



Editorial

As always it's been an extremely busy, but rewarding few months for the Collaboration and the PHRG!

One of the most important contributions that the PHRG can make is to ensure that the methods and content of evidence reviews for public health reflect the context in which this research is being conducted, the types of studies available for particular questions, and the integration of different types of research literature, when synthesising the relevant evidence on the effectiveness. Given that this area is one that often requires discussion, deliberation and more research itself, given the variety of perspectives, having the editors meet regularly, and face to face, is essential to ensure the quality of our editorial contribution and state of advice or guidelines.

The second meeting of the editors occurred at the University of London in May, 2009. The focus of the two day meeting was to jointly develop an exemplar review of high priority, and highlight the methodological areas where the advice is clear, and areas where more work is required. The topic selected was slum upgrading (an issue of importance particularly for developing countries. Methodological discussions related to the use of logical models as a planning and analysis tool, searching, quality assessment, and assessing risk of bias. By the end of the two days all attendees were so enthusiastic that they offered to be authors on the review, which will be led by Ruhi Saith in India. We rapidly submitted an application to 3IE for funding to support Ruhi and her core team of Ruth Turley and Nandita, which has just been successful and we look forward to evolving this review over the next 6 months.

One of the major priorities for the PHRG has been our mid term funding review to the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, and a submission for a further 3 years. We will be interviewed on Oct 1 and 2, and hopefully will know the outcome soon after.

Next month is the 17th Annual Cochrane Colloquium, in Singapore. This year the PHRG will be hosting both a one-day training session and a panel discussion around Knowledge Translation research and activities, which we hope make an entertaining and provocative contribution on the last day – panel members include Lorne Becker, Mark Petticrew, Rebecca Armstrong, Maureen Dobbins and Tomas Pantoja.

Finally, the impact factor for the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews continues to rise, now **5.187** and ranked 12th out of 107 in the ISI journal category Medicine, General & Internal! This is a wonderful achievement on behalf of the entire Collaboration and signifies the importance & appreciation of high quality, systematically synthesised, research evidence.

With very best wishes, Liz Waters (PHRG Coordinating Editor)

Inside this issue:

PHRG Update

Cochrane Collaboration Update

2009 Cochrane Colloquium Activities

New Knowledge Translation Tools for the Collaboration

Training Opportunities

PHRG Website

PHRG Contacts & Membership



**2009 Cochrane Colloquium
Singapore
Please join us!**

For information about the colloquium, please visit:
<http://www.colloquium09.com>

PHRG Update

Meet the editors

Dr Philip Baker is consultant epidemiologist with Queensland Health in Brisbane Australia. Philip's current work involves leading the delivery of epidemiological services for both communicable and chronic diseases through public health units spread across a large geographic area in Queensland. For the past five years Philip has led the development of evidence based public health practice for Queensland including the delivery of 21 2-day professional development workshops across the state and one for Wales. Philip is especially interested in knowledge translation strategies for improving the health of indigenous peoples.



Philip is currently an author on three Cochrane Reviews:

- Community-wide interventions for increasing physical activity
- Family-based programmes for preventing smoking by children and adolescents
- Non antibiotic treatment for sore throat

Two interesting jobs I have had in my life:

PhD Student at Menzies School of Health Research evaluating the effectiveness of a community-wide intervention for renal and cardiovascular disease with the Tiwi Aboriginal people.

At the University of Ottawa involved in a broad range of clinical epidemiology research; including multi-centre clinical trials on rheumatic disease and the consensus development of outcome measures.

Two wonderful places I have lived in the world...

Darwin, Australia and Ottawa Valley, Canada

Two people I would love to have dinner with ...

Dame Edna Everage and Bishop Tom Wright

Reviews & protocols underway with the Cochrane Public Health Group

Current published protocols of the PHRG

- Collaboration between local health and local government agencies for health improvement
- Flexible working conditions and their effects on employee health and well being

New protocols under development

The PHRG now has nine registered titles. Protocols for these reviews are now under development.

