

Building the Evidence for Global Public Health

Exploratory Meeting of the Proposed
Cochrane Public Health Collaborative
Review Group

Monday 29th October 2007

Global Forum For Health Research, Beijing

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Introduction to the Cochrane Collaboration
- Introduction to the Campbell Collaboration
- Review of current and past activities of the Cochrane HPPH Field
- Mapping stakeholders and opportunities for knowledge synthesis: experience from WHO and the CSDH
- Developing Countries Perspective
- Open Discussion and Future plans



Introduction

- Name and role
- Interest in need for evidence to inform decision making

Introduction to The Cochrane Collaboration and its processes

Professor Elizabeth Waters
Director, Cochrane Health Promotion and
Public Health Field

Overview

- Outline of The Cochrane Collaboration
- Overview of systematic reviews, evidence and health care decision making
- Function of systematic reviews in informing policy and practice
- Role of the HPPH Field

The Cochrane Collaboration

- International non-profit organisation that prepares, maintains, and disseminates systematic up-to-date reviews of health care interventions

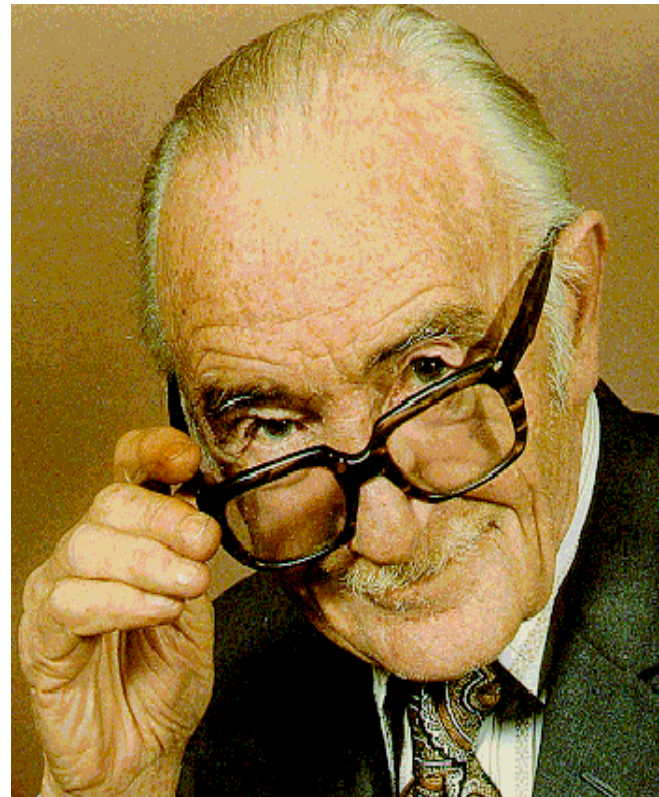


The Cochrane Collaboration

- Named in honour of Archie Cochrane, a British researcher

In 1979:

“It is surely a great criticism of our profession that we have not organised a critical summary, by specialty or subspecialty, adapted periodically, of all relevant randomised controlled trials”



10 core principals

1. Collaboration
2. Building on the enthusiasm of individuals
3. Avoiding duplication
4. Minimising bias
5. Keeping up to date
6. Striving for relevance
7. Promoting access
8. Ensuring continuity
9. Enabling wider participation
10. Continually improving quality

