian Pediatric Society Conference – June 11, 2002 (100)
 - Canadian Conference in Nursing, June 13 – 14, 2002 (150 French)
 - OCC Health Nurses' (OCCHN) conference, Sep 19, 2002 (125)
 - Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Annual Conference, Ottawa, September 26, 2002 (80)
 - Canadian Chiropractic Association Research Symposium, Toronto, Oct 5, 2002 (200)
 - Orientation, Dorianne Sauvé, Canadian Physiotherapy Association Affiliate Organization Representative, Oct 7, 2002 (1)
 - Research Transfer in Health Conference, Calgary, Oct 21, 2002 (100)
 - Orientation with Jessie McGowan, Canadian Health Libraries Association Affiliate Representative, Oct 21, 2002 (1)
 - Orientation with Kathryn Hendrick, Consumer, Oct 22, 2002 (1)
 - Meeting with Connie D'Astolfo, Potential Reviewer, October 29, 2002 (1)
 - Nurse Conference - Rebecca Wong, November 8, 2002 (50)
 - University of Calgary Site Dinner – Laura Ghali, November 22, 2002 (40)
 - Developing a Cochrane Protocol Workshop, Ottawa, November 22, 2002 (30)
 - Undertaking a Cochrane Review Workshop, Ottawa, November 23, 2002 (30)
 - Peter Dixon, Potential Consumer, November 29, 2002 (1)
 - University of Toronto, Rebecca Wong, December 2, 2002 (100)
 - Toronto Presentation, Phil Hahn, December 3, 2002 (65)

- Memorial University Site (30)
- University of British Columbia Site (100)
- Back Review Group (20)
- College of Family Physicians of Canada (50)
- Arne Ohlsson (50)
- Effective Practice and Organization of Care Review Group (150)
- University of Ottawa Site (20)
- Queen's University (100)
- The Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (10)
- University of Calgary Site (10)
- University of Toronto Site (100)
- University of Manitoba Site (25)
- Introductory Workshop for Potential Reviewers, Saskatoon (200)
- Dentistry Meeting, Toronto (15)
- This year the Web site resource sheets were updated. The CCN/C collaborated with the Affiliate Organizations, the Canadian Coordinating Council of Health Technology Assessment and the Canadian Task of Preventative Health Care. To date, two resource sheets have been prepared. One sheet offers Web sources of health information for consumers and the other lists Web sites of interest to clinicians. A third sheet for policy makers is still in production. These sheets are posted on the Web site at <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/eblinks.asp> and they were printed and distributed at appropriate workshops and conferences.
- On February 6, 2002, Kathie Clark and Daren Spithoff met with Dave Davis, Interim Director, Knowledge Translation Program, University of Toronto to explore opportunities for collaboration with respect to the dissemination and utilization of evidence.
- The Centre staff provided a display at the McMaster University Health Sciences Information Fair on February 7, 2002.
- Related to this goal, Kathie Clark attended the Campbell Collaboration 2nd Colloquium in Philadelphia on February 21 and 22, 2002. She also visited the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination at the University of York in May 2002.
- On September 20, Kathie Clark attended the Knowledge Broker Meeting in Toronto hosted by the Canadian Health Service Research Foundation.
- In November, Kathie Clark was invited to join the National Best Practices Consortium for Chronic Disease Prevention, Health Canada.

Communications Support to The Cochrane Collaboration

- This is a major aspect of our communications activities. Diane Gauthier was Editor of Cochrane News for part of the year. With Diane's resignation in April 2002, Daren Spithoff became the new Editor. The Centre continues to publish three issues of Cochrane News each year. With the help of the Advisory Committee, Daren prepared a set of publication guidelines for Cochrane News. The terms of reference of the Advisory Committee were also revised to include responsibility for advising on CCInfo. The Centre is very grateful for the financial support provided this year by The Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group for this work on behalf of the Collaboration.
- The Co-Director publishes the electronic international newsletter, CCInfo, every other week. Twenty-nine issues were published in 2002. This year a recruitment campaign was undertaken to increase the number on the CCInfo distribution list. At the beginning of the campaign in March, there were 1,487 on the list and as of November 1, 2002, the number

has increased to 1,992. We are pleased to have an Advisory Committee through the expanded terms of reference of the Cochrane News Advisory Committee.

- In addition, the Co-Director publishes the electronic Canadian newsletter, Canadian Update; six issues of it have been distributed this year.
- Daren Spithoff also posts Cochrane entity newsletters to The Cochrane Collaboration Web site. Forty entity newsletters and three issues of Cochrane News were posted in 2002.

Conferences

- The Centre staffed an Information Booth at the Annual Conference of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Ottawa from September 26 to 28, 2002. There were 641 registered participants.
- The Centre staffed an Information Booth at the 8th Annual Conference on Advancements in Chiropractic in Toronto from October 3 - 5, 2002.
- The Centre has begun planning for the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium, which will be held in Hamilton on November 21 and 22, 2003. The theme will be “Knowledge Translation”. McMaster Student, Denise Wallis, is assisting with the planning activities. The Symposium Planning Committee consists of Maureen Dobbins, Jean Jones, Arminée Kazanjian, France Légaré, Denise Wallis and Kathie Clark.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- The Centre continues to distribute The Cochrane Collaboration booklet and the CCN/C brochure in French. We also have a flyer about *The Cochrane Library* translated into French. This past year we did not have the resources to translate the short annual report.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- With each new issue of *The Cochrane Library*, we continue to announce the publication of new Cochrane review abstracts on the CCN/C Web site and in CCInfo, Canadian Update and Cochrane News. We also actively promote the linkage of various Web sites to the two online sources for Cochrane abstracts – the Web sites of The Cochrane Collaboration (www.cochrane.org) and *The Cochrane Library* (www.cochranelibrary.com/cochrane/).

Consumer Involvement

- In 2002, the Centre initiated a major consumer recruitment initiative to increase the involvement of consumers in Cochrane activities in Canada as well as the international Collaborative Review Groups. We also developed a mechanism for ensuring consumer input to the planning of the Symposium 2003 and the Cochrane Colloquium 2004. We are grateful to Jean Jones, Consumer Representative on the CCN/C Advisory Board, for volunteering to be the consumer contact person.

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Presentations

- Clark, K. Introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration. McMaster University Health Sciences Corporation – Henderson Division, Hamilton, Ontario. January 9, 2002. There were 12 participants at the presentation.
- Ohlsson A. Importance of systematic reviews in setting the research agenda - focus on perinatal/neonatal research. 2nd Asian Pacific Conference of Evidence Based Medicine, Chengdu, China, April 8 – 10, 2002.
- Ohlsson A. Introduction to knowledge translation, evidence-based health care practice, systematic reviews, The Cochrane Collaboration and The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre. La collaboration Cochrane Internationale et canadienne. 70e Congrès de l'ACFAS, Colloque Cochrane-AETMIS, La contribution des revues systematique et de la Collaboration Cochrane à l'évaluation des technologies de la santé et du transfert des connaissances scientifiques au Québec, Université Laval, May 17, 2002, Québec City, QC.
- Ohlsson A. Teaching Evidence-Based Medicine aan Kinderartsen in Opleiding (Teaching the teachers). De Leeuwenhorst, Noordwijk, The Netherlands, May 23-25, 2002. Organized by the Nederlandse Vereniging voor Kindergeneeskunde in collaboration with the Dutch Cochrane Centre. Lectures: Knowledge management; Systematic reviews; Fast reading with Martin Offringa, MD; Importance of systematic reviews for future research and practice guidelines in local practice; Surveillance systems; Data collection, data analysis and response – Canadian experience.
- Ohlsson A. Knowledge translation, evidence-based health care and the role of The Cochrane Collaboration. Joint Chiropractic Research Conference (ICSM, The Foundation for Chiropractic Education and Research), Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, October 5, 2002.
- Ohlsson A. Meta-analysis of developmental care. Regional Neonatal Conference, Cincinnati, November 8, 2002. Cincinnati, Ohio, US.
- Ohlsson A. From Cochrane to practice. 20th Annual Perinatal Seminar. Kewadin Inn, Orillia, Ontario, Canada, November 13, 2002

Workshops

- Ohlsson A – Lecturer and member of the organizing committee. Cochrane Reviewer Training. Workshop by the Institute for Work and Health, Toronto Ontario, February 7, 2002. Lectures: 1) General introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration, 2) Overview of the Cochrane Systematic review methodology, 3) Overview of RevMan Software.
- Ohlsson A. - Workshop leader. EPIC-workshop. Knowledge Translation/Systematic Reviews. One-day workshop, June 16, 2002, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Ontario.
- The Centre collaborated with the Centre for Surveillance Coordination, Population and Public Health Branch, Health Canada to organize and present a workshop for policy makers on June 21, 2002, Ottawa, Ontario. The title was Evidence-Based Decision Making: Where's the evidence and how to use it. There were 51 participants.

- Kathie Clark is collaborating with Amiram Gafni and Stephen Birch (Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, McMaster University) to organize a March 10, 2003 workshop for policy makers in British Columbia on the use of Cochrane evidence and health economic literature.

Strengthening the Network

- This year l'Agence d'évaluation des technologies et des modes d'intervention en santé (AÉTMIS) accepted the invitation to become a CCN/C Affiliate Organization. Véronique Déry, MD was named to represent AÉTMIS on the CCN/C Advisory Board.
- Two consumers with expertise in communications were recruited to join the Communications and Marketing Strategic Planning Team this year. We welcome Dennis Jeanes and Kathryn Hendrick.
- Dorianne Sauvé replaced Ellen Melis as the Affiliate Representative for the Canadian Physiotherapy Association. She was oriented to her role on the CCN/C Advisory Board as was Jessie McGowan who replaced Ellen Crumley as the Affiliate Representative for the Canadian Health Libraries Association.
- Angela Busch stepped down as the University of Saskatchewan Site Co-Representative. An election was held to replace her and Janet Bangma, Head of the Health Sciences Library, was elected.
- This year John McDonald became the President of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. He stepped down as the University of Western Ontario Site representative and was replaced by George Rice.
- At Queen's University, Phil Hahn was nominated by Tanveer Towheed, and endorsed by the Executive Committee, to become the Site Co-Representative at Queens.
- The Team Leaders of the CCN/C Strategic Planning Teams held their second annual teleconference meeting on October 15 with the Director and Co-Director to review the activities of the Teams and plan for future improvements.
- The Advisory Board held their 2002 Annual General Meeting in Ottawa on November 24.

Goal 4: Organize the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium

- The Centre is working with International Conference Services to plan the 12th Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa in 2004. The theme for the Colloquium will be "Bridging the Gaps". The major conference facilities and hotels are booked. The initial announcement was prepared and distributed at the 10th Colloquium in Stavanger, Norway. The various committees have been formed. The budget has been formulated and a sponsorship recruitment strategy and package has been prepared. The Canadian Coordinating Committee had its initial meeting on November 4, 2002.
- In addition, the CCN/C Executive Committee decided that the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium which will be held in Hamilton in November 2003. The Planning Committee includes Maureen Dobbins, Jean Jones, Arminée Kazanjian, France Légaré, and Denise Wallis, Student Conference Planning Assistant. Plans have commenced for the one and a half day Symposium, and advance notices have been distributed and posted on the CCN/C Web site.

Other

Funding

- The Centre collaborated with Elizabeth Dickson, CIHR, to organize a meeting regarding the funding of Cochrane entities in Canada. The meeting was held on February 1, 2002 at the office of the Canadian Institute of Health information. Representatives of Health Canada and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council were present as well as representatives of CIHR and the Cochrane entities in Canada.
- Two meetings of the leaders of the Cochrane entities were held on June 12 and July 3, 2002 to develop a strategy for the funding of Cochrane entities in Canada. On June 20 and July 5, 2002 Arne Ohlsson and Kathie Clark met with Sonya Corkum, Vice President, Partnerships and Knowledge Translation, to develop short-term and long-term strategies for the Cochrane entities based in Canada. These meetings led to the submission of a letter to CIHR regarding the short-term funding for four of the Collaborative Review Groups. The request for these funds was granted in October 2002. It also led to the preparation and submission of a 5-year special project grant application for six of the Cochrane entities, which was submitted on September 16, 2002.

Committees

Arne Ohlsson, Director, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre

- Chair, Executive Committee, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Chair, Funding Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Co-Chair, Canadian Coordinating Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Canada, October 2004.
- Chair, Scientific Program Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Canada, October 2004.
- Co-Chair, International Advisory Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Canada, October 2004.
- Member, Advisory Committee - Cochrane News
- Internal reviewer, Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Group, The Cochrane Collaboration, 1998 – present.

Kathie Clark, Co-Director, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre

- Member, Executive Committee, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Communications and Marketing Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Dissemination and Impact Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Education and Training Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Funding Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Advisory Committee - Cochrane News
- Co-Chair, Canadian Coordinating Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Canada, October 2004.
- Co-Chair, International Advisory Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Canada, October 2004.

