

THE CANADIAN COCHRANE NETWORK AND CENTRE



2003 ANNUAL REPORT



THE COCHRANE
COLLABORATION®

The Cochrane Collaboration is an international network of individuals and institutions committed to preparing, maintaining, and disseminating systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare 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 financial support of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. We also want to recognize the funding provided to the Centre by six of the Chiropractic Organizations in Canada: British Columbia College of Chiropractors, Canadian Chiropractic Association, Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board, Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association, Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation, and the College of Chiropractors of Ontario.

In addition, the Director, Co-Director and staff of the Canadian Cochrane Centre sincerely appreciate the many people 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

In 2003, Canadians were affected by SARS, mad cow disease, forest fires, flooding and a power blackout. Important meetings that we planned for The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) were rescheduled. During that difficult time it proved fortunate that we, in 1998, decided to keep the Centre and its staff at McMaster University, while I as the Director work out of Toronto. The external events affected Hamilton and other Network Sites less than Toronto and most CCN/C activities could continue uninterrupted.

In 2002, Kathie Clark (CCN/C Co-Director) and I worked with Sonya Corkum (Vice President - Partnerships and Knowledge Translation, CIHR) to obtain emergency funding for four of the Collaborative Review Groups in critical need for funds. These funds were provided in 2003. The repeated submissions for funding by different Cochrane entities in Canada to CIHR has raised the awareness for the need to develop policies within CIHR to be able to support organizations like The Cochrane Collaboration engaged in knowledge translation and research synthesis. I have met in person with a number of stakeholders to explore ways to secure stable funding for Cochrane in Canada. I hope that these efforts will soon lead to tangible results.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Alan Gotlib (Affiliate Representative for the Canadian Chiropractic Association) for his efforts to obtain financial support for the CCN/C from six chiropractic organizations (Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association, Canadian Chiropractic Association, Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation, Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board, College of Chiropractors of Ontario, and the British Columbia College of Chiropractors).

The Centre assisted in organizing reviewer-training workshops in collaboration with the Site Representatives in Saskatoon and Hamilton. Attendees will never forget the successful workshops initiated by Janet Bangma and Dorothy Forbes in March 2003 and held in a very warm and friendly atmosphere in Saskatoon, in spite of an outside temperature of – 57 °C. A few days later a workshop specifically designed for policy makers within the BC Ministry of Health was held in Victoria, BC, where the cherry trees were in full bloom. Amiram Gafni and Steven Birch, Health Economists at McMaster University, provided utilization training from the perspective of health economics. The workshop was repeated for policy makers in Ontario in June. We are planning to offer these well-received workshops in other jurisdictions. We now have 26 skilled instructors for various types of Cochrane workshops across the country. Cochrane Network Site Representatives at the 16 Health Science Centres across Canada promote Cochrane and ensure that *The Cochrane Library* is available in all regions.

In November 2003, the Centre celebrated its 10th Anniversary in conjunction with the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton. Dr. Muir Gray (UK) gave the 10th Anniversary lecture at McMaster University and Brian Haynes, the founding CCN/C Director, was the discussant.

Mr. Serge Taillon, the first Chair of the CCN/C Advisory board, stepped down in 2003. We are very grateful for all his efforts in support of Cochrane. At the Annual General Meeting in November 2003, Dr. Andreas Laupacis (President and CEO of the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences), was unanimously elected as the new Chair of the CCN/C Advisory Board. We are looking forward to working with him to enhance Cochrane activities in Canada.

The plans for the 12th Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa, October 2-6 are well underway. The theme is "Bridging the Gaps". A broad mixture of speakers and discussants with varied scientific, professional, geographic and ethnic backgrounds has been confirmed. It promises to be an exciting scientific event with additional social, cultural and sport functions in place for people to build bridges in a cooperative, friendly and stimulating cultural milieu.

Arne Ohlsson
Director, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
April 2004

The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre Advisory Board

Chair of the Advisory Board

Mr. Serge Taillon, BSc, MHA*
Dr. Andreas Laupacis, MD, MSc **

Canadian Cochrane Centre

Director Arne Ohlsson, MD, MSc, FRCPC, FAAP
Co-Director Kathie Clark, RN, PhD

Network Sites

University of British Columbia	Arminée Kazanjian, BA, MA, PhD
University of Calgary	Roger Thomas, MD, PhD, CCFP, MRCGP
	Laura Ghali, PhD
University of Alberta	Joanne Homik, MD
University of Saskatchewan	Janet Bangma, MLIS, MA Ed
	Dorothy Forbes, RN, PhD
University of Manitoba	Michael Moffatt, MD, FRCPC
University of Western Ontario	George Rice, MD
McMaster University	Janet Pinelli, RN, DNS **
	Amanda Symington, RN, MHSc **
University of Toronto	Rebecca Wong, MD, MB ChB, MSc, FRCPC
Queen's University	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	Roland Grad, MD, CM, MSc
Université de Montréal	Jacques Lacroix, MD*
	Marie Hatem, Msc, PhD **
Université de Sherbrooke	Jean Pierre Tétrault, BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC*
	Sophie Michaud, PhD **
Université Laval	France Légaré, MD, MSc, CCMF, FCMF
Dalhousie University	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	Claire Bombardier, MD
Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group	Jeremy Grimshaw, MBChB, PhD, FRCGP
Hypertension Review Group	James Wright, MD, PhD, FRC
Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group	John W.D. McDonald, MD, PhD, FRCPC
Musculoskeletal Review Group	Peter Tugwell, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Neonatal Review Group	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	Dennis Jeanes, BA
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists	Laurie Snider, PhD, OT(C)
Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists	J.B. Orange, BSc., MHSc., PhD * Rosemary Martino, MSc, MA, S-LP(C), CCC-SLP**
Canadian Cancer Society	Heather Logan, RN, BScN, MHSc **
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	Jessie McGowan, MLIS, AHIP
Canadian Institute for Health Information	Serge Taillon, BSc, MHA
Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain and Disability	Marc White, BA, PhD
Canadian Medical Association	Todd Watkins, BSc, MD, CCFP
Canadian Nurses Association	Carole Estabrooks, RN, PhD
Canadian Pharmacists Association	Carol Repchinsky, BSP
Canadian Physiotherapy Association	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
Institute for Clinical Evaluative Studies	Andreas Laupacis, MD, MSc **
The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada	TBA

* left during the year or on leave

**joined during the year

Summary Report

Introduction

This is a summary of the activity reports provided by the members of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) Advisory Board. The Annual Report is organized according to the following goals of the CCN/C Annual Business Plan (2002-2003).

1. Increase the quality, quantity and timely update of Cochrane systematic reviews.
2. Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C by potential funders, Affiliate Organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*.
3. Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews.
4. Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.
5. Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada.
6. Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and 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 (www.cochrane.mcmaster.ca/annualreports.asp) and notices are widely distributed electronically.

2003 was the 10th Anniversary for the Canadian Cochrane Centre. Registered in August 1993, the Canadian Cochrane Centre has expanded to become a Network of 16 geographical Sites at each of the academic health science centres in Canada, eight additional Cochrane entities and 21 national Affiliate Organizations.

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

Reviewer Recruitment and Review Production

By Issue 4, 2003 of *The Cochrane Library*, The Cochrane Collaboration has published 1344 protocols (reviews in the process of being prepared) and 1837 complete systematic reviews. Reviewers in Canada have authored or co-authored 484 of the protocols and 750 of the complete reviews. This past year, reviewers in Canada registered 56 new titles.

At the end of December 2003, the total number of reviewers and registered title holders in the CCN/C database was more than 450. This represents a 15% increase over last year and the addition of **58 new reviewers**.

Training and Support of Reviewers

This year the CCN/C compiled a list of interested and experienced workshop resource people. We now have **26 identified skilled instructors** willing to offer various workshops and reviewer training programs across the country.

Consistent with our business plan objective of offering at least **two reviewer training workshops** a year, the Centre collaborated with the University of Saskatchewan Site Co-Representatives (Janet Bangma and Dorothy Forbes) to offer a two-day reviewer training workshop in Saskatoon on March 7 and 8, 2003. Thirteen potential reviewers participated in this program. The second training session was hosted in Hamilton in conjunction with the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium. This workshop was restricted to beginning Cochrane reviewers with registered titles. Seventeen new reviewers attended this two-day program.

Other reviewer training workshops were offered by the University of Western Ontario Site (March 2003; 40 participants) and the Back Review Group (October 20 and November 17, 2003; 30 participants). The Hypertension Review Group provided individual training and support.

In addition to the workshops, members of the Advisory Board conduct **courses** as part of their academic roles. For example, Drs Brian Rowe and Terry Klassen coordinated and conducted a graduate level course for the Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Alberta.

They also offer sessions for health science students. Rebecca Wong, University of Toronto Site Representative conducted educational sessions for residents in Internal Medicine and Family Medicine this past year.

Handsearching

Together, the Collaborative Review Groups, the Centre, and the Network Sites handsearch 50 journals and submit identified randomized controlled trials and controlled clinical trials to the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL).

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, Affiliate Organizations, and the users of *The Cochrane Library*

Communications Support to The Cochrane Collaboration

The Canadian Cochrane Centre continues its special communications function for the international Collaboration. The Centre staff post numerous newsletters to the Collaboration web site (www.cochrane.org/newslett), distribute the electronic newsletter CCInfo (www.cochrane.org/newslett/ccinfo) every two weeks, and publish Cochrane News (www.cochrane.org/newslett/ccnewsbi.htm) three times a year.

Media Relations

Increasingly, the entities, the Sites and the Centre are actively informing the media of new releases of *The Cochrane Library* and interesting systematic reviews. Special events like the

appointment of new Site Representatives and the 10th Anniversary celebrations are being promoted externally through the media as well as internally through various distribution lists.

The Back Review Group sends out "Research Alerts" to inform people of new reviews and publications. The Hypertension Group has initiated press releases this past year.

The CCN/C Web Site

This year, the Centre pursued its goal of making key Cochrane documents available in both official languages. Most of the web pages on the CCN/C web site were translated into French. These pages serve the needs of Francophones in Canada and other French speaking countries in the Collaboration. The CCN/C web site can be viewed at www.cochrane.mcmaster.ca.

The Centre's web site hosts the web sites for the Neonatal Review group and the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Review Group. With the exception of the Reporting Bias Methods Group, the other six entities based in Canada have their own web sites.

Newsletters

Most of the entities based in Canada publish their own newsletters. The Centre does not have a separate newsletter. However, it prepares and disseminates the Cochrane News three times a year.

Information Materials

The Canadian Cochrane Centre provides material for Information Kits. These are distributed widely in Canada and beyond.

Consumer Summaries

The Musculoskeletal Review Group has been actively involved in translating the evidence-based information about treatments for musculoskeletal diseases to consumers and patients over the past few years. They have now developed standard formats for translating their systematic reviews into 'friendly front end' summaries for consumers. The information about a treatment is presented as a consumer package in two parts: as a series of consumer summaries (1,5, and 15 minute handouts), and as decision aids (45 minute handout).

A Primer on Evidence-based Clinical Practice

In 2003, J. B. Orange, the Affiliate Representative for the Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, took the lead on preparing a PowerPoint presentation on evidence-based clinical practice for the Affiliate Representatives and others to use. It can be found at www.cochrane.mcmaster.ca/presentations.asp.

Health Technology Assessment and Cochrane Collaboration

When they are available, health technology assessment reports are based on Cochrane evidence. The Canadian Coordinating Office of Health Technology Assessment (CCOHTA) provides recent Cochrane reviews to government stakeholders if they answer the question for a new assessment.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium

This year the theme of the Canadian Cochrane Symposium was 'Advancing the knowledge translation of systematic reviews'. It was a major activity of the CCN/C this year and contributed to the achievement of our goal of promoting the dissemination and uptake of evidence from Cochrane reviews. A more detailed report is provided in relation to Goal 6.

Utilization Workshops

The Centre launched a new series of workshops this year designed to promote the use of Cochrane evidence in healthcare decision-making. The initial workshops were pilot tested and provided to two groups of policy-makers. In March 2003, Stephen Birch (Health Economist, McMaster University), Kathie Clark, Amiram Gafni (Health Economist, McMaster University) and Arne Ohlsson conducted a workshop for 40 staff of the Ministry of Health Services and the Ministry of Health Planning in Victoria, British Columbia. On June 10, the same resource team provided a similar workshop for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care in Ontario. Given the success of these workshops, the plan is to offer similar utilization workshops in other parts of the country and with other groups of administrative decision makers and clinicians.

Putting Evidence into Practice

In January 2003, Roland Grad, McGill University Site, received \$147,047 from the Population and Public Health Institute of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The funded project was entitled, "Putting Evidence into Practice: Evaluating the Impact of Knowledge Translation Technology." This grant was awarded under the Knowledge Translation Strategies for Health Research Program, and is based on the noted difficulty experienced by doctors in accessing useful information. Using handheld technology, this project will test new methods to assess the impact of information retrieval in everyday practice.

Other Presentations and Workshops

Presentations, seminars and workshops are common strategies used by the various members of the CCN/C to promote the transfer and use of Cochrane evidence among consumers, clinicians, educators and policy-makers. A total of 119 educational programs were reported this year by the entities, Network Sites and the Centre. Each of these programs is documented in the following activity reports.

Goal 4: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada

Workshops and Presentations

The educational programs discussed in the previous section, also serve to provide information and education to those wanting to learn about The Cochrane Collaboration and those wanting to become involved. There are many opportunities for people to contribute to the CCN/C and the

Collaboration. The Collaboration actively recruits reviewers, editors, handsearchers, peer reviewers, and copy editors.

An Emerging Pattern

The entities, Network Sites and Centre are prepared to provide educational programs in response to the needs of individuals and groups, and indeed they do in large numbers. What is emerging is a pattern of presentations and workshops that begins with an introductory workshop that informs people about The Cochrane Collaboration, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre and *The Cochrane Library*.

The next step is a workshop specifically for people wanting to know more about Cochrane systematic reviews and how they are prepared and maintained. This program is designed to help people decide if they want to become Cochrane reviewers. For those who are committed to becoming a Cochrane reviewer, there are two-day training workshops offered twice a year at different Network Sites across the country. The final step in this pattern is advanced workshops for reviewers on topics like statistics.

For those who don't want to be a reviewer but want to become more effective users of Cochrane evidence, we are now launching a series of utilization workshops. This pattern has evolved at the University of Saskatchewan Site and offers a model that other Sites will be encouraged to apply.

Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada

Consumer Involvement

In 2003, we continued to work on our objective to increase the involvement of consumers in the CCN/C. This year we were pleased to welcome the **Canadian Cancer Society** as an Affiliate Organization with **Ms. Heather Logan** as their Affiliate Representative. The Canadian Cancer Society has diverse interests, but it is their commitment to consumer involvement that the CCN/C views as an important addition to our organization.

A **consumer advisory group** was established this year to ensure the input of consumers in the planning of the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium and the 12th Cochrane Colloquium. The continuing contribution of the following consumers is valued and appreciated: Dennis Jeanes, Jean Jones, Eleanor Neilson, Sandi Pniauskas, Ann Qualman, Liz Whamond, Linda Greason and Kathryn Hendrick.

