# **Cochrane Public Health Review Group:**



# **Guidance for Handsearching Volunteers: January 2009**

#### **Foreword**

This guide is an introduction to the process of handsearching for the Cochrane Public Health Review Group (CPHRG). It is based on the Cochrane Health Promotion and Public Health Field's 'Handsearcher' Training Materials' guide (Cochrane HPPH Field, 2005) which drew from the 'Training Manual for Handsearchers' (US Cochrane Centre, 2002) and a range of other training materials.

This document has been adapted by Alison Weightman, Helen Morgan and Ruth Turley (SURE, Cardiff University, UK) with guidance from Josephine Kavanagh, Claire Stansfield and Jeff Brunton (EPPI Centre, London, UK).

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## 1. Introduction: Why handsearch for the Cochrane Public Health Review Group?

The CPHG: The Cochrane Public Health Group (CPHG), formerly the Health Promotion and Public Health (HPPH) Field, aims to work with contributors to produce and publish Cochrane reviews of the effects of population-level public health interventions. See <a href="http://www.ph.cochrane.org/en/index.html">http://www.ph.cochrane.org/en/index.html</a> and Appendix 1.

The role of systematic reviews: Systematic reviews are the best, least biased, and most rational manner of organising, selecting, evaluating and integrating the research evidence available from the deluge of health care literature (Moynihan, 2004). The Cochrane Collaboration aims to 'prepare, maintain and disseminate systematic reviews of the effects of health care'.

Why is handsearching important? Comprehensive searching forms a central part of the systematic review process and handsearching is an important way to identify relevant studies that might otherwise be overlooked. Review teams and those who maintain registers of studies, search electronic databases, such as MEDLINE, ASSIA and ERIC to obtain bibliographic references and abstracts of articles. However, research has shown that electronic searching for such studies on some databases retrieves only about half of those that are available. Reports may either be missing from the database (and this is particularly true for research from low and middle income countries) or may not have been adequately indexed due to lack of detail in titles and abstracts. Thus, handsearching for research studies has become an essential task for the Cochrane Collaboration.

Developing a Specialized Register for the Group: Studies found by handsearching and regular electronic database searching are included in the Group's Specialized Register. Each Entity within the Cochrane Collaboration has a specific study register which can be searched to identify studies for reviews. Quarterly returns of all randomised and controlled clinical trials from each Register are submitted to the Cochrane CENTRAL trials register. Currently the CPHG Register is maintained by the Support Unit for Research Evidence (SURE) at Cardiff University, UK in collaboration with the EPPI-Centre in London, UK.

This document contains guidance for handsearchers who are able to contribute to the Group by:

- Regular searching of a public health journal that is not already routinely searched for the Cochrane Collaboration (Section 2).
   If you elect to hand search a journal on a regular basis, this supports the development of the CENTRAL trials database and you will be submitting information on ALL controlled trials in the journal whether or not they are relevant to the CPHG. [For submission of other study designs of relevance to the CPHG, please follow guidance in Section 3.]
- Submission of studies of potential relevance to the CPHG found via routine searching or awareness of regional databases, web sites, journals and personal collections to help us build a truly global Specialized Register (Section 3).
   If you elect to submit regional studies of relevance to the CPHG you will be submitting intervention study designs of ALL types (controlled and uncontrolled trials, plus reviews of these studies) that meet the Group's criteria.

## 2. Regular handsearching of a public health journal for the Cochrane Collaboration

- 2.1. Handsearching a public health journal: If you are handsearching a public health journal all trials should be identified, even if they do not appear to be relevant to the topic areas covered by the CPHG (Appendix 1). The Cochrane Collaboration holds a centralised register of trials in all areas of health (CENTRAL, the Central Register of Controlled Trials). It is important that handsearching efforts by all entities are directed at identifying all randomised controlled trials (RCTs) and controlled clinical trials (CCTs). Trials found that are outside the scope of the CPHG will be useful to other specialised Cochrane Review Groups and entities, and a reciprocal arrangement operates throughout the Collaboration.
- 2.2. How is handsearching coordinated within the Collaboration? The Cochrane Collaboration has established a world-wide handsearching program coordinated by the US Cochrane Centre. The Centre maintains a Master List of Journals being handsearched within the Cochrane Collaboration (http://apps1.jhsph.edu/cochrane/masterlist.asp). Relevant public health journals not currently included in this master list are shown in Table 2.1 overleaf.

