# An Introduction to Cochrane Collaboration and its Impact on Medical Practices

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## **Conflicts of interest**

- The Cochrane Germany is a central unit of the University Medical Centre Freiburg
- G. Antes is 100% employed by the University Hospital
- Potential conflict:
   Long-lasting commitment to Evidence and Systematic Reviews

## **Contents**

- Evidence to answer the crucial question: What works?
- Systematic reviews as key technology for knowledge synthesis
- Cochrane as host for global knowledge and rigorous methology

# **Transfer of Research into Practice**

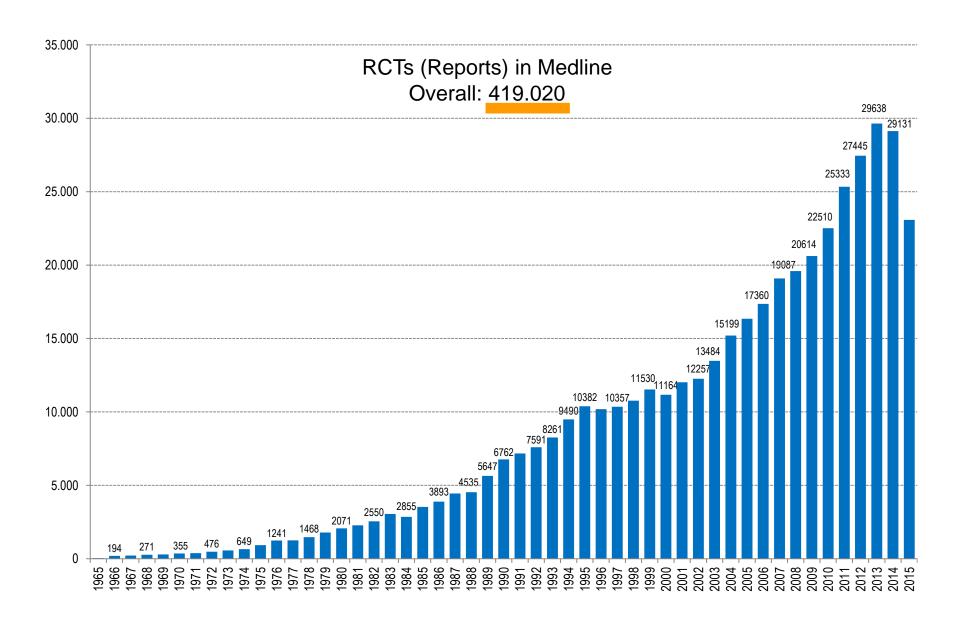
- Clinical (randomised / controlled) socies
  Epidemiolari
- Epidemiological (observational -) studies