- Chair, Sponsorship Advisory Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Canada, October 2004
- Chair, Abstract Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Canada, October 2004
- Chair, Planning Committee, Canadian Cochrane Symposium, Hamilton, Canada, November 2003
- Member, The Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group
- Co-Convenor, Monitoring and Registration Group, The Cochrane Collaboration
- Member, Colloquium Policy Advisory Committee, The Cochrane Collaboration

Daren Spithoff, Communications Specialist, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre

- Editor, Cochrane News
- Member, Dissemination and Impact Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Education and Training Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre

Project Involvement

- Kathie Clark was Co-Investigator on a project with John Lavis, MD as the Principal Investigator, "Towards best Practices in Research Transfer". The project is now complete and a manuscript is being prepared for publication.
- The Centre was a bidding partner with the McMaster University Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC) as proposed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The McMaster EPC was granted Generalist EPC status on September 5, 2002. The Centre provided a letter of support for the application by the group at the University of Ottawa, which was also successful.

Administration

- The Co-Director prepared the 2001 Centre Monitoring Report for the CCN/C and the final report for Health Canada.
- Lisa Milani, Summer Student Project Assistant, updated the CCN/C database of reviewers in Canada.
- Alex Plumb, Student Project Assistant, updated the CCN/C database of people with registered titles of systematic reviews by comparing it with the new Collaboration Review Titles Manager Database.
- On June 6, Kathie Clark met with 10 physicians and a nurse visiting McMaster from Taiwan who requested a presentation on The Cochrane Collaboration.

Reports from Network Sites

University of British Columbia

Site Representative: Arminée Kazanjian, BA, MA, PhD

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Training and 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 introduces the purpose and role of The Cochrane Collaboration (CC) to many groups.
- Ongoing assistance was provided to the BC Cancer Agency Palliative Care on the Cochrane approach to critical appraisal, levels of evidence and standards of proof. Help was provided on evidence for dyspnoea.
- Ken Bassett of BCOHTA is the Criticism Editor of the Editorial Board of the UBC Co-ordinating Centre for the Cochrane Hypertension Review Group. By participating in this Cochrane Review Group, BCOHTA researchers coordinate, set standards for, edit and maintain reviews in this important area of clinical care.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Searches of *The Cochrane Library* are a standard element of the BCOHTA search protocol for assessing health technologies. An article in press is to be published in the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care by BCOHTA researchers highlighting the Cochrane approach to reducing bias through expanded systematic review.

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 made available on the BCOHTA section of the CHSPR Web site <http://www.chspr.ubc.ca/bcohta/>. The Cochrane Update is also distributed to various medical libraries in the province who in turn distribute the abstracts to their clients (physicians, nurses, etc.)

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Efforts to Assess Educational Needs

- A one-on-one tutorial was presented to a researcher in the UBC School of Nursing on how to use *The Cochrane Library*.
- Help was given on eye and vision-related topics to a representative of the UBC School of Nursing as well as contact information for the Cochrane Eyes and Vision Group.
- BCOHTA participated in ongoing work on gender and eye disease (blindness) with the Cochrane Eyes and Vision Group.
- An individual session was given to a doctoral student in nutrition in the Food, Nutrition and Health Program of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at UBC on the use of *The Cochrane Library* and on the evidence-based decision-making approach.

Workshops

- Two 2-hour workshops were presented by one of the BCOHTA librarians to approximately 40 participants on April 11th at the 3-day conference "How to Practice Evidence-based Children's and Women's Health" sponsored by the UBC Department of Paediatrics, the Centre for Community Child Health Research, and the Cochrane Child Health Field. Attendees included health care practitioners (physicians, nurses, midwives, occupational therapists, and physical therapists), faculty, researchers, research assistants, and graduate students. The workshop provided an introduction to evidence-based medicine, The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library*, and conducting systematic reviews

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- BCOHTA continues to offer a systematic review bibliography that is updated regularly. The bibliography is distributed as part of an education package to residents, students and new staff. The bibliography is also available on the Web at: <http://www.chspr.ubc.ca>.
- Systematic review methodology and *The Cochrane Library* are discussed in a seminar session as part of a course on Evaluative Research (Arminée Kazanjian) in the Department of Health Care and Epidemiology.
- A class was given for the Health Services Research Methods guided study course in the Department of Health Care and Epidemiology at UBC. Content included synthesizing research evidence, an introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library*, and conducting systematic reviews.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- Ongoing communication and meeting with the Child Health Field, located at BC Children's and Women's Hospital. Information was provided about our role within Cochrane. We volunteered to participate in any workshops or educational sessions with the aim of disseminating and educating on the topic of The Cochrane Collaboration.

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# University of Calgary

Site Representative: Roger Thomas, MD, PhD, CCFP, MRCCGP

## **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Laura Ghali is the Reviews Coordinator for the Health Promotion Public Health Field for Cochrane. Her activities involve connecting potential reviewers with the appropriate review groups, and encouraging reviews in topics related and of interest to the HPPH Field
- Roger Thomas organized a meeting in February 2002 to invite potential reviewers in Calgary to connect with potential collaborators and review groups.

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

- Roger Thomas and Laura Ghali: "Using *The Cochrane Library* in Evidence-Based Nursing". Workshop for the nursing faculty and nursing postgraduate students, University of Calgary, 6.00 - 8.30 p.m. Monday 25 November 2002.

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

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

- Laura Ghali: Presentation "The HPPH Field and Cochrane" to the Alberta Health Promotion Consortium, University of Calgary, June 2002.
- Laura Ghali: Presentation "The HPPH Field and Cochrane" to the Health Promotion Research Group, University of Calgary, October 2002.
- Laura Ghali: Staffed an information table at the Research Transfer in Health Conference, Calgary, October 2002 to promote upcoming Cochrane conferences and activities, including the Canadian Cochrane Symposium on Knowledge Translation, November 2003.

## **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**

- Roger Thomas: Taught "Integrative Course" to undergraduate group, University of Calgary, June 2002, using iPAQ hand-held computers with software "EBM-Mobile Guidelines" from the Finnish Medical Society Duodecim, which links detailed descriptions of illnesses to abstracts of Cochrane systematic reviews.

- Roger Thomas: “Evidence-based medicine and The Cochrane Collaboration.” Workshop series for family medicine residents, University of Calgary. 31 October 21, 28 November, 12 December 2002, with Ms. Lorraine Toews and Lee Robertson, Health Librarians. This cycle is repeated 4 times a year, as the groups of residents are present in Calgary.

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University of Alberta

Site Representative: Joanne Homik, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Site Coordinator: Carol Spooner, BScN, MSc

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Jeremy Beach (Department of Public Health Sciences), Barry Diner (Division of Emergency Medicine), Justin Ezekowitz (Division of Cardiology, Department of Medicine), Jennifer Knopp (Department of Family Medicine), Rick Spooner (Department of Family Medicine), Ian Colman (Division of Emergency Medicine), Katherine Moore (Faculty of Nursing) and Maurice Blitz (Department of Surgery).

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Systematic Review Course, PHS 799, Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Alberta (Brian Rowe and Terry Klassen).

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 2, 2002: Evidence, the Cochrane and the EPC. Terry Klassen and Brian Rowe, Public Health Sciences Colloquium, Edmonton.
- November 2, 2002: Evidence, the Cochrane and the EPC. Brian Rowe, Faculty of Nursing, Edmonton.

Consumer Involvement

- Planning for the Cochrane Airways Review Group Workshop (May 14), Symposium (May 15), and Annual Meeting (May 16) for May 2003 underway. Consumers are involved in the preparation of the Symposium.

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Planning for the Cochrane Airways Review Group Workshop (May 14), Symposium (May 15), and Annual Meeting (May 16) for May 2003 underway. Joanne Homik, October 5, 2002, Systematic Review and Critical Appraisal, Rheumatologists, Number = 5.
- Brian Rowe, June 2002, Critical Appraisal of Clinical Trials, Internists; Edmonton, AB; Number = 20.
- Brian Rowe, June 2002, Critical Appraisal of Clinical Trials, Industry Representatives (Pfizer), Calgary, AB; Number = 40.
- Brian Rowe, April 18, 2002. Everything you wanted to know about RCTs. Research Methodology Workshop, CAEP Annual Meeting, Hamilton, ON.
- Brian Rowe, April 20, 2002. What to look for in a RCT. *CJEM* Editor-Reviewer Workshop, CAEP Annual Meeting, Hamilton, ON.
- Brian Rowe, September 14, 2002. Management of Acute Asthma in the ED. Annual Rural Emergency Update, University of Alberta, Jasper, AB.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Terry Klassen, Department of Paediatrics, Grand Rounds.
- Joanne Homik, Department of Internal Medicine, Grand Rounds.
- Brian Rowe, Division of Emergency Medicine, Evidence-Based Medicine Rounds (monthly) and Grand Rounds (Asthma).

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- Site Group meeting on a quarterly basis to plan symposia and workshops.
- Successful application to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) as an Evidence-Based Practice Centre (EPC).
- Assignment of AHRQ task order on “Biventricular Pacing for Congestive Heart Failure”
- Collaboration with the Knowledge Transfer Centre at the University of Alberta.

Other

PhD Students

- Ms. Carolyn Emery, Supervisor: MDs. D. Cassidy and T Klassen; Balance and exercise training in injury prevention.

MSc Students

- Kirk Magee, MD, MSc Supervisor: Brian Rowe, MD. Acute coronary syndrome treatment with heparin and low molecular weight heparin.

- Lisa Evered, MD, MSc Supervisor: Brian Rowe, MD. Sedation for acute painful procedures in Pediatric emergency departments.
- Barry Diner, MD, MSc Supervisor: Brian Rowe, MD. Treatment of atrial fibrillation.

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## University of Saskatchewan

Site Co-Representatives (Jan – Aug): Angela Busch, PT, BPT, MSc Dorothy Forbes, PhD, RN  
 Site Co-Representatives (Aug – Dec): Janet Bangma, MLIS, MA Ed, Dorothy Forbes, PhD, RN  
 Site Coordinator: Shellie Peacock

### **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

#### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Dorothy Forbes, Debra Morgan, Janet Bangma, Shellie Peacock, Diane Campbell, Jennifer Adamson, Angela Busch, Candice Schachter, Liz Harrison, Bruce Reeder, Karen Chad

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

- Hosted workshop: “*Combining Data: Tools & Tips for Systematic Reviewers*”. Saskatoon, SK, March 16, 2002, 32 attendees.
- Sponsored Dorothy Forbes to attend Reviewer Training Workshops: “*Developing a Cochrane Protocol*” and “*Undertaking a Cochrane Review*”. Ottawa, ON, November 22, and 23, 2002.

### **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

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

- Dorothy Forbes, Guest Speaker, Epidemiology II: The Cochrane Collaboration & Library, Dec. 4, 2001(2001 or 2002), University of Saskatchewan (8 Master’s students)
- Dorothy Forbes, Guest Speaker, Gerontology Advisory Committee, and Continuing Nursing Education: The Cochrane Collaboration, May 6, 2002, Saskatoon, SK (9 administrators, educators, clinicians).
- Dorothy Forbes, Guest Speaker, Epidemiology II: The Cochrane Collaboration & Library, November 28, 2002, University of Saskatchewan (20 Master’s students)

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

- Cochrane Health Promotion & Public Health Field Newsletter to 30 faculty members, College of Nursing

## Consumer Involvement

- Edith Sumner, Vice President, Consumers' Association of Canada, Saskatchewan (Consumer Editor of Cochrane Review).

**Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.**

## Effort to Assess Educational Needs

- Prior to the workshop *Combining Data: Tools & Tips for Systematic Reviewers*, participants were asked to indicate their knowledge of statistics.

## Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- The Health Sciences Librarians instruct the first year medical students in Medical Informatics. One of these sessions was devoted to reviewing what the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews is and when to use this information resource (February 28, 60 students were given a hands-on opportunity to work with *The Cochrane Library*).
- The Health Sciences Librarians instruct the medical residents during their rotations and the database is introduced during their searching classes in August 2002.
- As of the fall 2002 the Health Sciences Librarians are formally instructing all years of the Pharmacy curriculum. The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews will be shown and exercises distributed to pharmacy 300, 400, 500 classes.
- The Health Sciences Librarians participated in two Continuing Medical Education Workshops titled "*Effective Searching of Computer-Based Medical Information: A Practical, Hands-on Workshop for Physicians*" where the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews was presented. Attending clinicians (approximately 20 per session) were given a hands-on opportunity to use the database. (January & May 2002).

## Strengthening the Network

### Site Groups

- Hosted Site Group Luncheons, March 26 (22 attendees) and November 13, 2002 (14 attendees), University of Saskatchewan. As well as providing information about The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library*. Presentations were made on *Endnote* and *How to Conduct a Systematic Review*. Two Site Group meetings will be held each year.
- Hosted Advisory Committee Luncheon, October 16, 2002, University of Saskatchewan. Members include representation from medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physical therapy, nursing, and library services (7 attendees). It is anticipated that two Site Group Advisory meetings will be held each year.

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University of Western Ontario

Site Representative (Jan – Mar): John McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Site Representative (Apr – Dec): George Rice, MD

Site Coordinator: John MacDonald, BA, MA

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- One new reviewer was recruited at UWO in 2002 (Debbie Mason, MD).
- One reviewer recruited in 2001 has completed a review in *The Cochrane Library* as of Issue 4, 2002 (Nilesh Chande, MD).