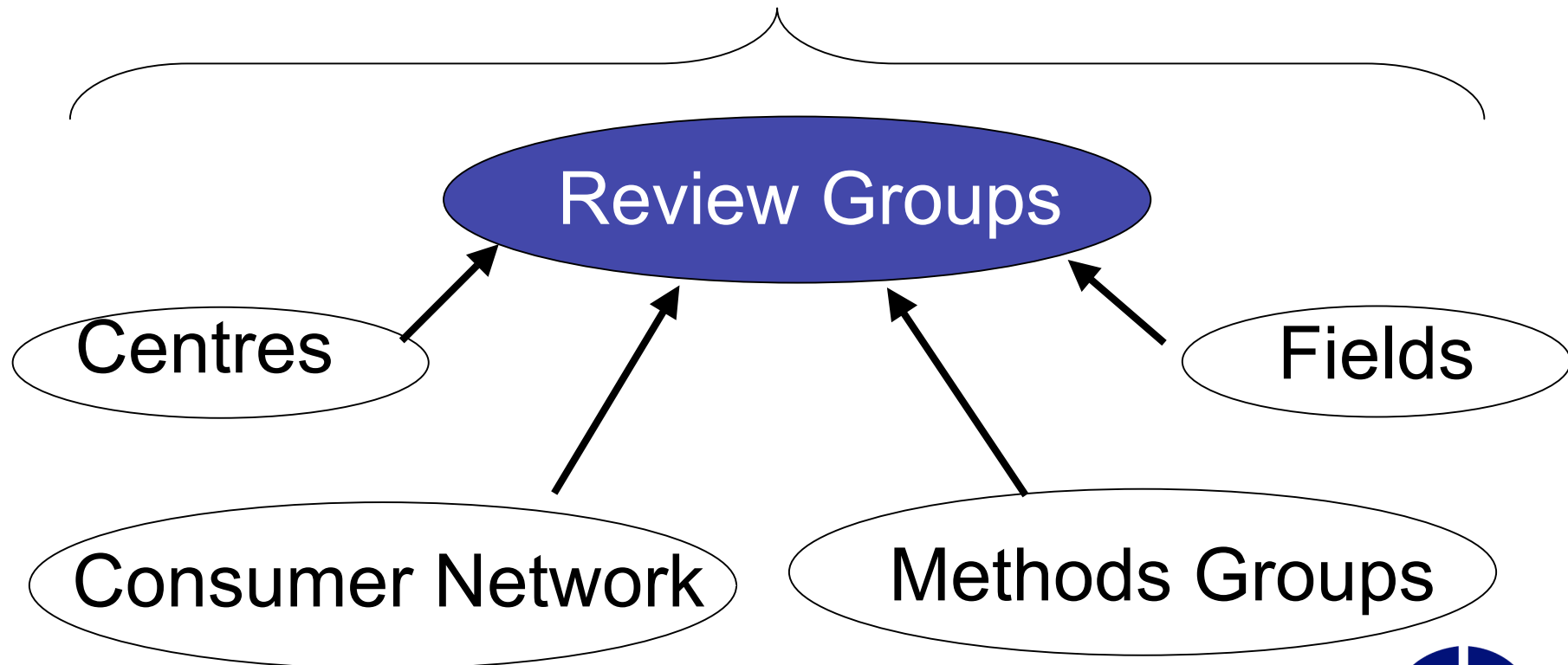
Cochrane – international

- 15,000 people
- Over 1,000 individuals from developing countries
- More than 90 nations
- 51 Collaborative Review Groups (CRGs)
- 11 Fields
- 10 Methods Groups
- Consumer Network
- 12 regional Cochrane Centres and their branches



Cochrane Collaboration Structure

Steering Group



Collaborative Review Groups (50)

- Produce systematic reviews relevant to a particular disease or health issue for inclusion in the Cochrane Library
- Examples
 - Airways Group
 - Drug and Alcohol Group
 - Heart Group
 - Injuries Group
 - Skin Group
 - Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
 - Stroke Group
 - Breast Cancer Group

Methods Groups (12)