1968 McMaster Univ. Hamilton, Canada 1971 Archie Cochrane, UK 1993 Cochrane Collab. 1998 Cochrane Germany

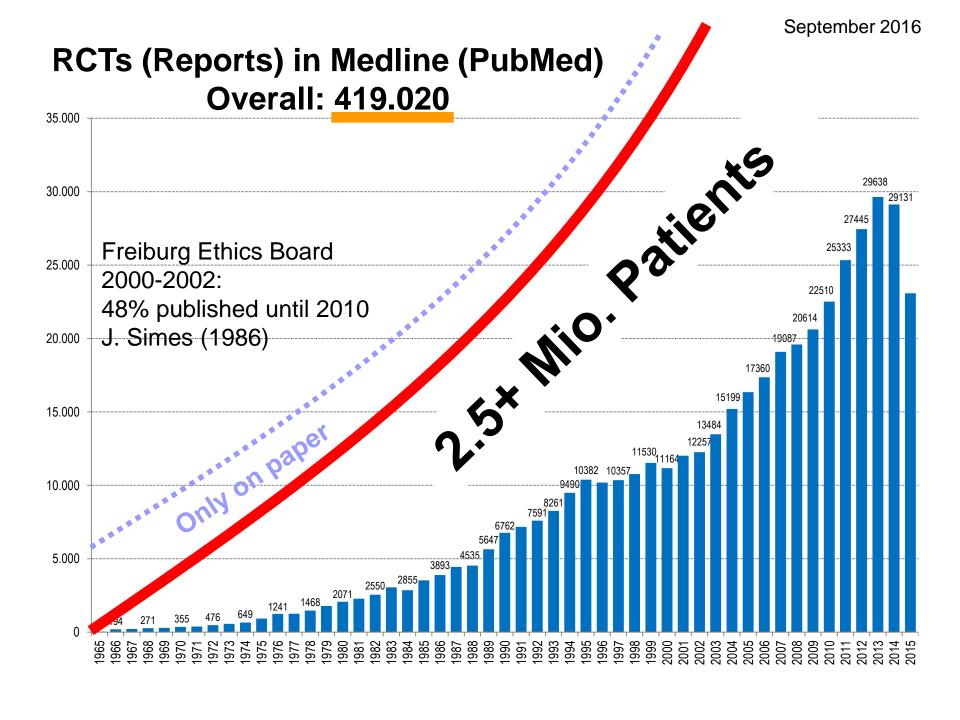
- Practicing physicians
- Health authorities, sickness funds, insurances, institutions
- Clinical research
- Patients



The trial deluge



The truth



# **Transfer of Research into Practice**

Clinical studies (experimental, randomised, controlled, prospective)

Epidemiological studies (observational, retrospective)

**Systematic Reviews** 

Health Technology Assessment (HTA)

Clinical Guidelines Patient Information

Disease Management Programs (DMPs)

Clinical Pathways (CPs)

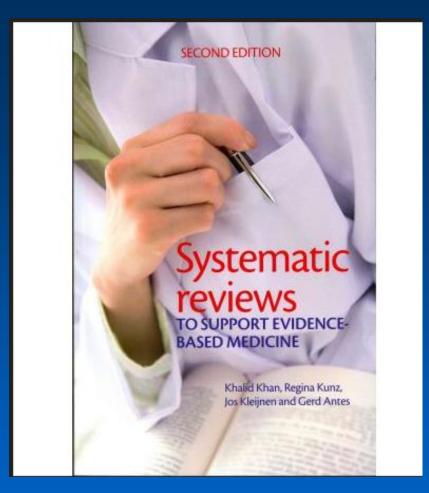
global

The knowledge refinery

# "All" trials ?

Not identified Not published identified **Quality? Review** 

- 1. Framing the question (PICO)
- 2. Systematic search for evidence from relevant trials and studies
- 3. Critical appraisal of trials inclusion
- 4. Summary and quantivative synthesis (if possible)
- 5. Interpreting and putting in context