The involvement of consumers in Cochrane in Canada was promoted and facilitated by a **special pre-symposium workshop** at the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium in November. Sponsorship funds made it possible to provide travel and accommodation stipends to the nine consumers who needed financial assistance to attend the Symposium. A total of 40 consumers and people interested in consumer involvement attended the workshop.

Site Groups

The active involvement of multidisciplinary groups at the Network Sites continues under the duress of lack of funding. It has now been 18 months since the Centre was able to provide

financial support to the 16 Network Sites. Most of them are continuing their activities on behalf of The Cochrane Collaboration in their regions. The goodwill and work of these Site Representatives and Site Groups deserves to be financially rewarded as well as recognized. Their efforts are tremendously appreciated.

Additions to the Advisory Board

In 2003, the CCN/C welcomed the addition of **The Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES)** to the Affiliate Organizations on the CCN/C Advisory Board. **Dr. Andreas Laupacis**, ICES President and CEO, was named their Affiliate Representative. In November 2003, Dr. Laupacis was elected Chair of the CCN/C Advisory Board. This brings the number of Affiliate Organizations on the CCN/C Advisory Board to 21. The input and advice of this group to the strategic planning of the CCN/C is critical to the success of Cochrane in Canada.

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa, Ontario

3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium

A major event for the CCN/C this year was the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium on November 21 and 22, 2003 in Hamilton, Ontario. The theme of this Symposium was "Advancing the knowledge translation of systematic reviews". Over 175 people (consumers, clinicians, researchers and policy-makers) attended the Symposium and the associated 10th Anniversary Celebrations of the Canadian Cochrane Centre. The two plenary sessions, five workshops, two roundtable discussions, 16 oral presentations and 22 posters addressed various aspects of the state of knowledge and practice with the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from systematic reviews and primary research projects.

12th Cochrane Colloquium

The Canadian Cochrane Centre and the many planning committees continued their efforts to prepare for the Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa in October 2004. Current information about the Colloquium is available at www.colloquium.info.

Other Achievements

Funding

The CCN/C gratefully acknowledges the continuing grant of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) that provides the primary support of the Canadian Cochrane Centre based at McMaster University. The CCN/C continues to strive for a secure and stable infrastructure-funding base for the Cochrane entities in Canada.

A second Special Project Grant application to CIHR on March 1, 2003 for the Collaborative Review Groups, Field and Methods Group was not successful. However, the CIHR peer review panel clearly identified the need for an appropriate set of CIHR policies and procedures by which applications for organizations like the Cochrane entities in Canada could be submitted and considered for funding.

Thanks to the fundraising efforts of Dr. Allan Gotlib, Affiliate Representative for the Canadian Chiropractic Association of Canada, the CCN/C received donations in 2003 from six chiropractic organizations in Canada: Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association, Canadian Chiropractic Association, Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation, Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board, College of Chiropractors of Ontario, and the British Columbia College of Chiropractors.

Acknowledgements

On a sad note, the CCN/C learned of the passing in December 2003 of **David Glazer**, MLIS. David was the first Affiliate Representative for the Canadian Health Libraries Association on the CCN/C Advisory Board.

In 2003, the CCN/C welcomed new Site Representatives at McMaster University (Janet Pinelli and Amanda Symington), Université de Montréal (Marie Hatem) and Université de Sherbrooke (Sophie Michaud). We said au revoir et merci to Jacques Lacroix and Jean-Pierre Tétrault who had been Site Representatives for some time at Université de Montréal and Université de Sherbrooke respectively.

The Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) was a welcome addition to the Affiliate Organizations on the CCN/C Advisory Board. Dr. Andreas Laupacis, ICES President and CEO, was named their Affiliate Representative and in November 2003, he was elected Chair of the CCN/C Advisory Board.

The CCN/C wants to acknowledge the contributions of the McMaster students over the past twelve months: Rob Bonin, Richard Booth, Lisa Milani, Joanna Nowakowska, Alex Plumb, Sean MacDonald and Denise Wallis.

Financial Summary

The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre

*September 1, 2002 – March 31, 2003 Financial Summary

Revenue

Source	Revenue
Cash Reserve 2001-2002	\$96,417.97
CIHR	\$116,666.67
OTHER	\$37,300.00
Total Revenue	\$250,384.64

Expenditures

Source	Expenditure
Personnel	\$90,056.32
Colloquium	20,616.34
Network Site Support	0.00
Travel	\$12,149.22
Technological Support	\$2,524.79
Supplies and Services	\$23,715.76
Total Expenses	\$149,062.43
Cash Reserved for Future Projects	\$101,322.21

*Annual financial year dates have been adjusted to April 1, 2003 – March 31, 2004. The present budget is a partial year to reflect the change in the new-year end date.

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 – July): Rosalind Brenneman

Administrative Assistant (August- December): Lynda Fraser

Introduction

This year, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre celebrated its 10th anniversary. The Canadian Cochrane Centre was officially registered as a national centre within The Cochrane Collaboration in August 1993. Dr. Brian Haynes established the Centre in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. As the first Centre Director, Dr. Haynes formed the geographic Network by recruiting Site Representatives in the sixteen academic health sciences centres across the country. The anniversary was celebrated during the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium in November. Details of the 10th Anniversary Public Lecture and the Symposium on 'Advancing the Knowledge Translation of Systematic Reviews' are presented below.

The year, 2003, has been a challenging year of trying to do more with less. The following activity report documents what the Centre has accomplished over the past twelve months in relation to the CCN/C 2002-2003 Business Plan.

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

Recruitment of Reviewers

The CCN/C now has more than 450 reviewers based in Canada in its database, thanks to the recruitment efforts of all the members of the CCN/C Advisory Board.

Training and Support of Reviewers

The Centre continues to offer two sets of **Reviewer Training Workshops** a year in different parts of Canada to ensure regular and easy access to review preparation training for Cochrane reviewers across the country. In the spring, the Centre collaborated with the University of Saskatchewan Site to offer a set of Reviewer Training Workshops on March 7 and 8, 2003. The resource people were Arne Ohlsson, Janet Bangma, Angela Busch, and Dorothy Forbes. We had 14 future Cochrane reviewers attend.

In conjunction with the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium, the Centre held its second set of training workshops for reviewers on November 19 and 20, 2003. Arne Ohlsson, Joseph Beyene, Andrea Furlan, Vicki Pennick, Nancy Santesso, and Vibhuti Shah were the resource people. The attendance at this workshop was restricted to people who had registered a title with a

Cochrane Collaborative Review Group. The workshop was presented as a two-day package rather than the previous two separate days of workshops. These changes reduced the number of participants (17) but improved the workshop from the perspective of the instructors and learners. However, the challenge of meeting the learning needs of a diverse audience continues.

The regular provision of Cochrane workshops requires a source of available, interested and qualified resource people. This year, Daren Spithoff, Communications Specialist, surveyed people in Canada who have participated in previous workshops of various kinds. We now have a **list of 26 skilled workshop resource people** who are willing to assist with Cochrane workshops across 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, continues to volunteer his time to provide a **statistical consultation service** to reviewers in Canada.

Last year's survey of reviewers' requests for support identified the need for a **mentoring project** for new reviewers. Our summer student, Sean MacDonald, explored the feasibility of initiating a mentoring project. He reviewed the literature and consulted with the South African Cochrane Centre and the HIV/AIDS Review Group who have developed a mentoring project for Cochrane reviewers working on HIV/AIDS systematic reviews. The experience and success of the HIV/AIDS mentoring project is encouraging. However, the amount of administrative support required by the mentors and their new reviewers is beyond the currently available resources of the Centre. We will eagerly pursue this project when future financial and human resources permit.

Handsearching

Daren Spithoff continues to recruit, train and supervise volunteers and students to conduct the handsearching of the three general journals searched by the Centre (the Canadian Journal of Nursing Research, Canadian Journal of Surgery (CJS), and Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)).

This year, Rob Bonin, Lisa Milani, Alex Plumb and Sean MacDonald handsearched 48 issues from these three journals. As a result of this searching, two previously unidentified randomized controlled trials were submitted to CENTRAL. Lisa Milani and Sean MacDonald are continuing to search the CJS and CMAJ, respectively. The Centre is very grateful for the ongoing assistance of these students.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, Affiliate Organizations and the users of *The Cochrane Library*

Collaboration with the Canadian Chiropractic Association

The Canadian Chiropractic Association created an opportunity for the Centre to publish information in the Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association (JCCA) to enhance the awareness of The Cochrane Collaboration among chiropractors in Canada. This collaborative endeavour has resulted in the publication of three articles and several announcements in the

JCCA about the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium (November 21-22, 2003) in Hamilton and the 12th Cochrane Colloquium (October 2-6, 2004) in Ottawa.

The Centre is very grateful to Dr. Allan Gotlib and the Canadian Chiropractic Association for providing this excellent communications opportunity and collaborative project.

Communications Support to The Cochrane Collaboration

The Canadian Cochrane Centre has responsibility for a special communications function in The Cochrane Collaboration. We publish the Cochrane News three times a year, and Daren Spithoff is the Editor. The Co-Director, Kathie Clark, publishes the electronic international newsletter, CCInfo, every other week. This year, 29 issues have been published. In addition, the Co-Director publishes the electronic Canadian newsletter, Canadian Update; nine issues of it have been distributed this year. Daren Spithoff also posts Cochrane entity newsletters to the Cochrane Collaboration web site (www.cochrane.org/newslett). In 2003, he posted 42 entity newsletters, as well as each issue of Cochrane News and CCInfo.

Media Relations

The Centre staff consulted with the media relation's resource staff at McMaster University in the summer. With their assistance, an announcement was included in the McMaster Daily News in September about the appointment of Janet Pinelli and Amanda Symington as the new McMaster Site Representatives. The article included information about The Cochrane Collaboration and the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium.

We very much appreciate the guidance and assistance of Susan Emigh, Manager, and Veronica McGuire, Coordinator of Community and Media Relations, in the Office of Public Relations of the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University.

In November, a news release was distributed with the assistance of the public relations staff of the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Studies announcing the election of Dr. Andreas Laupacis to the position of Chair of the CCN/C Advisory Board.

We recognize the need for a well-developed program of communications and media relations that keeps people across Canada informed and up-to-date on current Cochrane activities and products.

The CCN/C Web Site

This year Daren Spithoff has continued the development of the CCN/C web site, adding improvements to the accessibility, usability, and maintenance efficiency of the site. Readers are encouraged to re-visit www.cochrane.mcmaster.ca to see the results of his ongoing work. There have been 20,168 unique web site visitors this year and 176,251 web page hits.

Additional web developments in 2003 have included the web sites for the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium and the 12th Cochrane Colloquium. Online registrations systems were created for the Symposium, the Colloquium and the Reviewer Training Workshops.

Consistent with the goal to translate key Cochrane documents, selected pages of the web site were translated into French this year.

Information Materials

From March 5, 2003 to April 23, 2003, medical students and faculty from McMaster University ran the Mac Mini-Med School for members of the community. Classes were held once a week in the evening, and dealt with topics ranging from genetics to aging. The CCN/C supplied 300 Information Kits to the Mac Mini-Med School and an evaluation of the Information Kits at the end of the Mini-Med School indicated that most "students" found the information interesting and helpful.

In addition, the Centre staff have distributed over 1400 English Information Kits, 220 French Information Kits and associated communications materials to the Network Sites and the following individuals, groups and conferences.

- McMaster University, Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Meeting, January 22, 2003 (4)
- Technology Enabled Knowledge Translation Think Tank, February 9, 2003 (40)
- University of Saskatchewan Site Workshop, March 6, 2003 (200)
- BC Ministry of Health Planning Workshop, March 10, 2003 (50)
- Student Interview, March 13, 2003 (1)
- University of Western Ontario Site Workshop, March 20, 2003 (40)
- First year medical students, March 21, 2003 (140)
- Dr. Shah, March 26, 2003 (25)
- Dr. Evans, Lecture April 3, 2003 (1)
- Canadian Pharmacists Association Workshop, April 26, 2003 (60)
- Student Interviews, April 17, 2003 (4)
- Airway Symposium and Workshop, May 14, 2003 (100)
- Interview Applicants, May 5, 2003 (3)
- Richard Booth, May 5, 2003 (1)
- Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Workshop, June 10, 2003 (46)
- Sean MacDonald, June 20, 2003 (1)
- Dr. Hongmei, June 26, 2003 (1)
- Ian Shugart, July 3, 2003 (1)
- Amanda Symington, July 3, 2003 (1)
- Janet Pinelli, July 3, 2003 (1)
- Faculty of Health Sciences Public Relations Meeting, July 11, 2003 (2)
- The Federal Minister of Health, The Honourable Anne McClellan, July 16, 2003 (1)
- Dr. Languis, July 30, 2003 (1)
- Arne Ohlsson meeting, August 6, 2003 (5)
- Arne Ohlsson for third year medical students, September 1, 2003 (200)
- Amanda Symington, Oct. 30, 2003 (50)
- 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium, October 2003 (25)
- Symposium Handouts, November 21, 2003 (10)
- Introduction to The Cochrane Colloquium Workshop, November 21, 2003 (50)
- The Ontario Minister of Health, The Honourable George Smitherman, Dec. 15, 2003 (1)
- The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, December 15, 2003 (1)
- The Federal Minister of Health, The Honourable Pierre Pettigrew, Dec. 15, 2003 (1)
- Heather Logan, Canadian Cancer Society, December 1, 2003 (1)

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium

On November 21 and 22, 2003, the Canadian Cochrane Centre and the McMaster University Site hosted the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium on 'Advancing the Knowledge Translation of Systematic reviews'. Over 175 people attended the Symposium and related events. A detailed report of the Symposium is presented below.

Distribution of New Cochrane Abstracts

With each new issue of *The Cochrane Library*, we continue to announce the publication of new Cochrane review abstracts in CCIInfo, Canadian Update and Cochrane News. We actively promote the linkage of various web sites to the two sources of Cochrane abstracts – the Cochrane Collaboration web site and the Update Software web site.

Technology Enabled Knowledge Translation Workshop

In March, Daren Spithoff attended the two-day Technology Enabled Knowledge Translation workshop, hosted by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia. The workshop included a diverse group of policy-makers, researchers, clinicians, consumers and Information Technology specialists, who discussed the various factors that govern knowledge translation and investigated the current and potential role of technology in knowledge translation.

Utilization Workshops for Policy-makers

This year, the Centre initiated a new series of workshops designed for health policy-makers to assist them with the application of Cochrane evidence to their decision-making. Arne Ohlsson and Kathie Clark worked as a team with Stephen Birch and Amiram Gafni, health economists in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University. The addition of Drs. Birch and Gafni provided the inclusion of health economic literature so critical to many health policy decisions. Two workshops were held on March 10, 2003 in Victoria, British Columbia and June 10, 2003 in Toronto, Ontario (see below). Given the success of these workshops, the plan is to offer similar workshops in the future twice a year in different parts of the country.

Goal 4: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada

Distance Learning

The Distance Learning Briefing Paper was enhanced with the review of the education literature. This provides a comprehensive review of the literature related to self-directed learning, distance learning and open learning.

Presentations

The staff of the Centre provided the following presentations and workshops throughout the year.

Ohlsson, A.