- Community-level interventions to improve food security in developed countries
- Workplace organisational interventions for preventing adult obesity
- Community wide activities for increasing physical activity
- Wheat Flour Fortification with Iron for Reducing Anaemia and Improving Iron Status in at-risk populations
- Community-based interventions for enhancing access to and/or consumption of fruits and vegetables among 5-18 year olds
- Population level interventions for improving health outcomes in ex-prisoners
- Housing improvements for health and associated socio-economic outcomes (Campbell protocol for co-registration)
- Interventions addressing gender disparities in family food distribution for improving child nutrition
- Slum upgrading strategies and their effects on health and social outcomes

Titles currently under development

- School-time scheduling and its effects on the education, health and wellbeing of students aged 5-18 years
- Community-building interventions for improving physical, social and mental health
- Oral health promotion for oral health
- Interventions utilising marketing strategies for promoting healthy eating behaviours in young people
- Food policies and their related interventions to improve access to healthy foods in mothers and children under five

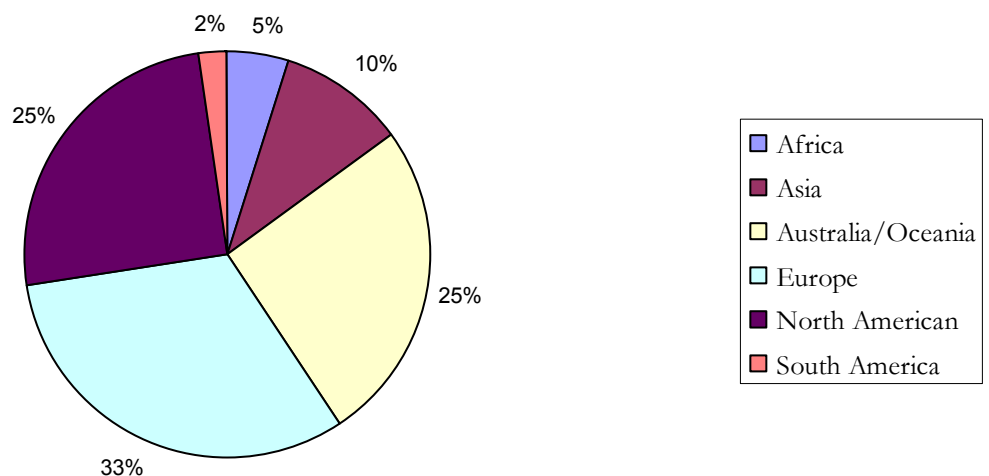
Update on the PHRG contact database

The PHRG's contact database now contains 500 potential contributors from 55 countries across 6 continents. Since last year, the PHRG has welcomed representatives from Afghanistan, Fiji Islands, Uruguay and Ghana, just to name a few. We always welcome newcomers so if you think your country is under-represented, why not recruit some local colleagues to join the Group! Please see the back page of this newsletter for the membership form and please email us if your contact details have changed:

cochrane@vichealth.vic.gov.au

Country	No. of members	Country	No. of members
Afghanistan	1	Lebanon	1
Argentina	3	Malaysia	1
Australia	83	New Zealand	10
Austria	1	Nigeria	3
Bahrain	1	Northern Ireland	3
Belgium	1	Norway	4
Brazil	1	Pakistan	2
Canada	59	Philippines	2
Chile	1	Portugal	1
China	2	Qatar	1
Colombia	2	Russia	1
Denmark	3	Saudi Arabia	2
East Timor	1	Senegal	1
Egypt	1	South Africa	11
Ethiopia	1	Spain	4
Fiji Islands	1	Sri Lanka	3
Finland	1	Sweden	3
France	1	Switzerland	6
Germany	6	Taiwan	1
Ghana	1	Thailand	5
Hungary	1	The Netherlands	3
India	7	Turkey	1
Indonesia	1	UK	79
Iran	1	Uruguay	1
Ireland	1	USA	35
Israel	1	Vietnam	1
Japan	2		
Kenya	1		

Proportion of PHRG members by continent



Cochrane Collaboration Update

New impact factor for Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews now has an impact factor of 5.182 and is ranked 12th out of 107 in the ISI journal category Medicine, General & Internal. The 2007 impact factor was 4.654 and the ranking was 14th out of 100. Impact factors are generated from citations of published work – a high ranking identifies that Cochrane Reviews are being cited by other publications and is a proxy for the importance of these publications.