Training and Support of Reviewers

- May 16-18, 2002, Neurological Institute Carlo Besta, Milano, Italy, "Evidence based treatments for Multiple Sclerosis", 75 participants.
- The UWO Site Group provided Antoine Helewa a UWO-based reviewer working with the Musculoskeletal Group with a complimentary copy of *The Cochrane Library*.

Handsearching

- John McDonald, John MacDonald and Katie LeBlanc handsearch the following journals and conference proceedings: Gastroenterology, Digestive Disease Week, and Diseases of the Colon & Rectum, Digestive Diseases and Sciences.
- The UWO Site Group plans on handsearching the journal "Annals of Neurology".

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Effort to Assess Educational Needs

- Educational needs of UWO-based reviewers and Site Group members were assessed at a UWO Site Group meeting on December 4, 2002. The major aim of this Site Group meeting was to assess priorities for a UWO-based workshop for reviewers to be held in March 2003. Fourteen people attended.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- We are continuing to promote The Cochrane Collaboration and the integration of Cochrane within the curricula of the Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at The University of Western Ontario. Lectures on the importance of systematic reviews and The Cochrane Collaboration have been given to students in health sciences and first year medicine.
- November 2002, London, Ontario: Lecture by J.W.D. McDonald to first year medical students at UWO on the importance of systematic reviews and The Cochrane Collaboration. Approximately 100 attended.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- The Site Group has representatives from various disciplines including: nutrition, clinical epidemiology, pharmacology, nursing, communication disorders, medicine, and occupational therapy. A Site Group meeting was held on December 4, 2002. At this meeting educational needs were assessed to help planning of workshops, strategies for reviewer recruitment and the promotion of Cochrane activities at UWO (14 people attended).

Other

- A new Site Representative was recruited in 2002. George Rice replaced Jack McDonald as UWO Site Representative in April 2002.
- John MacDonald attended the CCN/C Annual General Meeting in Ottawa on November 24, 2002.

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## **University of Toronto**

Site Representative: Rebecca Wong, MD, MB ChB, MSc, FRCPC

### **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

#### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Frances Shepherd, Normand Laperriere, Lyn Marshall, Nandini Natarajan, May Tsao, Eileen Rakovitch, Edward Chow, Peiman Haddad, Sachin Shah, Cherrie Tan Day, Abhay Lodha, Manoj Malviya, and Catherine Taylor

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

### **Information Kit distribution at national/international meetings**

- March 18-22, 2002; U of T Centre for the Study of Pain Education Meeting, 100, nursing students and faculty
- September 12-13, 2002; Skill Building in Psychosocial Oncology, 300, psychosocial practitioners, oncologists
- September 19-21, 2002; The second Princess Margaret Hospital Conference, 300, medical, surgical and radiation oncologists, oncology nurses, oncology health professionals,
- November 15, 2002; 9th Annual Conference, The Science & Art of Pain & Symptom Management, 200, health care professionals with an interest in pain and symptom management

## **Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.**

### **Workshops**

- Round: Oral Health Sciences Seminar; Topic: The Cochrane Collaboration - What is it all about?; Location: Faculty of Dentistry, 124 Edward Street, Room 360; Date: January 15, 2002; Time: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.; Number of Participants: 30
- Topic: Archie Cochrane's Life and The Cochrane Collaboration; Location: Neonatal Fellows Academic Morning (2 hrs) NICU Classroom HSC; Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon; Date: January 16, 2002; Presenter: Arne Ohlsson, MD; Number of Participants: 14 fellows, 8 staff
- Round: Oncology Residents Journal Club; Topic: Systematic and Cochrane Reviews; Location: Princess Margaret Hospital, 5th Floor, Room 223; Time: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.; Presenter: Rebecca Wong, MD; Number of Participants: 30
- Round: Maternal Fetal Medicine Rounds; Topic: Archie Cochrane and the Pregnancy and Childbirth Review Group – “Can preterm birth be prevented”?; Location: Hydro Building; Time: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.; Date: January 21, 2002; Presenter: Arne Ohlsson, MD; Number of Participants: 8
- Round: U of T Radiation Oncology Departmental Rounds; Topic: The Cochrane Collaboration and Oncology; Location: Princess Margaret Hospital, 6th Floor Auditorium; Presenter: MDs Rebecca Wong and Arne Ohlsson; Time: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.; Date: February 28, 2002; Number of participants: 50
- Event: Reviewer Training Workshop; Location: Institute for Work & Health; Presenters: Arne Ohlsson, MD, Chantelle Garrity, and Maurits van Tulder; Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Date: February 7, 2002; Number of participants: 16;
- Event: Ontario Occupational Health Nurses Association 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference; Presenter: Victoria Pennick, Rhoda Reardon; Time: 2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.; Date: September 13, 2002; Number of participants: 25



## Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

### Faculty of medicine

| <b>Undergraduate</b>                     | <b>Description</b>                                                        | <b>Audience</b> | <b>Faculty</b>                                            |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> year                     | Determinates of community health course, 2 day                            | 190             | Ms. Elizabeth Uleryk                                      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> year                     | Determinates of community health course, Sep 5                            | 190             | A. Ohlsson, MD                                            |
| <b>Medicine residents</b>                |                                                                           |                 |                                                           |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> year CRISP program       | Half day workshop                                                         | 30              | Maurits van Tulder, Claire Bombardier, MD.<br>R. Wong, MD |
| <b>Paediatric residents</b>              |                                                                           |                 |                                                           |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> year core topic seminars | Apr 23, Jun 25, Aug 20, Oct 15, Dec 10, 2002                              | 6-8 per session | A. Ohlsson, MD                                            |
| <b>Oncology residents</b>                |                                                                           |                 |                                                           |
| All years                                | Journal club                                                              | 30              | R. Wong, MD                                               |
| <b>Fellows</b>                           |                                                                           |                 |                                                           |
| Neonatal fellowship program              | Seminar on systematic reviews/ meta-analysis/guidelines<br>September 2002 | 16 + 8 staff    | A. Ohlsson, MD                                            |

### Other Faculties

| <b>Graduate school</b>                               | <b>Description</b>                                                                               | <b>Target audience</b> | <b>Faculty</b>                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Department of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation | Master of Science course HAD5309S<br>Systematic review/Meta-analysis.<br>April 16 – July 5, 2002 | 16 graduate students   | A. Ohlsson, MD<br>Joseph Beyene, MD<br>Ms. Elizabeth Uleryk,<br>Maurits van Tulder, MD |

## Strengthening the Network

### Site Group

- Site Group meetings were held July 16 and October 1, 2002
- See chart on next page for members of the University of Toronto Site Group

| <b>U of T Site Group Membership</b> |           |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>                         |           | <b>Area of Representation</b>                                                                                                                                                    |
| Berinstein                          | Corrine   | Consumer and Communication Group, Policy Maker, CPSO                                                                                                                             |
| Bombardier                          | Claire    | Back Group, Reviewer, Coordinating Editor, Coordinator, Institute for Work and Health                                                                                            |
| Burrows                             | Gwen      | Consumer, Director, National Grants Program, Hospital for Sick Children Foundation                                                                                               |
| Clark                               | Kathie    | Canadian Cochrane Centre Co-Director                                                                                                                                             |
| Dao                                 | Thuan     | Faculty of Dentistry                                                                                                                                                             |
| Davis                               | Dave      | Associate Dean, Continuing Education, University of Toronto                                                                                                                      |
| Furlan                              | Andrea    | Back Group, Institute for Work and Health, reviewer                                                                                                                              |
| Garritty                            | Chantelle | Back Group, Review Group Coordinator and Trials Search Coordinator, Review Group staff                                                                                           |
| Glazier                             | Rick      | HIV/AIDS Group, Musculoskeletal Group, Reviewer, Editor, U of T Family and Community Medicine and Public Health Sciences, Wellesley Hospital Research Institute, Churwell Centre |
| Grad                                | Helen Ann | School of Dentistry                                                                                                                                                              |
| Hodnett                             | Ellen     | Pregnancy and Child Birth Group, Developmental, Psychosocial & Learning Problems Group, EPOC, Editor, Professor and Reisman Chair in Perinatal Nursing Research                  |
| Beyene                              | Joseph    | Hospital for Sick Children, CCN/C Statistics Consultant                                                                                                                          |
| Keelor                              | Sean      | Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Research Transfer Advisor                                                                                                         |
| Ohlsson                             | Arne      | Canadian Cochrane Center Director                                                                                                                                                |
| Parkin                              | Patricia  | Head, Division of Paediatrics, Hospital for Sick Children                                                                                                                        |
| Pennick                             | Vicki     | Senior Clinical Research Project Manager, Cochrane Back Group Coordinator, Institute of Work & Health                                                                            |
| Reardon                             | Rhoda     | Cochrane Back Group, Institute for Work and Health, Research Transfer Associate                                                                                                  |
| Shah                                | Vibhuti   | Neonatal, Pregnancy and Childbirth Group, Reviewer, Mt. Sinai Hospital                                                                                                           |
| Stevens                             | Bonnie    | Neonatal and Pain, Reviewer, Faculty of Nursing                                                                                                                                  |
| Taddio                              | Anna      | Neonatal Pharmacist, Reviewer                                                                                                                                                    |
| Uleryk                              | Elizabeth | Director, Hospital Library, Hospital for Sick Children                                                                                                                           |
| Vohra                               | Sunita    | Development, Psychosocial and Learning Problems, Hospital for Sick Children                                                                                                      |
| Wong                                | Rebecca   | Radiation Oncology, U of T Site Representative                                                                                                                                   |

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Queen's University

Site Co-Representatives: Tanveer Towheed, BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FACR, DABIM and Phil Hahn, MSc

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Ann Cranney (Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group) joined the Division of Rheumatology at Queen's.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- New installation of the Online Update Version of *The Cochrane Library*, KGH Library, Kingston, Ontario. Library manager provides individual training to medical, nursing and allied health staff during regular library orientation sessions and upon request (Margaret Darling, Library Manager, Kingston General Hospital).

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

Distribution of CCN/C Annual Report

- 10 Obstetricians/Gynecologists. Postgraduate Course: "Millennium Technology." Annual Clinical Meeting of the Society of Obstetricians & Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC), Winnipeg, Manitoba (Phil Hahn, June 21)
- 12 Obstetricians/Gynecologists. Workshop: "Millennium Technology" at the SOGC Ontario CME Program. The Toronto Hospital, Toronto, Ontario (Phil Hahn, Dec 6).
- 50 Residents in Obstetricians/Gynecologists. Workshop: "Introduction to Research" at the Joseph L. Rotman Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario (Phil Hahn, Dec 8).

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

- Small group hands-on sessions of *The Cochrane Library* on the OVID system. Participants: 60 Phase II medical students (January 02), 8 International Medical Graduate Students (May 02), 3 Nurse Practitioners (June 02), 10 Nursing Masters students (September 02) 2 Post RN students (October 02), and 7 VON Nurse Managers (October 02) (Bracken Health Sciences Librarians)
- Large class demonstration to 2 groups (total 62) of 3rd year Nursing Students (February 02). (Bracken Health Sciences Librarians)
- The staff of the Health Science Library explained what the Cochrane databases are about at every opportunity (and formally at the beginning of every Ovid class). They offer training in groups, as above, or one-on-one in the library (part of reference work) or one-on-one in the Faculty member's office as part of the "House Call" programme (Suzanne Maranda, Bracken Health Sciences Librarian).
- Presentation to the Internal Medicine Residents on Cochrane and Epidemiology and Biostatistics (Tanveer Towheed TE, Phil Hahn, March).
- On-line computer demonstration of Cochrane Database of Systemic Reviews, *OVID EBM Reviews version* to 40 medical residents. Part of Introduction to Research Methodology & Critical Appraisal Course, *Queen's University* Postgraduate Medical Education (Phil Hahn, May 16).

Continuing Medical Education (CME)

- Online computer demonstration (90 minutes): *The Cochrane Library*, Knowledge Finder and Update Editions. Postgraduate Course entitled "Millennium Technology." Annual Clinical Meeting of the Society of Obstetricians & Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC), Location: University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, 10 participants: Obstetricians/Gynecologists. (Phil Hahn, June 21)
- On-line computer demonstration (90 minutes): *Update Edition of The Cochrane Library*. Workshop: "Millennium Technology" at the SOGC Ontario CME Program. Location: The Toronto General Hospital Computer Lab, Toronto, Ontario. Participants: 12 Obstetricians/Gynecologists (Phil Hahn, Dec 6).
- On-line computer demonstration (45 minutes): CD-ROM and Update Editions of *The Cochrane Library*. Forum: "Introduction to Research Course for Canadian Residents in OBGYN" under the auspices of the Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Location: The Joseph L. Rotman Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario Participants: 50 OBGYN Residents from across Canada. (Phil Hahn, Dec 8).