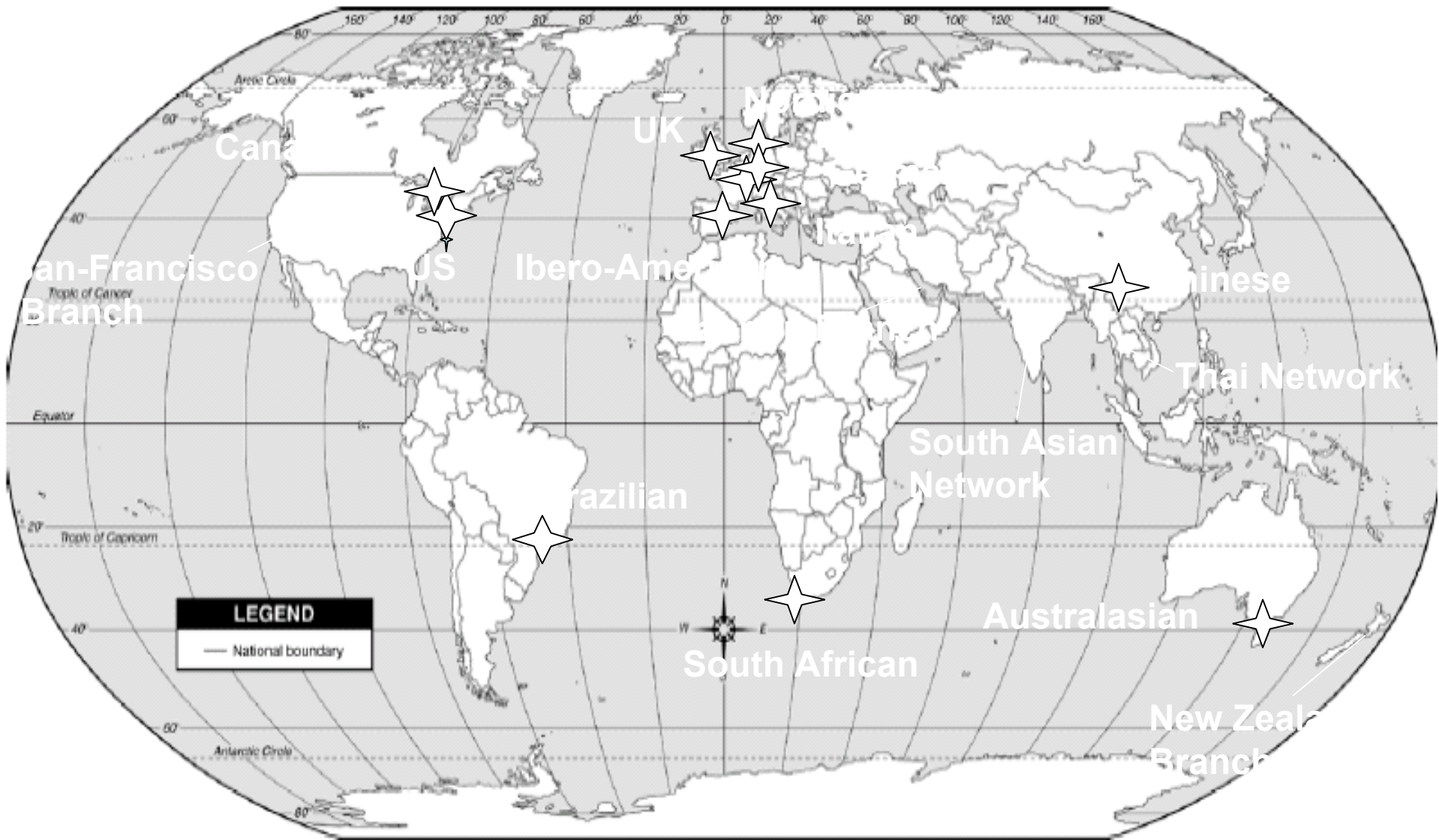
- Provide advice and support in the development of the methods of systematic reviews
- Examples
 - Non-Randomised Studies
 - Screening and Diagnostic Tests
 - Empirical Methodological Studies
 - Qualitative Methods

Cochrane Centres (14)

- Work to assist all Cochrane entities within a specific geographical area
- Examples
 - Australasian Cochrane Centre
 - South African Cochrane Centre
 - Iberoamerican Cochrane Centre
 - Italian Cochrane Centre
 - Chinese Cochrane Centre

Cochrane Fields/Networks (9)

- Represent an area of interest which spans a number of health problems - and hence a number of Review Groups
- Examples
 - Health Promotion and Public Health Field
 - Primary Health Care Field
 - Cancer Network
 - Child Health Field



Cochrane Centres and Branches

Cochrane Reviews

- Freely available to 3 billion people worldwide
- Focus on updating over time
- Recognised as high quality evidence for health interventions (BMJ, JAMA, Lancet) Strict exclusion criteria apply to ensure only quality studies are included
- Conclusions and recommendations for practice and research are included
- Increasing numbers of PH reviews on Cochrane Library (varying quality and utility)



