## () Cochrane

Multi-language Activities: Annual Report 2020


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## Introduction

This report offers an overview of 2020 translation statistics and multi-language activities to highlight the achievements of Cochrane's translation teams.

In 2020, the Croatian, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Persian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Thai, and Traditional Chinese teams continued translating and disseminating Cochrane evidence in different languages on a regular basis.

## 2020 highlights

## Website access statistics, published translations, and number of translators

- We had more than $\mathbf{6 8 . 5}$ million translation page views on cochrane.org in 2020 (compared to 62.8 million in 2019) which is a $9.1 \%$ year-on-year (YOY) growth. This is $82 \%$ of all cochrane.org page views (up from $81 \%$ in 2019). So, access to translated content has increased in terms of absolute numbers, but also relative to English content.
- More than $\mathbf{4 5}$ million cochrane.org visitors used a browser in a language other than English in 2020 (compared to 40.5 million in 2019) which is an 11.9\% YOY growth. In both 2020 and 2019 these visits constituted $77 \%$ of all visits to the Cochrane.org website.
- Collectively, our translation teams published more than 9,594 new or updated review abstract and/or plain language summary translations in 2020 (compared to 6,375 in 2019).
- By the end of 2020, we have published 33,962 review summary translations in total (compared to 29,482 in 2019).
- 401 volunteer translators joined our teams in 2020, compared to 395 in 2019. In total, 1,471 translators are now registered on our translation management system, Memsource, out of which 639 have been active in 2020. Some languages have a lot more volunteer translators than others.


## Projects and developments in our multi-language teams

- A major focus for all language teams in 2020 was the translation and dissemination of COVID-19 related review summaries, special collections and more, as well as contributing to the COVID-19 response in other ways:
- Cochrane France: Mapping 'real-time' evidence about COVID-19
- Cochrane Germany: Working together to share research evidence
- Cochrane Portugal: Sharing high quality evidence in newsletters
- Cochrane China: Shaping and sharing COVID-19 evidence with social media
- Cochrane Mexico: Evidence to guide paediatric COVID-19 patient care
- At the start of the pandemic, we quickly developed a workflow to enable publication of Special Collections in different languages on the Cochrane.org website to support the uptake of COVID-19 evidence as a temporary solution. At the same time, we started developing the technological infrastructure and workflow to publish translated Special Collections in languages other than English and Spanish on the Cochrane Library for the very first time.
- Cochrane Iberoamerica systematically updated a backlog of around 3,400 outdated Spanish translations between October 2019 and June 2020.
- Estudiantes por la Mejor Evidencia (the Spanish version of Students for Best Evidence) launched in November 2020.
- Cochrane France analysed translated abstracts and identified ambiguous English structures and terms that are difficult to translate and uses this information to train and support their volunteer translators.
- Cochrane Croatia published a paper on the efficacy of reminders for increasing volunteer engagement in translating Cochrane plain language summaries.
- Cochrane Russia published a study assessing human post-editing effort to compare performance of three machine translation engines for English to Russian translation of Cochrane plain language summaries.
- Translations of the Methodological Expectations of Cochrane Intervention Reviews (MECIR) Manual have been published in Japanese and Spanish.
- Cochrane Russia, Germany, and Croatia worked on the translation and localisation of the Evidence Essentials training modules.
- In October 2020, Malaysia received a National License making the Cochrane Library freely available across Malaysia.
- The "Join Cochrane" section on Cochrane.org was newly designed and updated. The process included a 4-week period to allow time for translations before launching in December 2020.
- The Cochrane Library now automatically detects people's preferred language using their browser language setting to help find available evidence in their language.