- Systematic reviews – Implications for neonatal pain research. Pain in Child Health Institute. CIHR Training Workshop, May 20th 2003. Millcroft Inn, Alton, Ontario.
- Cochrane Database - Knowledge management. In Determinants of Health in Community – Year 3. Curriculum Medicine, University of Toronto. Toronto, Ontario. September 2, 2003.
- HAD5309S - Systematic Reviews (Regular course in the Clinical Epidemiology Program at University of Toronto)- Lecture – Archie Cochrane and The Cochrane Collaboration, October 6, 2003, Institute for Work and Health, Toronto, Ontario.

Workshops

- Evidence-based Medicine - Introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration. 3rd World Congress & Exposition, May 11-14, 2003, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Arne Ohlsson with Megan Clark and Lisa Tjosvold.
- Evidence-based Medicine – Evidence-Based Pediatric Practice: How to incorporate the evidence from systematic reviews in the clinical decision process on the pediatric wards and in policy-making. 3rd World Congress & Exposition, May 11-14, 2003, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Arne Ohlsson with Megan Clark, Martin Offringa, and Peter Fowlie.
- The practical application of Cochrane evidence and health economic literature. Workshop. British Columbia Ministries of Health Planning and Health Services. Victoria, British Columbia, March 10, 2003. Stephen Birch, Kathie Clark, Amiram Gafni and Arne Ohlsson.
- The practical application of Cochrane evidence and health economic literature. Workshop. Ministry of Health and Long- term Care, Michener Institute, Toronto, Ontario. June 10, 2003. Stephen Birch, Kathie Clark, Amiram Gafni, Arne Ohlsson and Suzanne Tabur.
- Systematic reviews and the research agenda in child health. XI Cochrane Colloquium, Barcelona, Spain, October 26 – 31, 2003. M. Offringa, R. Smyth, and A. Ohlsson.

Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada

Consumer Involvement

This year, the Canadian Cancer Society joined the consumer-related Affiliate Organizations on the CCN/C Advisory Board. We welcomed Heather Logan, Acting Director, Cancer Control Policy, as their Consumer Affiliate Representative.

A special consumer workshop was offered as a pre-symposium workshop in advance of the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium. The resource people were Gunther Eyzembach, Dennis Jeanes, Arne Ohlsson, Nancy Santesso, Liz Whamond, Maria Judd, John MacDonald, Laura McAuley, and Vicki Pennick. A total of 40 participants attended the half-day program.

Additions to the CCN/C Advisory Board

In addition to the Canadian Cancer Society, the CCN/C welcomed the Institute of Clinical Evaluative Sciences and their Affiliate Representative, Andreas Laupacis. Dr. Laupacis was elected Chair of the CCN/C Advisory Board at the Annual General Meeting on November 23, 2003.

At the Université de Sherbrooke, Sophie Michaud replaced Dr. Jean-Pierre Tétrault as the Site Representative. Dr. Jacques Lacroix stepped down as the Site Representative at the Université de Montréal and he was replaced by Marie Hatem, Assistant Professor Université de Montréal – Faculté des Sciences Infirmières.

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa, Ontario.

A major activity for the Centre this year has been the planning of the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium on November 21 and 22 with the additional 10th Anniversary celebrations. The Planning Committee included Maureen Dobbins, Jean Jones, Arminée Kazanjian, France Légaré, as well as Denise Wallis (January - April), and Sean MacDonald (June - August), our Student Conference Planning Assistants.

The Canadian Cochrane Symposium is designed to allow Canadians interested and involved in The Cochrane Collaboration to attend a mini-version of a Colloquium. This was the 3rd bi-annual Symposium that included a pre-symposium consumer workshop, two plenary sessions ('Future Directions for Knowledge Translation in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States of America' and 'Knowledge Brokering in Action'), five workshops, two roundtable discussions, 16 oral presentations and 22 posters. Presentations from the Symposium are available at www.cochrane.mcmaster.ca/ccncpresentations.asp.

Due to the celebration of the CCN/C's 10th Anniversary, there was a free public lecture on November 20, 2003 at the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University. Dr. Muir Gray, the Director of the National electronic Health Library, was the keynote speaker and the title of his address was 'Knowledge is the Enemy of Disease'. Dr. Brian Haynes, Chair of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the founding Director of the CCN/C, was the discussant. Over 100 people from the Faculty, the University and the community attended the lecture.

In addition this year, the Centre staff have continued to work with International Conference Services to plan the 12th Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa, Ontario in 2004. The theme for the Colloquium will be "Bridging the Gaps." The plenary session sub themes of the Scientific Program have been defined as:

- Bridging the gaps between The Cochrane Collaboration and clinical practice
- Bridging the gaps across the income divide
- Bridging the gaps between methodologists and reviewers
- Bridging the gaps between producers and users

For further information, readers are encouraged to visit the web site at www.colloquium.info.

Other

Other Funding

Efforts to raise funds for the Canadian Cochrane Centre, the 16 Network sites, and the eight Cochrane entities based in Canada have been our priority activity this year. They have included the submission of a special project grant application to CIHR in March 2003 led by Jeremy Grimshaw with input from the Centre and each of the other entities. In addition, several meetings with key informants and stakeholders have been held in recent months to explore the opportunities for funding and to build successful partnerships.

Committees

The Centre staff contributes to the following Boards and Committees.

Ohlsson, A.

- 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, Oct. 2004
- Chair, Scientific Program Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Oct. 2004
- Co-Chair, International Advisory Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Oct. 2004
- Member, Cochrane News & CCInfo Advisory Committee
- Member, Scientific Advisory Committee, XI Cochrane Colloquium, Barcelona, Spain
- Member, Colloquium Policy Advisory Committee, The Cochrane Collaboration

Clark, K.

- 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, Cochrane News & CCInfo Advisory Committee
- Co-Chair, Canadian Coordinating Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Oct. 2004
- Co-Chair, International Advisory Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Oct. 2004
- Chair, Sponsorship Advisory Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Oct. 2004
- Chair, Abstract Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Oct. 2004
- Chair, Planning Committee, Canadian Cochrane Symposium, Hamilton, Nov. 2003
- Member, Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group
- Co-Convenor, Monitoring and Registration Group, The Cochrane Collaboration
- Member, United Kingdom Cochrane Centre Advisory Board
- Member, Colloquium Policy Advisory Committee, The Cochrane Collaboration
- Member, International Advisory Committee, XI Cochrane Colloquium, Barcelona, Spain

Spithoff, D.

- Member, Dissemination and Impact Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Education and Training Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Member, Communications and Marketing Team, The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre
- Chair, Cochrane News & CCInfo Advisory Committee
- Member, Web Advisory Committee, The Cochrane Collaboration
- Member, Web Policy Working Group, The Cochrane Collaboration
- Member, Open Learning Material Steering Committee, The Cochrane Collaboration
- Member, Canadian Coordinating Committee, Cochrane Colloquium, Ottawa, Oct. 2004

Administration

- The Co-Director prepared the 2002 Centre Monitoring report for the CCN/C (March 2003), the interim report for the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (March 2003) and a briefing paper for the Canadian Coordinating Office of Health Technology Assessment (May 2003).
- We successfully recruited a new full-time Administrative Assistant, Lynda Fraser.
- Sean McDonald, Student Project Assistant, completely redesigned and updated the CCN/C contact database (July 2003).
- Joanna Nowakowska, Student Project Assistant, updated the CCN/C database of reviewers in Canada (October 2003).

Reports from Network Sites

University of Calgary

Site Co-Representatives: Roger Thomas, MD, PhD, CCFP, MRCGP and
Laura Ghali, PhD

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

Training and support of reviewers in Canada

- Cochrane workshop for the Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Nursing Masters and Doctoral students, University of Calgary, Alberta, May 2003.
- Contact with representatives of the Department of Nursing, Department of Risk Management, and Department of Research, Calgary Health Region, to facilitate Cochrane-related searching and utilisation activities.
- Planning for Joint Cochrane/Southern Alberta Health Libraries Association Workshops for 23 January 2004. Morning workshop on using evidence in practice, and identification and quality evaluation of RCT's and systematic reviews; afternoon workshop on planning and carrying out a Cochrane review. Planned attendance 30.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Establish and maintain effective communications with all users

- Supervision of the weekly Family Medicine Residents Evidence-Based Journal Club.
- Communication with potential Cochrane users in the Calgary region.

Provide communications support to the Collaboration

- Distribute information kits and answer telephone enquiries from potential users in the Calgary Health Region.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- Cochrane and evidence-based workshop, Family Medicine Residents, University of Calgary (four workshops each of three hours, repeated every two months).

- Cochrane and evidence-based workshop, International Medical Graduate Family Medicine Residents, Calgary, Alberta, June 4 2003.
- Practice Audit for Family Medicine Residents, Faculty of Family Medicine Preceptors Workshop, Kanaskis, Alberta, February 2003.
- Cochrane and evidence-based workshop, Family Medicine Residents, Lethbridge, Alberta, July 2003.

Goal 4: 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

- Discussions with undergraduate course planners at the University of Calgary to include Cochrane and other systematic reviews in the curriculum.
- Provision of handheld computers to family medicine residents and faculty at the University of Calgary, and provision of evidence-based databases (InfoRetriever; EBM mobile Guidelines).

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

2004 Colloquium

- Participation on the Workshop Committee for the 2004 Symposium.

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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 in Canada**

- Sunita Vohra, Sandra Blitz, Lori Billingham, Lisa Evered, Lawrence Richer, Finlay McAlister, Bonita Lee, Hema Patel, Jackie Petruk, Carla Spinola, Kris Cramer, Joan Robinson, Ari Joffe, Laurence Lequier, Natalie Anton, Ken Farion, Ben Vandermeer

## **Training and support of reviewers in Canada**

### **Workshops**

- Advanced Cochrane Methods Workshop, Telus Centre, May 14, 2003, Edmonton, Alberta
- Putting Evidence into Practice Workshop, Telus Centre, October 16-18, 2003.

### **Individual training**

- Dr. Amar Suchak: assisted to conduct a review titled 'Patient satisfaction with Achilles tendon repairs' that will become a Cochrane protocol and review (assisted by C Spooner).

### **Graduate level Course**

- Drs. Brian Rowe and Terry Klassen co-ordinated and conducted a graduate level course for the Department of Public Health Sciences called 'Systematic Review Course' from January 2003 - April 2003. Several members of the Edmonton site committee assisted with the sessions.

## **Handsearching**

- Child Health Field has ongoing searching activity (Ellen Crumley).

## **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

### **Establish and maintain effective communications with all users**

- Cochrane Site Committee, University of Alberta
- Evidence-Based Practice Centre, University of Alberta
- Alberta Research Centre for Child Health Evidence (ARCHE), Department of Pediatrics, University of Alberta

### **Initiate program of media relations**

- Two news articles in the Edmonton Journal about Cochrane and evidence around workshop activities.

### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- Distributed information kits at the Cochrane workshop and Symposium May 2003
- Contributed information to CCN/C newsletter.

### **Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews**

- Grand Rounds, Department of Public Health Science, January 2003; Drs. Terry Klassen and Brian Rowe.
- *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, Evidence-Based Emergency Medicine Series dedicated exclusively to Cochrane reviews.

- *Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine*, Evidence-Based Emergency Medicine Series involves some Cochrane reviews.

### **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

#### **Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects**

- Involvement of users and policy-makers in the Cochrane Airways Symposium 2003.
- Involvement of users and policy-makers in the Putting Evidence in Practice (PEP) Workshop 2003.

#### **Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- Grand Rounds, Department of Public Health Science, January 2003; Drs. Terry Klassen and Brian Rowe.
- International Child Health Services Research Meeting.
- Advancing Knowledge, Informing Action, Improving Child Health Care, Washington DC, September 2003.

### **Goal 4: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada**

- October 2-4, 2003. Putting Evidence in Practice (PEP) Workshop. Edmonton, Alberta (Participants: 70 clinicians, researchers, graduate students, policy-makers).
- October 2003. Children in reviews: Methodological issues in child relevant evidence syntheses. Presented by: Klassen TP, Cramer K, Hartling L, Moyer V, Swingler G. XI Cochrane Colloquium, Barcelona Spain (25 participants).
- June 2003. Systematic reviews of the effects of health care interventions. Klassen TP, Natasha Wiebe, Lisa Tjosvold. International Society for Technology Assessment in Health Care (ISTAHC), Canmore, Alberta (30 participants).
- June 2003. Methodological issues in systematic reviews of the effects of health care interventions. Klassen TP, Natasha Wiebe, Lisa Tjosvold. International Society for Technology Assessment in Health Care (ISTAHC), Canmore, Alberta (30 participants).
- May 2003. A series of three workshops: 1) Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration; 2) Evidence-Based Pediatric Practice: How to incorporate the evidence from systematic reviews in the clinical decision process on the pediatric wards and in policy-making. 3) Methodological issues in systematic reviews of the effects of health care interventions. Klassen TP, Wiebe N, Tjosvold L. International Child and Youth Care Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia.

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

- Graduate course PHS 799, Department of Public Health Sciences: Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.

**Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane related activities across Canada**

**Consumer Involvement**

- Involvement of consumers in the Cochrane Airways Symposium 2003 (Participants: 70; Alberta Lung Association, Asthma Centre, Cindy O'Hara).

**Site Groups**

- Edmonton site Cochrane Collaboration members are also part of the Evidence-based Practice Centre membership (40 members).

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University of Saskatchewan

Site Co-Representatives: Dorothy Forbes, RN, PhD and

Janet Bangma, MLIS, MA Ed

Site Coordinator: Shellie Peacock, RN, MN

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

Training and support of reviewers in Canada

- Hosted Reviewer Training Workshops: Developing a Cochrane Protocol and Undertaking a Cochrane Review. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, March 7-8 2003. 13 attendees/day.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Provide communications support to the Collaboration

- College of Physicians and Surgeons Newsletter. Article on *The Cochrane Library* and The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre. Publicity article for the Reviewer Training Workshops in Saskatoon.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- Dorothy Forbes, Guest Speaker, Epidemiology II: The Cochrane Collaboration & Library, November 20, 2003, University of Saskatchewan (10 Graduate Students).
- Dorothy Forbes & Shellie Peacock, Guest Speakers: To Answer nursing effectiveness questions: Use & contribute to *The Cochrane Library*, September 26, 2003 (30 Master's Nursing Students & Faculty)
- Bangma, J. & Forbes, D. (2003). *The Cochrane Library* Province wide. \$206,886, Health Quality Council. Jan. 2004 - Dec. 2008

Goal 4: 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 Saskatchewan Health Sciences Librarians instruct the first year medical students in Medical Informatics. One of these sessions is devoted to reviewing what the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* is and when to use this information resource.
- The University of Saskatchewan Health Sciences Librarians instruct the medical residents during their rotations and *The Cochrane Library* is introduced during their searching classes in July 2003.
- The *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* is shown to pharmacy 300, 400 and 500 classes.
- *The Cochrane Library* is demonstrated to undergraduate nursing students during their research course (NURS 419.3)
- A systematic review course based on Cochrane reviews is being developed for graduate students at the University of Saskatchewan.