The Cochrane Library

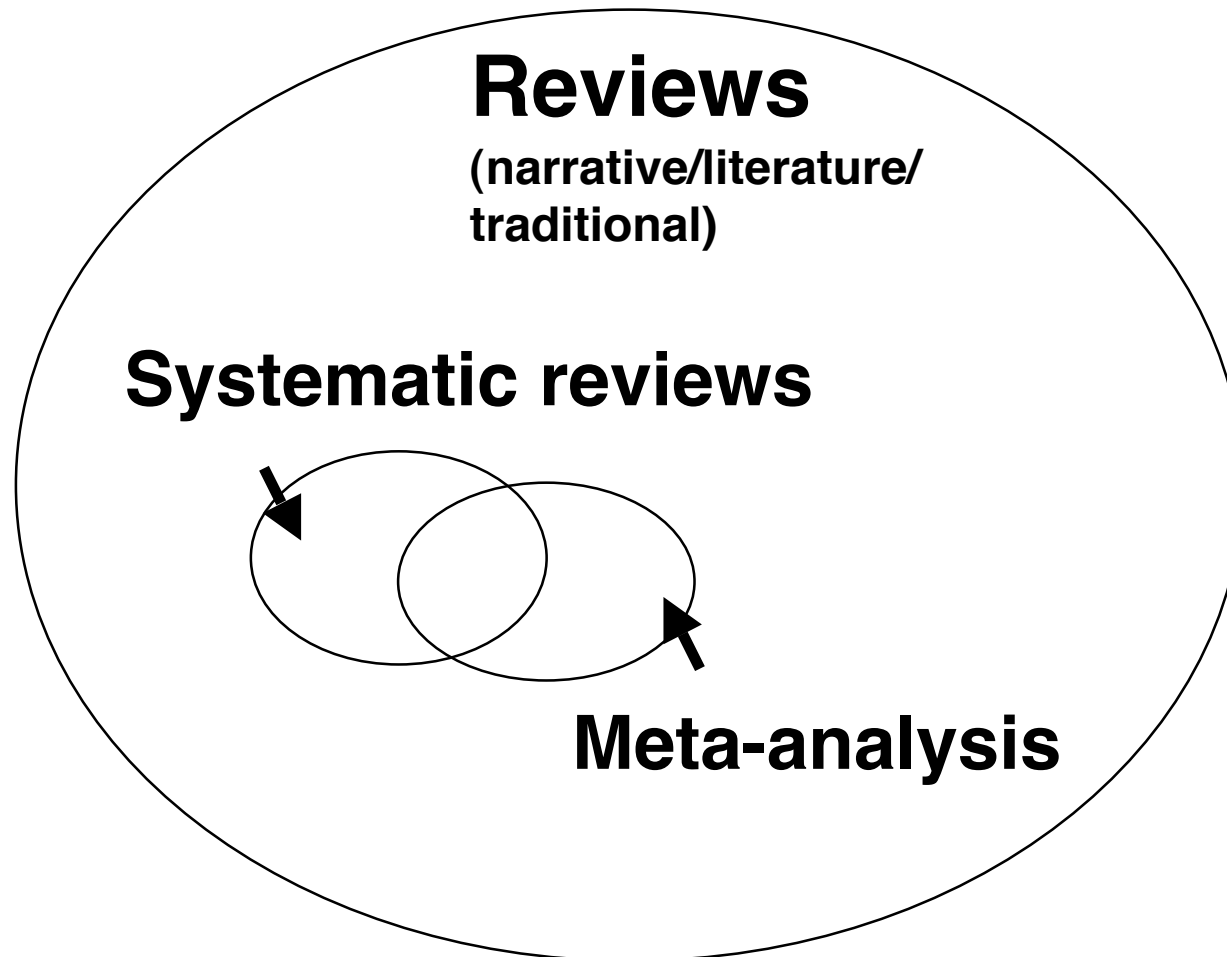
- www.thecochranelibrary.com



The screenshot displays a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/mrwhome/106568753/HOME>. The page features the Wiley InterScience logo at the top left. Below it, the breadcrumb trail reads: Home / Medicine and Healthcare / Medicine (general). The main content area is titled "the cochrane library" and includes a graphic of three overlapping circles. Below the title, there is a section for "The Cochrane Library 2004, Issue 4" with a small image of a book cover. To the right of this section are links for "e-mail" and "print", and a note "Published on behalf of THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION". A search box is located on the right side of the page, with the text "SEARCH IN THIS TITLE" and "The Cochrane Library:". Below the search box is a dropdown menu set to "Search All Text" and a "Go" button. Further down, there are links for "Cochrane Advanced Search", "MeSH Search", "Search History", "Saved Searches", and "Search Tips". A "SEARCH ALL CONTENT" button is also present. At the bottom of the page, there is a "SPECIAL FEATURES" section with links for "Translation Information", "Reviewers' Handbook (PDF)", and "Reviewers' Handbook Glossary (PDF)". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the start button, several application icons, and the system clock displaying "10:18 AM".



Types of reviews



Key elements of a systematic review

- Structured, systematic process involving several steps:
 - Formulate the question
 - Plan the review
 - Comprehensive search
 - Unbiased selection and abstraction process
 - Critical appraisal of data
 - Synthesis of data (may include meta-analysis)
 - Interpretation of results
 - All steps described explicitly in the review

Cochrane HPPH Field

- Represents HP and PH in Cochrane
- Represents Cochrane in HP and PH forums
- In transition from Field to Review Group
 - Registered in 1996
 - Administered from Melbourne and London
 - Funded by Victorian Health Promotion Foundation and the UK Department of Health
 - Over 400 members on contact database across >30 countries



Organisational relationships

- Global Forum for Health Research
- WHO and PAHO
- International Union of Health Promotion and Education
- Centre for Disease Control, Atlanta, US
- EPPI Centre, UK
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- National Collaborating Centres
- NICE UK

HPPH Field Staff

- University of Melbourne, Australia
 - Elizabeth Waters (Director)
 - Jodie Doyle (Coordinator)
 - Rebecca Armstrong (Senior Research Fellow)
 - Naomi Priest (Research Fellow)
- EPPI-Centre, UK
 - Angela Harden
 - Josephine Kavanagh