Strengthening the Network

Queen's University Site Group

- Nancy Burge, Pharmacist, Kingston General Hospital
- Ann Cranney, Division of Rheumatology (*NEW MEMBER*)
- Phil Hahn, Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Yolanda Madarnas, Medicine (Oncology)
- Suzanne Maranda, Health Sciences Library
- John McBride, Director, Kingston General Hospital Pharmacy
- Sanjay Sharma, Ophthalmology, Community Health & Epidemiology
- Tanveer Towheed, Division of Rheumatology, Community Health & Epidemiology
- Joan Tranmer, Director, Nursing Research

Other

- Phil Hahn is the Team Leader of the Education & Training Strategic Planning Team.
- Tanveer Towheed is a member of the newly formed Communications and Marketing Strategic Planning Team.

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# University of Ottawa

Site Co-Representatives: Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC and George Wells, MSc, PhD

Site Coordinator: Maria Judd, BSc PT

## **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- The Cochrane EPOC Review Group was successfully recruited to Ottawa (please see the EPOC activity report for details of EPOC activities in this area). The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group activity report also details activity in this area.

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

- Cochrane methodology: Systematic reviews and meta-analysis. Presentation for Community Information and Epidemiological Technologies (CIET) group at the Institute for Population Health. Bev Shea, Ottawa, August 2002
- One-on-one training for Betsy Kristjansson, Ottawa, June 2002.
- One-on-one training for Laura Cook, Ottawa, October 2002.

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

- Presentation on *The Cochrane Library* to the Patient Perspectives focus group at Outcome Measures in Rheumatoid Arthritis Clinical Trials (OMERACT) 6 conference, Australia, Bev Shea, April 2002
- Health Canada presentation, George Wells and Jo Losos, June 21, 2002
- The University of Ottawa was designated as an Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC).
- The University of Ottawa was awarded a prestigious contract by a United States government agency. The University is one of 13 academic medical centres and other science institutions that the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has designated as an Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC). AHRQ, an arm of the US Department of Health and Human Services, is the lead U.S. government agency for enhancing access to and the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of health care services.
- Led by Howard Schachter, MD and David Moher, scientists with the Chalmers Research Group of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) Research Institute, the University of Ottawa EPC will provide systematic reviews and analyses of the scientific literature on topics ranging from clinical and behavioural issues to organizational and financial matters over the next five years. The University of Ottawa team includes numerous partner sites and over 130 investigators (including members of the Cochrane Ottawa based groups such as Peter Tugwell, George Wells, Jeremy Grimshaw). July 18, 2002 (<http://www.uottawa.ca/services/markcom/news/2002/020718-e.html>)

## Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Bev Shea and Maria Judd made abstracts of interest available to members of the Institute for Population Health, University of Ottawa.

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McGill University

Site Representative: Roland Grad, MD, CM, MSc

Site Coordinator: Ritsuko (Ritz) Kakuma, BA, MSc

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Colin Chalk agreed to co-author an update of “Aldose reductase Inhibitors in the Treatment of Diabetic Neuropathy”. This review is now out of date and has been withdrawn from the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. Colin Chalk has recruited two neurologists to share authorship: Fraser Moore and Tim Benstead
- Roland Grad submitted the name of Vinh-kim Nguyen (who expressed interest in reviewing HIV reviews) to Lorne Becker head of the Primary Care Field.

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Ritsuko Kakuma assisted Michael Kramer to merge the texts of five Cochrane reviews on “Protein and energy intake in pregnancy” into the text of a single review.
- Similarly, Ritsuko Kakuma assisted Michael Kramer to merge the texts of three reviews of “Maternal antigen avoidance during pregnancy or lactation for preventing or treating atopic disease in infants” into a single Cochrane review. The two new merged reviews will be submitted for peer review by year’s end.

Handsearching

- Colin Chalk continues to handsearch *The Journal of the Neurological Sciences*. Thus far in 2002, he has searched volumes 150 (1997) to 154 (1998); since 2000, he has searched volumes 128 (1995) to 154 (1998).

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Roland Grad assisted France Légaré in organizing a meeting at Université Laval on May 17, 2002. This meeting, the 70^e congrès de l'ACFAS, brought together some 60 clinicians, policy makers and researchers to discuss the impact of systematic reviews on knowledge transfer and practice change. Roland Grad presented his research in session C-108: La contribution des revues systématiques et de la collaboration Cochrane à l'évaluation des technologies de la santé et du transfert des connaissances scientifiques au Québec.

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- Roland Grad sent an electronic copy of the 2001 Annual Report to Véronique Déry Directrice scientifique, Agence d'évaluation des technologies et des modes d'intervention en santé (AETMIS).

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Coincident with the release of Issue 2, 2002, and in collaboration with Ritsuko Kakuma, Roland Grad sent e-mail letters with electronic links of new Cochrane reviews to key opinion leaders in the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry at McGill.

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Grad RM. Using Systematic Reviews in Clinical Decision Making. School of Physical and Occupational Therapy, McGill University, March 7, 2002.
- Kakuma R. Introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration. McGill University, November 29, 2002. Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics course "Study design and analysis I"

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- *Evidence Based Medicine*. Lecture provided to students at the McGill Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, March 20, 2002.

Strengthening the Network

- Roland Grad participated in a number of meetings to seek financial support for the four Cochrane Sites in Quebec.

Other

- Roland Grad provided a written summary of Cochrane-related activities at McGill to Véronique Déry, Directrice scientifique, Agence d'évaluation des technologies et des modes d'intervention en santé (AETMIS).

Université de Montréal

Site Representative: Jacques Lacroix, MD

Site Coordinator: Chantal Roy, MD

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Isabel Chevalier became a reviewer for the Cochrane Haematological Malignancies Group.
- France Gauvin became a reviewer for the Screening and Diagnostic Tests Group.
- Catherine Litalien is presently completing a systematic review on sedation and analgesia as treatment measures of severe head trauma in critically ill children.

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Jacques Lacroix gave a three-hour seminar on systematic review to seven students who worked to get a Master's degree (MSc) in clinical epidemiology.
- The following student is presently doing a systematic review: Liliana Simon (Brazil)

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Lacroix J. Les activités Cochrane à l'Université de Montréal. Colloque "La contribution des revues systématiques et de la Collaboration Cochrane à l'évaluation des technologies de la santé et du transfert des connaissances scientifiques au Québec". 70^e Congrès de l'ACFAS, Québec, Mai 2002.
- Lacroix J. La librairie Cochrane et la médecine basée sur les faits (Evidence Based Medicine and *The Cochrane Library*). Conférence départementale (grand rounds), département de médecine interne, Hôpital Sacré-Coeur, 28 mai 2002

Use of Documents in Both Official Languages

- The 2001 Annual Report was distributed to all members of the Cochrane Site Group of the Université de Montréal.

- Bilingual documents were distributed to all students who registered to our workshop.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Cochrane abstracts have been distributed to residents in Paediatrics of the Department of Paediatrics of Sainte-Justine Hospital.
- Jacques Lacroix is writing the second edition of a Textbook published in French on Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (Lacroix J, Gauthier M, Beaufils F, eds. Urgences et soins intensifs pédiatriques. Paris et Montréal: Doin et Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal 1994; 997 pages). He is providing authors of chapters with the appropriate abstracts from *The Cochrane Library*, and the authors are asked to refer to these systematic reviews. To date, there are references to 45 systematic reviews published in *The Cochrane Library* in this textbook.

Consumer Involvement

- As it is the case each year, Marie Hatem-Asmar presented *The Cochrane Library* during an International congress of midwives, Beyrouth (Beirut), Lebanon (September 2002).

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Effort to Assess Educational Needs

- Reviews published in *The Cochrane Library* were reviewed during journal clubs of the Department of Paediatrics and the Division of Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine.

Workshops

- A workshop on *The Cochrane Library* was held in November 2002; it was presented to four residents in Paediatric Critical Care Medicine.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- The Site Group of the Faculté de Médecine de l'Université de Montréal now includes the following list of members:
 - James Brophy, MD (Hôtel-Dieu de Montréal)
 - Anne-Claude Bernard-Bonnin, MD (Sainte-Justine Hospital)
 - France Gauvin, MD (Sainte-Justine Hospital)
 - Mme Marie Hatem-Asmar (Faculté du Nursing, Université de Montréal)
 - Mr. Louis-Luc Lecompte (librarian, Hôpital Sainte-Justine)
 - Catherine Litalien, MD (Sainte-Justine Hospital)
 - François Madore, MD (Sacré-Coeur Hospital)
 - Mr. Sylvain Morneau (respiratory therapist, Hôpital Sainte-Justine)
 - Mme Michèle Rivard (Biostatistician, Department de Médecine Sociale et preventive, Université de Montréal)

- Mme Chantal Roy (MSc. in clinical epidemiology)
- Active members of the Site Group (other than those listed above):
 - Devendra Amre, épidémiologiste, Centre de Recherches, Hôpital Sainte-Justine.
 - Isabel Chevalier, pédiatre intensiviste, Hôpital Sainte-Justine.
 - William Fraser, Directeur, Département d'Obstétrique-Gynécologie de l'Université de Montréal.
 - Sylvie Perreault, Faculté de Pharmacie, Université de Montréal.
 - Véronique Phan, néphrologue pédiatre, Hôpital Sainte-Justine.
 - Michèle Rivard, épidémiologiste et biostatisticienne, Département de Médecine Social et Préventive, Université de Montréal.
 - Patrick Saint-Louis, Département de Biochimie, Hôpital Sainte-Justine.

Other

Staff

- Mme Chantal Roy is hired by the Research Centre of the Sainte-Justine Hospital to support the Cochrane activities at the Université de Montréal.
- Jacques Lacroix attended the Annual General Meeting of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre held in Ottawa on November 24, 2002.
- Funding came from the Canadian Cochrane Centre and from l'Agence de Évaluation des Technologies et des Modes d'Intervention en Santé (AETMIS).
- Jacques Lacroix participated to the activity of the Funding Committee. He met the administrator of the Agence d'évaluation des technologies et des modes d'intervention en santé (AETMIS) du Québec who made the decision to support financially the Cochrane Sites in Québec.

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## Université Laval

Site Representative: France Légaré, MD, MSc, CCMF, FCMF

Site Coordinator: Lucile Turcot-Lemay, MD, PhD

### **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

#### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Julie Sénécal is a new reviewer collaborating with W.D. Fraser.
- Louise Beaulac-Baillargeon, professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy, as well as Pierre Frémont, professor of family medicine and rehabilitation are researchers involved in the production of systematic reviews. France Légaré approached them with a proposal to collaborate with local Cochrane production activities and to include their production in *The Cochrane Library*.

- The project of Dr. Frémont and colleagues is: Therapeutic exercise and orthopaedic manual therapy for impingement syndrome: a systematic review. Authors: François Desmeules, Claude H. Côté and Pierre Frémont.
- France Légaré also took steps to participate in the updating of a Cochrane systematic review under the group EPOC.

## Training

- Again in the summer of 2002, France Légaré handled the supervision of internship students by introducing them to the process of systematic review.
- The evaluative research unit, which houses the Cochrane Site of Université Laval, is a site of scientific production, training and exchange that welcomes new students on a regular basis from a variety of academic backgrounds. As a general rule, such students are regularly introduced to researchers of the unit who are involved in the process of evaluative research, as well as being introduced to the main notions and principles of the process of systematic review.
- Marc-André Morin, the local resource-person who coordinates training and dissemination activities, is asked on occasion to initiate students to the use of *The Cochrane library* and to the essential principles of systematic review or meta-analysis.
- Sylvie Dodin requested this introduction for two of her students.

## Training activities

- Public Health Centre, Quebec City, December 18, 200 (2001 or 2002); Systematic review: myths and realities. A tool for public health?; Speaker: France Légaré
- Cochrane / AETMIS joint colloquium held during the ACFAS conference Université Laval, Québec — May 17, 2002; "The contribution of systematic reviews and of The Cochrane Collaboration to the evaluation of health technologies and the transfer of scientific knowledge in Québec". The presentations in PowerPoint format have been saved and were provided to AETMIS for inclusion on their Web site ([www.aetmis.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.aetmis.gouv.qc.ca)). A few are not available, either because of their size or because questions related to copyright prevented their circulation.
- Québec Health Insurance Board, Head office: 1125 chemin Saint-Louis, Québec — June 12, 2002; Systematic review: myths and realities. A tool for the Québec Health Insurance Board? Speaker: France Légaré

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

### Dissemination activities

- During the week of August 19<sup>th</sup>, Rodolphe Maheux offered an initiation to the use of *The Cochrane Library* to general practitioners from Victoriaville, which was made possible by the library being available on CD in the unit.
- MDs France Légaré and W.D. Fraser have a number of selective and less formal exchanges with the students they supervise, which also constitutes a form of dissemination.
- Web site of the Department of Family Medicine of Université Laval (<http://132.203.128.28/medecine/>)

- Cochrane booth at the SOQIBS conference (Société Québécoise d'Informatique Biomédicale et de la Santé), May 6-7, 2002 — Hilton Hotel -Québec.
- The "blue sheet" summarizing both local and Canadian Cochrane activities was included in the information package presented to each participant (over 150).

