



**Cochrane  
Methods**

Trusted evidence.  
Informed decisions.  
Better health.

# Welcome



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Informed decisions.  
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## Welcome from Ella Flemyng, Cochrane's Methods Implementation Manager



I'm delighted to welcome you to the [Cochrane Methods Network](#), a growing international community of researchers, methodologists and others with an interest in Cochrane methods and evidence.

Robust and innovative methods are the lynchpin of Cochrane and remain the basis of its reputation as the home of high-quality systematic reviews. The future sustainability of the organisation is reliant on Cochrane's ability to attract and work closely with a diverse community of pioneering methodologists and to ensure that methods are implemented wisely and accurately in Cochrane Reviews.

I hope that you will find your involvement with the Cochrane Methods Network rewarding and stimulating.

## Welcome from Karla Soares Weiser, Cochrane's Editor-in-Chief



I am so pleased you have joined the Cochrane Methods Network.

We hope this group will be an active, international collaboration within the Cochrane methods community.

Cochrane is known for the quality and rigor of our reviews, together with the methodological standards we have set and the innovation we have fostered in this area. A strategic goal of Cochrane going forward is to maintain and enhance these methodological standards, while supporting the efficient production of relevant reviews.

I am thrilled that the Cochrane Methods Network will be a part of this important work, and I welcome you to the group.

## What is Cochrane?

Cochrane is for anyone with an interest in using high quality evidence to make informed health decisions.

Cochrane is an independent, not-for-profit organisation, with 11,000 members and over 67,000 supporters from more than 130 countries. We've been gathering and summarising the best evidence from research for 25 years.

You can find out more about Cochrane [here](#).

*“Cochrane is an enterprise that rivals the Human Genome Project in its potential implications for modern medicine.” The Lancet*





## What is the Cochrane Methods Network?

The [Cochrane Methods Network](#) is a community of researchers, methodologists and others interested in evidence synthesis methods relevant to Cochrane Reviews.

This Network is essential to Cochrane. It involves authors, peer reviewers, editors and advisers through defined roles, such as Statisticians and Information Specialists within Cochrane Review Groups, and in existing methods structures such as Methods Groups, the Methods Executive and the Scientific Committee. Each Cochrane Methods Group is dedicated to a specific method or review type relevant to Cochrane Reviews. Methods Groups are usually led by a small group of senior and experienced methodologists with a wider membership of experienced and/or interested researchers. Cochrane's Methods Network is the combined membership from across all of the Methods Groups. Altogether, the various structures and roles bring together a broad church of methodologists drawn from different disciplines and backgrounds.

