



## Editorial

Greetings to you all. We are pleased to say that the Public Health Group editors and authors have had a very productive six months, with three more protocols published in *The Cochrane Library*, many others progressing through the editorial and external peer referee process in preparation for publication, and ten new titles registered within the Group.

We are busy preparing for an exciting Colloquium next month, this being the first one in the Collaboration's history to be shared with the Campbell Collaboration. With a remit that includes social welfare, education and crime and justice, this sister organisation obviously has direct relevance to and areas of common interest with public health researchers, practitioner and policy makers. We have three reviews-in-progress currently that are co-registered with each of the three Campbell Review Groups and we look forward to meeting and continuing to forge collaborative relationships with these editorial groups and their members. As per previous years we will be holding a training day prior to the Colloquium, in Denver. There is more detailed information about this within this newsletter.

We are also pleased to say that our coordinating editor, Liz, has been coping gallantly with her cancer treatment and all reports are positive thus far. We hope to have Liz back with us in all her glory very soon, starting hopefully with her attendance at the Colloquium.

Regards,  
Jodie Doyle (CPHG Managing Editor), Rebecca Armstrong (Editorial and Methods Advisor) and Belinda Hall (Communications and Liaison Fellow)

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**2010 Joint Cochrane-Campbell Colloquium, Colorado**

**Please join us!**

For information about the colloquium, please visit:

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=766689>

# CPHG Update

## Reviews & protocols underway with the Cochrane Public Health Group

### Published reviews

- Flexible working conditions for improving employee health and well being

### Published protocols (reviews under development)

- Collaboration between local health and local government agencies for health improvement
- Community wide interventions for increasing physical activity
- Community-based interventions for enhancing access to or consumption of fruit and vegetables (or both) among five to 18-year olds
- Housing interventions for improved health and social outcomes
- Workplace-based organisational interventions to prevent and control obesity by improving dietary intake and/or increasing physical activity

### Registered titles (protocols under development)

- Knowledge translation strategies for facilitating evidence-informed public health decision making among managers and policy-makers
- Community-level interventions to improve food security in developed countries
- Nutritional labeling to promote healthier food purchasing and consumption
- Fortification of staple foods with vitamin A for preventing vitamin A deficiency in populations.
- Fortification of wheat and maize flour with folic acid for population health outcomes
- Condiment fortification with iron and/or other micronutrients for improving public health
- Wheat flour fortification with Iron for reducing anaemia and improving iron status in at-risk populations
- Fortification of staple foods with vitamin A for preventing vitamin A deficiency in populations,
- Population level interventions for improving health outcomes in ex-prisoners
- Interventions addressing gender disparities in family food distribution for improving child nutrition
- Oral health promotion interventions for improving child oral health
- Incentive-based interventions to increase physical activity
- Welfare to work interventions and their effects on health and well-being of lone parents and their children

### Titles under development and for consideration

- Community-building interventions (designed to build a sense of community, connectedness, cultural revival, social capital) to improve physical, social and mental health
- Later school start times for supporting the education, health and well-being of high school students
- Slum upgrading strategies and their effects on health and social outcomes

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### Interested in helping to peer review a Cochrane Review in progress?

As part of the Cochrane Collaborations' systematic review process, each protocol and subsequent review requires a team of peer reviewers. Peer reviewers are responsible for assessing the relevance and usefulness of the review. This results in Cochrane Reviews that better meet the needs of end users. If you are interested in peer reviewing please contact Jodie [jdoyle@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:jdoyle@vichealth.vic.gov.au). Please make sure you let Jodie know your areas of interest.

## Extensive media coverage for the first review published by the Cochrane Public Health Group

The first review from the Public Health Group, on flexible working conditions and their effects on workers and their families, has enjoyed considerable media attention with 198 media stories picked up globally in the month following publication, an indication that the review question is one of public interest.