**Cochrane booth at the ACFAS (Association francophone pour le savoir) conference, May 13-16, Université Laval, Québec.**

- About a hundred information packages of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre were distributed to conference participants during the four days the booth was in place. About twenty people sought more detailed information or wanted to discuss the implications of The Cochrane Collaboration. Five people consulted the library that was made available. The laptop borrowed from the Child Health Network was in function at the booth and allowed visitors to consult the library. 76 person/hours were required to maintain the booth, on top of about four hours for transport and set-up.
- The presence of The Cochrane Collaboration booth was highlighted in the participants' guide, as well as on the ACFAS Web site ([www.acfas.ca](http://www.acfas.ca)), in the section for forum exhibitors.

**Cochrane booth - Canadian Conference on Research in Nursing Sciences, June 14, 2002, Château Bonne-Entente, Québec.**

- The 10<sup>th</sup> Canadian Conference on Research in Nursing Sciences took place on June 13, 14 and 15 at the Château Bonne Entente in Québec. This meeting was hosted by the Canadian Association of University Schools of Nursing and by the Faculty of Nursing Sciences of Université Laval. The theme of the conference dealt with partnerships and collaboration among the various sectors involved in this field.

**Department of Family Medicine Web site (<http://132.203.128.28/medecine/>)**

- The catalogue of health information Web sites is being maintained and updated monthly. More than 160 sites have been evaluated, and 119 sites with particularly useful information are currently inventoried. The site has had nearly 9500 visitors since it was set up on September 30, 1999. It should be noted that an evaluation has been made of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre Web site.

**Distribution of New Cochrane Information**

- About 60 people receive electronic messages, sent selectively on the basis of pertinent information or questions raised by members of the list. The distribution list of the Canadian Cochrane Centre, CCIInfo, is also included in the e-mailings.

**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**

- W.D. Fraser always includes a section on The Cochrane Collaboration and systematic reviews in the courses he gives to residents in obstetrics.
- Four self-taught modules have been developed and have been presented on the site as of Fall 2002. France Légaré directed the module dealing with synthesis articles and obtained permission to use a Cochrane review.

**Prizes**

- Prize of the Québec Hospital Association « Projet porteur technologies cliniques de l'information » presented at the IT-Health conference held on November 24-25 in Laval, Québec.

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Dalhousie University

Site Co-Representatives: Alexandra Howlett, MD, FRCP(C), Grace Paterson, BSc, MA, MSc

Site Coordinator: Deirdre Harvey, BA

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Stephen Kisely has joined the Dalhousie Site Group from Australia.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Medical Education Symposium Poster presentation on The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre describing the responsibilities of the Site Group and the composition of the Dalhousie Site Team
- Web site (<http://www.medicine.dal.ca/dmedinfo/cochrane.html>)

Consumer Involvement

- In support of an Office of Learning Technologies funded project, HealthInfoRx: Lifelong Learning for Chronic Disease Patients and Their Caregivers, the Site Coordinator, Deirdre Harvey worked with novice users Caitlin Peterson and Katie Legrow from the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic, Capital Health District Authority, to use Cochrane reviews to help develop the glossary for patient curriculum.
- As part of the HealthInfoRx project, we contacted John MacDonald, Canadian Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group, to ask for consumer summaries on IBD systematic reviews. We were informed that they would be forthcoming from a consumer from the Canadian Crohn's and Colitis Disease Foundation.
(http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/IBD/IBD_news8b.htm#Consumer)
- The Recommendations for Handheld Hardware and Software, Dalhousie University, includes a section on Evidence-Based Medicine Reference Resources.
(<http://www.medicine.dal.ca/palm/software/ebm.htm>)

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Effort to Assess Educational Needs

- A survey on the Analysis and Comparison of Evidence-Based Practice in the Curricula of Health Care Facilities in Nova Scotia is being conducted by Adil Virani, BSc, PharmD, Ryan Murphy, BSc, and Grace Paterson, MSc, PhD candidate. The survey was mailed out October 2002.

Workshops

- Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre (AHPRC) Seminar, "Providing Uptake of Research Findings in Health Systems", July 18, 2002, Jeremy Grimshaw, MD speaker. Addressing Dalhousie researchers and policy makers, Jeremy Grimshaw, MD described aims by the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) Group to undertake systematic reviews of interventions to improve practice. Approximately 25 people attended, including representatives from Medicine, Dentistry and other health professions, as well as at least one Health Canada representative.

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Masters in Health Informatics Curricula. The aims of the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group were discussed with Master's students as part of research activities. Students are provided with Critical Appraisal instruction through two computer-based courses: 1) Critical Appraisal Course for Postgraduate Medical Residents by Swarna Weerasinghe, PhD and Grace Paterson, MSc, Dalhousie University and 2) Evidence: Meaning, Measurement and Eikos by Ross E.G. Upshur, BA (Hons), MA, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Toronto and Errol Colak, MD student, University of Toronto.
- Dalhousie Psychiatry Residents are participating in CAT rounds using the Web site.

- Cochrane is integrated into the Case-Oriented Problem Solving (COPS) Undergraduate Medical Education program through the Clinical Epidemiology Unit headed by Robin Whyte, MD, FRCPC. Other faculty have suggested a set of evidence-based reference tools for the "Recommendations for Handheld Hardware and Software" document on www.medicine.dal.ca/palm.
- The W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library librarians offer individual sessions on Cochrane for faculty and students in the Health Professions, Dentistry and Medicine, and also give scheduled Cochrane sessions throughout the year.

Strengthening the Network

Site Groups

- The Dalhousie Site Group has seven members and an administrative coordinator (Deirdre Harvey, BA). We have specific representation from Neonatology (Alixé Howlett, MD, FRCPC), Psychiatry (Stephen Kisely, MB ChB, MSc, MD, MRC Psych), Medical Informatics (Grace Paterson, MSc, PhD candidate), Pharmacy (Adil Virani, BSc, PharmD), Dentistry (Debra Matthews, BSc, DDS, Dipl Perio, MSc), Population Health (Michael Pennock, PhD) and the W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library (Tim Ruggles, MLIS – currently on sabbatical). Site Group meetings were held April 10, 2002 and September 24, 2002. There are regular meetings between the two Site Co-Representatives.
- Dalhousie University has approximately 40 individuals who are involved with the Cochrane Network either as reviewers or participants in past workshops. We have surveyed them on current Cochrane activities for this report and we are developing a survey to ask about their educational needs.
- Karen Neves, MLIS, has proposed that she function as a clinical librarian to support medical students' learning issues in the tutorial setting of the COPS Undergraduate Medical Education program. A formalization of this role is underway.
- Two members of the Health Informatics Research Team at Dalhousie University, Syed Sibte Raza Abidi, PhD, and Grace Paterson, MSc, attended the CIHR Knowledge Translation workshop held June 18, 2002. Initially, we proposed to develop a technology-enriched knowledge crystallization framework that built on the Cochrane methodology, and we networked with others at the workshop on ways of doing this.

Other

- Karen Mann, PhD, Director, Division of Medical Education, is a member of the Best Evidence Medical Education Collaboration (BEME) Group on Faculty Development, chaired by Yvonne Steinert, McGill.

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# Memorial University

Site Co-Representatives: Sandra LeFort, RN, MN, PhD and Donna Moralejo, RN, PhD

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

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

- Alba DiCenso, RN, PhD gave the keynote address on Incorporating Research Evidence into Nursing Practice, at the Memorial University School of Nursing Research Day (80 participants).
- ARNNL ACCESS, the quarterly newsletter of the professional Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (ARNNL) received by all RNs in the province, has begun a series on incorporating evidence into practice. The first article gave an overview of the benefits and issues. In December/January, two articles will be published: one by D. Moralejo on evidence-based extraction journals, and the other specifically on *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.**

### **Effort to Assess Educational Needs**

- One master's student in nursing is developing a needs assessment, to be implemented in Winter 2003. She will focus this assessment on the activities and learning needs of nurses in key positions within the local hospitals and community sector who are most likely to be incorporating research into practice at a policy or education level (e.g. staff development educators, administrators and clinical nurse specialists). This study will also serve as the basis of a wider study next year.

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

- The Health Sciences Library gave 19 "Finding the Evidence" sessions in 2002, to a total of 165 students. These sessions include an introduction to *The Cochrane Library* and searching its databases.

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Reports from Review Groups in Canada

Back Review Group

Coordinating Editors (Jan – May): Claire Bombardier, MD, Alf Nachemson, MD, PhD

Coordinating Editors (May – Dec): Claire Bombardier, MD, Lex Bouter, PhD

Review Group Coordinator (Jan – April): Chantelle Garritty, BA, DCS

Review Group Coordinator (April – Dec): Vicki Pennick, RN, BScN, MHSc

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Lina Santaguida, Joel Gagnier, Pamela Houghton, Ken Trinh, Jill Hayden, Sherra Solway, Pierre Côté, Judy Clarke.

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Maurits van Tulder, from the Vrije Universiteit, The Netherlands, was a sabbaticant with the Institute for Work & Health during 2002, concentrating most of his time in the Evidence-based Practice Stream in general, and the Cochrane Back Review Group in particular.
- Garritty C, Ohlsson A, van Tulder, M. Reviewer Training Workshop. February 7, 2002. Institute for Work & Health, Toronto, Canada. (16; reviewers, researchers, clinicians, graduate students (also included in Toronto Site report))
- Bombardier C, Furlan A, Côté P, Hayden J, Manno M, van Tulder M. Systematic Reviews: an overview. November 11, 2002. Institute for Work & Health, Toronto, Canada. (25; graduate students, researchers, reviewers)

Handsearching

- Doreen Day has done the majority of the handsearching this year, with some contributions by Chantelle Garritty (RGC/TSC), Andrea Furlan, Emma Irwin, and Joel Gagnier
- *Spine Journal* is being actively hand searched: (1976 – July 2002 completed)
- The following journals are registered to be hand searched by the Back Review Group, many of which are now available on-line: European Spine Journal, American Journal of Orthopaedics, J. American Osteopathic Association, J. of Back & Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation, Seminars in Spinal Surgery, Spine Journal, Journal of Spinal Disorders, The Spine Journal

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communication support to the Collaboration

- The Knowledge Transfer and Exchange Team at the Institute for Work & Health supported the Back Group (and by extension the Collaboration) by:
 - Helping to prepare, transport and distribute Cochrane-related materials to clinical/scientific conferences and workshops throughout the year
 - Assisting with press releases for publication of Cochrane reviews in paper journals (see Publications – Furlan 2002)
 - Assisting with press coverage of clinical/scientific conferences (The Fifth International Forum for Primary Care Research on Low Back Pain Meeting (Forum V: Quality Care in Low-Back Pain: How Many Does it Take to Tango?), Montreal)
 - Developing a new poster, outlining the Back Group Editorial Base

Presentations

- Pennick V. Evidence-based practice: an overview of a research program. May 2002; Toronto, Canada. Delegation from the Expert Centre for Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders, The Netherlands. (8; clinicians, researchers)
- Pennick V, Furlan A, van Tulder M, Sinclair S. Literature review on Conservative Interventions for the Management of Chronic Low-Back Pain. May 2002; Toronto, Canada. Program of Care Development Committee, WSIB. (14; clinicians, policy makers)
- Bombardier C. Standardization for the Conduct of Randomized Controlled Trials in Low Back Pain. May 2002; Montreal, Canada. Forum V: Quality Care in Low-Back Pain: How Many Does it Take to Tango? (25; clinicians, researchers, graduate students, policy makers)
- Bombardier C. Overcoming the Challenges: Translating Research Findings into Practice. May 2002; Toronto, Canada. A Governor's Circle Lecture, AARC Foundation. (75; patients, donors, hospital staff, clinicians, researchers)
- Bombardier C. Chronic Low-Back Pain: Tribulations of Trial Design. May 2002; Winnipeg, Canada. Merck Frosst Satellite Symposium at Canadian Pain Society Meeting. (300; clinicians, researchers, graduate students, policy makers)
- Van Tulder MW. Evidence-based Medicine for Low-Back Pain. June 2002; Toronto, Canada. Educational Rounds, Comprehensive Pain Program, Toronto Western Research Institute, Krembil Neuroscience Centre, Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network. (15; clinicians)
- Van Tulder MW, Waddell G, Linton SJ. Refresher course on low back pain. August 2002; San Diego, USA. IASP meeting. (300; clinicians, researchers, graduate students)
- Van Tulder MW. Closing the Gap between Research and Practice: Evidence-Based Medicine for Low-Back Pain. September 2002; Edmonton, Canada. Back and Neck Pain: an Update. (130; clinicians, researchers, graduate students)
- Bombardier C. Reliability and validity of self-report-based measures commonly used in the evaluation of treatment for spinal disorders. September 2002. Toronto, Canada. Symptom, Diagnostic and Disability Validity: Improving Patients Outcomes. (200; clinicians, researchers, graduate students, policy makers + 50 Information kits distributed)