New Cochrane protocols and reviews relevant to health promotion and public health in Issue 2, 2009 of The Cochrane Library (*NB: only those marked with an asterix published through the Cochrane PHRG*)

Protocols

- Behavioral interventions for increasing the use of condoms in women with HIV
- Collaboration between local health and local government agencies for health improvement*
- Community-based intervention package for preventing maternal morbidity and mortality and improving neonatal outcomes
- Interventions for preventing injuries caused by impaired alertness in individuals who are not sleep deprived
- Interventions for preventing injuries caused by impaired alertness in individuals who are sleep deprived
- Interventions for preventing injuries caused by impaired alertness in individuals with jet lag and shift work disorder
- Psychological and/or educational interventions for reducing alcohol consumption in pregnant women and women planning pregnancy
- Vaccines for preventing anthrax
- Workplace interventions for alcohol and other drug problems

Reviews

- Alcohol and drug screening of occupational drivers for preventing injury
- Education of children and adolescents for the prevention of dog bite injuries
- Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community
- Workplace interventions for preventing work disability

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. Please make sure you let Jodie know your areas of interest.

2009 Cochrane Colloquium Activities

Training on public health reviews

The PHRG will be running a one-day training session on conducting systematic reviews of public health interventions on Saturday 10th October prior to this year's Cochrane Colloquium in Singapore. Interested? Contact Rebecca Armstrong armr@unimelb.edu.au for more information.

Special session on knowledge translation

Liz and Rebecca have been invited to organise a special session for the 2009 Cochrane Colloquium on knowledge translation. This will be a panel session designed to stimulate debate about KT research, KT activities and the role of the Cochrane Collaboration in facilitating KT. If you would like further information please contact Rebecca arm@unimelb.edu.au

Colloquium Meetings List

Below is the list of confirmed colloquium meetings relevant of the PHRG. Meetings are open to all delegates unless marked [Restricted] to a specific target audience. The PHRG will have a table at the Meet the Entities session on Sunday 11th October. The PHRG open meeting is on Wednesday 14th Oct, 07:30-09:00h (see below). Just a reminder that if you are attending the Colloquium you will need to book in for meetings (http://www.colloquium09.com/meeting_list.shtml) and workshops (<http://www.colloquium09.com/workshops.shtml>) online from late August. These links also contain a full list of the Colloquium meetings and workshops.

Tuesday 13 Oct

17:30-19:30h [Public Health Group Editorial Group](#)

Wednesday 14 Oct

07:30-09:00h [Public Health Review Group](#)

New Knowledge Translation Tools for the Collaboration

follow us on
twitter



Hey there! **cochranecollab** 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 **cochranecollab's** tweets. To join just visit: <https://twitter.com/signup?follow=cochranecollab&commit=Join+today%21>



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/>

 **The Cochrane Collaboration**
Global



Basic Info

Name: The Cochrane Collaboration
Type: Organizations - Non-Profit Organizations
Description: The Cochrane Collaboration
Improving healthcare decision-making globally, through systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions, published in The Cochrane Library

The Cochrane Collaboration is a global network of dedicated volunteers, supported by a small staff. We rely on grants and donations, and don't accept conflicted funding. You can help too. Work with us or help financially or be a consumer representative in the Consumer Network (ccnet).

Contact Info

Website: <http://www.cochrane.org>

Recent News

Issue 1, 2009 of The Cochrane Library is now online!

Cochrane Colloquium
Singapore, 11-14 October 2009

[View Discussion Board](#)

[Join this Group](#)

Share 

Group Type

This is an open group. Anyone can join and invite others to join.

Officers

Ludovic Reveiz
Chris Mavergames

Chris Mavergames
admin

Cochrane Multimedia

Podcasts from The Cochrane Library



To listen to audio summaries from the Cochrane library, including the most recent addition—Issue 3, July 2009 and some of the most-accessed Cochrane reviews, please visit: <http://www.cochrane.org/podcasts/index.html>

Training Opportunities

EPPI-Centre's short courses

The EPPI-Centre's short courses are key elements of the MSc in Evidence for Policy and Practice. The Research Synthesis for Policy and Practice and the Methods for Research Synthesis cover a broader range of synthesis approaches than systematic reviews of effectiveness, and the Evidence for Policy, Practice and Personal Decisions focuses on involving a broad range of people in doing and using research.