# 2.3. What does handsearching involve?

- Deciding to search each issue of a journal not already handsearched for the Cochrane Collaboration. See Table 2.1 for examples - suggestions of other journals will be welcomed.
- Contacting Ruth Turley (<u>TurleyRL@cardiff.ac.uk</u>) to say which journal(s) you will be able to search. Ruth will amend Table 2.1 and register your handsearching to update the Cochrane Collaboration master list of journals.
- Reading pages of every issue to identify reports of controlled trials (see flowchart, Appendix 2). Once you are able to determine whether or not the article is reporting a controlled trial you do not need to read the rest of that report. Often, the title, abstract and methods section will provide enough information. The entire journal issue should be reviewed, including editorials, letters, news items, conference abstracts etc. An EPPI Centre pilot project indicated the time required is about 30 minutes per journal issue.
- If possible, photocopying the Table of Contents page, and title & 'abstract' page for each article identified.
  - If however, you classify the report as not sure (N/S), each page of the report should be photocopied and sent to the CPHG for review. If in any doubt include the study but classify as N/S.
- Sending the following items back to Helen Morgan, SURE, Duthie Library, Cardiff University, Heath Park, Cardiff CF14 4XN, UK:
  - The marked Table of Contents page
  - A handsearching summary sheet for each submitted paper (see p.5)
  - Highlighted photocopies of title and abstract (attached to a handsearching summary sheet) or copied and pasted from online journals
  - A note if any part of the journal volume was unavailable or missing
  - A full photocopy of any articles marked N/S

If you prefer, the summary sheets for each item identified can be sent by email to <a href="MorganHE1@cf.ac.uk">MorganHE1@cf.ac.uk</a>. The information can also be sent in a plain text (.txt) format or a Reference Manager or EndNote file if you use reference management software.

We will screen each study for potential inclusion in the CPHG Specialized Register

before sending information on all RCTs and CCTs to the CENTRAL database. Your contribution will be acknowledged both within the Group and within the Collaboration's master list of journals.

 If you have to stop handsearching a journal for any reason, please contact Ruth Turley (<u>TurleyRL@cardiff.ac.uk</u>) who will amend Table 2.1 and register the change with the Cochrane Collaboration master list of journals.

# Table 2.1: Recommended Journals not yet searched for Cochrane Collaboration [Sept 2008]<sup>1</sup>

Please contact Ruth Turley [TurleyRL@cardiff.ac.uk] if you are interested in searching one or more of these journals on a regular basis, or have any amendments to suggest to these lists.

- American Journal of Industrial Medicine
- American Journal of Nursing
- Annual Review of Public Health
- Archives of Environmental & Occupational Health
- BMC Public Health [Muge Filiz volunteered]
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Environmental Health Perspectives
- Health Affairs: the Policy Journal of the Health Sphere
- Health Care Financing Review
- Health Care Management Review
- Health Policy and Planning
- Health Services Research
- Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology
- Inquiry
- Journal of Adolescent Health
- Journal of Community Health
- Journal of Community Health Nursing
- Journal of Environmental Health
- Journal of Nutrition [Adopted by Theodora Mouratidou]
- Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene
- Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- Journal of Public Health
- Journal of Public Health Management and Practice
- Journal of Public Health Policy
- Journal of Urban Health
- Journal of Women's Health
- Milbank Quarterly
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
- Public Health Nursing [Adopted by Cindy Stern]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The recommended journals listed are those that are not already searched for the Cochrane Collaboration and have been deemed relevant to the CPHG register. The list has been adapted from Key Journals for All Public Health [http://publichealth.yale.edu/phlibrary/phjournals/v2/key/index.html], the Effective Public Health Practice Project in Canada (key journals to handsearch\*) and other recommendations to the Group. Volunteers are sought to search for all RCTs and CCTs in these journals (irrespective of topic area).