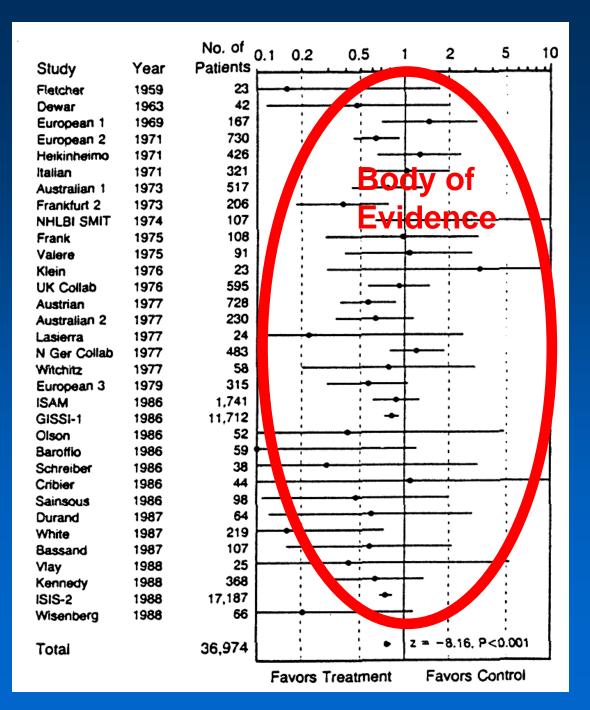
July 2011

# **Updating!!**

Produce unbiased view of "all" evidence

# Example Thrombolysis after acute myocardial infarction

**NEJM 1992** 

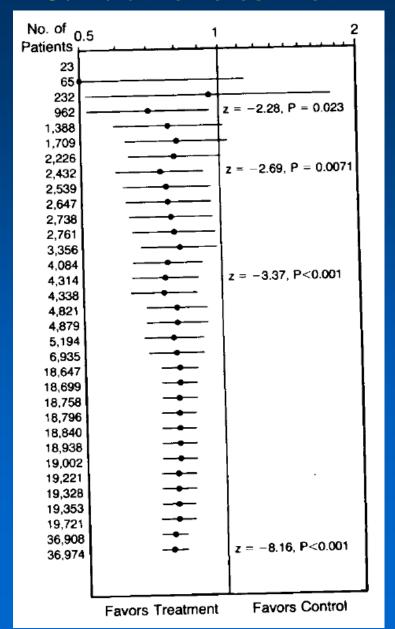


**Forest Plot** 

#### **Forest Plot:**

#### No. of 0.1 0.2 10 0.5 Study **Patients** Year 23 Fletcher 1959 1963 42 Dewar 167 European 1 1969 730 European 2 1971 1971 426 Heikinheimo 1971 321 Italian 1973 517 Australian 1 206 Frankfurt 2 1973 **NHLBI SMIT** 1974 107 1975 108 Frank 1975 91 Valere 1976 23 Klein 1976 595 **UK Collab** 728 1977 Austrian 230 1977 Australian 2 24 1977 Lasierra 1977 483 N Ger Collab 1977 58 Witchitz 315 European 3 1979 ISAM 1986 1.741 11,712 GISSI-1 1986 52 Olson 1986 59 Baroffio 1986 38 Schreiber 1986 44 Cribier 1986 98 1986 Sainsous 1987 64 Durand 219 White 1987 107 1987 Bassand 25 1988 Vlav 368 1988 Kennedy 17,187 1988 ISIS-2 Wisenberg 1988 z = -8.16, P<0.001 Total 36,974 **Favors Treatment Favors Control**

#### **Cumulative Forest Plot:**



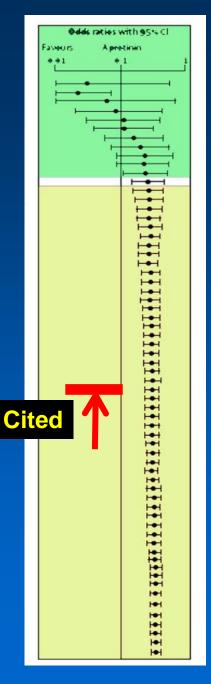
# **Open questions**

No accepted stopping rule

– Have all relevant trials been identified and considered?

Need "all" (!) relevant trials: 2016 no reliable method and procedure 1987

2002



RCTs of aprotinin in cardiac surgery to stop bleeding

Lancet 2005 Clinical Trials 2005



ABOUT THE IOM

REPORTS

ACTIVITIES

Browse History

# Report

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# Finding What Works in Health Care: Standards for Systematic Reviews

Released: March 23, 2011

Consensus Report Type:

