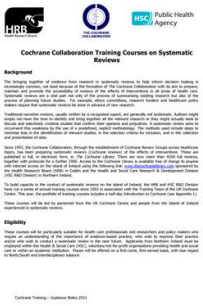
Friday, 01 April 2011

HSC research and development division Northern Ireland



Cochrane Collaboration Training Courses on Systematic Reviews

Background

The bringing together of evidence from research in systematic reviews to help inform decision making, is increasingly common, not least because of the formation of The Cochrane Collaboration with its aim to prepare, maintain and promote access to such reviews. Since 1992, the Cochrane Collaboration has been preparing Systematic reviews are a vital part not only of the process of summarising existing research but also of the process of planning future studies. For example, ethics committees, research funders and healthcare policy makers require that systematic reviews be done in advance of new research.

Traditional narrative reviews, usually written by a recognised expert, are generally not systematic. Authors might unintentionally or even deliberately include studies that support their opinions and omit studies that contradict or discuss and selectively consider studies that confirm their opinions and prejudices. A systematic review aims to circumvent this weakness by the use of a predefined, explicit methodology. The methods used include steps to minimize bias in the identification of relevant studies, in the selection criteria for inclusion, and in the collection and presentation of data.

Since 1993, the Cochrane Collaboration, through the establishment of Cochrane Review Groups across healthcare topics, has been preparing systematic reviews (Cochrane reviews) of the effects of interventions. These are published in full, in electronic form, in *The Cochrane Library*. There are now more than 4000 full reviews, available to over 1000 UK NHS sites and to over 1000 other subscribers worldwide. The Library is available with internet access on the island of Ireland using the following link: www.thecochranelibrary.com sponsored by the Health Research Board (HRB) in Dublin and the Health and Social Care Research & Development Division (HSC R&D Division) in Northern Ireland.

To build capacity in the conduct of systematic reviews on the island of Ireland, the HRB and HSC R&D Division have established a Cochrane Training Programme in collaboration with the Cochrane Ireland Review Group Centre. This year, the portfolio of training courses includes a half day Introduction to Cochrane (see Appendix 1).

These courses will be led by personnel from the UK Cochrane Centre and people from the Island of Ireland experienced in systematic reviews.

Eligibility

These courses will be particularly suitable for health care professionals and researchers and policy makers who require an understanding of the importance of evidence-based practice, who wish to improve their practice and/or who wish to conduct a systematic review in the near future. Applicants from Northern Ireland must be employed by a member of the HSC or a VCSE(1) voluntary/not for profit organisations providing health and social care services on an identified basis. Places will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, with due regard to North/South and interdisciplinary balance.

Cochrane Training – Guidance Notes 2011

Guidance Notes for Training Courses on Conducting Systematic Reviews, 2011.

Details

Format

3 page A4

Target group

Wider Research Community

Downloads

Attachment	Size
Innov_Cochrane_Training_Guide_Notes_2011_04_0.pdf	206.19 KB

Print