# Handsearch Summary Sheet 1: Regular handsearching of a public health journal for the Cochrane Collaboration

Date of search  Location and city of search  Title of report  Author(s)  Journal title Month/Year Volume Issue Pages Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)  Notes/comments	Name of handsearcher		
Title of report  Author(s)  Journal title Month/Year Volume Issue Pages Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	Date of search		
Author(s)  Journal title  Month/Year  Volume Issue Pages  Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	Location and city of search		
Author(s)  Journal title  Month/Year  Volume Issue Pages  Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)			
Journal title Month/Year  Volume Issue Pages  Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	Title of report		
Month/Year Volume Issue Pages Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	Author(s)		
Volume Issue Pages Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)  Randomised controlled trial (RCT, random allocation)  Controlled clinical trial (CCT, quasi random)  Full article Abstract only Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	Journal title		
Pages   Pages   Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)   Controlled clinical trial (CCT, quasi random)   Not sure (N/S)	Month/Year		
Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)  Randomised controlled trial (RCT, random allocation)  Controlled clinical trial (CCT, quasi random)  Full article  Abstract only  Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)			
Type of study: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Type o			
(place an X beside the relevant option)    Controlled clinical trial (CCT, quasi random)			
Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)  Controlled clinical trial (CCT, quasi random)  Full article Abstract  Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)			
Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)  Pull article Abstract only Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)			
Type of publication: (place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)  Full article  Abstract only  Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	relevant option)		
(place an X beside the relevant option)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)  Abstract only  Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)		Not sure (N/S)	
relevant option)  Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)  Web site address (url)  Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)			
Web site address (url) Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)		Abstract only	
Abstract  How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	relevant option)	Other (eg letter, bibliography, web page)	
How have evidence pages been submitted (e.g. post, email)	Web site address (url)		
been submitted (e.g. post, email)	Abstract		
been submitted (e.g. post, email)			
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been submitted (e.g. post, email)			
been submitted (e.g. post, email)	How have evidence pages		
, and the second	been submitted (e.g. post,		
Notes/comments	eman)		
	Notes/comments		

# 3. Building a Global Specialized Register for the Public Health Group: submitting publications from regional journals, databases and personal collections

- 3.1 Submitting studies found through routine searching to the CPHG: The Group is aiming to build a truly global Specialized Register by seeking contributions from a wide range of personal collections, as well as specialised journals, databases (Table 3.1) and web sites that cover research carried out in, or of particular relevance to, specific regional or geographic areas. All intervention studies within the scope of the CPHG (Section 3.2 and 3.3) are welcomed. This will complement the routine searching of the major databases (Medline, Embase, ASSIA etc.) being carried out within the Group.
- 3.2 Study types to be included in the Register: The Specialized Register will initially be developed to include the following study designs that assess the effect of an intervention:
  - Controlled trials, including randomised controlled trials (RCTs) and controlled clinical trials (CCTs)
  - Controlled before and after studies (CBAs)<sup>2</sup>
  - Interrupted Time Series (ITS)<sup>3</sup>
  - Simple before and after studies (B&A) (one baseline and one follow up measurement)
  - Studies identified from systematic reviews<sup>4</sup> of intervention research

Guidance on identifying and classifying these studies is given in Appendix 2. At a later date the Register will be expanded to include other types of study such as qualitative studies and birth cohorts since these provide valuable supporting evidence for reviews of effective interventions. We will welcome information on these studies if you would like to submit them. However, the emphasis at this early stage is to build up a large database of intervention research.

3.3 What is the scope of the CPHG? The CPHG is examining interventions that affect the broader determinants of health. In brief, these interventions aim to affect public health outcomes through organisational, administrative, legal or other socio-ecological approaches and target whole populations or particular groups as opposed to individuals (which are covered by existing Cochrane Review Groups). Relevant interventions may include legislation or regulation; setting of policy or strategy at the level of national or local government, or institutions; the provision or organisation of services; environmental modification; or facilitating lay or public delivered support/education. A detailed topic list is given in Appendix 1.