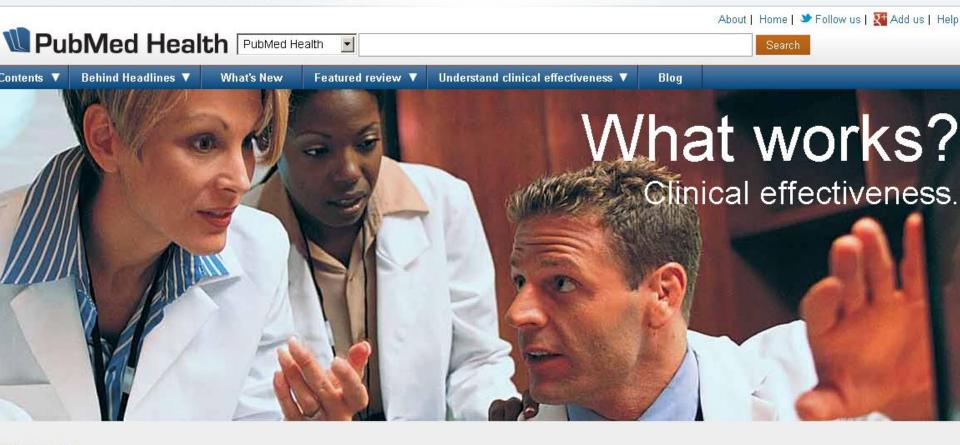
Topics: Biomedical and Health Research, Public Health, Quality and Patient

Safety

Standards for Systematic Reviews of Comparative Effectiveness Activity:

Research

Board: Board on Health Care Services U.S. National Library of Medicine - The World's Largest Medical Library























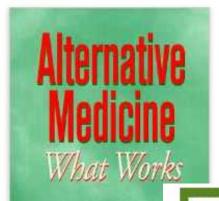


#### Alternative Medicine:

Con 1st Edition

by Adriane Fugh-Berman (Author)

\* 5 customer reviews





A DOCTOR'S

WHAT WORKS,

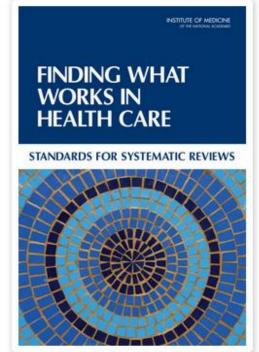
WHAT DOESN'

MEL BORINS, ME Foreward by Bernie Siegel MD





Benefit?
Harm?
Costs?



Status: Final Book Downloads: 10,983

**Research in context** 

# THE LANCET

Online First	Current Issue	All Issues	Special Issues	Multi	media 🕶	Information for A	uthors
		All Conter	nt	•	Search	Advanced Search	
< Previous	Article <b>Vo</b>	lume 384, I	<b>No. 9961</b> , p2176	-2177	, 20 Decer	mber 2014	Next Article >



# Further emphasis on research in context

Sabine Kleinert, Laura Benham, David Collingridge, William Summe

#### Panel: Research in context

#### Evidence before this study

This section should include a description of all the evidence that the authors considered before undertaking this study. Authors should state: the sources (databases, journal or book reference lists, etc) searched; the criteria used to include or exclude studies (including the exact start and end dates of the search), which should not be limited to English language publications; the search terms used; the quality (risk of bias) of that evidence; and the pooled estimate derived from meta-analysis of the evidence, if appropriate.

#### Added value of this study

Authors should describe here how their findings add value to the existing evidence (including an updated meta-analysis, if appropriate).

#### Implications of all the available evidence

Authors should state the implications for practice or policy and future research of their study combined with existing evidence.

findings? How can we improve the accessibility and usability of research findings, and data availability? And, finally, how can we further raise awareness and continue discussions on the topic of research productivity?

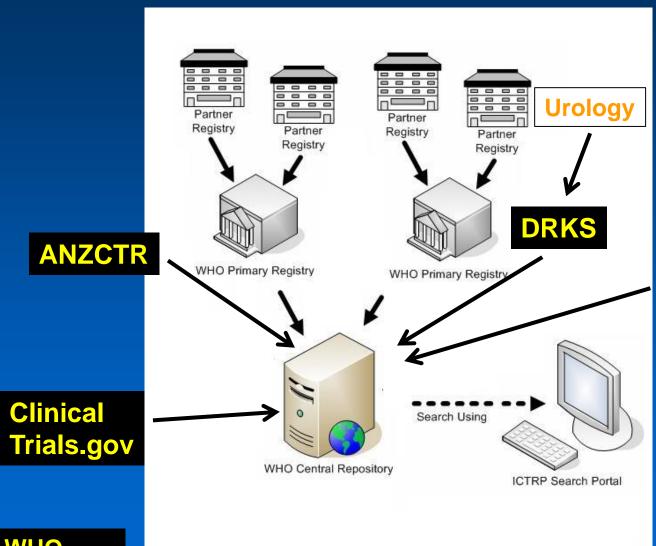
As a first step, we are strengthening our requirement to put research into context. Knowing and rigorously assessing the context and value of research will help editors make decisions about whether to publish a paper, and will help readers to interpret the importance of published research in addressing unanswered questions and building an evidence base. From Jan 1, 2015, all research papers, apart from systematic reviews and meta-analyses, submitted to any journal in *The Lancet* family must include a Research in context panel with an enhanced structure and subheadings (panel). Editors will use this information at the first assessment stage and