# Flexibility key to employee health

## Flexible working is good for health as well as family: review

Global coverage included - The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald, BBC, Reuters, Time, Telegraph (UK), Japan Herald and Canada.com, to name a few. Media stories were picked up in 31 countries, with the most reported in India (n=46), closely followed by the USA (n=40), then the UK (n=29). This is advantageous data to have, as media coverage can represent a surrogate measure of impact and utility, information that is likely to be of significant interest to researchers and their associated funding bodies. As such, there are benefits for research projects in having a clearly articulated communication and knowledge translation strategy that includes mechanisms for monitoring the reach and utility of research findings. Media engagement can be an effective profile-raising mechanism used to stimulate ongoing discussion with end-users and facilitate the multi-directional process that is knowledge translation and exchange.

The challenges and highlights of conducting this review were also the focus of an article co-authored by the lead review authors and the CPHG team and published in the Journal of Public Health (see most recent CPHG publications below).

More on the findings of the review can be found at [www.thecochranelibrary.com](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com)

**Full citation:** Joyce K, Pabayo R, Critchley JA, Bambra C. Flexible working conditions and their effects on employee health and wellbeing. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2010, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD008009. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD008009.pub2.



### Most recent CPHG publications

Kerry E Joyce, Belinda J Hall, Rebecca Armstrong, Jodie Doyle, and Clare Bambra

#### **Snakes and ladders: challenges and highlights of the first review published with the Cochrane Public Health Review Group**

J Public Health 2010 32: 283-285. Access: <http://jpubhealth.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/32/2/283>

Philip R.A. Baker, Daniel P. Francis, Belinda J. Hall, Jodie Doyle, and Rebecca Armstrong

#### **Managing the production of a Cochrane systematic review**

J Public Health 2010 32(3):448-450. Access: <http://jpubhealth.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/fdq058>

## Meet the Editors

### Professor Helen Roberts

*Professor Helen Roberts is a medical sociologist who works in the General Adolescent and Paediatrics Unit at UCL Institute of Child Health in London. If she had to say what she is most proud of in her working life, it's that she talent-spotted and worked with some of the brightest young child public health researchers on the planet, Stand up Lisa Arai, Kristin Liabo, Patricia Lucas, Madeleine Stevens and Katherine Tyler.*

#### **Two interesting jobs I have had in my life:**

I always think that the job I am in currently is the most interesting (though one job was 'most interesting' (bad). Working at UCL is definitely interesting (good). Clever, amusing colleagues and next door to the best coffee bar in Bloomsbury.

For ten years, I was head of R&D with the children's charity, Barnardo's. This gave me the chance to think about effective interventions for children right across the board - education, juvenile justice, social care and child public health.

#### **Two wonderful places I have lived in the world:**

I spent a few years living in Glasgow, which has some of the most pronounced inequalities in health in the UK. Inequality is nothing wonderful, but working on child injury on a Glasgow housing estate gave me the chance to work with some of the most resilient (and funniest) people I have ever met. They taught me that we often look at health problems the wrong way round. After spending a bit of time with them, I realised that the important question was not, 'how do we get parents to keep their children safer?' but 'how is it, given the circumstances in which people are bringing up their children, that they manage to keep them safe most of the time. What can we learn from them?'

I have lived most of my life in London and one of our children is a Cockney – probably one of the last (apart from babies born at home), since there are now no hospitals within the sound of the Bow Bells, (which is what qualifies you as a Cockney). I love London, but it would be nice to be somewhere sunnier in the winter.

#### **Two people I would love to have dinner with:**

Leaving on one side my family and my mates, with whom I dine regularly anyway (my old man is a good cook), it would be good to share a meal and a bottle of New Zealand wine with Helen Clark, the New Zealand prime minister who spoke her mind about the invasion of Iraq, and didn't allow herself to be bullied by the super powers.

I had an idyllic lunch in a pub by the river with Iain Chalmers a few years ago, and he showed us Binsey Churchyard and the Treacle Well which inspired Lewis Carroll. A pub supper with him and a few others would be perfect. In fact maybe we could meet up with Liz Waters and all the PHRG folk – editors, workers and authors, for a bite and a walk along the Thames.