Examples include: Enhancement of work conditions, income distribution, healthy cities, neighbourhood renewal, food supply, whole school initiatives, road and public safety initiatives, strengthening social networks, environmental improvement, active transport, legislation for drug and alcohol control.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Involvement of intervention and control groups by a non-random process, and inclusion of baseline period of assessment of main outcomes. Often used for studies of institutions or communities. If the investigator allocated participants into control and intervention groups then the study is a CBA and not an RCT or CCT.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A single-group research design in which measurements are made at several different times, thereby allowing trends to be detected. An interrupted time series features several measurements both before and after an intervention and, to be included there should be a clearly defined point in time when the intervention occurred and at least three data points before and three after the intervention.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Systematic reviews will often have 'systematic review', 'meta analysis' or 'overview' in the title or abstract and the literature search details, e.g. list of databases searched, will be included in the abstract or methods section.

## 3.4 What does global study submission involve?

- Identifying any intervention studies identified as part of your routine work that appear to meet the scope of the Group's Specialized Register (Sections 3.2 and 3.3).
- Submitting details of studies to Helen Morgan, MorganHE1@cf.ac.uk.
- Depending on whether you are submitting information on a book/report, a
  conference or a journal article, please copy and paste the relevant section from
  the handsearch summary sheet (p.10) into an email and fill in the relevant
  sections. Several publications and a mixture of sources (eg journal articles and
  conference reports) can be submitted in a single email.

If preferred, the information can be sent via an attached file in a plain text (.txt) format or a Reference Manager or EndNote file if you use reference management software.

- If in doubt about its relevance, please send details of a study but mark it not sure (N/S) next to 'study design'.
- If you have the facilities, and are able to photocopy the title/abstract pages or full paper, if permitted, for any publications that are not available online, please do so and post to Helen Morgan, SURE, Duthie Library, Cardiff University, Heath Park, Cardiff CF14 4XN, UK.

We will screen each study for potential inclusion in the CPHG Specialized Register and will also send information from any RCTs and CCTs to the CENTRAL database (see Section 2). Your contribution will be greatly appreciated and acknowledged via the Group's web site and in other relevant literature.

# Table 3.1: Global databases of potential relevance to public health in low and middle income countries [Aug 2008]

Please contact Ruth Turley [TurleyRL@cf.ac.uk] if you are interested in searching one or more of these databases on a regular basis or have any amendments to suggest to this list.

#### Global/Multi-regional

WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform via the International Search Portal http://www.who.int/ictrp/search/en/index.html

Global Health - trial http://www.cabi.org/datapage.asp?iDocID=169

Global Health Library http://www.who.int/ghl/en/

Eldis <a href="http://www.eldis.org/">http://www.eldis.org/</a>

INRUD Drug Use Bibliography http://www.inrud.org/index.cfm [not working on 14.08.08]

WHOLIS <a href="http://www.who.int/library/databases/en/">http://www.who.int/library/databases/en/</a>

Sci Dev Net http://www.scidev.net/en/

SPECTRE - <a href="http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/frontend.aspx">http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/frontend.aspx</a>. (Being restructured, and will reopen on 1 September 2008)

Biomed Central Global Health Gateway http://www.biomedcentral.com/gateways/globalhealth/

East View Information Service Online Databases <a href="http://online.eastview.com/index.jsp">http://online.eastview.com/index.jsp</a>

Popline <a href="http://db.jhuccp.org/popinform/basic.html">http://db.jhuccp.org/popinform/basic.html</a>

#### **WHO European Region**

Polska Bibliografia Lekarsko (Poland) http://medline.amg.gda.pl/splendor/pbl/b/

BiblioMedica (Czech Republic)http://www.aipberoun.cz/Site/produkty\_bm\_en.htm

Magyar Orvosi Bibliográfia (Hungary)<a href="http://hawk.eski.hu:8080/j2ee/webbib/simplesearch.jsp">http://hawk.eski.hu:8080/j2ee/webbib/simplesearch.jsp</a>