# **Leaving things out**

Selective reporting =

- 1. Hiding whole trials (classical publication bias)
- 2. Hiding (or distorting) information from trials which are published
- 3. Spin: Interpretations which have nothing to do with the trial results

Striving for quality:
Trial registration as basis for transparency



EU Clinical Trials Register

CT not WHO Primary Registry

# Declaration of Helsinki 2013

"Research Registration and Publication and Dissemination of Results

- 35.Every research study involving human subjects must be **registered** in a publicly accessible database before recruitment of the first subject.
- 36.Researchers, authors, sponsors, editors and publishers all have ethical obligations with regard to the **publication** and dissemination of the results of research. Researchers have a duty

. . . . . . . .

# The Cochrane Collaboration (since 1993)

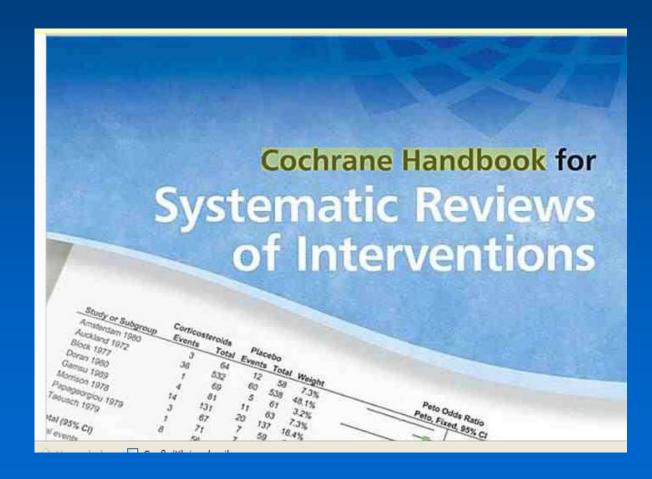


Trusted evidence. Informed decisions. Better health

Independent network of 36000+ contributors from science and health professions

# **Systematic Reviews Leading principle: Minimizing bias**

Risk of Bias