- Bombardier C. D'hier an aujourd'hui: le changement de paradigme. September 2002; Quebec City, Canada. College of Physiotherapy Symposium (200; clinicians, researchers, graduate students + van Tulder M, Pennick V. What is the optimal evidence-based management of chronic non-specific low-back pain? Linkages No. 10; August 2002:1-8 given as part of the syllabus)
- Pennick V, Reardon R. Evidence-Based Practice. September 2002; Toronto, Canada. Pathways to Success, 31st Annual Conference, Ontario Occupational Health Nurses Association. (25; clinicians, policy makers + 50 extra information kits distributed)
- Pennick V, Furlan A, van Tulder M. Cochrane Back Review Group. October 2002; Toronto, Canada. Scottish/Northern Ireland Preceptorship Program. (5; clinicians, researchers + information kits given)
- Furlan A. A synthesis of the scientific literature of massage for low-back pain. October 2002; Toronto, Canada. WSIB Rounds for Ontario Massage Therapy Association Massage Awareness Week. (100; clinicians, policy makers)

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Forum V: Quality Care in Low-Back Pain: How Many Does it Take to Tango? May 2002; Montreal, Canada. (100; clinicians, researchers, graduate students, policy makers)
- Tenth Cochrane Colloquium. July-August 2002; Stavanger, Norway. (100; clinicians, researchers, graduate students, policy makers)
- Symptom, Diagnostic and Disability Validity: Improving Patients Outcomes September 2002; Toronto, Canada. (50; clinicians, researchers, graduate students, policy makers)
- Pathways to Success, 31st Annual Conference, Ontario Occupational Health Nurses Association. September 2002; Toronto, Canada. (75; clinicians, policy makers)

Consumer Involvement

- Both consumers attended the Editorial Board meeting, held May 2002, Montreal, Canada.
- Both consumers are asked for feedback on all new title submissions, policy discussions, some protocols and reviews

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Effort to Assess Educational Needs

- Questionnaire, asking if anyone was interested in attending workshops on systematic reviews/evidence-based practice, was posted on the Institute Web Site, on the page with the Linkages publications and distributed with: van Tulder M, Pennick V. What is the optimal evidence-based management of chronic non-specific low-back pain? Linkages No. 10; August 2002:1-8

Workshops

- Van Tulder M, Bombardier C, Furlan A, Wong R. Systematic Reviews Workshop. November 2002; Toronto, Canada. Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. 25 medical residents (also in Toronto Site Report)

Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula

- Van Tulder M. Guest Lecturer. Quality assessment of RCTs in systematic reviews. June 2002; Toronto, Canada. Systematic Review/Meta Analysis (Cochrane Reviews) course. Clinical Epidemiology and Health Care Research Program. Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. (20; Graduate Students)
- University of Toronto CME Course. Chronic non-malignant pain after soft tissue injury: Using the evidence. October 2002; Toronto, Canada. (clinicians, researchers + van Tulder M, Pennick V. What is the optimal evidence-based management of chronic non-specific low-back pain? Linkages No. 10; August 2002:1-8 given as part of the syllabus)

Strengthening the Network:

University of Toronto Site Group

- Claire Bombardier, Maurits van Tulder and Andrea Furlan have been active in helping to develop and implement training workshops for medical trainees, graduate students and other reviewers/users (see Goals 1 & 3 for workshop details)
- Chantelle Garritty and Vicki Pennick attended meetings
- Kathy Chapeskie (Knowledge Transfer and Exchange) participated on the ad hoc Communications Sub-committee

Other

- Bombardier C. Example of Knowledge Translation in Cochrane Back Group. Ottawa, January 2002; Ottawa Canada. Cochrane Knowledge Translation Grant Workshop, University of Ottawa (clinicians, researchers, policy makers)
- Canadian Cochrane Entities Meeting with Elizabeth Dickson, MD Director of Knowledge Translation, et al, CIHR. February 2002; Ottawa, Canada.
- Cochrane Back Group (closed) Editorial Board Meeting. May 2002; Montreal, Canada. (during Forum V).
- Cochrane Back Review Group open meeting. May 2002; Montreal, Canada. Montreal (during Forum V).
- Cochrane Back Review Group open meeting. August 2002; Stavanger, Norway (during 10th Cochrane Colloquium)
- Active participation in series of meetings/conference calls among Cochrane Entities, leading up to a September 2002 joint CIHR special project grant application for operational funds.
- As part of a pilot project with the CMSG, entered into an agreement with CIHR and IMHA to provide free literature searches for New Investigators who are applying for their first independent CIHR grant and who are examining interventions for the prevention, treatment or rehabilitation of any disorder relevant to IMHA's research mandate
- Participating in a project initiated by the Cochrane Breast Cancer Trials Search Coordinator that is comparing three different methods of searching healthcare journals for the identification of RCTs: 1) searching the paper version of the journal using a full-text search; 2) searching the online version of the journal using a full-text search; 3) searching the online version of the journal using an electronic keyword search.

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# Hypertension Review Group

Co-ordinating Editor: James Wright, MD, PhD, FRC

Review Group Coordinator: Ciprian Jauca

## **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Eight new reviewers were recruited by the Hypertension Review Group this year: Jose Agustin Arguedas, Balraj Heran, Gurdial Mattu, Marco Perez, Lorri Puil, Cremona Ticea, Mike Tsang, Michelle Wong.

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

- Three reviewers with the Hypertension Review Group were assisted to attend Cochrane training workshops in Saskatoon this year
- Individual training in using the Review Manager software and in statistics was provided at the Hypertension Review Group editorial base in Vancouver, throughout the year to 10 reviewers.

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

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

- Presentation on *The Cochrane Library*, including hands-on demonstration made to 175 first year UBC medical and dental students.
- Hands-on demonstration and use of *The Cochrane Library* to solve patient therapeutic problems for 120 fourth year Medical students as part of a course in Advanced Therapeutics.
- Use of Cochrane systematic reviews in drug therapy decision making was demonstrated for 300 physicians and pharmacists at the Annual Drug Therapy Course organized by the Therapeutics Initiative in May 2002

### **Consumer Involvement**

- The Hypertension Review Group has two consumer representatives
- The Hypertension Review Group works with a “consumer advocate” to improve the quality and usability of the consumer synopses

**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 Cochrane Library* was presented and discussed with 175 first year medical and dental students at UBC, to 120 fourth year medical students and to residents in internal medicine and family practice affiliated with the UBC Faculty of Medicine

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**Effective Practice and Organization of
Care Review Group**

Co-ordinating Editor: Jeremy Grimshaw, MBChB, PhD, FRCGP

Review Group Coordinator: Laura McAuley, BSc, MSc

Trials Search Coordinator: Jessie McGowan, MLIS, AHIP

Knowledge Translation Specialist: Nancy Santesso, BSc, MLIS

Research Fellow: Anna Farmer, MPH, RD

Research Assistant: Chanie Cunningham, BSc

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Nine new reviewers have been recruited to the Effective Practice and Organization of Care group (EPOC). The following reviewers are preparing or updating reviews: Margaret Harisson, Paula Lozano, Judith Schaefer, Lesley Smeaton, Phil Alderson, Martin Marshall, Anna Farmer, France Légaré, Chanie Cunningham
- One new person has joined EPOC to code studies for our specialized register - Cara Bradley

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Reviewer Training Workshop “Developing a Cochrane Protocol” co-hosted with CMSG and CCN/C Nov 22, 2002 – 30 participants
- Reviewer Training Workshop “Undertaking a Cochrane Review” co-hosted with CMSG and CCN/C Nov 23, 2002 – 30 participants
- Provided reviewers with copies of the CD for Training for Cochrane reviews.
- Meeting with a new reviewer, Margaret Harrison, to assess training needs and organize a full day training session

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

- Health Canada, April 29, 2002. Participants included Health Canada Staff.
- Responded to request from Deborah Hyndman, for materials presented at April 29, 2002 talk.
- Health Canada presentation, June 21, 2002
- Providing Uptake of Research Findings in Health Systems, July 2002 Jeremy Grimshaw
- Provided introductory information to Irving Gold at Canadian Health Research Foundation (CHSRF)

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- We have put a link to Cochrane abstracts on our new EPOC Web site

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## **Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group**

Co-ordinating Editor: John W.D. McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Review Group Coordinator: John K. MacDonald, BA, MA

## **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- M. Thabane was recruited as a reviewer in Canada in 2002.

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

- There were no specific training workshops for IBD reviewers. Support was provided through telephone, e-mail and meetings. Some reviewers are methodological experts and others have received training (including Cochrane workshops) in their own countries.

### **Handsearching**

- John MacDonald (RGC/TSC), John WD McDonald (Co-ordinating Editor) and Katie LeBlanc (consumer representative) contribute to the handsearching of publications.
- The following journals are actively being handsearched:
  - Gastroenterology (1964 – 2002 complete)
  - Gastroenterology (Suppl) – Digestive Disease Week (1980-1997, 1999, 2002 complete; 1998, 2000 and 2001 in progress)
  - Diseases of the Colon and Rectum (1960 – 2002 complete)
  - Digestive Diseases and Sciences (1976-1995, 2000 - 2002 complete; 1996-1999 in progress)

- The following journals are registered to be handsearched by the IBD Review Group:
  - German Journal of Gastroenterology
  - Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology
  - American Journal of Gastroenterology

**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 15, 2002 presentation to London Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada CCFC by JWD McDonald, MD. The presentation, "Advances in medical treatment of Crohn's disease in perspective" was aimed at consumer participants. Twelve people attended.
- The IBD Web site serves to promote dissemination of evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.
- November 2002, London, Ontario: Lecture by JWD McDonald to first year medical students at UWO on the importance of systematic reviews and The Cochrane Collaboration. Approximately 100 attended.

**Consumer Involvement**

- Catherine LeBlanc (IBD Consumer Representative) is assisting with the drafting of consumer synopses of current IBD reviews and in handsearching journals.

**Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.**

**Other**

- In September 2002 the IBD Review Group in conjunction with the CCN/C and other Canadian entities submitted an application for funding support to CIHR.
- Interim funding for the IBD Review Group in the amount of \$35,500 was received from CIHR in October 2002.
- John MacDonald attended the 10<sup>th</sup> International Cochrane Colloquium in Stavanger, Norway in July/August 2002.
- John MacDonald attended the 2002 AGM in Ottawa in November 2002.

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Musculoskeletal Review Group

Co-ordinating Editor: Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Review Group Coordinator: Maria Judd, BSc PT

Editorial Base Team: Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC, George Wells, MSc, PhD,
Beverley Shea, RN, BScN, MSc, and Maria Judd, BSc PT

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Thirty new reviewers have been recruited to Cochrane: Angela Busch, Brigitte Jolles, Alice Han, Lucie Pelland, Mary Egan, Candice Lou Schachter, Donatella Bonaiuti, Lorraine Maxwell, Florus van der Giesen, Lynn Casimiro, Amanda Burls, Marc Hochberg, Troels Wienecke, Paulo Augusto Alambert, Sarah Hetrick, Bruce Weaver, Andrew Willan, Nicole Zytaruk, Clifford Rosen, John P. Bilezikian, Dennis M. Black, Murray J. Favus, Lorraine A. Fitzpatrick, Douglas P. Kiel, Robert Marcus, Eric S. Orwoll, Thomas J. Schnitzer, Emmanuel Papadimitropoulos, Robert Josse, Carol Greenwood

Training and Support of Reviewers

Presentations

- One-on-one training for Jane Campbell via conference calls, George Wells, Maria Judd, Ottawa, Ontario, February 2002
- One-on-one training for Mary Egan, Maria Judd, Ottawa, Ontario, July 2002
- One-on-one training for Barb Blumenauer, Maria Judd and Vivian Robinson, Ottawa, Ontario, April 2002
- RevMan practical hands-on training workshop at University of Ottawa (U of O), Faculty of Health Sciences. Audience included 10 U of O Occupational and Physical Therapy students - Lucie Brosseau, July, 2002
- One-on-one training for Manny Papadimitriopoulos and Laura Visentin, Maria Judd, Ottawa, Ontario, August and September 2002
- One-on-one training for Joan Peterson, Maria Judd and Vivian Robinson, Ottawa, Ontario, October 2002
- CIHR one-on-one library training - Jessie McGowan
- One-on-one training for Naomi Schlesinger, Bev Shea and Maria Judd, Ottawa, Ontario, November 2002

Handsearching

- Handsearching was not a priority this year given our resources and other activities such as developing "Friendly Front End" products to disseminate the information in Cochrane Musculoskeletal reviews and developing grant proposals to obtain sustained funding for the editorial base.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

- Patient Partner Workshop held August 19, 2002 for four members of the Patient Partner Group. The objectives of the workshop were:
 - To understand the role of The Cochrane Collaboration in the development of scientifically valid literature reviews in the management of arthritis
 - To comprehend the basic principles of critical appraisal
 - To explore the feasibility of incorporating Cochrane Musculoskeletal Reviews into CHE delivered by Patient Partners
- Patient Partner is people with arthritis, who deliver education to health care professionals and students. We propose to train patient partners to evaluate the medical evidence available in the Cochrane MSK reviews; we hypothesize that they may be a powerful vehicle for knowledge transfer of this information.
- In the September 2002 issue of the Arthritis News magazine The Cochrane Collaboration, *The Cochrane Library* and the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group were featured. Readers were provided with various methods for accessing Cochrane review abstracts and summaries.
- A poster summarizing the contribution of Cochrane reviews to the evidence-based treatment and management of osteoarthritis was presented at the Osteoarthritis Consensus Conference co-hosted by CIHR – IMHA, TAS and CAN, Toronto, Ontario April 2002.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- We have focused on distributing new Cochrane abstracts to several groups. First, we have communicated with our CMSG members quarterly to alert them to new reviews in our module on *The Cochrane Library*. Secondly, we have been creating consumer abstracts of new reviews that are available on the Arthritis Society Web site <http://www.arthritis.ca/> under a “look at research”.
- All Patient Partners received a table summarizing the conclusions of Cochrane Musculoskeletal reviews, drawn from the abstracts and consumer summaries.
- The CMSG Web site also provides users with a link to the Cochrane abstract page (<http://www.cochranemsk.org/cmsg/>)
- Starting in December 2002 the newsmagazine Arthritis News will feature a regular column on The Cochrane Collaboration and the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group (CMSG). New CMSG abstract topics will be highlighted.