MediaSphere (Russia)(Portal to database and free e-journals)

http://www.mediasphera.aha.ru/

http://www.rmj.ru/

http://www.rusmedserv.com/

Turkish Academic Network and Information Center (Turkey) http://www.ulakbim.gov.tr/eng/

Çukurova Psikiyatri Dizini (Turkey) http://www.psikiyatridizini.org/

Panteleimon (Ukraine) http://www.panteleimon.org/

Biomadicina Croatia <a href="http://smk.mef.hr/php/biomed/">http://smk.mef.hr/php/biomed/</a>

EurasiaHealth http://www.eurasiahealth.org/

Turk Medline http://medline.pleksus.com.tr/

# WHO African Region

African Index Medicus http://indexmedicus.afro.who.int/

African Trials Registry http://www.atmregistry.org/

Scientific and Technical Egyptian Bibliographic Database (STEB) http://search.sti.sci.eg/fillform.html

Essential Health Links: Gateways Africa <a href="http://www.healthnet.org/essential-links/gateways-africa.html">http://www.healthnet.org/essential-links/gateways-africa.html</a>

AFROLIB database <a href="http://afrolib.afro.who.int/cgi-bin/wxis.exe/iah/?lsisScript=iah/iah.xic&lang=l&base=afrolib">http://afrolib.afro.who.int/cgi-bin/wxis.exe/iah/?lsisScript=iah/iah.xic&lang=l&base=afrolib</a>

South African Medical Database (SAMED) http://www.mrc.ac.za/SamedSearch/

#### **WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region**

Index Medicus for the Eastern Mediterranean Region http://www.emro.who.int/HIS/VHSL/Imemr.htm

ArabPsyNet http://www.arabpsynet.com/INDEX.ASP

Parsmedline (Iran) http://www.parsmedline.com/

IranMedex http://www.iranmedex.com/english/index.asp [not working 14.08.08]

(RCT filter available at: Nasser M, Al-Hajeri A, Eisinga A. Developing a sensitive search strategy for retrieving reports of randomized trials in Iranmedex 2006

See: http://www.bahrainmedicalbulletin.com/September 2008/Iranmedex.pdf.

#### **WHO South-East Asia Region**

HERDIN (Philippines) http://www.herdin.ph

South-East Asia: Index Medicus for the South-East Asia Region (IMSEAR)

http://www.who.int/library/databases/searo/en/index.html

IndMED (India Medlars Centre) http://indmed.nic.in/ [39 peer reviewed Indian Journals, mostly non Medline]

Medical Literature Indexing Services Pakistan http://www.cpsp.edu.pk/Onlinedirectory/MEDLIP/mform.asp

Clinical Trial Registry - India http://www.ctri.in

Thai - AIDS/HIV http://www.aidsthaidata.org/

Thai - Index Medicus http://161.200.96.194/

Thai - Psychiatry (Thailand) http://www.dmh.moph.go.th/abstract/

Thai – Thesis/Research <a href="http://thesis.stks.or.th/">http://thesis.stks.or.th/</a>

# **WHO Western Pacific Region**

Chinese Biomedical Literature Database (CBM) (in Chinese)

http://www.imicams.ac.cn/cbm/index.asp or http://www.imicams.ac.cn/cbm/ [not working 14.08.08]

China Academic Journals, Chine Conference Proceedings, China Dissertations

http://online.eastview.com/index.jsp

Chinese Medical Current Content (CMCC) http://www.cmcc.org.cn

VIP information/ Chinese Scientific Journals Database (CSJD-VIP) http://www.cqvip.com/

WanFang Database/Chinese Medicine Premier

http://www.wanfangdata.com

China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI)

http://www.global.cnki.net/grid20/index.htm

KoreaMed http://www.koreamed.org/SearchBasic.php

Japanese Science & Technology databases http://www.jst.go.jp/EN/

iyakuSearch Clinical Trials Database (Japan) http://www.clinicaltrials.jp/user/cte main e.jsp