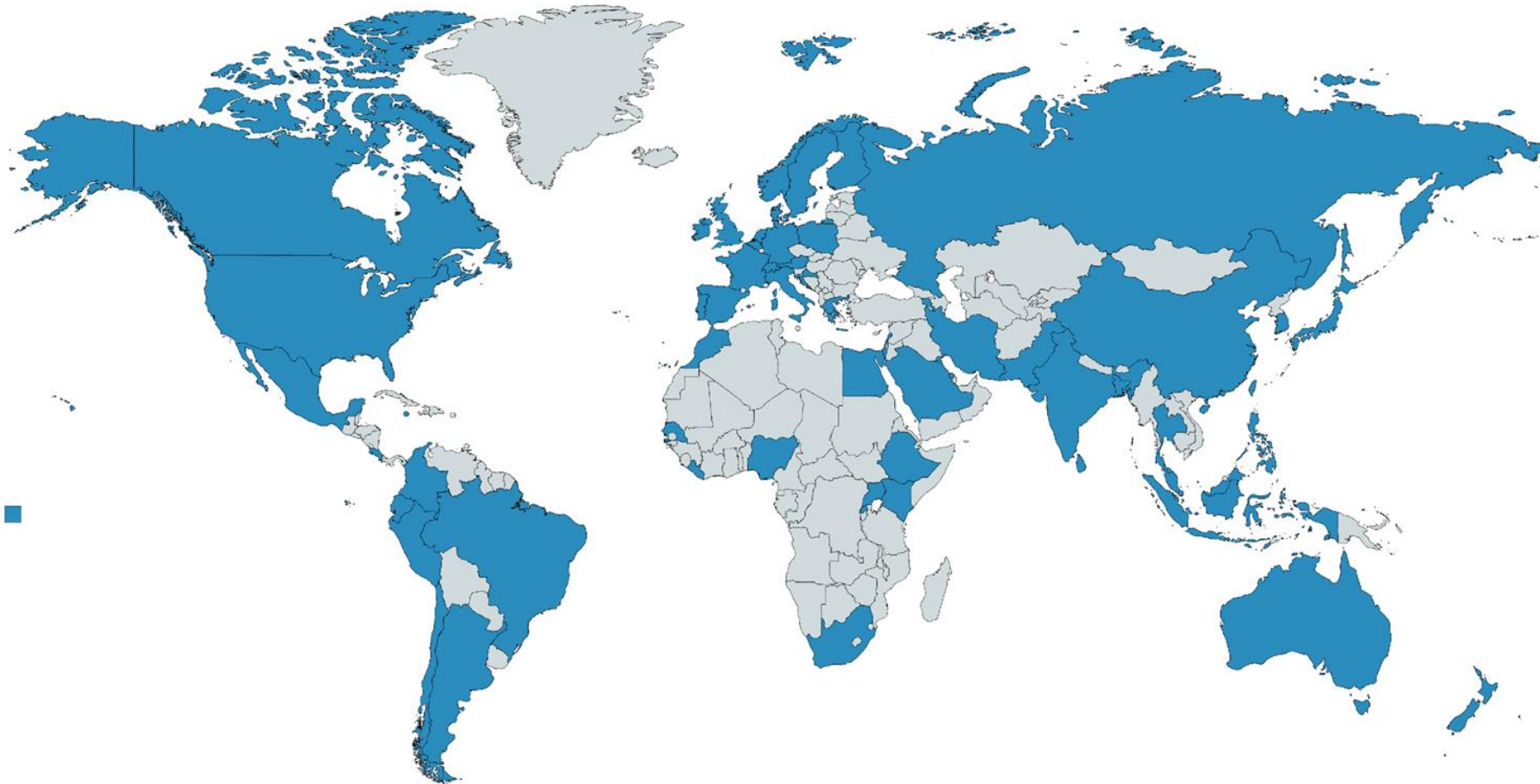
## Cochrane Methods Groups

Cochrane's Methods Network is the combined membership from across all of the Methods Groups.



## An international Methods Network

The [Cochrane Methods Network](#) is a growing community of researchers, methodologists and others interested in Cochrane Methods, currently over 2,400 strong, and from over 65 countries. The Network has a formal role in Cochrane with two elected members representing the Network on the Cochrane Council. These members also serve on the [Cochrane Methods Executive](#) group who lead and advise on methods related activities and developments across Cochrane.



## Membership of the Network means that you can:

- Learn more about Cochrane Methods, new developments and future priorities
- Receive updates on methods-related activities in Cochrane, as well as sign-up for Methods Group specific newsletters, where available (see next page)
- Join a community of like-minded contributors with opportunities for online networking
- Benefit from personal development opportunities and training
- Earn Cochrane Membership through your contributions to our work
- Vote in elections for the methods representative on the Cochrane Council and if you have earned full Cochrane Membership through your contributions, you can stand for the methods representative position on the Cochrane Council
- Get involved in methods related tasks, activities and projects across Cochrane. There's something for everyone.



## Keep up to date!

Sign-up to newsletters that are of interest to you and don't miss out on what's new.

On the [Communications](#) page of your Cochrane Account, sign-up for the relevant Cochrane Newsletters that you'd like to receive.

The following Methods Groups have their own newsletters - sign-up via the links to receive the newsletters):

- [Bias Methods Group](#)
- [Equity Methods Group](#)
- [Rapid Reviews Group](#)

The following Methods Groups have a discussion lists - sign-up via the links to join email discussions or swap relevant resources with other members:

- [Information Retrieval](#)

You can access relevant Cochrane platforms and resources through your [Cochrane Account](#). We recommend you keep your interests up-to-date on your [Profile](#) page, including:

- Add Methodology to your Health topics
- Select your Methodological interests
- Select your Activity interests

The screenshot shows the Cochrane Account dashboard for user Ella. At the top right, there are links for "Training" and "Cochrane Library". The main header includes navigation tabs: "Home", "My Profile", "Communications", "Contributions", "Membership", "Students", and "Roles". Below the header, a welcome message reads "Welcome to your Cochrane Account, Ella." There are four featured cards: "Screen health evidence with Cochrane Crowd" (with a laptop icon), "Contribute your skills and experience through TaskExchange" (with a group of people icon), "Learn about health evidence with Cochrane Evidence Essentials" (with a globe icon), and "Find other ways to contribute to Cochrane" (with a globe icon). A link for "Need help with anything? Visit our Help and Support Centre" is provided. Below this is a section for "Cochrane resources" with eight icons and labels: Evidence Essentials, Training, Handbook, Forums, Crowd, TaskExchange, Interactive Learning, and Consumer Network.