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# University of Western Ontario

Site Representative: George Rice, MD

Network Site Coordinator: John MacDonald, BA, MA

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

### **Training and support of reviewers in Canada**

- March 20, 2003, A University of Western Ontario Cochrane Workshop: Evidence-based approach in neurological disease: Lessons from research in multiple sclerosis (40 participants: clinicians, researchers, graduate students). The day long workshop included an introduction to evidence-based medicine and systematic reviews (in the context of multiple sclerosis), problems associated with randomized controlled trials (e.g. publication bias, reporting bias, fraud etc.), natural history versus the behaviour of patients in RCTs, the preparation of a Cochrane review, assessing trial quality, launching a search strategy, the principles of meta-analysis, the extraction of data from real papers, the use of RevMan and a group discussion / problem solving session. Post-workshop evaluation indicates that the workshop was well received and suggestions were made to improve future workshops.

## **Goal 4: 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**

- February 2003, London, Ontario: Lecture by George Rice to neurology residents at London Health Sciences Centre on evidence-based medicine, systematic reviews, The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library* (15 attended).

## **Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada**

### **Site Groups**

- The University of Western Ontario 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 in December 2002 to assess the educational requirements of University of Western Ontario based reviewers and to plan the March 2003 workshop.

## **Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

### **2004 Colloquium**

- A neurology outcomes workshop is planned for the 2004 Colloquium.

### **Other Cochrane related activities not related to the 2002-2003 Business Plan**

- John MacDonald attended the CCN/C Annual General Meeting in Hamilton on November 23, 2003 and made a presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Cochrane Symposium Consumers Workshop.

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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

Training and support of reviewers in Canada

Individual training

- The Cochrane Collaboration and review opportunities, to individuals in the Department of Occupational Health, University of Toronto.
- The Cochrane Collaboration and review opportunities, to individuals in the Department of Medical Oncology, University of Toronto.
- The Cochrane Collaboration and review opportunities, to individuals in the Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Toronto.

Workshops

- Systematic review workshop for internal medicine residents: A half-day interactive workshop jointly sponsored by the University of Toronto Cochrane Site and the University of Toronto Internal Medicine Postgraduate Education Program, November 2002 - 13 participants.
- Systematic review workshop for family medicine residents: A half-day interactive workshop jointly sponsored by the University of Toronto Cochrane Site and the University of Toronto Family Medicine Postgraduate Education Program, July 16, 2003 - 27 participants.
- Summing it up – a workshop on systematic reviews in radiation oncology: A half-day interactive workshop jointly sponsored by the University of Toronto Cochrane Site and the Canadian Association of Radiation Oncologists. An accredited group learning activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada October 2, 2003 - 50 participants

- Teaching session for radiation oncology residents: A half-day teaching session jointly sponsored by the University of Toronto Cochrane Site and the University of Toronto Department of Radiation oncology Postgraduate Education Program November 28, 2003 - 15 participants

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Provide communications support to the Collaboration

Information kits distributed at:

- Systematic review workshop for internal medicine residents, Toronto, Ontario.
- Systematic review workshop for family medicine residents, Toronto, Ontario.
- Summing it up - a workshop on systematic reviews in radiation oncology, Toronto, Ontario.
- Teaching session for radiation oncology residents, Toronto, Ontario.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- Collaboration with the Canadian Office of Health Technology Assessment in using a Cochrane review (Wong R. Wiffen PJ. Bisphosphonates for the relief of pain secondary to bone metastases. *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2002) as the basis of a HTA report. (www.ccohta.ca/entry_e.html)
- Incorporation of the results of a Cochrane review (Rebecca Wong, Richard Malthaner. Combined chemotherapy and radiotherapy (without surgery) compared with radiotherapy alone in localized carcinoma of the esophagus (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.) into a practice guideline in esophageal cancer for the province of Ontario. (Wong KSR, Malthaner R. Zuraw L, Rumble RB and the Cancer Care Ontario Practice Guidelines Initiative Gastrointestinal Cancer Disease Site Group. Combined Modality Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy in the Non-Surgical Management of Localized Carcinoma of the Esophagus. A practice guideline. *Int J Radiat Onc Biol Phy* 55 (4) 930-942-2003; www.cancercare.on.ca/pdf/pebc2-12s.pdf).
- Incorporation of the results of a Cochrane review (Malthaner R, Fenlon D. Preoperative chemotherapy for resectable thoracic esophageal cancer (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.) - into a practice guideline in esophageal cancer for the province of Ontario. (www.cancercare.on.ca/pdf/pebc2-11s.pdf)

Goal 4: 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

- Teaching systematic reviews and *The Cochrane Library* to postgraduate trainees. A proposal. A presentation made to the University of Toronto Postgraduate Education Committee, with a proposal to offer workshops to postgraduate training programs (May 9, 2003).
- Systematic review course (HAD 5308) MSc program. Clinical Epidemiology & Health Care Research Program, University of Toronto Department of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation. Course director Dr. Claire Bombardier Course tutors: Dr. Andrea Furlan, Dr. Jill Hayden, Ms. Elizabeth Uleryk, Dr. Rebecca Wong, Dr. Arne Ohlsson, Dr. Joseph Beyene.
- Introduction to Clinical Epidemiology & Health Care Research (HAD5301H): Evidence based medicine & Critical appraisal. Department of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation. MSc program Course tutor: Dr. Rebecca Wong.
- Introduction to Clinical Epidemiology & Health Care Research (HAD5301H): Guidelines & Overviews. Department of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation MSc program Course tutor: Dr. Rebecca Wong.

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

2004 Colloquium

- Dr. Joseph Beyene - Developing Country Stipend Committee Chair
- Dr. Ellen Hodnett - Scientific Committee Member
- Dr. Alex Jadad - Developing Country Stipend Committee Member
- Dr. Arne Ohlsson - Canadian Coordinating Committee Co-chair, Scientific Committee Chair
- Dr. Rebecca Wong - Scientific Committee member

Other Cochrane related activities not related to the 2002-2003 Business Plan

- Development of a web site for the University of Toronto Site (ongoing, anticipated launch date: spring 2004)

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# Queen's University

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

## **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

### **Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- Kingston General Hospital Library now offers the EBSCOHost versions of the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, *DARE* and *Cochrane Controlled Trials Register*. These databases are accessible on the Internet, from inside or outside of Kingston General Hospital by username and password for all Kingston General Hospital staff. Access from within Kingston General Hospital is conveniently available through our Virtual Library page on the Kingston General Hospital Intranet. Our license supports 4 concurrent users (Margaret Darling, Manager, Kingston General Hospital Library).
- Bracken Health Sciences Library has purchased the Update Software version of *The Cochrane Library* in the summer of 2003 (networked for 5 concurrent users), in addition to the Ovid Evidence Based Medicine Review databases (5 concurrent users) (Suzanne Maranda, Bracken Health Sciences Librarian).

## **Goal 4: 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**

#### **Local Presentations**

- Review of Cochrane and Evidence-based medicine to Phase 2E clinical skills program at Queen's University. This comprises small group teaching of 3rd year Medical students (Tanveer Towheed, September-December 2003).
- Academic Half Day with a presentation of *The Cochrane Library* to Core Internal Medicine Residents (Tanveer Towheed and Phil Hahn, March 2003).
- On-line computer demonstration of the *Cochrane Database of Systemic Reviews*, *OVID EBM Reviews version* to 40 medical residents. Part of Introduction to Research Methodology Course, *Queen's University Postgraduate Medical Education* (Phil Hahn, May 22, 2003).
- Demonstration only to 23 Rehabilitation Masters students (Bracken Health Sciences Librarians, September 3, 2003)
- Eighteen small group hands-on sessions of *The Cochrane Library* on the OVID system. Participants: 61 Phase II medical students (January 2003), 10 International Medical Graduate Students (May 2003), 2 Nurse Practitioners (June 2003), 8 Nursing Masters students (September 2003), 25 Community Health and Epidemiology graduate students (3 sessions: January, March, October 2003), 155 3<sup>rd</sup> year Nursing students (6 sessions, 3 in February 2003 and 3 in September 2003) (Bracken Health Sciences Librarians).

- Bracken Health Sciences Librarians are preparing a new course on Evidence-based resources, including the Cochrane Databases, for Faculty Development (November 2003).
- The Librarians of the Health Science Library explain 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).

### **National Presentations**

- Online computer demonstration: *The Cochrane Library*, Update Edition. Postgraduate Course entitled "Millennium Technology." Annual Clinical Meeting of the Society of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC), Location: Atlantic Technology Centre (Training Lab), Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Participants: 12 Obstetricians / Gynaecologists. (Phil Hahn, June 26, 2003)
- On-line computer demonstration: *The Cochrane Library*, Update Edition. Forum: "Introduction to Research Course for Canadian Residents in OBGYN" under the auspices of the Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Location: The Joseph L. Rotman Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario. Participants: 55 OBGYN Residents across Canada. (Phil Hahn, December 7, 2003).

### **Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada**

#### **Queen's University Site Group**

- Nancy Burge, Pharmacist, Kingston General Hospital.
- Ann Cranney, Division of Rheumatology (*moved to Ottawa, September 2003*).
- Phil Hahn, Obstetrics & Gynaecology.
- 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.
- Creation of Queen's Site Group web site (Phil Hahn)  
[http://meds.queensu.ca/medicine/obgyn/links/cochrane\\_queens.htm](http://meds.queensu.ca/medicine/obgyn/links/cochrane_queens.htm).

#### **Other**

- Phil Hahn: Education and Training Strategic Planning Team Leader.
- Tanveer Towheed: Communications and Marketing Strategic Planning Team Member.

## **Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

### **2004 Colloquium**

- Phil Hahn: Workshop Committee Chair and Scientific Program Committee Member.

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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, MA

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

- The Cochrane Musculoskeletal Steering Group (CMSG) and Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) have recruited a total of 20 reviewers within Canada. For more details, please refer to the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Steering Group activity report, and the Effective Practice and Organisation of Care activity report.

### **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

- The main activities of the University of Ottawa Cochrane site have been generated by the numerous Cochrane groups affiliated with the University of Ottawa. These activities are reflected in the individual reports of each entity (Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group, Effective Practice and Organization of Care Group, Cochrane Reporting Bias Methods Group, Cochrane Child Health Field).
- In addition, the Review Group Co-ordinators of the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group, Effective Practice and Organization of Care Group have provided methodological and technical support to Cochrane reviewers from Health Canada, the Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment, and the University of Ottawa who have been working on Cochrane reviews for Cochrane entities based outside of Ottawa.

### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- The CMSG and EPOC have participated in a number of presentations at a series of conferences (Barcelona, Hamilton etc.)

### **Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews**

- The CMSG and EPOC provide information to the public through:
  - annual newsletters
  - regularly updated web sites
- The CMSG and EPOC have developed media relations for the promotion of Cochrane Reviews. See the activity reports for the CMSG and EPOC.

### **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

#### **Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- The CMSG and EPOC regularly update their web sites with information aimed at the promotion of the use of Cochrane systematic reviews. Training materials are available on demand as well as on each web site. See the activity reports for the CMSG and EPOC.

### **Goal 4: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada**

- The CMSG and EPOC have participated in a number of workshops at the Cochrane Colloquium in Barcelona and at the Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton. See the activity reports for the CMSG and EPOC.

### **Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada**

#### **Consumer Involvement**

- Recruiting and engaging consumers in our groups is a key activity at the University of Ottawa. See the activity reports for the CMSG and EPOC.

### **Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

- Members of the CMSG and EPOC have been actively participating in the organization of the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium and the 2003 Canadian Symposium. See the activity reports for the CMSG and EPOC.

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McGill University

Site Representative: Roland Grad MD, CM, MSc

Site Coordinator: Ritsuko Kakuma BA, MSc

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

Recruitment of reviewers in Canada

- Colin Chalk is spearheading a team of neurologists in a protocol-in-progress for a review of “Aldose reductase inhibitors for diabetic polyneuropathy”. Pierre Pluye and Roland Grad are collaborating with others from the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group in the writing of a protocol on “The impact of e-resources, such as information retrieval technology, on physician practice and patient health”. Muireann Nichronin was recruited as reviewer for two reviews of long-acting beta2-agonists as add-on therapy in the treatment of asthma, along with Francine M. Ducharme and Ilana Greenstone.

Handsearching

- Colin Chalk continues to handsearch *The Journal of the Neurological Sciences*. Francine Ducharme continues to handsearch the *Canadian Respiratory Journal*.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews

- Francine Ducharme,
 - November 2003, Chair, *Integrated Asthma Management*, Cochrane Airway 2nd International Symposium London, England.
 - May 2003 Speaker – *Role of anti-leukotrienes as add-on therapy to inhaled corticosteroids in adults*.
 - The Cochrane Airway Symposium 2003. Edmonton, Alberta, May 2003, Speaker – “*Anti-Leukotrienes for pediatrics*.”
 - The Cochrane Airway Symposium 2003. Edmonton, Alberta, May 2003 Speaker and served as Panel Expert – *Disseminating Airways Reviews in Pediatrics – Plenary Session*.
 - The Cochrane Airways Symposium 2003, Edmonton, Alberta.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects

- In January 2003, Roland Grad received \$147,047 from the Population and Public Health Institute of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for a project entitled “Putting Evidence into Practice: Evaluating the Impact of Knowledge Translation Technology”. This grant was awarded under the Knowledge Translation Strategies for Health Research Program, and is based on the noted difficulty experienced by doctors in accessing useful information. Using handheld technology, this project will test new methods to assess the impact of information retrieval in everyday practice.
- Integration of a Cochrane review in the 1993 Canadian Asthma Consensus Statement:
 - June 2003 Speaker – “*Leukotriene receptor antagonist for monotherapy in children*” - Canadian Asthma Consensus Meeting – Pediatric Section, Montréal, Québec
 - Jun 2003 Speaker – “*Add-on therapies in the treatment of asthma*” – (Co-speaker with Dr. Catherine Lemière) – Canadian Asthma Consensus Meeting – Adult Section, Montréal, Québec
- Dissemination of a Cochrane review to asthma educators in Quebec:
 - Francine Ducharme, Debate Speaker – “*Episodic wheezing: Debate on diagnosis and treatment*” (*Le wheezing épisodique: diagnostic et traitement*) 6th Annual Colloquium of the Quebec Network of Asthma and COPD (6^{ième} Colloque annuel du Réseau québécois de l’asthme et de la MPOC (RQAM), Québec, Québec, Dec 2002. * derived from the Cochrane review of inhaled steroids in viral-induced childhood asthma.
- Dissemination of a Cochrane review to Canadian allergists
 - Debate Speaker – “Be it resolved: Leukotriene receptor antagonists are important components in the treatment of asthma” Pro: Dr M. Balter, Toronto, Ontario. Con: Dr F. Ducharme, Montreal, Quebec. Controversies in Asthma. Plenary Symposium. Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. Québec, Québec. *derived from the 2 Cochrane anti-leukotrienes reviews.
- Dissemination of Cochrane reviews to community pediatricians in Ontario
 - March 2003 Speaker – “*Viral-induced wheezing in preschool-aged children.*” Presentation for Community Pediatricians. Children’s Hospital for Eastern Ontario (CHEO). Ottawa, Nov. 2002

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- In Dr. Roland Grad’s research, 44 McGill Family Medicine residents are gathering data to evaluate the use and impact of *InfoRetriever* (www.infopoems.com) on handheld computers. Of note, *InfoRetriever* software is a searchable collection of seven databases, one of which is the abstracts of all Cochrane reviews. As one outcome under study is usage, we will report on the use and impact of abstracts of Cochrane reviews by a cohort of residents.