# Cochrane Collaboration Update

## 2010 Joint Colloquium of the Cochrane & Campbell Collaborations

### *Bringing Evidence-Based Decision-Making to New Heights*

18 - 22 October 2010 - Keystone Resort, Colorado, USA



This year, the Joint Colloquium of the Cochrane & Campbell Collaborations will be held at the Keystone Resort in Colorado, USA. This will be the first time for these two groups to hold a combined colloquium.

This colloquium will focus on raising evidence-based decision-making to new heights. In this region, known for its towering mountain peaks and natural beauty, we will come together for multidisciplinary learning and sharing at its best.

For more details, please visit: <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=766689>

For those travelling from outside the USA- please check [Visa](#) information.

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### Open Public Health Group Meeting at the Colloquium

Wednesday 20th October, 7:30am—9:00am

The Colloquium programme includes a number of scheduled presentations and workshops of particular relevance to public health. Please check [here](#) for a complete listing of events. Look under the heading abstracts, posters and workshops.

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### Pre-Colloquium Training Opportunity

#### *Conducting Cochrane reviews of public health interventions: an introduction*

As part of the 2010 Cochrane Colloquium, the Cochrane Public Health Group (CPHG) together with staff from the University of Colorado, are hosting a one day introductory workshop. Several CPHG staff will introduce the work of the Group and provide an overview of how to conduct systematic reviews of public health interventions. Key areas for discussion will include: how to plan and fund a review, asking answerable questions, searching, combining sources of evidence.

**Date and time:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October 10:00am-4:30pm

**Location:** Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Denver, Anschutz Medical Campus, 12950 E. Montview Blvd., Aurora CO. For directions go to: <http://hslibrary.ucdenver.edu/about/directions.php>

**Who should attend:** Cochrane Public Health Group authors, those interested in conducting Cochrane reviews of public health interventions and those interested in using systematic reviews to inform their public health decisions.

**Registration Cost:** USD85.00 (credit cards only)  
Register at <http://www.regonline.com/CPHRG>  
Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided.

**Places are limited to 35 participants.**

Please RSVP to Jen McIntyre Stachelski at [Jennifer.McIntyre@ucdenver.edu](mailto:Jennifer.McIntyre@ucdenver.edu) by 8th October



## 2009 Impact Factors published by Thomson ISI

The 2009 impact factors (IF) have now been published by Thomson ISI and The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews has an **IMPACT FACTOR OF 5.653**, ranked 11<sup>th</sup> out of 132 in the ISI category Medicine, General & Internal. This is an increase from last year - the 2008 IF was 5.182 and the ranking was 12<sup>th</sup> out of 107 journals. The 2007 IF was 4.654 with a ranking of 14<sup>th</sup> out of 100.

Further analysis and information is available at the 2009 IF [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page on The Cochrane Library [website updates](#).

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## Lancet announces new publication policy for authors to use systematic reviews to put research findings into context

The Lancet have announced that they will ask authors of all clinical trial research reports submitted after August 1 2010 to put their work into the context of what has gone before, by either reporting their own, up-to-date systematic review or citing a recent systematic review done by others. The editorial is available [here](#). This is important recognition of systematic reviews as a key element in understanding the findings from all new research.

The Lancet's decision was influenced by work done over the last twelve years at the UK Cochrane Centre (see latest findings [here](#)). We hope that the Lancet policy will lead to even greater prominence of systematic reviews across the research literature.

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## Qualitative Research Methods Guidance

Are you developing a Cochrane protocol in which your effectiveness question may be informed by qualitative research? The Qualitative Research Methods Group (QRMG) guidance for question formulation is being reviewed by the Steering Group, and you can access it on the [QRMG website](#). Click on 'Using qualitative research to frame effectiveness questions'. The new guidance will also be presented at the joint Cochrane/Campbell Colloquium in Keystone, Colorado.