Current record count for the Cochrane Library

# **The Cochrane Library**

free searching and abstracts

updating system

**Cochrane** is

**Total Records** 

9520

955,738

15,764

36,795

16,372

15,015

# a charity under UK law

member of WH assembly

organized globally in entities

78

9668

992236

**Today** 

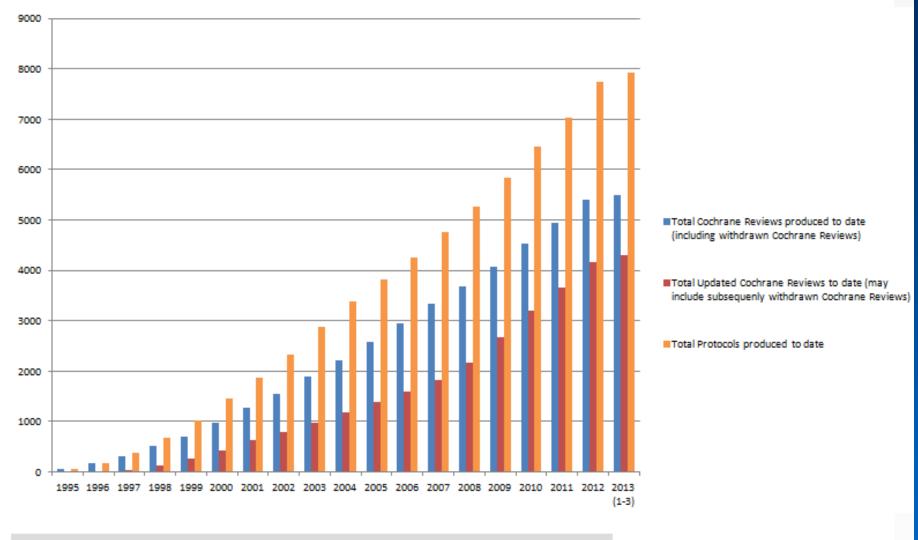
Cochrane Library Counts September 2016

7004 reviews 2516 protocols

Impact Factor 2015: 6.103 (vorläufig)

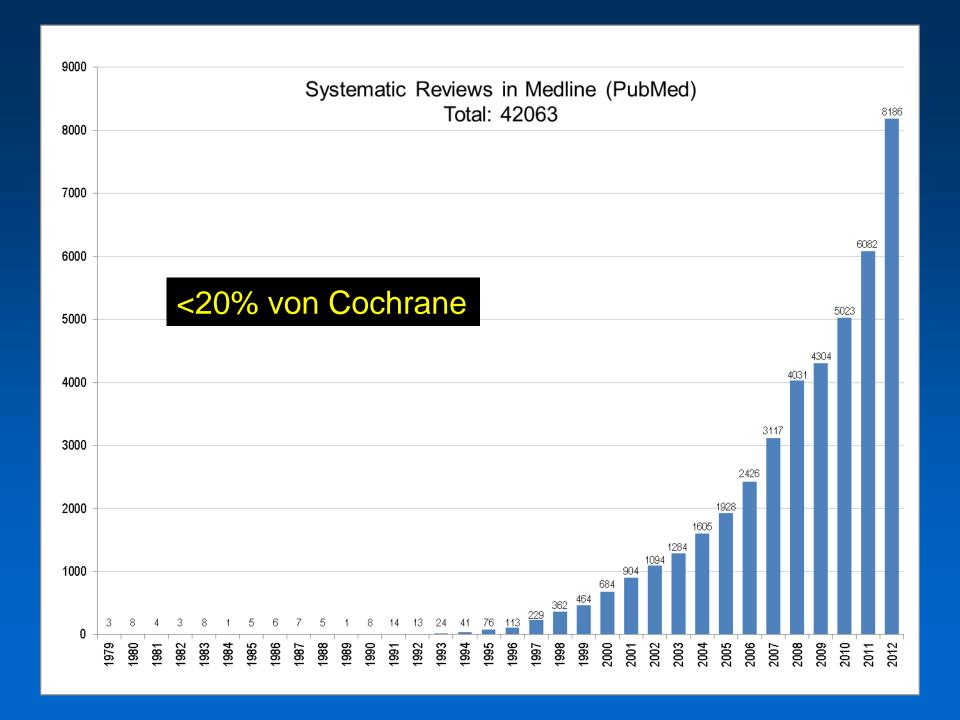
Cochrane Editorials

114



Cochrane Reviews can be withdrawn from the active database when they become out of date or are replaced by new Cochrane Reviews in a similar subject area.

# Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews:



Knowledge accumulation: backfiring?

nome 🔻 me mitoank Quarterty 🔻 current issue

#### THE MILBANK QUARTERLY

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF POPULATION HEALTH AND HEALTH POLICY Commentary M. J. Page D. Moher

Blog Pubmed Commons

<u>Archive Search</u> > <u>Volume 94, Issue 3, 2016</u> > The Mass Production of Redundant, Misleading, and ...