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

2003 Symposium

- Oral presentation, Putting evidence into practice: Evaluating the impact and usefulness of handheld access to a collection of medical databases (Roland Grad, Pierre Pluye, Robyn Tamblyn, Bernard Segal, Randolph Stephenson).

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## **Université de Montréal**

Site Representative (Jan – Sept): Jacques Lacroix, MD

Site Representative (Oct – Dec): Marie Hatem-Asmar RN

Site Coordinator: Chantal Roy, MD

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

### **Recruitment of reviewers in Canada**

- Dr Catherine Litalien became a reviewer for the Cochrane Injury Group.

### **Training and support of reviewers in Canada**

- A full-day workshop on The Cochrane Collaboration, *The Cochrane Library* and RevMan 4.04 was given to 15 nurses with the help of Chantal Roy, France Gauvin, Catherine Litalien, Louis-Luc Lecompte and Jacques Lacroix. The title of the symposium was: “Journée d’initiation aux méta-analyses et à la librairie Cochrane.” It was held at Sainte-Justine Hospital, on February 25, 2003.
- Through the course: Problèmes et interventions en périnatalité, addressing the M.Sc. students (14) at the Faculty of nursing, Marie Hatem-Asmar, professor responsible for the course, offered a 3-hour session of “initiation aux méta-analyses et à la librairie Cochrane”. The students had to present a preliminary protocol for the development of a meta-analysis on a specific problem in perinatality as a part of the evaluation of their participation to the course (40% of the marks).
- Épidémiologie clinique (clinical epidemiology): méta-analyse (meta-analysis, 1998-2004). Cours MSO 6025, 3 hours, Université de Montréal; cours 513-628, McGill University (1998-2004).
- Lacroix J. Les revues systématiques et les méta-analyses. Conférence donnée au cours du colloque “Journée d’initiation aux méta-analyses et à la librairie Cochrane”, Montréal, février 2003.
- The following students are presently doing a systematic review:
  - Marie Hatem-Asmar.
  - Liliana Simon (Yale University, New Haven, USA)

## **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

### **Establish and maintain effective communications with all users**

- *The Cochrane Library* can now be read by all professors working at the University of Montreal or in University-affiliated Hospitals; professors can get access to *The Cochrane Library* from computer at University, Hospital and even from home.

### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- Information kits have been distributed to residents in Pediatrics, Pediatric Intensive Care Medicine and to students in Nursing.

### **Provide translation into French of key Cochrane documents**

- Marie Hatem-Asmar presented *The Cochrane Library* during an International congress of midwives and a course addressed to M.Sc. candidate nurses, Saint-Joseph University, Beyrouth, Lebanon (July 2003).

### **Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews**

- Cochrane abstracts have been distributed to members of the Department of Pediatrics of Sainte-Justine Hospital.
- Jacques Lacroix is writing the second edition of a Textbook published in French on Pediatric Intensive Care Medicine (Lacroix J, Gauthier M, Beaufilets 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 abstract(s) from *The Cochrane Library*, and the authors are asked to refer to these systematic reviews. References to 56 systematic reviews of *The Cochrane Library* are already integrated in this textbook.

## **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

### **Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects**

- Lacroix J. Conférence sur la médecine probante : hémorragies digestives en réanimation. Conférence du Service d'Urgence, département de pédiatrie, Université de Montréal, 9 janvier 2003.
- Lacroix J. Conférence sur la médecine probante : hémorragies digestives en réanimation. Mardi pédiatrique de l'Hôpital des Enfants, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Bordeaux, France, 14 janvier 2003.
- Hatem M. « L'infirmière et les Résultats probants » CFAS – Rimouski, 19-23 May 2003. Oral communication through a colloque entitled: Les résultats probants en sciences infirmières: Questionnons à nouveau ce paradigme... Responsable: Morin D. Scientific

committee. Archambault J, Hatem-Asmar M, Dumas L, Gagnon J, Légaré F, Mayrand-Leclerc M, St-Cyr – Tribble D, Sylvain H.

- Hatem M. Discussion on The Cochrane Collaboration with nurses in Morocco. September 2003.
- Jacques Lacroix and Catherine Litalien participated to an evidence-based review on treatment modalities of severe head trauma in children. This was done under the leadership of James Hutchison (Toronto).

### **Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- One review published in *The Cochrane Library* was reviewed during journal clubs of the Department of Pediatrics and the Division of Pediatric Intensive Care Medicine.

### **Goal 4: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada**

#### **Workshops**

- A workshop on *The Cochrane Library* was held on May 11, 2003; it was presented to 6 residents in Pediatrics.

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

- Participation to a workshop on The Cochrane Collaboration and on systematic review is now mandatory for students in Nursing, Université de Montréal.
- A basic explanation of what is a systematic review and a presentation of *The Cochrane Library* is now an integral part of the training process in the following program of the Université de Montréal (one hour workshop, plus at least two journal clubs per year, which are devoted to systematic reviews published in *The Cochrane Library*):
  - Pediatrics
  - Pediatric critical care medicine
  - Nursing

### **Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada**

#### **Site Groups**

- The committee on The Cochrane Collaboration of the Faculté de Médecine de l'Université de Montréal now includes the following list of members:
  - Dr Anne-Claude Bernard-Bonnin (Sainte-Justine Hospital)
  - Dr William Fraser (Sainte-Justine Hospital)
  - Dr France Gauvin (Sainte-Justine Hospital)
  - Mme Marie Hatem-Asmar (Faculté du Nursing, Université de Montréal)
  - Mr Louis-Luc Lecompte (librarian, Hôpital Sainte-Justine)
  - Dr Catherine Litalien (Sainte-Justine Hospital)
  - Dr François Madore (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 (M.Sc. in clinical epidemiology)
- Staff: Mme Chantal Roy is now hired by the Research Centre of the Sainte-Justine Hospital to support the Cochrane activities at the Université de Montréal
- New Members of the Site Group
  - Dr William Fraser, Director, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Université de Montréal.

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Université Laval

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

Site Coordinator: Frédérique Bélanger-Ducharme

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

Recruitment of reviewers in Canada

- Dr Michel Labrecque from the Department of Family Medicine was contacted.

Training and support of reviewers in Canada

- Mrs Frédérique Bélanger-Ducharme, a student in Kinesiology, spent the summer with Dre Légaré.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Establish and maintain effective communications with all users

- We hired Frédérique Bélanger-Ducharme to run our email list.

Provide translation into French of key Cochrane documents

- Dre Légaré and Dr Michel Labrecque answered requests from the CCN/C.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects

- Web site of the department of family medicine at Laval (www.fmed.ulaval.ca/mfa).

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- Conference by Dr Jeremy Grimshaw at the research center of the CHA-U Laval, June 13, 2003, Cochrane - Methodological issues in systematic reviews of professional behaviour change strategies: experiences from the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care group.
- Conference by Mr. Ed Mills, MSc, Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine & Department of Medicine, University of Toronto and Dr. Victor Montori, MD, MSc, Department of Endocrinology, Mayo Clinic & Associate Editor, ACP Journal Club / Evidence-based Medicine, Cochrane reviewers, at the research center of the CHUQ-U Laval on March 28, 2003. *Should we trust the clinical interaction literature?*

Goal 4: 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

- Four auto tutorials are posted. Since 2003, all students in medicine are obliged to use these auto tutorials to learn critical appraisal skills; one is about systematic reviews and uses a Cochrane review. Moreover, about 50 physicians from the community have registered with the continuing education department to use these auto tutorials.

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

2003 Symposium

- Dre Légaré was a member of the Symposium Planning Committee.

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# Dalhousie University

Site Co-Representatives: Alexandra Howlett, MD, FRCP(C) and

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 in Canada**

- Allan Abbass, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine.
- Andrea Murphy, Interdisciplinary PhD student.
- Julie Henderson, Medical student, Department of Psychiatry.
- Leslie-Anne Campbell, Health Outcomes Research Unit, Centre for Clinical Research.

## **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

- Establish and maintain effective communications with all users.
- We maintain a Dalhousie Cochrane web site and have a distribution group set up on our email system for those who have expressed an interest in Cochrane activities. The web address for the Dalhousie Cochrane site is:  
<http://informatics.medicine.dal.ca/cochrane.html>.
- Provide communications support to the Collaboration.
- We have used various email distribution groups and web sites to provide information on Cochrane-related activities.
- Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane reviews.
- We support the W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library's subscription to the Cochrane reviews. As part of its training of Department of Family Medicine students, the Library teaches students to use the Cochrane reviews as part of their search processes.

## **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

### **Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects**

- Grace Paterson, the Site Co-Representative, is using *The Cochrane Library* as part of her PhD research entitled "Semantic Interoperability Among Electronic Health Resources".
- We are asking permission of Wiley Publishers and the individual authors to use several Cochrane reviews on Inflammatory Bowel Disease on our HealthInfoRx web site.



## **Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- The Nova Scotia Medical Society found the cost of Cochrane reviews prohibitive (a cost of \$9.80 per physician or ~ \$19,200 for the year) and hence were not able to add this to their web site [www.DoctorsNS.com](http://www.DoctorsNS.com).

### **Goal 4: 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**

- Presentation: September 30, 2003, "What is a Good Review?" Drs. Alexandra Howlett and Stephen Kisely as part of the Division of Medical Education luncheon series. This presentation was cancelled due to Hurricane Juan but has been rescheduled and will take place on March 9, 2004.
- The Cochrane reviews are part of HINF 6100 Health Information: Flow and Use – a graduate level course in the Master of Health Informatics program at Dalhousie.
- Dr. Kirk Magee will conduct a staff development workshop on The Cochrane Collaboration for the Department of Emergency Medicine in January 2004.

### **Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada**

#### **Consumer Involvement**

- This is indirect through the HealthInfoRx™ project that is aimed at patients from the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic at the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre.

#### **Site Groups**

- The Dalhousie Site Group consists of Grace Paterson, David Zitner, Deirdre Harvey (Medical Informatics), Alexandra Howlett (Pediatrics), Stephen Kisely (Psychiatry), Adil Virani (Pharmacy), Debora Matthews (Dentistry), Tim Ruggles (W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library), Kirk Magee (Emergency Medicine) and Gordon Flowerdew (Community Health and Epidemiology). The group meets quarterly unless other activities require more frequent meetings. We have recently added Dr. Flowerdew and Dr. Magee to the Committee.

### **Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

#### **2003 Symposium**

- Adil Virani and Grace Paterson attended this Symposium.

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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.

- The Health Sciences Library has in-serviced 40 individuals (students and professionals) in searching Cochrane databases. They also provide "Finding the Evidence" sessions that include an introduction to *The Cochrane Library* and how to search its database.
- ARNNL ACCESS, the quarterly newsletter of the professional Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador received by all RNs in the province, has begun a series on incorporating evidence into practice. Two articles were published in the past year: one by D. Moralejo on evidence-based extraction journals, and the other specifically on *The Cochrane Library*.
- S. LeFort was the guest editor of the September 2003 issue of the Canadian Journal of Nursing Research. The issue focused on nursing care effectiveness. The guest editorial and other papers in the issue discussed the important role of systematic reviews and Cochrane databases in particular for assessing the effectiveness of specific practices.

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

- The undergraduate curriculum in nursing was revised this year to specifically include the importance of systematic reviews and introduced all students to Cochrane. Our undergraduate program has three sites across the province with approximately 250 students.

Effort to Assess Educational Needs:

- One master's student in nursing completed a needs assessment that focused on the activities and learning needs of nurses in key positions within the local hospitals and community sector who were most likely to incorporate research into practice at a policy or education level (e.g. staff development educators, administrators and clinical nurse specialists).
- A second graduate student in nursing has developed a proposal to study the evidence base of existing select hospital policies and procedures and the extent to which staff nurses across the province utilize policies and procedures to guide practice. This study will begin in December 2003.
- Both studies are development work for a series of provincial workshops that are planned for Spring 2004.

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# Reports from Review Groups in Canada

## Back Review Group

Coordinating Editors: Claire Bombardier, MD and Lex Bouter, PhD

Review Group Coordinator (Jan – Apr; Aug – Dec): Vicki Pennick, RN, BScN, MHSc

Review Group Coordinator (Apr - Aug): Chantelle Garritty, BA, DCS

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

#### Recruitment of reviewers in Canada

- Nadine Graham, School of Rehabilitation Science, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

#### Training and support of reviewers in Canada

- Furlan A, Hayden J, Ohlsson A, Bayene J, Wong R, Cote P, Irvin E. Systematic Reviews Workshop. October 20, 2003 and November 17, 2003; Toronto, Ontario. Institute for Work and Health (30 clinicians & researchers plus 50+ on the waiting list – MOCOMP credits obtained).
- Furlan A, Pennick V. (presenter and facilitators) Reviewer Training Workshop, November 2003, Hamilton, Ontario.

#### Handsearching

- Doreen Day does the majority of the handsearching.
- 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 Orthopedics, J. American Osteopathic Association, J. of Back & Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation, Seminars in Spinal Surgery, Spine Journal, Journal of Spinal Disorders, The Spine Journal.
  - Spine Journal has been searched 1976 – June 2003.
  - European Spine Journal has been searched 1998—2002.
  - Journal of Spinal Disorders has been search 1988 – 1990.
  - The Spine Journal has been searched 2001 – August 2002.

**Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

**Presentations on either Cochrane or utilization of Cochrane reviews**

- Bombardier C. Cochrane Collaboration and Outcomes Research Assessment. March 15, 2003, New York City, New York. Pfizer Low Back Pain Advisory Meeting (30 - 40 clinicians, researchers).
- Pennick V, Evidence-based Practice. March 2003; Mississauga, Ontario. Ontario Health Network Knowledge Brokers Workshop (25 RNs).
- Hayden J, Systematic Reviews – The Effects of Exercise for low-back pain, March 2003; Mississauga, Ontario. Educationally Influential Physiotherapists Workshop (30 PTs).
- Bombardier C, Bouter L, Pennick V, Cochrane Back Review Group. May 22, 2003, Linköping, Sweden. Sixth International Forum for Primary Care Research on Low-Back Pain. (20 clinicians, researchers).
- Furlan A, Pennick V, van Tulder M, Bombardier C, What Is The Optimal Evidence-Based Management of Chronic Non-Specific Low-Back Pain? (poster) May 2003, Toronto, Canadian Pain Society Meeting.
- Pennick V, Evidence-based practice and the Cochrane Back Review Group, June 23, 2003, Oslo, Norway. Norwegian Back Pain Network Rounds (6 mixed consumers, clinical researchers).
- Furlan A, Cochrane Library Demonstration, July 16, 2003, Toronto. Cochrane Workshop for Family Medicine Residents (29 PGY 1 and 2).
- Bombardier C, Low Back Pain: What Works, What Doesn't and What is the Evidence, September 16, 2003, Toronto. University of Toronto, Intracity Conference Rheumatology Rounds (30 – 40 clinicians, researchers, rheumatology residents).