Australasian Medical Index http://www.nla.gov.au/ami/

#### **WHO Region of the Americas**

LILACS <a href="http://bases.bireme.br/cgi-bin/wxislind.exe/iah/online/?lsisScript=iah/iah.xis&base=LILACS&lang=i">http://bases.bireme.br/cgi-bin/wxislind.exe/iah/online/?lsisScript=iah/iah.xis&base=LILACS&lang=i</a> (Highly sensitive clinical trials strategy at: Manríquez JJ. J Clin Epidemiol. 2008 61(4):407-11.. Plus see <a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/intertasc/rct.htm">http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/intertasc/rct.htm</a> )

The Virtual Health Library (includes LILACS) <a href="http://regional.bvsalud.org/php/index.php?lang=en">http://regional.bvsalud.org/php/index.php?lang=en</a>

SciELO Brazil - free full text pdfs including 60 Health sciences journals

http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php/script sci alphabetic/lng en/nrm iso

PAHO Library Catalogue

http://bases.bireme.br/cgi-bin/wxislind.exe/iah/online/?lsisScript=iah/iah.xis&base=PAHO&lang=i

Essential Health Links: Gateways Latin America

http://www.healthnet.org/essential-links/gateways-latin-america.html

InfoMED (Cuba) <a href="http://www.infomed.sld.cu/">http://www.infomed.sld.cu/</a>

MedCarib http://bases.bireme.br/cqi-bin/wxislind.exe/iah/online/?lsisScript=iah/iah.xis&base=MedCarib&lang=i

# Handsearch Summary Sheet 2: Building a global register

Depending on whether you are submitting information on a journal article, a conference abstract or a book, cut and paste the relevant section into an email or text document and add in as much information as available. A number of publications from different sources can be sent in a single email. \*Leave one blank space between each publication.

#### **Key to terms**

**Authors:** Format - Brown JL, Patel AB; **English Title:** English title of paper; **Source Title:** Title of journal or conference proceeding; **Original Title:** Title of paper in original language; **Study Design:** See Appendix 2. If in doubt add N/S; **URL:** Web site address if applicable: **Where was the study found:** Please note whether web, database, personal collection etc.

#### For a journal article use:

Publication type: Journal

Authors: English Title: Source Title:

Year of Publication:

Volume: Issue: Pages: Original Title: Abstract: Keywords:

Study Design:

URL:

Study or Trial Registration Number:

Language:

Where was the Study found: Country Study carried out in:

#### For a conference proceeding use:

Publication type: Conference

Authors: English Title: Source Title:

Year of Publication:

Volume: Issue: Pages: Abstract: Original Title: Keywords: Study Design:

**URL**:

Study or Trial Registration Number:

Language:

Where was the Study found: Country Study carried out in:

# For a book or report use:

Publication type: Book / Report

Authors: English Title: Year of Publication:

Pages: Edition:

Publisher Name:

Place/City of Publication:

Original Title: Volume: Issue: Editors: Abstract: Keywords: Study Design:

URL:

Study or Trial Registration Number:

Language:

Where was the Study found: Country Study carried out in:

#### 4. References

Cochrane Health Promotion and Public Health Field. Handsearchers' Training Materials. v1.2Victoria, Australia: Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, May 2005 <a href="http://www.ph.cochrane.org/en/handsearchers.html">http://www.ph.cochrane.org/en/handsearchers.html</a>

Moynihan, R. 2004. Evaluating Health Services: A Reporter Covers the Science of Research Synthesis. New York: Milbank Memorial Fund.

US Cochrane Centre. Training Manual for Handsearchers. US: US Cochrane Centre, 2002 <a href="http://apps1.jhsph.edu/cochrane/documents/Training%20Manual%20for%20Handsearchers%20">http://apps1.jhsph.edu/cochrane/documents/Training%20Manual%20for%20Handsearchers%20</a> Final.pdf

See also, resources for handsearchers at http://cochrane.co.uk/en/handsearchers.html

Please feel free to contact SURE (TurleyRL@cf.ac.uk) if you have any questions regarding any aspect of the handsearching process.

Thank you again for your interest in handsearching; the exercise is very important to improving access to health promotion and public health primary studies and reviews.

## Appendix 1: Public Health Group topics list (May 2008)

The Cochrane Public Health Group is looking at broader determinant of health interventions. These are usually intended to serve communities or populations and are distant either in time or place from any change in individual health status.