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## International register of ongoing systematic reviews

In response to growing concern about reporting biases, and advocacy of registration for systematic reviews, the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) is leading an initiative to establish an international register of ongoing systematic reviews. The register will work in a similar way to clinical trials registers, allowing researchers to record key features of their systematic reviews prospectively. The web-based register, to be launched later this year, will offer free public access, be electronically searchable and open to all prospective registrants. A public audit trail for amendments and updates to the information will be available and links to resulting publications will be added. We believe the register will promote research transparency, reduce the potential for bias and should lead to improved quality of systematic reviews and the decisions that rely upon them. It should also help avoid duplication and support the efficient use of research funding. For further information, visit the [project website](#) or contact Alison Booth at CRD [ab42@york.ac.uk](mailto:ab42@york.ac.uk)

## New Cochrane Entities

### French Cochrane Centre

The Collaboration now has a Cochrane Centre in Paris, France directed by Professor Philippe Ravaud and Dr Pierre Durieux, from University Paris Descartes. The mission of the Centre (Centre Cochrane Français) will be to foster evidence-based healthcare decision-making by promoting the awareness, appreciation, distribution and use of Cochrane Reviews; and by identifying and supporting individuals in France and in French-speaking countries who wish to be involved in The Cochrane Collaboration.

For contact details, visit: <http://www.cochrane.org/contact/centres#french-cochrane-centre>

### Cochrane Occupational Safety and Health Review Group

The Cochrane Occupational Health Field has re-registered with The Cochrane Collaboration as the Cochrane Occupational Safety and Health Review Group, as of 30 July 2010. The Group is based at the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health and, in addition to the ongoing activities associated with Cochrane Fields, the new Review Group will oversee the entire editorial process for relevant review topics, from title registration to publication. The editorial team welcomes enquiries relevant to occupational safety and health reviews. **For more information, visit:** <http://www.ttl.fi/partner/cohf/Pages/default.aspx>

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## Knowledge Translation Tools for the Collaboration

### Facebook



The Cochrane Collaboration is now on Facebook!

Facebook is a social utility that connects people with friends and other who work, study and live around them. It gives people the power to share and makes the world more open and connected. To join and connect with the Cochrane Collaboration just visit: <http://www.facebook.com/>

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### Twitter



Hey there! **cochraneollab** is now using Twitter.

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What are you doing? Join today to start receiving **cochraneollab's** tweets. To join just visit: <https://twitter.com/signup?follow=cochraneollab&commit=Join+today%21>

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## Cochrane Multimedia



To listen to audio summaries from the Cochrane library, including the most recent addition—Issue 8, August 2010 and some of the most-accessed Cochrane reviews, please visit: <http://www.cochrane.org/podcasts>

## Funding and Training Opportunities

### Funding Opportunity: Authors in England

The National Institute for Health Research in England has just announced the new NIHR Cochrane Collaboration Programme Grant Scheme, which was established to provide high quality systematic reviews that will be of direct benefit to users of the NHS in England.

Grants will be awarded to support work that includes both new Cochrane reviews and updating of existing reviews. Criteria for selection will include scientific quality, NHS relevance and value for money.

All NHS organisations and Universities in England are eligible to propose programmes, in collaboration with an appropriate Cochrane Co-ordinating Editor or Editor based in England.

Note that there is one date remaining this year for applications:

**5 November 2010**

Any queries can be directed to Sally Bailey, Senior Programme Manager, NETSCC, at [S.E.Bailey@soton.ac.uk](mailto:S.E.Bailey@soton.ac.uk)

For further details, please see: [http://www.netscc.ac.uk/funding/cochrane\\_programme\\_grants.asp](http://www.netscc.ac.uk/funding/cochrane_programme_grants.asp)

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### Australasian Cochrane Centre's Training & Support for Review authors

The Australasian Cochrane Centre offer a wide variety of workshops and training opportunities for authors at the various stages of the systematic review process. Designed to meet the needs of both new and experienced authors, they provide dedicated support and are free provided that participants are either working on or intending to work on a registered Cochrane review.