**Other Cochrane-Related Presentations**

- Day D, Furlan A, Irvin E, Bombardier C, Comparing databases and search strategies for systematic reviews of musculoskeletal disorders. October 2003, Barcelona, Spain, XI Cochrane Colloquium.
- Day D, Furlan A, Irvin E, Bombardier C, Comparing databases and search strategies for systematic reviews of musculoskeletal disorders. November 2003, Hamilton, Ontario, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Cochrane Symposium.
- Irvin E, Furlan A, Day D, Bombardier C, Are search strategies reported accurately in reviews? October 2003, Barcelona, Spain, XI Cochrane Colloquium.
- Irvin E, Furlan A, Day D, Bombardier C, Are search strategies reported accurately in reviews? November 2003, Hamilton, Ontario, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Cochrane Symposium.
- Hayden JA, van Tulder MW, Analytical strategies in systematic review: Exercise therapy for treatment of low back pain. October 2003, Barcelona, Spain, XI Cochrane Colloquium.
- Hayden JA, van Tulder MW, Analytical strategies in systematic review: Exercise therapy for treatment of low back pain. November 2003, Hamilton, Ontario, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Cochrane Symposium.

## **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

Information Kits:

- Sixth International Forum for Primary Care Research on Low-Back Pain – 20 kits.
- OHN Knowledge Brokers Workshop – 25 kits.
- Educationally Influential Physiotherapists Workshop – 30 kits.

## **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

### **Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects**

- Research Alert sent out to correspond with the publication of: Ostelo RWJG, de Vet HCW, Waddell G, Kerckhoffs MR, Leffers P, van Tulder MW, Rehabilitation after lumbar disc surgery. *Spine* 2003; 28(3): 209–218.
- Press Release sent out to correspond with the publication of: van Tulder MW, Touray T, Furlan A, Solway S, Bouter L, Muscle Relaxants for Nonspecific low back pain. A systematic review within the framework of the Cochrane Collaboration Back Review Group. *Spine* 2003; 28(17): 1978-1992.
- Pennick V, Chapeskie K, Russo K, Reardon R, Garritty C, Furlan A, Bombardier C, Translating and Transferring the Evidence: A case study (poster). October 26-31, 2003; Barcelona, Spain, 11th Cochrane Colloquium.
- Pennick V, Chapeskie K, Russo K, Reardon R, Garritty C, Furlan A, Bombardier C, Translating and Transferring the Evidence: A case study (poster). November 21-22, 2003; Hamilton, Ontario, 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium.
- Gibson J, Reardon R, Dobbins M. Developing Knowledge Transfer and Exchange Capacity for your Research Organization (workshop). November 21-22, 2003; Hamilton, Ontario, 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium.
- Back Review Group web site last updated December 2003 ([www.cochrane.iwh.on.ca](http://www.cochrane.iwh.on.ca)).

## **Goal 4: 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**

- Furlan A, Pennick V, (Tutors) University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain Multidisciplinary Pain Week. March 17-21, 2003, Toronto, Ontario.

## **Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

### **2003 Symposium**

- Chantelle Garritty participated on the Abstract screening committee

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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

- The quantity of systematic reviews belonging to the Hypertension Review Group increased by 50% this year, from 28 reviews, protocols and registered titles at the end of 2002 to the current 41: 5 published reviews, 19 published protocols and 17 registered titles. The actual current workload consists of 19 systematic reviews: 2 published reviews being updated, another 2 published reviews have comments/criticisms that are being published, 6 draft reviews are in the editorial process, 7 draft protocols are in the editorial process, and 2 new titles are being considered for registration.
- Draft reviews currently in the editorial process:
 1. Antihypertensive drug therapy in black people.
 2. Antiplatelets agents and anticoagulants for hypertension.
 3. Interventions for improving adherence to treatment in patients with high blood pressure in ambulatory settings.
 4. Interventions used to improve control of blood pressure in patients with hypertension.
 5. Reserpine for hypertension.
 6. Effect of longer-term modest salt reduction on blood pressure: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Implications for public health.
- Draft protocols currently in the editorial process:
 1. Blood pressure lowering efficacy of alpha-blockers for primary hypertension.
 2. Effect of sibutramine on blood pressure in obese patients.
 3. Magnesium supplements for the management of essential hypertension.
 4. Potassium supplements for the management of essential hypertension.
 5. Calcium supplements for the management of essential hypertension.
 6. Efficacy of combination therapy as compared to monotherapy or placebo in reducing blood pressure in hypertensive patients in randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled trials.
 7. Effect of antihypertensive therapy compared to placebo on blood pressure in renal transplant patients treated with cyclosporine.

Recruitment of reviewers

- In total 29 new people with expressions of interest, reviewers and external referees were recruited this year by the Hypertension Group:
Hernani Pinto de Lemos jr, Andre Luis Alves de Lemos, Alicia Bong, Susan Hill, C. Griffin, N. Freemantle, Otavio Berwanger, R. Kuchenbecker, G. Rosito, Fiona Campbell, J. Cook, Heather Dickinson, J. Mason, D. J. Nicolson, Fiona Renton, Jenny Chen, Laurence Jacquaz, F. J. He, G.A. MacGregor, Karina Davidson, Trevor Beard, Michael Stowasser, KoKo Aung, Godwin Ogedegbe, Don Husereau, Beverly Green, Rajiv Arora, Uma Menon, Vikas Bhatara.

Training and support of reviewers

- There were no specific workshops for Hypertension reviewers. Support was provided by telephone, email and meetings. Some reviewers have received training (including Cochrane workshops) in other countries. Throughout the year, individualized training in using the Review Manager software and in statistics was provided at the Hypertension Review Group editorial base in Vancouver to about 10 reviewers.

Handsearching

- The following seven journals are being handsearched by the Hypertension Group:
 - American Journal of Hypertension
 - Canadian Journal of Cardiology
 - Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology
 - Hypertension
 - Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology
 - Journal of Clinical Hypertension
 - Journal of Hypertension

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Establish and maintain effective communications with all users

- Members of editorial team promote Cochrane whenever possible at academic and scientific meetings attended throughout the year.
- Hypertension Group newsletter is being launched.
- New Hypertension Group web site is being launched.

Initiate program of media relations

- Publication of two systematic reviews on salt reduction provided the opportunity to disseminate the results through the media. A press release was produced in collaboration with the Cochrane Consumer Network and it resulted in a number of news articles.

Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews

- Advise members and others of new and updated Hypertension reviews through the newsletter and web site.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- 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 360 physicians and pharmacists at the Annual Drug Therapy Course organized by the Therapeutics Initiative in April 2003.

Goal 4: 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

- Lectures on how Cochrane systematic reviews are produced and on searching *The Cochrane Library* were given to undergraduate pharmacology students and medical students at UBC by editors of the Hypertension Group.
- Review Group Co-ordinator assisted in the creation of a course on systematic reviews for epidemiology students at UBC.

Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada

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.

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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 in Canada**

- Canadians with expressions of interest, titles, and protocols: Jessie McGowan, Vivian Robinson, Nancy Santesso, Pierre Pluye, Roland Grad, Michel Labrecque, Yvon Leduc
- New EPOC members (non-reviewers interested in the group): John Lavis, Diane Morin

### **Handsearching**

- Dr. John Holden handsearches the journal "Education for Primary Care"

## **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

### **Establish and maintain effective communications with all users**

- Biannual newsletters.
- Web site.
- Information packages – available on our web site and sent to anyone who enquires about EPOC.

### **Initiate program of media relations**

- Canadian C.H.A.I.N. development in progress.

### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- Cochrane / EPOC general info poster displayed at the Scientific Basis for Health Science Research conference in September 2003.
- Presentations to two Armenian delegates with Canadian Society of International Health.
- Presentation on *The Cochrane Library* for eight PhD students at the Institute for Public Health.

- Posters at the Cochrane Colloquium in Barcelona.
- Cochrane / EPOC general info poster to be displayed at the University of Ottawa Applied Health and Social Research Symposium, November 2003.

### **Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews**

- Advise EPOC members and others of new and updated EPOC reviews through the newsletter and web site.
- Two EPOC reviews (Audit and feedback, and care home rehab) have been abstracted by the journal Physiotherapy.

### **Goal 4: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada**

#### **Workshops**

- Workshops at the Cochrane Colloquium in Barcelona (with EPOC members involved):
  - Interrupted time series designs.
  - Complex interventions.
  - Translating systematic reviews to consumers.
  - Equity.

### **Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada**

#### **Consumer Involvement**

- See workshops above.

### **Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

#### **2003 Symposium**

- Involved in abstract selection committee.
- Nancy Santesso to be involved with the consumer workshop.
- Laura McAuley presented information about EPOC to the consumer workshop.

#### **2004 Colloquium**

- Involved with abstract committee.
- Involved with workshop committee.
- Involved with curling committee.
- Have contributed ideas concerning scheduling.

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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 in Canada

- 22 reviewers were recruited in 2003:
Dr. R. Nelson, Dr. E. Bricker, Dr. E. Escatel, Dr. R. Garg, Dr. J. Hansen, Dr. A. Loza, Dr. T. Novak, Dr. A. Webb, Dr. A. Catto-Smith, Dr. R. Kukuruzovic, Dr. A. Pillai, Dr. L. Farkas, Dr. V. Rolfe, Dr. F. Bath, Dr. Y Mahida, Dr. B. Iade, Dr. C. Dacoll, Dr. D. Taullard, Dr. A. Tchekmedyan, Dr. S. Ishaq, Dr. J. McGrath, Dr. E. Jolicoeur.

Training and support of reviewers in Canada

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

Handsearching

- John MacDonald (RGC/TSC), Donald MacIntosh (IBD Reviewer), John McDonald (Coordinating editor), and Stéphane Ratté (volunteer handsearcher) contribute to the handsearching of publications.
- The following journals are actively being handsearched:
 - Gastroenterology (1964 to January 2004 complete).
 - Gastroenterology (Suppl) – Digestive Disease Week (1980-1997, 1999, 2002, 2003 complete; 1998, 2000 and 2001 to be searched).
 - Diseases of the Colon and Rectum (1960 to April 2003 complete).
 - Digestive Diseases and Sciences (1976 to 1995, 1997 to Feb 2003 complete).
 - American Journal of Gastroenterology (1980 to Feb 2003 complete).
 - Gastroenterologie clinique et biologique (2000 – 2003 complete).
 - The following journals are registered to be handsearched by the IBD Review Group: German Journal of Gastroenterology, Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Establish and maintain effective communications with all users

- The Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) web site is maintained and updated regularly. The IBD web site serves to promote dissemination of evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews. The web site also serves as a resource for IBD reviewers and provides links for training opportunities, the IBD group specialized register, electronic searches, the Cochrane Collaboration, *The Cochrane Library*, the Cochrane Consumer Network, and several IBD associated consumer organizations (e.g. The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada etc.).
- The editorial base maintains regular contact with reviewers to provide support to facilitate completion of reviews and protocols and updates of reviews (e.g. training opportunities, software support, statistical advice, literature searches, editorial support).

Provide communications support to the Collaboration

- February 19, 2003, London, Ontario: Lecture by John McDonald to fourth year medical students at University of Western Ontario on the use of systematic reviews. The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library* (approximately 70 attended).

Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews

- New and updated reviews are noted on the IBD web site.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects

- HealthInfoRx project: The IBD group assisted the HealthInfoRx investigators in getting permission from John Wiley & Sons to include copyrighted material (IBD review synopses) on their web site. In brief, HealthInfoRx is a web-based information portal for patients that has been developed over the past two years at Dalhousie Medical School in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. The portal gives patients direct access to their doctors and nurses, while providing them with a wealth of information about IBD and the opportunity to connect with other patients.

Goal 4: 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

- February 19, 2003, London, Ontario: Lecture by John McDonald to fourth year medical students at UWO on the use of systematic reviews. The Cochrane Collaboration and *The Cochrane Library* (approximately 70 attended).

Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane related activities across Canada

Consumer Involvement

- Catherine LeBlanc (IBD group consumer) assists with the drafting of consumer synopses for IBD reviews.
- Catherine LeBlanc attended the 3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium and the pre-symposium consumer workshop.
- John MacDonald made a brief presentation on consumer involvement with the IBD group at the Consumer Workshop (3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium, Sheraton Hamilton Hotel, Hamilton, November 21, 2003).

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

2003 Symposium

- John MacDonald attended the pre-symposium workshop “Quality Health Information: The contribution of consumers and the Cochrane Collaboration” and made a brief presentation on consumer involvement with the IBD Review Group.
- John MacDonald served as “Chair” for the workshop, “Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration”.

Other Cochrane related activities not related to the 2002-2003 Business Plan

- An application for funding to the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada is pending.
- In August 2003, the IBD Review Group recruited a new editor, Dr. John Marshall (McMaster University Medical Centre).

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# Musculoskeletal Review Group

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

Review Group Coordinator: Maria Judd, BSc PT

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

### **Recruitment of reviewers in Canada**

- Nigel Ashworth, Dr. Earl R. Bogoch, Prof. Angela Busch, Mrs. Jane Campbell, Lynn Casimiro, Mary Egan, Alice Han, Dr. Shawn C Marshall, Emmanuel Papadimitropoulos, Dr. Alexandra Papainoannou, Lucie Pelland, Dr. Candice L Schachter, Nicole Zytaruk.
- In addition, the CMSG has recruited 32 new reviewers outside Canada:
  - Paulo Augusto Alambert, Enrique Ardila, Willem Assendelft, Sita Bierma-Zeinstra, John Bilezikian, Dennis Black, Donatella Bonaiuti, Reinoud Brouwer, Amanda Burls, Jefferson Cardoso, Junmin Chen, Murray Favus, Lorraine Fitzpatrick, Marlene Fransen, Carol Greenwood, Sarah Hetrick, Marc Hochberg, Wilco Jacobs, Brigitte Jolles, Robert Josse, Douglas Kiel, Robert Marcus, Lorraine Maxwell, Eric Orwoll, Clifford Rosen, Naomi Schelsinger, Thomas Schnitzer, Florus van der Giesen, Bruce Weaver, Troels Wienecke, Andrew Willan, Joanne Youd.

## **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

### **Establish and maintain effective communications with all users**

- Reviewer information packages are available on the CMSG web site and sent to anyone who enquires about CMSG.
- A newsletter is published annually and made available on the Cochrane Collaboration web site as well as the CMSG web site.

### **Distribution of Consumer Summaries**

- The CMSG has been actively involved in translating the evidence-based information about treatments for musculoskeletal diseases to consumers and patients over the past few years. It has been a challenge determining the format, language and length of the summaries, and just how benefits and risks should be communicated. For a number of years we have presented consumer summaries of our systematic reviews on The Arthritis Society web site and developed a shorter synopsis for our systematic reviews in *The Cochrane Library* and Cochrane Consumer Network.
- In response to our experiences and our work with the CMSG Consumer Group, we have developed standard formats for translating our systematic reviews to 'friendly front end' summaries for consumers. The information about a treatment is presented as a

consumer package in two parts: as a series of consumer summaries (1, 5, 15 minute handouts) and as a decision aid (45 minute handout). The series of consumer summaries consist of a short consumer summary and a longer consumer summary. The different versions address the varying needs of the patients who want varying quantities of detail about a treatment.

### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- The CMSG actively distributes information about The Cochrane Collaboration to its members and to interested members of the general public.
- Poster presentations at the Cochrane Colloquium in Barcelona:
  - Judd, M. "Clinicians awareness of and use of evidence-based resources: where are we at?" October 2003.
  - Shea, B. "Assessing the Quality of Reporting Of Cochrane Musculoskeletal Systematic Reviews." October 2003.
  - Shea, B. "Assessing the Quality of Reporting of Updated Cochrane Systematic Reviews." October 2003.
  - McGowan, J. "Moving a register: screening and coding issues." November 2003.
  - McGowan, J. "Identifying studies that include issues of equity in Cochrane Reviews." October 2003.
- Presentation at the Canadian Symposium in Hamilton:
  - Judd, M. "Clinicians' awareness of and use of evidence-based resources: where are we at?" November 2003.

### **Provide translation into French of key Cochrane documents**

- The CMSG has published consumer summaries that are published on The Arthritis Society web site and continues to actively produce summaries in French where available.

### **Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews**

- The CMSG has undertaken a process of developing press releases for each new review published.
- The CMSG advises its members of new and updated reviews and protocols through its annual newsletter and on its web site.

## **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

### **Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- The CMSG regularly updates its web site with relevant information.
- Co-publication agreement with the Journal of Rheumatology
- The Journal of Rheumatology has agreed to publish Cochrane Musculoskeletal Group reviews submitted to *The Cochrane Library*. Cochrane reviews submitted to the Journal of Rheumatology will not be peer-reviewed again which will expedite the publication process. On *The Cochrane Library*, the Cochrane review will cite *The Journal of*

*Rheumatology* as a co-publication when posted (or cited as "in press" if posted prior to print publication).

**Goal 4: Make education and training opportunities for the creation and dissemination of high quality systematic reviews more readily available throughout Canada.**

**Workshop**

- Tugwell P, Judd M. "Introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration". Nov. 2003; Hamilton, Canada. (Participants: 35)
- Santesso N. Cochrane Reviewer Training Workshop. McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario. November 19-20, 2003. Locating Studies – (18 participants)

**Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada**

**Consumer Involvement**

- Consumer representatives of the CMSG are active participants in producing consumer summaries. Our consumer members also dedicate countless hours quarterly to submissions, reviewing our systematic reviews.
- Consumer Representatives: Jim Davies, Norma Davies, Anne Dooley, Turid Heiberg, Carole Judd, Pat Kelly, Cheryl Koehn-Kostiuk, Amye Leong, Anne Lyddiatt, Betty McDermot, Sheila Murray, Ann Qualman, Janet Wale

**Presentation**

- Santesso N. Collaborating with consumers: The process of creating "friendly front end" summaries Cochrane Reviews. October 2003, Barcelona, Spain

**Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

**2003 Symposium**

- Peter Tugwell involved in workshops.
- Maria Judd involved in workshops and presentations.
- Nancy Santesso involved in workshops.

**Workshops**

- Tugwell P, Judd M. "Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration." November 2003; Hamilton, Ontario (Participants: 35).
- Santesso N. Consumer workshop: The Cochrane Collaboration and consumers: Knowledge production and translation.



## **Presentations**

- Presentation at the Canadian Symposium in Hamilton, Judd, M. "Clinicians awareness of and use of evidence-based resources: where are we at?" November 2003.
- Santesso N. Creating and disseminating "Friendly Front End" summaries of Cochrane reviews.
- Shea B. Plenary Session II - Knowledge Brokering in Action Cochrane Reviewer Perspective.
- Santesso N, Judd M. "Creating the "Friendly Front End" of Cochrane Reviews for Consumers". October 2003, Cochrane Colloquium, Barcelona, Spain.

## **2004 Colloquium**

- George Wells, member of the Scientific Program Committee.
- Maria Judd, member of the Paper and Poster Abstract Committee.
- Bev Shea, member of the Developing Countries Stipend Committee.

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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 Neonatal Review Group published 29 new reviews, 42 new protocols and 35 review updates in *The Cochrane Library*, Issues 1 - 4, 2003.
- In total, Issue 4, 2003 contains 162 neonatal reviews and 60 neonatal protocols. In addition there are 65 assigned titles with protocols in preparation.

Recruitment of reviewers in Canada

- C. Tan-Dye, N. Kabra, D. Millar, M. Malviya, M. Kumar, S. Aher, I. Morag, S. Vohra, A. Aziz

Training and support of reviewers in Canada

- 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, Pediatrics.
- Handsearchers - Tara Graham and Abigail DeSa, both Master of Health Sciences students at McMaster University.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Establish and maintain effective communications with all users

- Members of editorial team promote Cochrane whenever possible at academic and scientific meetings attended throughout the year.

Provide communications support to the Collaboration

- Newsletter published twice per year and published on the Collaboration web site as well as the Neonatal web site.

Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews

- Neonatal reviews are posted on the NICHD web site.
- Titles of all published reviews and protocols published on the Neonatal Review Group web page.
- Titles of all new and updated reviews provided and posted on the “Neonatology on the Web” web site at www.neonatology.org.
- As part of the marketing activities of John Wiley & Sons Publicity Department, Review Groups are contacted at each module submission and asked to submit names of new reviews that they consider of high profile. Specific reviews are then chosen by Wiley’s Publicity Department to have additional media coverage of the content of the review. One of our new reviews appearing in Issue 4, 2003, was felt by Wiley to be a very newsworthy review and there will be a press release regarding this.
- The review title is: Formulas containing hydrolysed protein for prevention of allergy and food intolerance in infants, Osborn DA, Sinn J.

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- Neonatal Review Group web page.
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development web site posting of neonatal reviews.
- Neonatal Review Group Regional Coordinators for Australasia, United Kingdom, Europe.

Goal 5: Strengthen the Canadian Cochrane Network to ensure an active, equally accessible program of Cochrane-related activities across Canada

Consumer Involvement

- The Canadian Institute of Child Health (CICH) had begun the development of Fact Sheets and Synopses, following along the model of those which are done by the Arthritis

Society for the Musculoskeletal Review Group. The plan was that these would be posted on their web site. Unfortunately, due to cutbacks at CICH, the individuals that we had been working with are no longer at CICH. We have been provided with the name of an individual with whom we will make contact to inquire if working with us on the development of these is still something that will be developed.

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

2004 Colloquium

- Dr. J Sinclair member of Scientific Program Committee.

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## Reports from Affiliate Organizations

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

Affiliate Representative (Jan – June): J.B. Orange, PhD

Affiliate Representative (July – Dec): Rosemary Martino, MSc, MA, S-LP(C), CCC-SLP

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

##### **Training and support of reviewers in Canada**

- J.B. Orange - attended University of Western Ontario CCN/C Site workshop on systematic reviews on the topic of Effectiveness of Interferon Treatments for Multiple Sclerosis conducted by George Rice and John MacDonald (March 2003).

#### **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

##### **Establish and maintain effective communications with all users**

- J.B. Orange - seminar presentation at the CASLPA Annual National Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, May 2003.

##### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- J.B. Orange - finalized Affiliate Representatives' PowerPoint looping presentation (group efforts with CCN/C Affiliate representatives and CCN/C staff including Daren Spithoff and Kathie Clark) on evidence-based practice for CCN/C web site and web sites of all Affiliate organizations (June 2003).

#### **Goal 4: 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. B. Orange - co-taught graduate course CDS 760a/b January - February 2003 – Critical Analysis & Evaluation for Research in CSD.
- Discussed CCN/C and importance of systematic reviews.
- Distributed CCN/C booklets.

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Canadian Chiropractic Association

Affiliate Representative: Allan Gotlib, DC

Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews

Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews

- The Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association has continued to publish a series of excellent articles authored by Dr. Arne Ohlsson and Dr. Kathie Clark promoting Cochrane systematic reviews.

Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa

2003 Symposium

- Promoted Symposium with full-page advertisements on outside back cover of the Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association (distribution 6,000 quarterly in Canada).

2004 Colloquium

- Promoted Colloquium with full-page advertisements in the Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association (distribution 123 Health Science Libraries in 40 countries).

Other Cochrane Related Activities

Establish and maintain effective communications with all users

- Arranged for a brief presentation on systematic reviews to the Canadian Chiropractic Association Research Committee members and the Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation directors (presenter Dr. Jill Hayden PhD candidate - Institute for Work and Health and University of Toronto).
- Secured financial commitments from the following six funders - Canadian Chiropractic Association, Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association, Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation, Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board, College of Chiropractors of Ontario, British Columbia College of Chiropractors.

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## **Canadian Dental Association**

Affiliate Representative: Euan Swan, BSc, DDS, DDPH

- 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 has been an affiliate member of The Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCN/C) since 2001.
- The CDA supports and participates 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 ([www.cccd.ca](http://www.cccd.ca)). The Collaboration is made up of the CDA, provincial dental associations, dental faculties, dental specialty organizations, and dental regulatory authorities.
- In developing evidenced-based clinical practice guidelines, the CCCD conducts systematic reviews of the literature and utilizes Cochrane reviews.

### **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

#### **Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects**

- Published clinical practice guideline for “The management of acute, apical, non-suppurative periodontitis in the adult dentition”.
- Clinical practice guideline for “The emergency management of an acute apical abscess in the permanent dentition” has been prepared for publication.
- A systematic review has been initiated for “Whitening of vital teeth in the permanent dentition”.

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## **Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain and Disability**

Affiliate Representative: Marc I. White, B.A. PhD

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

#### **Recruitment of reviewers in Canada**

- CIRPD is currently planning the development of cross-discipline clinical guidelines to improve the quality of care for people presenting with acute and sub-acute low back pain. Educational influentials will be identified among academic and clinical leaders and will be asked to participate in a critical appraisal process of systematic reviews. An application for this project will be submitted in February 2004.

## **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

### **Establish and maintain effective communications with all users**

- The Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain and Disability has highlighted its affiliation with CCN/C on the home page of its web site with a link to CCN/C. All funding applications and communication with health professional organizations promote CCN/C and our affiliation.

### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- Links to the CCN/C web site are featured on our web site home page.
- Promotion of the CCN/C through the following publications:
  - White M.I. Toward an evidence-informed, theory-driven model for continuing medical education. Unpublished Doctoral Thesis, University of British Columbia, 2003. Thesis available via UBC Electronic Theses and Dissertations - <http://ahousat.library.ubc.ca/theses/available/etd-04292003-084929/>
  - White M.I. Toward an evidence-informed, theory-driven model for continuing medical education. Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education, April 3-5, 2003 Sante Fe, New Mexico.
  - White MI, Broudo M, Lirenman D, Sheps S. BC Whiplash Initiative: Using a Modified PRECEDE-PROCEED Model for Objective Setting. Alliance for Continuing Medical Education Conference: Translating Professional Competence into Practice. January 21-24, 2004, Atlanta, Georgia (1 hour break-out session)
  - White MI, Sheps S, Lirenman D. Investigating the Utility of the PRECEDE-PROCEED Model for Continuing Medical Education (CME). Alliance for Continuing Medical Education Conference: Translating Professional Competence into Practice. January 21-24, 2004, Atlanta, Georgia (1 hour break-out session)
  - White MI, Broudo M, Sheps S, Grzybowski S, Pacheva D, Bath S, Lirenman D. Modification of the PRECEDE-PROCEED Model to Enhance CME Planning. December 10 – 12, 2003, QUERI National Meeting, Washington, DC
  - Kerr S, White M. Massage Therapy and its Impact on the Limbic System: Further Research Recommended. *The BC Massage Practitioner* 2003;23(1):11-12.
  - White M, Kerr S. Improving the Quality of Patient Care. *The BC Massage Practitioner* 2003;22(4):17-19.

### **Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews**

- Cochrane Reviews were distributed to all members of the planning committee for the BC Low Back Pain Initiative. Presentation was also made to members of CIRPD's Chronic Pain Support Group and featured material from the Cochrane Consumer Network.



### **Goal 3: Promote the dissemination and uptake of the evidence from Cochrane reviews among potential users of the reviews**

#### **Identify and contribute to research transfer and dissemination projects**

- This past year we have been working specifically with the Massage Therapists Association of British Columbia (MTABC) and the College of Massage Therapists to cultivate a culture of lifelong learning and the use of systematic reviews. Preliminary meetings and discussions have taken place with professional bodies in BC concerning the creation of BC Guidelines for the assessment and management of patients presenting with acute and sub-acute low back pain in a manner congruent with current research on research transfer.
- Participated in the creation of an application to CIHR (IHSPR-IPPH Advancing Theories, Frameworks, Methods) entitled: Development and Pilot Testing of a Conceptual Model to Enhance Knowledge Transfer and Utilization for Health Professionals, Consumers and other Stakeholders Concerned with Musculoskeletal Health Conditions with the following objectives: i) To create a more standardized nomenclature for key terms used in the field, ii) To identify typical confounders within current research, iii) To recommend promising theories and frameworks to drive knowledge translation in this area, iv) To make recommendations concerning issues of measurement, v) To identify potential barriers to the application of promising KT research models within current planning contexts. Co-applicants: J. Esdaile, J. Grimshaw, E. Badley, M. Gignac, K. Craig, M. Eccles, J. Henry, D. Lacaille, S. Sheps, L. Solberg, P. Tugwell, M. Wensing, M. White, C. Koehn, A. Lehman. Collaborators: S. Donaldson, G. Godin, L. Green, R. Grol, K. Humphries, K. Khan, J. Logan, D. Morrice, C. Nelson, A. O'Conner, J. Richman, D. Sauvé, J. Service, C. von Zweck.

#### **Promote and facilitate the use of Cochrane systematic reviews**

- Presentations about the use of systematic reviews were made to massage therapists in BC at their semi-annual meeting, the College of Massage Therapists of BC, executive members of the MTABC, the Guideline and Protocol Advisory Committee of the BC Medical Association, and the Workers Compensation Board of BC.
- A series of articles have been published in the journal: BC Massage Practitioner to foster a deeper understanding about research, benefit of using systematic reviews, and the application of reliable and valid outcome measures in clinical practice.

### **Goal 4: 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**

- CIRPD initiated changes in the approved curriculum for massage therapist training in BC to include development of knowledge, skills and competence in accessing and applying findings of systematic reviews in the creation of evidence-informed treatment plans. Specific changes were made to curriculum standards emphasizing the need to link research to curriculum development to clinical practice.

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Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment

Affiliate Representative: Dr. Jill Sanders, PhD

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

Recruitment of reviewers in Canada

- The following health technology assessments are updates of Cochrane reviews:
 - Exercise-based cardiac rehabilitation programs for coronary artery disease: a systematic clinical and economic review; March 2003.
 - Gastro-duodenal ulcers associated with the use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs: a systematic review of preventive pharmacological interventions, September 2003.

Training and support of reviewers in Canada

- Ongoing training of new staff.
- One Masters in HTA student and one international visitor from Singapore trained in the methodology of systematic reviews at CCOHTA.

Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library*

Provide communications support to the Collaboration

- Cochrane is cited as a source of evidence-based information in our outreach activities.

Promote awareness of new and updated Cochrane Reviews

- Recent Cochrane reviews are provided to government stakeholders. If it answers the question for a new assessment, do not proceed with the assessment.
- Our pre-assessments, which are published online, identify recent Cochrane reviews.

