Midyear report on Cochrane Rehabilitation activities 2018

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For the first 6 months of 2018 Cochrane Rehabilitation has been working to carry out all the actions started in 2017 and has started new initiatives related to Knowledge Translation across all fields of rehabilitation.

Cochrane Rehabilitation signed in 2017 Memorandums of Understanding with the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) and with the European Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ESPRM). In 2018, two more agreements were signed: one with the Croatian Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) and the other with the European Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine. Furthermore, it has already been planned to sign, during the 12th ISPRM World Congress the next July in Paris a Memorandum of Understanding with the World Federation of NeuroRehabilitation (WFNR) and discussions are ongoing with the Belgian, Italian, German, French and Dutch PRM societies, as well as with the Association of Academic Physiatrists (AAP), for the signature of similar agreements.

All the five committees of Cochrane Rehabilitation have been working hard to pursue their goals:

The Reviews committee has developed a database of all the Cochrane Reviews of rehabilitation interest, listed for health conditions and for professionals. The database contains all the reviews from 1996, the year of publication of the first Cochrane review, till the 1st June of 2017. The database is available on Cochrane Rehabilitation website (http://rehabilitation.cochrane.org/evidence).

The Publication Committee is defining new agreements to publish Cochrane Corners with many international PRM journals and rehabilitation journals: till now agreements with the American Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and with NeuroRehabilitation have been finalized. The committee sent out a call to recruit potential authors (19 at the moment), with experience in the different areas of rehabilitation, to edit summaries on Cochrane reviews that will be published in the Cochrane Corners.

The Education Committee organized a workshop during ESPRM Congress in Vilnius on May 5 and another workshop that will be held during ISPRM World Congress on July 8. A call has been launched to find contributors for the creation of evidence based medicine (EBM) educational material to be available for all members on the Cochrane Rehabilitation website (https://rehabilitation.cochrane.org/resources/education-and-training).

The Methodology committee is producing papers on methodological issues in rehabilitation research. The committee applied for and received a Catalyst Grant from New Zealand to produce a series of 12 papers on methodology in rehabilitation: the first drafts of these papers will be discussed during an experts’ meeting in Paris on July 6 and 7 July before being published on the European Journal of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine. The Committee is also working on a paper on the “Pros and Cons of Randomised Controlled Trials in rehabilitation”. Agreements are under development with other Journals for possible Special Sections on Methodology in Rehabilitation research.

The Communication Committee is constantly working updating our website (https://rehabilitation.cochrane.org/) with all the relevant information regarding the Field work and the evidence in Rehabilitation. In an attempt to reach as many people as possible, information are also posted on different social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and Instagram. The Committee members are also producing a monthly newsletter. The committee has launched in January a new project in collaboration with Cochrane UK to produce and spread via social media blogshots on the newly published

Trusted evidence.
Informed decisions.
Better health.

Cochrane Rehabilitation community is constantly growing. We can count 319 contributors, 522 newsletter subscribers, 31 followers on Instagram, 54 subscribers on the Youtube channel where there are 28 videos, 1,000 followers on Twitter and 1,648 on Facebook.

The next important step is to start the translation process of all the contents of Cochrane Rehabilitation: website, newsletter and blogshots.

Cochrane Rehabilitation has just started the production in collaboration with the European Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Bodies (Academy, Society, Section and Board of the European Union of Medical Specialists) of an eBook that will collect all the Cochrane reviews of rehabilitation interest organized with a complete index. The contents will be presented with different summaries to reach 4 audiences: clinicians, students, politicians/health managers and patients. This exercise will also allow to identify the areas not yet covered by the existing Cochrane Reviews (prioritization exercise for future review production).

Finally, Cochrane Rehabilitation is greatly involved in the development of the Knowledge Translation (KT) Strategy of Cochrane. The Director is part of the Cochrane KT Advisory Board, while members of the Executive Committee are involved in the following 6 KT Working Packages (out of the 8 existing): Embed Prioritization, Build KT infrastructure and KT capacity, Multi-lingual strategies, Grow capacity in our users, Formalize strategic partnerships, Evaluate the KT Framework.