Original Investigation

THE MASS PRODUCTION OF REDUNDANT, MISLEADING, AND CONFLICTED SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS AND META-ANALYSES

#### **Policy Points:**

- Currently, there is massive production of unnecessary, misleading, and conflicted systematic reviews and meta-analyses.
   Instead of promoting evidence-based medicine and health care, these instruments often serve mostly as easily produced publishable units or marketing tools.
- Suboptimal systematic reviews and meta-analyses can be harmful given the major prestige and influence these types of studies have acquired.
- The publication of systematic reviews and meta-analyses should be realigned to remove biases and vested interests and to integrate them better with the primary production of evidence.

Systems of wrong incentives, agendas driven by science and scientists' careers, maldevelopment of journals...

A new enemy?
Open access, data sharing . . .

# List of Predatory Publishers 2014

By Jeffrey Beall

Released January 2, 2014

The gold (author pays) open-access model has given rise to a great many new online publishers. Many of these publishers are corrupt and exist only to make money off the author processing charges that are billed to authors upon acceptance of their scientific manuscripts.

There are two lists below. The first includes questionable, scholarly open-access publishers. Each of these publishers has a portfolio that ranges from just a few to hundreds of individual journal titles.

The second list includes individual journals that do not publish under the platform of any publisher — they are essentially standalone, questionable journals.

RE	ALL'S	LIST of PREDATORY
	0	oen
	acc	LICHERC
	PUB	LISHERS

2016

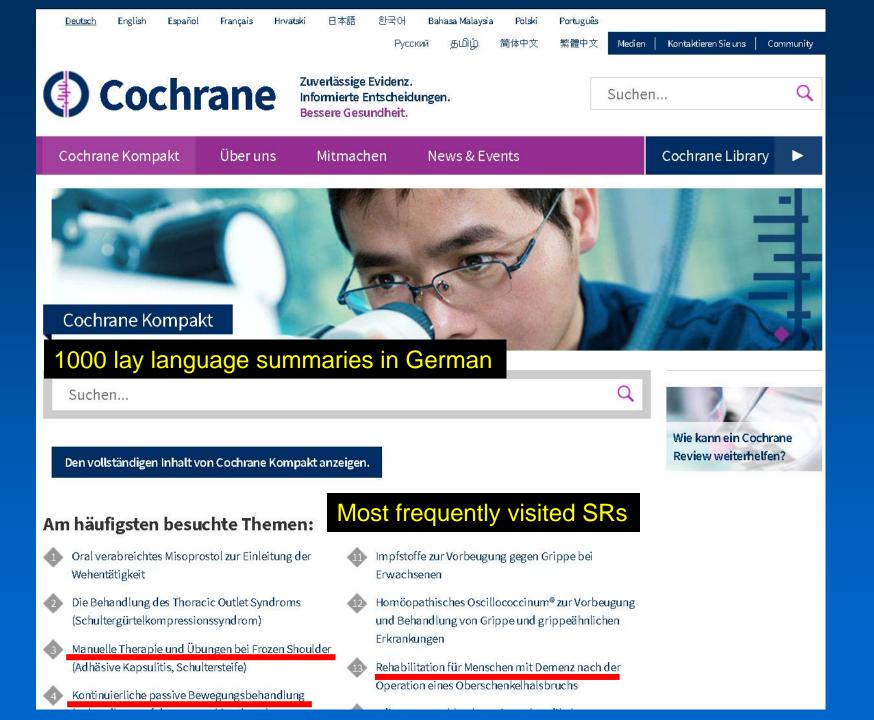
	- O				
Publishers					
Year	Number of				
	publishers				
2011	18				
2012	23				
2013	225				
2014	477				
2015	693				
2016	923				

Old: The poor can't read

New: The poor can't write

Number of predatory publishers, 2011-2016.

A strong barrier: language



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Schweizer erhalten kostenfreien Zugang zur Cochrane Library













# Schweizer erhalten kostenfreien Zugang zur Cochrane Library

Donnerstag, 7. Januar 2016

Bern – Künftig können alle Schweizer – auch medizinische Laien – kostenfrei in der Cochrane Library recherchieren und sich mittels der dort zu findenden systematischen Reviews über Gesundheitsprobleme, ihre Diagnostik und Therapie informieren.