## Translated COVID-19 evidence

## Highlights from access to translated COVID-19 evidence in 2020

- In total across all languages, translated Cochrane Review summaries related to COVID-19 received 2,265,360 page views on Cochrane.org and 420,414 page views on the Cochrane Library.
- In total across all languages, translated Special Collections received 269,094 page views on Cochrane.org and 106,178 page views on the Cochrane Library.
- Signs and symptoms to determine if a patient presenting in primary care or hospital outpatient settings has COVID-19 disease was the most accessed COVID19 related review on the Cochrane Library with $90 \%$ of all access ( 239,215 views) going to the Malay language page. On Cochrane.org, about 78\% (169,231 views) of all users accessed the Malay version of this review.
- The most accessed COVID-19 related review on Cochrane.org was Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 with 1,666,618 views overall-out of which 25\% were Spanish views, 24\% Russian, and 23\% Persian.
- On Cochrane.org, $56 \%$ ( 258,122 views) of all access to Convalescent plasma or hyperimmune immunoglobulin for people with COVID-19: a living systematic review was going to the Spanish language version of the review.
- The Special Collection Coronavirus (COVID-19): infection control and prevention measures has been the most accessed Special Collection related to COVID-19 with Malay ( 93,575 views on Cochrane.org and the Cochrane Library combined) being the most accessed language after English.


## Translated Cochrane Review summaries related to COVID-19 up to the end of 2020:

- Care bundles for improving outcomes in patients with COVID-19 or related conditions in intensive care - a rapid scoping review (2 languages)
- Measures implemented in the school setting to contain the COVID-19 pandemic: a scoping review (4 languages)
- Thoracic imaging tests for the diagnosis of COVID-19 (8 languages)
- Physical interventions to interrupt or reduce the spread of respiratory viruses (13 languages)
- Routine laboratory testing to determine if a patient has COVID-19 (4 languages)
- Interventions to support the resilience and mental health of frontline health and social care professionals during and after a disease outbreak, epidemic or pandemic: a mixed methods systematic review (6 languages)
- Interventions to reduce contaminated aerosols produced during dental procedures for preventing infectious diseases (4 languages)
- Convalescent plasma or hyperimmune immunoglobulin for people with COVID-19: a living systematic review (11 languages)
- Prophylactic anticoagulants for people hospitalised with COVID-19 (7 languages)
- Use of antimicrobial mouthwashes (gargling) and nasal sprays by healthcare workers to protect them when treating patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 (5 languages)
- Antimicrobial mouthwashes (gargling) and nasal sprays administered to patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection to protect healthcare workers treating them (7 languages)
- Antimicrobial mouthwashes (gargling) and nasal sprays to protect healthcare workers when undertaking aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) on patients without suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection (7 languages)
- Travel-related control measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic: a rapid review (11 languages)
- Universal screening for people with COVID-19: a rapid review (8 languages)
- Quarantine alone or in combination with other public health measures to control COVID-19: a rapid review (14 languages)
- Oxygen targets in the intensive care unit during mechanical ventilation for acute respiratory distress syndrome: a rapid review (10 languages)
- Rapid, point-of-care antigen and molecular-based tests for diagnosis of SARS-CoV2 infection (10 languages)
- Digital contact tracing technologies in epidemics: a rapid review (9 languages)
- Interventions commonly available during pandemics for heavy menstrual bleeding: an overview of Cochrane Reviews (8 languages)
- Signs and symptoms to determine if a patient presenting in primary care or hospital outpatient settings has COVID-19 disease (13 languages)
- Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (12 languages)
- Video calls for reducing social isolation and loneliness in older people: a rapid review (11 languages)
- Hand cleaning with ash for reducing the spread of viral and bacterial infections: a rapid review (11 languages)
- Barriers and facilitators to healthcare workers' adherence with infection prevention and control (IPC) guidelines for respiratory infectious diseases: a rapid qualitative evidence synthesis (11 languages)
- Personal protective equipment for preventing highly infectious diseases due to exposure to contaminated body fluids in healthcare staff (14 languages)


## Special Collections related to COVID-19:

- Evidence relevant to critical care (11 languages)
- Infection control and prevention measures (11 languages)
- Effective options for quitting smoking during the pandemic (11 languages)
- Regional anaesthesia to reduce drug use in anaesthesia and avoid aerosol generation (11 languages)
- Remote care through telehealth (9 languages)
- Optimizing health in the home workspace (9 languages)
- Support for wellbeing in the healthcare workforce (11 languages)
- Coronavirus (COVID-19): evidence relevant to clinical rehabilitation (10 languages)