Consumer Involvement

- Prior to the Knowledge Translation workshop held January 31, 2002, a consumer briefing was offered to help familiarize consumers with knowledge translation and Cochrane. The consumer participants included:
 - Davies, James: Consumer, Cochrane Collaboration Musculoskeletal Review Group
 - Dell, Flora: Consumer Representative, Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis Advisory Board
 - Dooley, Ann: Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance
 - Gordon, Joyce: Executive Director, Osteoporosis Society of Canada
 - Jeanes, Dennis: Condon Medical Communications
 - Keeping, Beth: Canadian Dental Association

- Lyddiatt, Anne: Co-Coordinator, Searle Patient Partners in Arthritis
- Matheson, Allan: Jesse's Journey Foundation for Gene and Cell Therapy
- Misner, Judy: President, Psoriasis Society of Canada
- Nelson, Chris: President and CEO, Canadian Arthritis Network
- Okuda, Sachiko: Consumer (skin)
- Peacocke, Judy: President, Bone Builders of Ottawa-Carleton
- Qualman, Ann: Consumer, Cochrane Collaboration Musculoskeletal Review Group
- Schoene, Mark: Consumer (back)
- Woodward, Michael: Jesse's Journey Foundation for Gene and Cell Therapy
- The Ottawa based CMSG consumers met formally with the editorial team twice during the past year, in January 2002 and September 24, 2002. The group also met with Dennis Jeans, a medical writer, in September 2002 for consultation regarding the format of the consumer summaries of Cochrane reviews on the Arthritis Society Web site.
- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group has sought to expand its partnerships during the last year. This has been greatly facilitated by our consumer members. Newly established partners include the Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance (CAPA), the organizing committee of the Bone and Joint Decade (BJD), and the Coordinator for the Canadian National Action Network on The Bone and Joint Decade. Jim Waddell, MD.
- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group members have established linkages with many other organizations including:
 - The Bone and Joint Decade, World Health Organization (BJD, WHO) – Amye Leong
 - CAPA – Ann Qualman, Anne Dooley
 - CAN – Ann Qualman, Mary Kim
 - CIHR – Denis Morrice, Flora Dell
 - Canadian Cochrane Centre Advisory Board – Linda Greason, Jean Jones
 - Canadians For Best Medicines – Cheryl Koehn
 - Cochrane Consumer Network – Ann Qualman
 - Patient Partners – Anne Lyddiatt
 - The Arthritis Society – Jim Davies, Ann Qualman
 - OMERACT - Turid Heiberg
 - Arthritis and Rheumatism International – Glen Urquhart
- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Consumer Group is in the process of developing a proposal for several working groups. This proposal and these working groups will provide increased structure and leadership for the major areas of consumer activity within the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Consumer Group.

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Workshops

- Knowledge Translation workshop: January 31, 2002, the CIHR IMHA and the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group hosted a workshop to facilitate the development of the terms of reference for requests for applications that will promote research supporting knowledge translation. The workshop was offered to researchers, physicians and consumers.

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# Neonatal Review Group

Co-ordinating Editor: John Sinclair, MD

Review Group Coordinator: Diane Haughton

Trials Search Coordinator: Bharati Purohit

## **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- *The Cochrane Library*, Issues 1 - 4, 2002 – published 18 new reviews, 31 new protocols, 23 review updates.
- In total, Issue 4 contains 133 neonatal reviews and 46 neonatal protocols. In addition, there are 78 assigned titles with protocols in preparation.

### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Neonatologists, paediatricians, epidemiologists, fellows and neonatal nurse specialists from 23 countries are producing neonatal reviews. We currently have 28 Canadian reviewers.
- New reviewers recruited in 2002: Tanis Fenton, Barbara Brady-Fryer, Leonora Hendson, Sachin S Shah, Judith Hawes, Haresh Kirpalani

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

- Ongoing daily support to reviewers is provided from the editorial office. This includes all aspects of review preparation, including technical assistance with RevMan. All new reviewers are encouraged to attend Reviewer Training workshops and are advised of the availability of workshops.

### **Handsearching**

- Contributions to the handsearching efforts of Cochrane are done by searching the following journals: *Acta Paediatr*, *Am J Clin Nutr*, *Am J Perinatol*, *Arch Fr Pediatr*, *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*, *Biol Neonate*, *Child Dev*, *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 Perinatol Med*, *J Perinatol*, *JOGNN*, *Pediatr Infect Dis J*, *Pediatr Pulmonol*, *Pediatr Res*, *Paediatrics*
- Handsearchers - Tara Graham and Abigail DeSa, both Master of Health Sciences students at McMaster University

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

- Neonatal Review Group Web site
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Web site posting of neonatal reviews
- Neonatal Review Group Regional Coordinators for: Australia, UK & Europe, India, South Africa

## **Consumer Involvement**

- No change in status from 2001, i.e. The Canadian Institute of Child Health (CICH) has developed fact sheets and synopses, following along the model of those that are done by the Arthritis Society for the Musculoskeletal Review Group. These will be posted on the CICH Web site. Developing links with other similar agencies will increase the dissemination and awareness of Cochrane neonatal reviews. This is a developing role with the first step being dissemination rather than actual involvement in review preparation at this point.

**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**

- J. Sinclair is teaching an Evidence-based Medicine Course at both the University of Texas, Houston and Yale University. The Cochrane Collaboration and introduction to Cochrane systematic reviews promoted at these courses.
  - Members of editorial team promote Cochrane whenever possible at academic and scientific meetings attended throughout the year
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# Reports from Fields in Canada

## Child Health Field

Field Coordinator: Terry Klassen, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Field Administrator: Megan Clark

Trials and Reviews Search Coordinator: Lisa Tjosvold, BA

Administrative Assistant: Lynn Snedden

### **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

#### **Recruitment of Reviewers**

- Reviewers recruited by Child Health Field as of December 2002: Saleh Altamimi, Katherine Wambara, Kevin Farrell, Olivia O'Mahony, Mary Connolly, Lawrence Richer, Lori Billinghamurst, Natalie Anton, Ari Joffe, Laurance Lequier, Joan Robinson, Kent Stobart

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

- Training and support is provided to reviewers recruited by the Field.
- The Child Health Field provides a Bursary Scheme to assist in the completion of child health related Cochrane reviews. In 2002, \$30,000 was available, which funded five protocols.

#### **Funded Protocols and Supporting Review Groups**

- Iodine supplementation for preventing iodine deficiency disorders (Metabolic and Endocrine Disorders Group)
- Surgical interventions for paediatric glaucoma (Eyes and Vision Group)
- Micronutrient supplementation in HIV-infected children and adults (HIV/AIDS Group)
- Rotavirus vaccine for preventing diarrhoea (Infectious Diseases Group)
- Interventions to promote the initiation of breastfeeding (Pregnancy and Childbirth Group)

#### **Handsearching**

- The Child Health Field has recently taken on the task of coordinating the handsearching of child health related journals. We are starting by ensuring that the most frequently cited journals are searched completely. We have developed a list of child specific journals that need to be searched, either fully or partially, and have asked for volunteers. The response has been excellent and we should have no problems recruiting individuals to search all of these journals. We are currently working on ensuring that all volunteers receive the appropriate training.

- The following is a list of journals and years to be searched:
  - Paediatric Research (1967-1991)
  - Archives of Disease in Childhood (1948-1969, 1976-1981)
  - Child Development (1948-1991)
  - Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (1962-1977)
  - Archives of Paediatrics & Adolescent Medicine (1948-1959)
  - Journal of Paediatric Gastroenterology & Nutrition (1982-1991)
- The Child Health Field Trials and Reviews Search Coordinator, Lisa Tjosvold, is handsearching the Paediatric Infectious Disease Journal (1987-1991).

**Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

**Communications Support to the Collaboration**

**Workshops**

- April 10, 11 and 12, 2002, Workshop: *How to Practice Evidence-based Child & Women's Health*, Vancouver, British Columbia. The aim of this workshop was to help health practitioners and policy makers become more efficient at using the best available evidence in their clinical and policy decisions. The workshop included an Introduction to Cochrane and the Child Health Field. There were 44 participants, including physicians, fellows, physiotherapists, midwives, therapists, managers, and researchers.
- May 5, 2002, Workshop: *Using Systematic Review Evidence to Inform Clinical Decision Making in Children*, Paediatric Academic Societies Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland. There were approximately 40 participants at this workshop.

**Meetings**

- Cochrane Child Health Field Open Meeting, Paediatric Academic Society Meeting, May 2002, Baltimore.

**Talks**

- *Evidence-Based Medicine and the Cochrane Child Health Field*, Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres, Toronto, June 2002.
- *Role of the Cochrane Child Health Field in Knowledge Translation*, Knowledge Translation Workshop, sponsored by the Canadian Institute for Child Health and Canadian Institute of Health Research, Calgary, June, 2002.

**Communication Tools**

- The Child Health Field produces and maintains a Web site at <http://www.cochranechildhealth.org/>. This Web site provides information on Cochrane, the Child Health Field and its activities, a list of child health related Cochrane reviews, support for those interested in getting involved in Cochrane, and links to other useful evidence-based Web sites. There is also an on-line threaded discussion forum for discussing issues relevant to systematic reviews and evidence-based practice in child health.



- The Child Health Field produces a biannual newsletter that is posted on the Field Web site and distributed by Field Advisory Board members at meetings, conferences and workshops. This newsletter contains information about Field activities, informational pieces for the benefit of reviewers and potential reviewers, and provides an opportunity for soliciting volunteers and new reviewers.
- The Child Health Field maintains an electronic mailing list of interested individuals to provide up-to-date information and solicit feedback and volunteers.

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

- The Child Health Field lists all child health relevant Cochrane reviews on our Web site. We are now including links to the abstracts of all reviews published in (or after) Issue 3, 2002.

### **Consumer Involvement**

- Kathy Hendrick is the Consumer Representative on the Child Health Field Advisory Board. She provides consultation for the Field and participates in bimonthly Advisory Board Teleconferences.

**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 University of British Columbia School of Medicine has established a course on the integration of evidence into practice for the final phase of the program (Phase 6). In the child health portion of this course, Cochrane reviews are used as a primary source of evidence. Members of the Child Health Field are involved in giving this course.
- The University of Alberta, Department of Public Health Science, offers a course on systematic reviews and meta-analyses. Each student is involved in performing a systematic review in the Cochrane format. Terry Klassen, the Coordinator of the Child Health Field is co-leading this course.

### **Strengthening the Network**

#### **Site Groups**

- Members of the Edmonton Child Health Field Site are members of the University of Alberta Site Group.

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Reports from Affiliate Organizations

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapy

Affiliate Representative: Laurie M, Snider, PhD, OT(C)

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

- The Canadian Association of Occupational Therapy (CAOT) is committed to evidence-based practice in occupational therapy. Details of appropriate announcements and summaries of information pertinent to occupational therapy are summarized and forwarded to the Managing Editor of Publications for regular publication to the members of the national organization. Links to the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews and The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre are provided on the "Information Gateway" of the National Web site at <http://www.caot.ca>. Contact information for the Canadian Cochrane Centre is also provided on the CAOT Web site. We remain open to other ways in which we can promote the work of the CCN/C to occupational therapists.

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### Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists

Affiliate Representative: J.B. Orange, PhD

**Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

#### Handsearching

- My colleagues and I do not contribute to the handsearching of publications for The Cochrane Collaboration.
- However, my colleagues, and my graduate students and I conduct systematic searches of the literature related to adult and older adult language and cognitive-communication disorders (e.g., aphasia and dementia)
- Journals searched include: Aphasiology, Brain and Cognition, Brain and Language, Intl. J. Geriatric Psychiatry, J. Speech-Language-Hearing Research, J. Medical Speech-Language Pathology, Neurology, and Archives of Neurology.

**Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

**Communications Support to the Collaboration**

- Distributed CCN/C Information Kits to graduate students enrolled in our CSD 759a/b course – Methods in Evidence Based Practice and CSD 760a/b – Critical Analysis & Evaluation for Research in CSD

**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**

- Course Manager for CSD 759a/b (fall 2002) – Methods in Evidence Based Practice Research – taught by Andrew Johnson.
- 2002 enrollment n=22 graduate students in audiology and speech-language pathology
- Co-taught CSD 760a/b (winter term 2002) - Critical Analysis & Evaluation for Research in CSD
- 2002 enrollment n=27 graduate students in audiology and speech-language pathology
- CCN/C and Cochrane reviews are integrated within the curriculum

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Canadian Chiropractic Association

Affiliate Representative: Allan Gotlib, DC

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- The following chiropractors who are at the Institute for Work and Health in Toronto are reviewers or have attended a training workshop: Pierre Cote, Carlo Ammendolia, Jill Hayden, and Gabrielle van der Velde. In the past, Peter Aker has also been a reviewer.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

- A Web link has been established between The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre and the Canadian Chiropractic Association Web sites.
- An information booth was provided at the Research Symposium held recently in Toronto and this attracted several potential new reviewers.