Research Synthesis for Policy and Practice(RMSEVI_01)

This course will enable you to conduct and appraise systematic reviews. On successful completion, you will be familiar with the strengths and limitations of systematic reviews and have a critical appreciation of evidence-informed policy and practice. The course is aimed at experienced policy-makers, practitioners, managers and researchers who wish to:

- * become familiar with the principles of systematic reviews
- * read and critique systematic reviews
- * learn how to conduct a systematic review

This module is also available as a fully online course <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=694>

Fully online edition from 5 October 2009 to 29 January 2010

Face-to-face edition Tuesday 5, Thursday 14 and Tuesday 26 January, 3 February 2010, as well as reading and online interactive activities before each workshop

Evidence for policy, practice and personal decisions (RMSEVI_02)

This course will enable you to involve policy makers, practitioners and service users in doing and using research. You will critically engage with the latest theories and debates about the relevance and application of research findings for policy, practice and personal decisions.

This module is run as a fully online course <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=695>

Fully online course runs from 8 February to 6 May 2010*

There is a break in the course from 29 March to 5 April inclusive

Methods for research synthesis (RMSEVI_03)

This course will equip you with the skills to undertake a qualitative or quantitative synthesis in a systematic review. On successful completion, you will become familiar with the aims and rationale for different methods of critical appraisal and research synthesis.

This module is run as a fully online course <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=696>

Fully online course runs from 17 May to 30 July 2010*

For more information and to register, please visit: <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=701&language=en-US>

PHRG Website

A reminder to please continue to visit our website as we are constantly posting new reviews and protocols of health promotion and public health topics (published by the PHRG as well as other Cochrane Review Groups) with each quarterly release of *The Cochrane Library*:



<http://www.ph.cochrane.org/en/newPage2.html>

PHRG Contacts & Membership

PHRG Contacts

Coordinating Editor

Elizabeth Waters
Professorial Fellow: Public Health and Health Equity
Telephone: +61 3 8344 3183
Facsimile: +61 3 9348 2832
Email: ewaters@unimelb.edu.au

Review Group Coordinator

Jodie Doyle
C/o Victorian Health Promotion Foundation
PO Box 154, Carlton South,
VIC 3053, AUSTRALIA
Email: jdoyle@vichealth.vic.gov.au

Knowledge Translation and Research Support Fellow

Rebecca Armstrong
C/o Victorian Health Promotion Foundation
PO Box 154, Carlton South,
VIC 3053, AUSTRALIA
Email: ramstrong@vichealth.vic.gov.au

Research Assistant

Lisa Willenberg
C/o Victorian Health Promotion Foundation
PO Box 154, Carlton South,
VIC 3053, AUSTRALIA
Email: lwillenberg@vichealth.vic.gov.au

Trial Search Coordinators

Ruth Turley & Helen Morgan
Support Unit for Research Evaluation
Sir Herbert Duthie Library
Cardiff University
Heath Park, Cardiff CF14 4XN, UK
Email: TurleyRL@cf.ac.uk or MorganHE1@cf.ac.uk

PHRG Membership

The PHRG currently has a contact database of over 500 individuals who have expressed an interest in contributing in some way to the PHRG. Membership is free and those on the database will receive the bi-annual PHRG 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 PHRG 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

Questions or comments? Please email us at: cochrane@vichealth.vic.gov.au or call +61 3 9667 1309

Cochrane Public Health Review Group (PHRG) – 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 doing or assisting in a systematic review of a public health topic</p> <p>I would be available to peer-review a systematic review or protocol</p> <p>I would be available to do some handsearching of health promotion/public health journals</p> <p>I would be prepared to do a presentation of the PHRG's aims and objectives at an appropriate meeting, or relevant conference</p> <p>I would be available to help with translation of articles of relevance to public health reviews</p> <p>I would be prepared to provide comment 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 & the work environment; income distribution/financial interventions; housing and the built environment; food supply / access; education health & 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.