## Access to cochrane．org

## Cochrane．org visits by country： 2020 and 2019 comparison

The lists below show the top 20 countries with the most people visiting the cochrane．org website in 2020 and 2019 respectively．While there has been some movement in the top 20 countries accessing cochrane．org，they continue to reflect largely the languages we translate our evidence into．Visits from different countries have increased substantially overall and for many individual countries．Particularly Russia，Ukraine，and Kazakhstan have seen enormous increases and moved up in the ranks．Iran also moved from $77^{\text {th }}$ position and about 50，000 visits in 2019 to $15^{\text {th }}$ position and more than 1.2 million visits in 2020，following the addition of Persian to the cochrane．org website in October 2019.

| 1．［1］Mexico | 5，849，671（10．35\％） |  | 1．$\\|$ M Mexico | 5，476，655（10．90\％） |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2．Russia | 4，965，522 | （8．79\％） | 2．United States | 3，889，763 | （7．74\％） |
| 3．圆 United States | 4，104，887 | （7．26\％） | 3．Russia | 3，556，760 | （7．08\％） |
| 4． $\mathbb{1}$ France | 3，234，454 | （5．72\％） | 4．Brazil | 3，552，971 | （7．07\％） |
| 5．Brazil | 3，206，081 | （5．67\％） | 5．$\llbracket$ France | 3，147，218 | （6．27\％） |
| 6． I Spain $^{\text {a }}$ | 2，773，962 | （4．91\％） | 6．Z Spain | 2，772，798 | （5．52\％） |
| 7．－Japan | 2，220，146 | （3．93\％） | 7．－Japan | 2，202，096 | （4．38\％） |
| 8．Colombia | 2，179，739 | （3．86\％） | 8．Argentina | 2，039，766 | （4．06\％） |
| 9．Ukraine | 2，046，717 | （3．62\％） | 9．Colombia | 2，025，138 | （4．03\％） |
| 10．$\square$ Argentina | 2，031，764 | （3．59\％） | 10．Chile | 1，501，187 | （2．99\％） |
| 11．【．Peru | 1，537，601 | （2．72\％） | 11．【】 Peru | 1，349，263 | （2．69\％） |
| 12．Chile | 1，503，059 | （2．66\％） | 12．United Kingdom | 1，339，638 | （2．67\％） |
| 13．國 Germany | 1，426，615 | （2．52\％） | 13．Ukraine | 1，242，755 | （2．47\％） |
| 14．Malaysia | 1，272，719 | （2．25\％） | 14．${ }^{\text {a }}$ Germany | 1，156，379 | （2．30\％） |
| 15．${ }^{\text {P }}$ Iran | 1，253，051 | （2．22\％） | 15．Malaysia | 1，092，823 | （2．18\％） |
| 16．United Kingdom | 1，249，872 | （2．21\％） | 16．【• Canada | 899，910 | （1．79\％） |
| 17．India | 988，060 | （1．75\％） | 17．India | 897，778 | （1．79\％） |
| 18．【• Canada | 840，762 | （1．49\％） | 18．Poland | 602，481 | （1．20\％） |
| 19．$\square$ Kazakhstan | 734，234 | （1．30\％） | 19．Ecuador | 594，724 | （1．18\％） |
| 20．Ecuador | 725，241 | （1．28\％） | 20．Venezuela | 574，536 | （1．14\％） |

## 2020 top 20 countries

## Translation page views on cochrane.org

The graphs below show how many cochrane.org pages per language were accessed in 2020 overall and each quarter in 2020 respectively. In total, we had 68.5 million translation page views on cochrane.org in 2020 ( $9.1 \%$ year-on-year growth), which is $82 \%$ of all page views - compared to 62.8 million and $81 \%$ in 2019. Even though the overall increase has been less significant than in previous years, access to translated content has slightly increased in terms of absolute numbers, but also relative to English content.


Languages marked with * focus on PLS translations; other languages translate the abstract \& PLS.

## Cochrane.org visits by web browser language

In 2020, more than 45 million cochrane.org visitors (11.9\% YOY growth) used a browser in a language we translate into, which is $77 \%$ of all visits - compared to close to 40 million and $77 \%$ in 2019.