Möglich macht dies eine sogenannte Nationallizenz für die Cochrane Library, die für jeden Computer in der Schweiz gilt. Sie wird finanziert durch die Schweizerische Akademie der Medizinischen Wissenschaften (<u>SAMW</u>), das Bundesamt für Gesundheit (BAG) sowie durch Beiträge von Universitätsbibliotheken und Spitälern. Das Netzwerk "Cochrane" erstellt seit über 20 Jahren systematische Reviews, in denen die Forschungsergebnisse zu Fragen der Gesundheitsversorgung zusammengefasst werden. Diese Reviews sind international als Qualitätsstandard anerkannt und geben den aktuellen Wissensstand wieder.



#### Forschung



- Schweizer erhalten kostenfreien Zugang zur Cochrane Library
- Internetportal: Schneller Weg für Patienten zur klinischen Studie
- Marburger Bund fordert Mindest-Vertragslaufzeiten für Forschernachwuchs

#### Schweiz



Schweizer erhalten kostenfreien Zugang zur Coch-

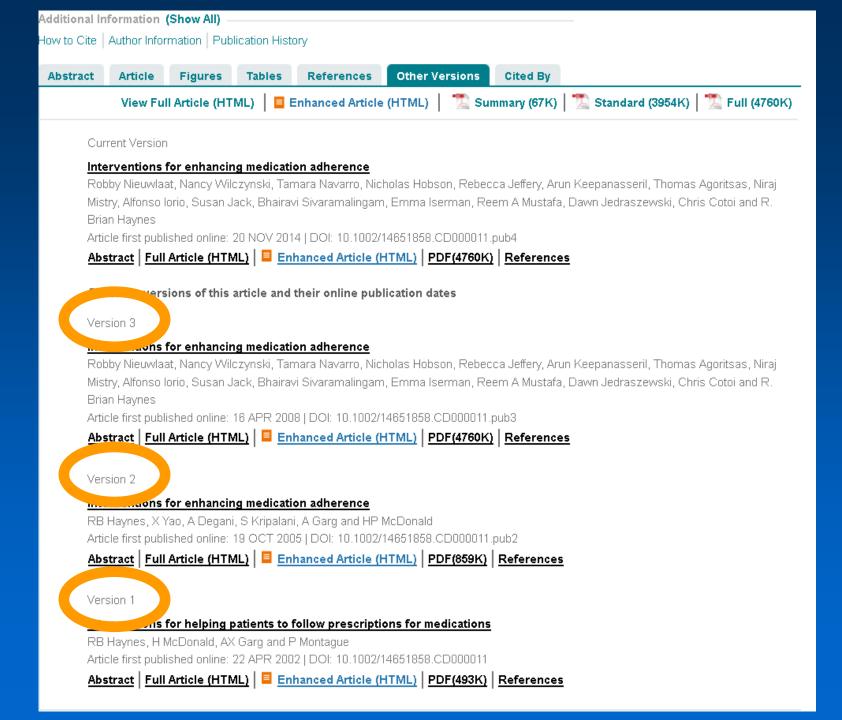
Links

The biggest challenge: Updating

# Research Methods & Reporting When and how to update systematic reviews: consensus and checklist BMJ 2016; 354 doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.i3507 (Published 20 July 2016) Cite this as: BMJ 2016;354:i3507 Article Related content Metrics Responses Peer review This article has a correction. Please see: Errata - September 06, 2016 Paul Garner, professor 1, Sally Hopewell, associate professor 2, Jackie Chandler, methods coordinator 3, Harriet

Updating of systematic reviews is generally more efficient than starting all over again when new evidence emerges, but to date there has been no clear guidance on how to do this. This guidance helps authors of systematic reviews, commissioners, and editors decide when to update a systematic review, and then how to go about updating the review.

The solution?
Living Systematic Reviews: An Emerging Opportunity
to Narrow the Evidence-Practice Gap



# **Summary**

- Systematic reviews as key technology knowledge accumulation to provide evidence for medical decisions
- Cochrane is an international network to support the production of systematic reviews and to develop rigorous methodology







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