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# Canadian Pharmacists' Association

Affiliate Representative: Carol Repchinsky, BSP

## **Goal 2: Increase the awareness and understanding of The Cochrane Collaboration and the CCN/C among potential funders, affiliate organizations, and users of *The Cochrane Library***

### **Establish and maintain effective communications with all users**

- Workshops presented at the Canadian Pharmacists Association annual conference May 31, 2003 - June 3, 2003, Vancouver, BC. Title: OTC Medicines for Colds, Constipation and Pain: The Cochrane Collaboration in Action, Speaker: James McCormack, B.Sc. (Pharm), Pharm D. Audience: Community and hospital pharmacists. Attendance: approximately 35 in each of two 1 hour 15 min presentations (70-80 total).

### **Provide communications support to the Collaboration**

- Information kits distributed at the workshop sessions above. Promotional material regarding the Canadian Cochrane meeting available at the registration desk throughout the conference.

## **Goal 6: Organize the 2003 Canadian Cochrane Symposium in Hamilton and the 2004 Cochrane Colloquium in Ottawa**

### **2004 Colloquium**

- Carol Repchinsky, Chair of the Curling Committee solicited 3 volunteers to be on the committee. Carol met with Kathie Clark and the conference planner at the Rideau Curling Club to assess the facilities.

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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 substantively updated Cochrane reviews and protocols submitted by reviewers in Canada in the year 2003 and first published in *The Cochrane Library*, Issues 1-4, 2003. Names of reviewers in Canada are highlighted in bold typeface. Reviews and protocols published by reviewers in Canada prior to the year 2003 can be found in past CCN/C Annual Reports; available on the CCN/C web site at www.cochrane.mcmaster.ca/annualreports.asp.

Acute Respiratory Infections Group

Reviews

Shah PS, Ohlsson A, Shah JP. Continuous negative extrathoracic pressure or continuous positive airway pressure for acute hypoxemic respiratory failure in children (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Aarts MW, Hancock JN, Heyland DK, Marshall JC. Antibiotics for ventilator-associated pneumonia (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Airways Group

Reviews

Barr RG, **Rowe BH**, Camargo CA Jr. Methylxanthines for exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Camargo CA Jr, **Spooner CH, Rowe BH.** Continuous versus intermittent beta-agonists in the treatment of acute asthma (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Cates CCJ, Bara A, Crilly JA, **Rowe BH.** Holding chambers versus nebulisers for beta-agonist treatment of acute asthma (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Edmonds ML, Camargo CA Jr, Pollack CV Jr, **Rowe BH.** Early use of inhaled corticosteroids in the emergency department treatment of acute asthma (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Rodrigo G, Pollack C, Rodrigo C, **Rowe BH.** Heliox for nonintubated acute asthma patients (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Shah L, Wilson AJ, Gibson PG, Coughlan J. Long acting beta-agonists versus theophylline for maintenance treatment of asthma (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Smith M, Iqbal S, Elliott TM, Everard M, **Rowe BH**. Corticosteroids for hospitalised children with acute asthma (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Spooner CH, Spooner GR, Rowe BH. Mast-cell stabilising agents to prevent exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Van der Wouden JC, Tasche MJA, Bernsen RMD, Uijen JHJM, de Jongste JC, **Ducharme FM**. Inhaled sodium cromoglycate for asthma in children (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Anaesthesia Group

Reviews

Burns KEA, Adhikari NKJ, Meade MO. Noninvasive positive pressure ventilation as a weaning strategy for intubated adults with respiratory failure (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Perry J, Lee J, Wells G. Rocuronium versus succinylcholine for rapid sequence induction intubation (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Adhikari N, Burns KEA, Meade MO. Pharmacologic therapies for adults with acute lung injury and the acute respiratory distress syndrome (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Burns KEA, Adhikari NKJ, Meade MO. Noninvasive positive pressure ventilation as a weaning strategy for intubated adults with respiratory failure (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Wijeysundera D N , Naik J S , Beattie WS. Alpha-2 adrenergic agonists for the prevention of cardiovascular complications among patients undergoing cardiac or non-cardiac surgery (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Back Group

Reviews

Tulder MW van, Touray T, **Furlan AD, Solway S**, Bouter LM. Muscle relaxants for non-specific low back pain (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Gagnier JJ, Berman B, **Bombardier C**, van Tulder MW. Botanical medicine for low back pain (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Gross A, Bronfort G, Hoving J, **Goldsmith C**, **Haines T**, **Aker P**. Cervical Overview Group. Manipulation and Mobilisation for Mechanical Neck Disorders (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Kay T, **Santaguida PL**, Hoving J, Bronfort GB, **Goldsmith C**. Exercises for Mechanical Neck Disorders (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Kroeling P, **Gross AR**, **Goldsmith C**, **Houghton PE**. Cervical Overview Group. Electrotherapy for Neck Disorders (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Peloso P, **Haines T**, **Gross A**, **Goldsmith CH**, **Aker P**, **Trinh K**. Medicinal and Injection therapies for mechanical neck disorders (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Colorectal Cancer Group

Protocols

Asano TK, **McLeod RS**. Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) and Aspirin for preventing colorectal adenomas and carcinomas (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Asano TK, **McLeod RS**. Vitamins and minerals for the prevention of colorectal adenomas and carcinomas (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Consumers and Communication Group

Reviews

O'Connor AM, **Stacey D**, Entwistle V, **Llewellyn-Thomas H**, Rovner D, Holmes-Rovner M, Tait V, **Tetroe J**, **Fiset V**, Barry M, **Jones J**. Decision aids for people facing health treatment or screening decisions (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Ear, Nose and Throat Disorders Group

Reviews

Butler CC, van der Linden MK, **MacMillan H**, van der Wouden JC. Screening children in the first four years of life to undergo early treatment for otitis media with effusion (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group

Reviews

Jamtvedt G, Young JM, Kristoffersen DT, **Thomson O'Brien MA**, Oxman AD. Audit and feedback: effects on professional practice and health care outcomes (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Farmer AP, Légaré F, McAuley LM, Thomas R, Harvey EL, McGowan J, Grimshaw JM, Wolf FM. Printed educational materials: effects on professional practice and health care outcomes (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Epilepsy Group

Protocols

O'Mahony O, Wambera K, Farrell K, Connolly M. Clobazam add-on for drug refractory partial onset or generalized onset seizures (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Wambera K, Farrell K, Connolly M, O'Mahony O. Clobazam monotherapy for partial onset or generalized onset seizures (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Haematological Malignancies Group

Protocols

Chevalier I, Litalien C, David M, Lacroix J. Steroids versus Immunoglobulin for Pediatric Acute Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Heart Group

Reviews

Little SH, Massel DR. Antiplatelet and anticoagulation for patients with prosthetic heart valves (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Magee KD, Sevcik W, Moher D, Rowe BH. Low molecular weight heparins versus unfractionated heparin for acute coronary syndromes (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Al-Radi OO, Madani DA, Yau TM. Mitral valve surgery for mitral regurgitation in patients undergoing coronary artery bypass grafting (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Robinson J, Crumley E, Hartling L, Klassen TP, Wiebe N. Intravenous immune globulin for acute myocarditis in children and adults (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

HIV/AIDS Group

Protocols

Glazier R, Handford C, Iacona S, Rackal J, Tynan AM. Organization of care for persons living with HIV/AIDS (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

O'Brien K, Nixon S, Glazier RH, Tynan AM. Progressive resistive exercise interventions for adults living with HIV/AIDS (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Hypertension Group

Protocols

Arguedas JA, Perez M, Wright JM. Treatment blood pressure targets for hypertension (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Bong A, Wong MMY, Wright JM. Calcium Channel Blockers and Heart Failure (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Perez MI, Arguedas JA, Wright JM. Comparison of pharmacological interventions for hypertensive emergencies (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Infectious Diseases Group

Reviews

Loeb M, Main C, Walker-Dilks C, Eady A. Antimicrobial drugs for treating methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* colonization (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Protocols

Bellemare S, Hartling L, Wiebe N, Russell K, Craig W, McConnell D, Klassen TP. Oral rehydration versus intravenous rehydration therapy for treating dehydration due to gastroenteritis in children (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Inflammatory Bowel Disease Group

Reviews

Alfadhli AAF, McDonald JWD, Feagan BG. Methotrexate for induction of remission in refractory Crohn's disease (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Chande N, McDonald JWD, MacDonald JK. Interventions for treating collagenous colitis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Steinhart AH, Ewe K, Griffiths AM, Modigliani R, Thomsen OO. Corticosteroids for maintenance of remission in Crohn's disease (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Sutherland L, MacDonald JK. Oral 5-aminosalicylic acid for induction of remission in ulcerative colitis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Marshall JK, Irvine EJ, Steinhart AH, Thabane M. Rectal 5-aminosalicylic acid for induction of remission in ulcerative colitis (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Marshall JK, Irvine EJ, Steinhart AH, Thabane M. Rectal 5-aminosalicylic acid for maintenance of remission in ulcerative colitis (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Marshall JK, Irvine EJ, Steinhart AH, Thabane M. Rectal corticosteroids for induction of remission in ulcerative colitis (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Marshall JK, Irvine EJ, Steinhart AH, Thabane M. Rectal corticosteroids for maintenance of remission in ulcerative colitis (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Injuries Group

Reviews

Boeuf B, Poirier V, **Gauvin F, Guerguerian AM, Roy C, Farrell CA, Lacroix J.** Naloxone for shock (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Carless PA, Henry DA, Moxey AJ, O'Connell DL, **Fergusson DA.** Cell salvage for minimising perioperative allogeneic blood transfusion (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Carless PA, **Rubens FD,** Anthony DM, O'Connell D, Henry DA. Platelet-rich-plasmapheresis for minimising peri-operative allogeneic blood transfusion (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Menstrual Disorders and Subfertility Group

Reviews

Harper K, Proctor M, **Hughes E.** Growth hormone for in vitro fertilization (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Hughes E, Fedorkow D, Collins J, Vandekerckhove P. Ovulation suppression for endometriosis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Oatway C, **Gunby J, Daya S.** Day 3 versus day 2 embryo transfer following in vitro fertilization or intracytoplasmic sperm injection (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Metabolic and Endocrine Disorders Group

Reviews

Padwal R, Li SK, Lau DCW. Long-term pharmacotherapy for obesity and overweight (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Royle P, Waugh N, **McAuley L**, McIntyre L, Thomas S. Inhaled insulin in diabetes mellitus (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Multiple Sclerosis Group

Protocols

Rietberg MB, **Brooks D**, Uitdehaag BMJ, Kwakkel G. Exercise therapy for multiple sclerosis (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Musculoskeletal Group

Reviews

Blumenauer B, Judd M, Cranney A, Burls A, **Coyle D**, Hochberg M, **Tugwell P, Wells G.** Etanercept for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Brosseau L, MacLeay L, **Robinson V, Wells G, Tugwell P.** Intensity of exercise for the treatment of osteoarthritis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Brosseau L, Welch V, Wells G, deBie R, Gam A, **Harman K, Morin M, Shea B, Tugwell P.** Low level laser therapy (Classes I, II and III) for treating osteoarthritis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Brosseau L, Yonge KA, **Robinson V**, Marchand S, **Judd M, Wells G, Tugwell P.** Thermotherapy for treatment of osteoarthritis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Brosseau L, Yonge KA, **Robinson V**, Marchand S, **Judd M, Wells G, Tugwell P.** Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in the hand (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Cranney A, Waldegger L, Zytaruk N, Shea B, Weaver B, Papaioannou A, Robinson V, Wells G, Tugwell P, Adachi JD, Guyatt G. Risedronate for the prevention and treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis. (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Egan M, Brosseau L, Farmer M, Ouimet MA, Rees S, Wells G, Tugwell P. Splints/Orthoses in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Milne S, Brosseau L, Robinson V, Noel MJ, Davis J, Drouin H, **Wells G, Tugwell P.** Continuous passive motion following total knee arthroplasty (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Osiri M, **Shea B, Robinson V**, Suarez-Almazor M, Strand V, **Tugwell P, Wells G**. Leflunomide for treating rheumatoid arthritis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Shea B, Wells G, Cranney A, Zytaruk N, Robinson V, Griffith L, Hamel C, Ortiz Z, **Peterson J, Adachi J, Tugwell P, Guyatt G**. the Osteoporosis Methodology Group, and the Osteoporosis Research Advisory Group. Calcium supplementation on bone loss in postmenopausal women (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Towheed TE, Judd MJ, Hochberg MC, **Wells G**. Acetaminophen for osteoarthritis (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Protocols

Ashworth N, Chad K, Harrison E, Marshall S, Reeder B. Home versus center based physical activity programs for older adults (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Cranney A, Rohekar S, Mnogma N, **Towheed T**. Tibolone for the prevention and treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis. (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Musculoskeletal Injuries Group

Reviews

Gillespie LD, Gillespie WJ, Robertson MC, Lamb SE, Cumming RG, **Rowe BH**. Interventions for preventing falls in elderly people (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Neonatal Group

Reviews

Howlett A, Ohlsson A. Inositol for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infants (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Malviya M, Ohlsson A, Shah S. Surgical versus medical treatment with cyclooxygenase inhibitors for symptomatic patent ductus arteriosus in preterm infants (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 3, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Ng E, Taddio A, Ohlsson A. Intravenous midazolam infusion for sedation of infants in the neonatal intensive care unit (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Ohlsson A, Walia R, **Shah S**. Ibuprofen for the treatment of a patent ductus arteriosus in preterm and/or low birth weight infants (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Premji S, Chessell L. Continuous nasogastric milk feeding versus intermittent bolus milk feeding for premature infants less than 1500 grams (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Shah SS, Ohlsson A. Ibuprofen for the prevention of patent ductus arteriosus in preterm and/or low birth weight infants (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Shah SS, Ohlsson A, Halliday H, Shah VS. Inhaled versus systemic corticosteroids for preventing chronic lung disease in ventilated very low birth weight preterm neonates (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Shah SS, Ohlsson A, Halliday H, Shah VS. Inhaled versus systemic corticosteroids for the treatment of chronic lung disease in ventilated very low birth weight preterm infants (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Symington A, Pinelli J. Developmental care for promoting development and preventing morbidity in preterm infants (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Protocols

Brady-Fryer B, Blankston G, Lander J. Pain relief for neonatal circumcision (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Kabra NS, Kumar M, Shah SS. Multiple versus single lumen umbilical venous catheters for newborn infants (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Kumar M, Kabra N, Paes B. Carnitine supplementation for treatment of apnea of prematurity (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Lodha A, Ohlsson A, Shah V. Premedication for endotracheal intubation in neonates (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Malviya M, Ohlsson A, Shah S. Surgical versus medical treatment with cyclooxygenase inhibitors for symptomatic patent ductus arteriosus in preterm infants (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

McCall EM, Alderdice FA, Halliday HL, Jenkins JG, **Vohra S.** Interventions to prevent hypothermia at birth in preterm and/or low birthweight babies (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Millar D, Kirpalani HK. Positive end-expiratory pressure for infants requiring conventional mechanical ventilation for hyaline membrane disease or bronchopulmonary dysplasia (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2003. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

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