Languages marked with * focus on PLS translations; other languages translate the abstract \& PLS.

## Access to the Cochrane Library

In 2020, access to the Cochrane Library by country has substantially increased for several countries speaking languages that we translate into compared to 2019. For example, access from Malaysia has increased by more than 130\%. Access from countries including Mexico, Germany, Colombia, France, Peru, Ecuador, Hong Kong, and Poland has increased by $15-45 \%$. A similar increase can be seen for access by browser language: while the access numbers for visitors with English browser language have mostly decreased, access by visitors with many other browser languages has increased. It is not clear if it is linked specifically or only to the translations as it could also be linked to the fact that the Cochrane Library was accessible without restriction between March and June and different promotion activities during the pandemic, or to improved search engine ranking of the Cochrane Library to people speaking different languages.
An overview of 2020 access to the Cochrane Library by country, browser language, and translated content is available at the end of the document.

## Cochrane Review translations

Due to limited resources, our translation teams focus on translating the Plain Language Summary (PLS) and/or the abstract of Cochrane Reviews. Each team prioritizes reviews relevant to their local context and according to their resources. Note: The numbers provided below include translations that have become out-of-date following a review update but that have not been updated yet.

## Total number of published review translations

At the end of 2020, our translation teams had published more than 33,962 review summary translations in total (compared to 29,482 at the end of 2019). The below graphs show a steady increase in total translations published year by year.

Some of our translation projects crossed notable milestones in 2020:

- Spanish crossed 8,000 review translations,
- French 6,000 abstract and PLS translation,
- German 2,000 PLS translations,
- Japanese 2,000 PLS translations,
- Portuguese 1,000 abstract and PLS translations, and
- Simplified Chinese 1,000 abstract and PLS translations.


Languages marked with * focus on PLS translations; other languages translate the abstract \& PLS.

## New or updated translations published in 2020

Collectively, our translation teams published more than 9,594 new or updated review abstract and/or plain language summary translations in 2020 (compared to 6,375 in 2019). In the first two quarters of 2020, the Spanish team systematically updated their backlog of outdated translations which explains the high increase in Spanish translations.


Languages marked with * focus on PLS translations; other languages translate the abstract \& PLS.

## Reviews with the most translations

At the end of 2020, the six most translated reviews were:

- Corticosteroids as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of influenza (14 languages)
- Acupuncture and related interventions for smoking cessation (13 languages)
- Vitamin C for preventing and treating the common cold (13 languages)
- Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community (13 languages)
- Personal protective equipment for preventing highly infectious diseases due to exposure to contaminated body fluids in healthcare staff (13 languages)
- Signs and symptoms to determine if a patient presenting in primary care or hospital outpatient settings has COVID-19 disease (13 languages)


## Overall:

- 124 reviews have up-to-date translations in 10 or more languages (compared to 24 in 2019)
- 258 reviews have up-to-date translations in 9 or more languages (63 in 2019)
- 512 reviews have up-to-date translations in 8 or more languages (165 in 2019)
- 914 reviews have up-to-date translations in 7 or more languages (363 in 2019)


## Cochrane Podcast translations

Some translation teams translate Cochrane Podcasts on a regular basis, including into Croatian, Russian, Simplified Chinese, and Spanish. In total, we published 39 English podcasts and 127 translated podcasts in 2020, compared to 186 in 2019.

## Podcasts published in 2020 by language:

- Croatian: 29
- English: 39
- German: 1
- Malay: 1
- Persian: 2
- Portuguese: 1
- Russian: 8
- Simplified Chinese: 36
- Spanish: 43


## Most listened to translated podcasts* during 2020:

* on the basis that the podcast player ran for at least $75 \%$ of the entire podcast.
- Betahistine for symptoms of vertigo in Persian
- Homocysteine-lowering interventions (B-complex vitamin therapy) for preventing cardiovascular events in Spanish
- Betahistine for symptoms of vertigo in Russian
- Cannabis products for adults with chronic neuropathic pain in Spanish
- Benefits and harms of methylphenidate for children and adolescents with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in Spanish

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