Date	Type of Workshop	Location
30-31 August	Introduction to systematic reviews of interventions <i>(Note: this workshop is open to authors of non-Cochrane reviews. Fees will apply to all participants).</i>	Melbourne
15-19 November	Cochrane Review Completion and Update Program	Melbourne
1 December	Cochrane Review Completion and Update Program	Sydney
2 Dec 3 Dec	Developing a Protocol for a Systematic Review Workshop  Introduction to Analysis Workshop	Sydney

For more information on each workshop and how to register, please visit:

<http://acc.cochrane.org/training>

[Review workshops](#) offered by other Cochrane Centres around the world.



# CPHG Contacts & Membership

## CPHG Contacts

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## CPHG Website

A reminder to please continue to visit our website as we post new reviews and protocols of health promotion and public health topics with each monthly release of *The Cochrane Library*:



[www.ph.cochrane.org](http://www.ph.cochrane.org)

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## CPHG Membership

The CPHG currently has a contact database of over 500 individuals who have expressed an interest in contributing in some way to the CPHG. Membership is free and those on the database will receive the bi-annual CPHG electronic newsletter. The database is also used to link individuals to opportunities to participate in other Cochrane activities (such as peer reviewing a Cochrane protocol around their area of interest or expertise).

If you have not already filled out our membership form and would like to be on the CPHG contact database please see the back of this newsletter. If you have changed email address since the last newsletter, please email: [cochrane@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:cochrane@vichealth.vic.gov.au)

Questions or comments? Please email us at: [cochrane@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:cochrane@vichealth.vic.gov.au) or call +61 3 9667 1336

## Cochrane Public Health Group (CPHG) – Information Request Form

First Name:	Family Name:	Male or Female
Place of Work:		Your role:
Work address:		
Email address:		
Country:		
Languages read (other than English):		
<p>Have you contributed to the PHRG, or to the Cochrane Collaboration, in some way in the past?</p> <p>No    Yes</p> <p>How?</p> <p>I have prepared a systematic review</p> <p>I have peer-reviewed a systematic review</p> <p>I have done some handsearching of health promotion/public health journals</p> <p>I have been involved in lobbying for funding to support the production of systematic reviews</p> <p>I have presented at a conference/workshop/seminar on systematic reviews in health</p> <p>I have presented information related to the Cochrane Collaboration at a conference/workshop/seminar</p> <p>I have provided comment back to the PHRG on various matters</p> <p>Other (please provide detail)</p>		
<p>Would you like to contribute to the PHRG in some way in the future?</p> <p>No    Yes</p> <p>How?</p> <p>I am interested in <b>doing or assisting in a systematic review</b> of a public health topic</p> <p>I would be available to <b>peer-review</b> a systematic review or protocol</p> <p>I would be available to do some <b>handsearching</b> of health promotion/public health journals</p> <p>I would be prepared to do a <b>presentation</b> of the PHRG's aims and objectives at an appropriate meeting, or relevant conference</p> <p>I would be available to help with <b>translation</b> of articles of relevance to public health reviews</p> <p>I would be prepared to <b>provide comment</b> back to the PHRG on areas of interest to myself or my organisation.</p> <p>Other (please describe)</p>		
<p>What topic area/s of the PHRG is of interest to you? (delete or highlight as appropriate)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Employment &amp; the work environment; income distribution/financial interventions; housing and the built environment; food supply / access; education health &amp; related systems; public safety; social networks/support; the natural environment; transport</i></p> <p>Other?</p>		
<p>Would you like to maintain contact with the PHRG?</p> <p>No    Yes</p> <p>Send me PHRG newsletters electronically</p> <p>Send request for help as indicated in my response above</p> <p>Other (please provide detail)</p>		
<p>How did you find out about the Cochrane PHRG?</p>		

If you don't not have an email address please provide us with your mailing address to send you the newsletter by post.