Training | Cochrane Library

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Home My Profile Communications Contributions Membership Students Roles

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Cochrane resources

Evidence Essentials Training Handbook Forums Crowd TaskExchange Interactive Learning Consumer Network



## Where can I find out about training?

Cochrane Training organises and hosts a huge amount of training that is available to the community, including online learning, learning events, and guides and handbooks (some free, some paid for). You can find out more [here](#).



## How can I get involved?

You can get involved in Cochrane Reviews as peer reviewer, adviser and, in some cases, as an author, by connecting with Cochrane Review Groups through [TaskExchange](#). Further opportunities through TaskExchange include specific methods-related tasks for Cochrane Review Groups, or involvement in Methods Group led projects.

Ensure your TaskExchange profile is up-to-date with your interests and experience. We advise that you link your TaskExchange profile to your ResearchGate, ORCID or other relevant profiles that showcase your experience.

More details about [TaskExchange](#) can be found on the website.

Completing these types of tasks will help you build points towards [full Cochrane Membership](#).



## How can I get involved?

Support the work of [Cochrane Methods Groups](#), [Cochrane Review Groups](#) and [Cochrane Fields](#)

You can also get in touch directly with a [Cochrane Methods Group](#), [Cochrane Review Group](#) or [Cochrane Field](#) in the area of your interest to see if there are opportunities for you to contribute.



## How can I get involved?

### Propose a title for a Cochrane Methodology Review

The Cochrane Methodology Review Group is the group responsible for Cochrane methodology reviews. These are a special type of Cochrane review, examining the evidence on methodological aspects of systematic reviews, trials and other evaluations of health and social care. More details are available [here](#).

Details on proposing and registering Cochrane Review titles can be found [here](#). Details on becoming an author can be found [here](#).



How can I get involved?

Vote in elections for the methods representative on the Cochrane Council.

If you have earned full Cochrane Membership through your contributions, stand for the methods representative position on the Cochrane Council.

You can find out more [here](#).





**How can I get involved?**

**Are you an early career professional?**

**Join the Early Career Professionals Cochrane Group. It provides its members with opportunities to enhance their knowledge, skills, and expertise by through a platform for international networking with early career professionals or other members in the Cochrane community.**

## Follow us online

Join the conversation on Twitter with [@CochraneMthds](https://twitter.com/CochraneMthds)

See our website: <https://methods.cochrane.org/>

## Contact information

If you have any questions, or comments, please email us at [methods@cochrane.org](mailto:methods@cochrane.org)

## And finally

We'll contact you again in three months with an optional satisfaction survey. It's also an opportunity for you to ask us any questions.

Thank you again for joining this growing worldwide community. It exists to support you, and also for you to be involved, and even to help run. Very best wishes!

## Visit the website of the different Methods Groups

Or, for the Methods Groups on Twitter, follow them

- Adverse Effects - [@CAEMG1](https://twitter.com/CAEMG1)
- Bias - [@CochraneBias](https://twitter.com/CochraneBias)
- Economics - [@C\\_CEMG](https://twitter.com/C_CEMG)
- Equity - [@CochraneEquity](https://twitter.com/CochraneEquity)
- Information Retrieval - [@CochraneIrmg](https://twitter.com/CochraneIrmg)
- Priority Setting - [@CAPSMG](https://twitter.com/CAPSMG)
- Qualitative and Implementation - [@CochraneQual](https://twitter.com/CochraneQual)
- Rapid Reviews - [@CochraneRRMG](https://twitter.com/CochraneRRMG)
- Screening and Diagnostic Tests - [@CochraneDTAteam](https://twitter.com/CochraneDTAteam)
- Statistics - [@CochraneStats](https://twitter.com/CochraneStats)

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