Communications support to the Collaboration

- The 3rd Chiropractic Research Symposium was held in Toronto on October 4 and 5, 2002 and attracted 250 international multidisciplinary researchers. Arne Ohlsson was a keynote speaker and was extremely well received. Mark Bisby, CIHR Vice President, Research Portfolio was also a keynote speaker.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Two abstracts were published in the Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association (JCCA 2002;46(3):144-146).

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

- Recommendation made to the Residency Coordinator at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College that reviewer training be made a mandatory component of the residency programs. There are six to seven residents in three programs.

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## **Canadian Dental Association**

Affiliate Representative: Euan Swan, BSc, DDS, DDPH

### **Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- The Canadian Dental Association (CDA) is the authoritative national voice of dentistry, dedicated to the representation and advancement of the profession, nationally and internationally, and to the achievement of optimal oral health.
- The CDA became an affiliate member of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) in 2001.
- The CDA continued its support of and participation in the Canadian Collaboration for Clinical Practice Guidelines in Dentistry (CCCD).
- The CCCD is the national, autonomous organization responsible for clinical practice guidelines in dentistry.
- The Collaboration is made up of the CDA, provincial dental associations, dental faculties, dental specialty organizations, and dental regulatory authorities.

**Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

- In 2002, the Canadian Collaboration on Clinical Practice Guidelines in Dentistry established a Web site ([www.cccd.ca](http://www.cccd.ca)) to promote evidenced-based clinical practice guidelines.
- Summaries of systematic reviews prepared by the Cochrane Oral Health Group were published in the Journal of the Canadian Dental Association (JCDA 68:562-565, 2002).

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Canadian Health Libraries Association

Affiliate Representative (January – August): Ellen Crumley, BA, MLIS

Affiliate Representative (August – December): Jessie McGowan, MLIS, AHIP

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Other

- Throughout the year, Ellen Crumley forwarded to members of the Canadian Health Libraries Association news of interest about Cochrane from monitoring the Cochrane Library Users' Group (CLUG) and the electronic newsletters published by the CCN/C (CCInfo and Canadian Update)

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**Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment**

Affiliate Representative: Jill M. Sanders, PhD

**Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews**

**Training and Support of Reviewers**

- Three CCOHTA researchers attended a Cochrane Reviewer Training Workshop in Ottawa on November 23.

**Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

**Communications Support to the Collaboration**

- One oral and one poster presentation by CCOHTA researchers at the Stavenger Cochrane Colloquium, 2002
- *The Cochrane Library* is searched for every assessment we do, and relevant reviews are cited in our reports.

**Other**

- CCOHTA collaborated with the CCN/C and the Canadian Task Force on Preventative Health Care (CTFPHC) to produce two online and paper information resource sheets of evidence-based Internet links targeted to consumers and health professionals.

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Canadian Medical Association

Affiliate Representative: W. Todd Watkins, BSc, MD, CCFP

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has actively supported access to evidence based best practices in a variety of ways including through the CMA InfoBase of Clinical Practice Guidelines. As the CMA looks to enhance this resource over the coming year, the Cochrane database is considered a fundamental content element in this renewal. Additionally, *The Cochrane Library* is available to all CMA staff employees and the CMA continues to act as a distributor of this valuable asset to professionals.

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# Canadian Nurses Association

Affiliate Representative: Carole Estabrooks, PhD, RN

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.**

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

- The CDSR is an integral part of all presentations, and lectures Carole Estabrooks does on the topic of evidence-based practice, knowledge utilization, and related areas.
- Carole Estabrooks is a member of the Communications & Marketing Team.
- Carole Estabrooks has done no Cochrane specific workshops/presentations. Related presentations are listed:

### **Presentations**

- Cummings, G., & Estabrooks, C.A. *Effects of Hospital restructuring on registered nurses: a systematic review* (presentation). Margaret Scott Wright Research Day, Edmonton, Alberta, November 1, 2002.
- Cummings, G., & Estabrooks, C.A. Foraging your way through the literature jungle: tools and techniques for completing a systematic literature review without losing your mind! (presentation). Margaret Scott Wright Research Day, Edmonton, Alberta, November 1, 2002.
- Brigidear, K., O'Leary, K., Profetto-McGrath, J., & Estabrooks, C.A. Symposium: *Information and Research Use in Clinical Practice*. Margaret Scott Wright Research Day, Edmonton, Alberta, November 1, 2002.
- Brigidear, K., Chong, H., Estabrooks, C.A. Nurses' preferred knowledge sources for practice: quantitative findings.
- O'Leary, K., Chong, H., Estabrooks, C.A. Nurses' preferred knowledge sources for practice: qualitative findings.
- Profetto-McGrath, J., Hesketh, K.L., Lang, S., Estabrooks, C.A. Critical Thinking Dispositions and Research Utilization: A Study of their Relationship Among Registered Nurses.
- Estabrooks, CA. *Individual influences on research utilization behaviour*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Knowledge Utilization Colloquium, Oxford, UK, July 1 – 3, 2002.
- Estabrooks, CA, & Scott-Findlay, S. (2002). *Knowledge transfer and knowledge utilization: A view from the inside. What is unique about health care?* Centre for Knowledge Transfer Spring Institute, Edmonton, Alberta, May 6, 2002.
- Estabrooks, CA. *Basics of Research Utilization*. Alberta Mental Health Services, Edmonton Clinic, Edmonton, Alberta, March 19, 2002.



**Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.**

**Workshops**

- During the annual Spring Institutes for the Centre for Knowledge Transfer, the Cochrane work is highlighted.

**Integration of Cochrane in the Curricula**

- Is part of Carole Estabrooks' lectures to undergraduates and undergraduates in their research methods courses.

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Canadian Pharmacists' Association

Affiliate Representative: Carol Repchinsky, BSP

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

Workshops

- Title: Evidence from The Cochrane Collaboration: "How and What to Tell Patients?" Workshop presented May 12, 2002 at the Canadian Pharmacists Association Annual Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba (2 presentations). Presented by James McCormack, Anita Kozyrskyj, and Elske Hildes-Ripstein. Participants: 40 community and hospital pharmacists (20 per each workshop)

Distribution of Information Kits

- Cochrane Information kits distributed.
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Canadian Physiotherapy Association

Affiliate Representative: Dorianne Sauvé, BSc P.T.

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Recruitment of Reviewers

- Information concerning reviews and The Cochrane Collaboration was published in our national newsletter. The article included contact information for The Cochrane Collaboration and Affiliate Representative for those who wish to participate in activities including reviews. The newsletter theme was “Education and Technology” and it was published in July/August 2002.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- Affiliate Representative participated in the CCN/C Dissemination and Impact Team
- Referring those inquiring about evidence-based practice to *The Cochrane Library*
- 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.

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## **Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care**

Affiliate Representative: John Feightner, MD, MSc, FRCPC

## **Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of reviews.**

- Similar to The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre, the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care is a national organization that produces syntheses of research evidence to inform clinical practice. The Task Force provides clinical practice guidelines on prevention for a variety of clinical, policy and consumer audiences.
- Our collaboration with the CCN/C is an important one, and is maintained by regular phone contact between the CTFPHC and CCN/C offices, collaboration between specific members on topics (e.g., Dr. Ohlsson’s involvement in the CTFPHC review of group B streptococcus screening), and occasional attendance at each other’s events or meetings.

- This ongoing collaboration ensures that our groups, as well as the third nationally-mandated research synthesis organization, the Canadian Coordinating Office on Health Technology Assessment, avoid, where possible, duplication of topics.
- In a joint project, our three national evidence synthesis groups have created “Evidence-Based Resource Sheets” to provide evaluated lists of evidence-based resources specific to provider, consumer and policy audiences. This has been a valuable collaboration.
- Nadine Wathen, the CTF Coordinator, is a member of CCN/C’s Dissemination and Impact Team.
- The Task Force also benefits from the use of Cochrane reviews when they are available to inform specific aspects of our own systematic reviews - for example, the effectiveness of treatment interventions that would be required if a patient screened positive for a specific condition. As such, CTFPHC literature searches routinely include *The Cochrane Library*.

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Dietitians of Canada

Affiliate Representative: Jayne Thirsk, PhD, RD

Goal 1: Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews

Training and Support of Reviewers

- Cochrane workshops are posted to the Dietitians of Canada (DC) “Calendar of Events” a searchable database of professional development activities available to over 5,000 DC members.

Goal 2: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.

Communications Support to the Collaboration

- A “Cochrane Corner” has been established as a regular part of our online newsletter. Cochrane activities, new reviews and other information are shared with dietitians across Canada on a regular basis.
- Cochrane information kits were made available to over 50 educators at the DC Educators meeting held at the National Conference in Saint John. These educators represent academics responsible for undergraduate nutrition programs offered at universities across the country as well as postgraduate internship coordinators. The goal was to make these educators more aware of “Cochrane activities” and to perhaps enhance the incorporation of Cochrane reviews into curricula.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

- Over 5,000 DC members are made aware of new Cochrane abstracts through online newsletter articles.

Goal 3: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.

Effort to Assess Educational Needs

- National Dietitians of Canada Practice Guideline Committee identified the need for members to gain skills in systematic search strategies in order to support evidence-based guideline development. Members are made aware of regional Cochrane workshops and plans underway for a Systematic Search Strategy workshop at upcoming national conference. If well accepted, regional workshops may be offered across the country as part of professional development activities.

Contributions to *The Cochrane Library* by Cochrane Reviewers in Canada

The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)

The following is a list of new and updated Cochrane reviews and protocols submitted by reviewers in Canada in the year 2002 and cited in *The Cochrane Library*, Issues 1-4, 2002. Names of reviewers in Canada are highlighted in bold typeface. Reviews and protocols published by reviewers in Canada prior to the year 2002 can be found in past CCN/C Annual Reports; available on the CCN/C Web site at <http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/annualreports.asp>.

Cochrane Acute Respiratory Infections Group

Reviews

Klassen TP, Belseck EM, Wiebe N, Hartling L. Acyclovir for treating varicella in otherwise healthy children and adolescents (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Shah P, Ohlsson A, Shah J. Continuous negative extrathoracic pressure or continuous positive airway pressure for acute hypoxemic respiratory failure in children (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Cochrane Airways Group

Reviews

Ducharme FM, Hicks GC. Anti-leukotriene agents compared to inhaled corticosteroids in the management of recurrent and/or chronic asthma in adults and children (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Ferreira IM, Brooks D, Lacasse Y, Goldstein RS, White J. Nutritional supplementation for stable chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Lacasse Y, Brosseau L, Milne S, Martin S, **Wong Y, Guyatt GH, Goldstein RS.** Pulmonary rehabilitation for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Ram FSF, **Ducharme FM,** Scarlett J. Cow's milk protein avoidance and development of childhood wheeze in children with a family history of atopy (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Ram FSF, Jones PW, Castro AA, de Brito Jardim JR, Atallah AN, **Lacasse Y,** Mazzini R, **Goldstein R,** Cendon S. Oral theophylline for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Spooner CH, Saunders LD, **Rowe BH**. Nedocromil sodium for preventing exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Wijkstra PJ, **Lacasse Y**, **Guyatt GH**, **Goldstein RS**. Nocturnal non-invasive positive pressure ventilation for stable chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Blitz M, Hughes R, Diner B, Beasley R, Knopp J, **Rowe BH**. Aerosolized magnesium sulfate for acute asthma (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Meghjee S, Hancox B, **Rowe BH**. Short acting beta 2 agonists for exercise induced asthma (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Sharma S, White J. Oxygen therapy for obstructive sleep apnea (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Singh M, **Spooner CH**, **Rowe BH**. Humidification of inspired air in exercise-induced asthma (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Cochrane Anaesthesia Group

Protocols

Evered L, **Klassen TP**, **Hartling L**, **Wiebe N**, **Rowe BH**. Options for procedural sedation in paediatric patients requiring painful or anxiety provoking procedures outside the operating room (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Cochrane Back Group

Reviews

Furlan AD, **Brosseau L**, Imamura M, **Irvin E**. Massage for low back pain (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Guzmán J, **Esmail R**, Karjalainen K, Malmivaara A, **Irvin E**, **Bombardier C**. Multidisciplinary Bio-Psycho-Social Rehabilitation for Chronic Low Back Pain (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Cochrane Colorectal Cancer Group

Reviews

Asano T, McLeod RS. Dietary fibre for the prevention of colorectal adenomas and carcinomas (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

Cochrane Consumers and Communications Group

Reviews

Haynes RB, McDonald H, Garg AX, Montague P. Interventions for helping patients to follow prescriptions for medications (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002. Oxford: Update Software.

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