Interventions usually require more than the efforts of individual practitioners to apply (e.g. policy + primary care professional action, whole institution approach)

#### Examples of relevant topics:

#### EMPLOYMENT & THE WORK ENVIRONMENT

- Collaboration with council and workplaces to provide facilities that encourage active transport (eg showers and bike racks)
- Collaboration with major workplaces to introduce healthy staff canteen policy
- Designated workplace health promotion worker in workplace to support colleagues in developing organisation-wide health activities
- Interventions to improve work conditions in the workplace (e.g., flexible work hours, control over shift patterns
- Workplace and/or legislative interventions to address work-life-balance in adults

#### INCOME DISTRIBUTION/FINANCIAL INTERVENTIONS

- Business loans in improving wellbeing (and other health outcomes) of women in developing countries
- Cash transfer programs to improve health and related outcomes
  - Cash Transfers geographically targeted towards poor villages
  - Provision of scholarships to economically vulnerable students to improve health and related outcomes
- o School entry and childcare payments linked to administration of childhood immunisation

#### HOUSING and THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- Healthy cities, municipalities or spaces projects to reduce health risk factors
- Interventions to minimize adverse health effects of urban sprawl
- Interventions to increase the supply/quality of sidewalks and walking trails for the public

#### FOOD SUPPLY / ACCESS

- Interventions addressing gender disparities in family food distribution to improve child nutrition
- Interventions aimed at enhancing access for increased consumption of fruit and vegetables
- Interventions focusing on adolescent girls in order to improve nutritional status of women of child-bearing age prior to first pregnancy
- o Interventions to improve community food security (under production)
- Interventions to improve nutrition of refugee populations and displaced populations
- o Pricing policies to increase healthy food choices
- Sales promotion strategies of supermarkets to increase healthier food purchase
- EDUCATION (in consultation with Campbell Education Coordinating Group and Cochrane DPLP Group where appropriate)
  - o Interventions to increase school completion rates

#### • HEALTH & RELATED SYSTEMS

- Advocacy to increase the range of options for people with disabilities to use all public facilities, including sports and recreation programs
- Interventions to build capacity among health care professionals to promote health
- Financing mechanisms that improve access to health services for poor people

- Contracting out primary health care services to NGOs to increase uptake of services by the poor
- Equity funds financed by government to increase health insurance coverage specifically for the poor
- PUBLIC SAFETY (in consultation with Campbell Justice Coordinating Group and Cochrane Injuries Group where appropriate)
  - o Community-led advocacy to improve road safety around schools
  - Legislation to ban drivers using cell phones
  - Safe injection houses
  - Legalisation of marijuana

#### SOCIAL NETWORKS/SUPPORT

- Enhancing/Building protective environments to reduce health risk behaviours in adolescents (under production)
- o Interventions to enhance development of social networks to promote wellbeing
- Transport schemes for improving social connectedness of adults

#### THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- o Community-led advocacy to eliminate hazardous chemicals in local soils
- Community-level educational strategies to prevent water-borne infections/food borne infections
- Environmental strategies to prevent water-borne infections/food-borne infections
  - Interventions that employ a combination of environmental, social and educational strategies to prevent water-borne infections/food-borne infections
  - Interventions that employ a combination of environmental, social and educational strategies to promote proper garbage disposal to promote health
  - Social strategies to prevent water-borne infections/food-borne infections

#### TRANSPORT

- o Active transport initiatives to increase physical activity
  - Segregated cycle facilities for increasing the use of active transport by adults and children
- Transport schemes for improving social connectedness of adults
- Interventions to increase the supply/quality of sidewalks and walking trails for the public

#### OTHER

- o Interventions to promote health among out-of-school youth
- Introduction of restricted trading hours for gaming venues to reduce problem gambling
- Mass media campaigns to promote vaccinations at a community/population level (e.g. Meningitis prevention strategies)

# Appendix 2: Flowchart for identification and classification of intervention studies

[adapted from the 'Cochrane HPPH Handsearchers' Training Materials]

