



WRITING USER ABSTRACTS FOR CAMPBELL REVIEWS

Campbell Collaboration Users Group (C2UG) Workshop
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and

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Two different story telling traditions Researchers



“Then we’ve agreed that all the evidence isn’t in, and that even if all the evidence were in, it still wouldn’t be definitive.”



Two different story telling traditions

Non-researchers (users, practitioners, policy-makers)



*“In the interest of streamlining the judicial process,
we’ll skip the evidence and go directly to sentencing.”*



CAMPBELL USER ABSTRACTS

- Official Campbell products
- Key activity in C2UG
- Allows for membership and voting rights in C2UG
- See more in “Policy Guiding the production of Campbell Collaboration User Abstracts”
- Detailed guide: “Guidelines for writing a Campbell Collaboration User Abstract”



FORMAL REQUIREMENTS

- All content in the User Abstract must have direct support in the review in question
- The User Abstract must be approved by the lead reviewer



PROCES

1. Select review in coordination with C2UG secretariat
2. Write the User Abstract
3. Get approval from lead reviewer
4. Upload on C2 website via C2UG secretariat
5. Contextualise and disseminate



TWO VERSIONS – TWO STEPS

Step 1: Non-contextualised abstract

Step 2: Contextualised abstract



NON-CONTEXTUALISED USER ABSTRACT

The abstract should:

- focus on the main findings in the review
- be written in a non-academic everyday language
- present the problem, the intervention and the results
- make a brief description of facts about the review
- not include local contextual information
- not exceed 6,000 characters (blank spaces included)



KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION THE BIG CHALLENGE

- What are the main findings?
- How to interpret results?
- How are results presented?
- What makes the result interesting?
- How to transform results into action – or closer to action?



WHAT ARE THE MAIN FINDINGS?

Review:

L. Mazerolle, D.W. Soole & S. Rombouts: *Street-level drug law enforcement – A meta-analytic review*. Campbell Collaboration 2007



HOW TO INTERPRET RESULTS?

Review:

Turner W, Macdonald GM, Dennis JA: *Behavioural and cognitive behavioural training interventions for assisting foster carers in the management of difficult behaviour*. Campbell Collaboration 2007. The review is also published in Cochrane Library.

RESULTS – what does the statistics say?

- Six trials with 463 foster carers
- 21 outcome variables
 - 17 outcomes no difference between treatment group and control group
 - 3 outcomes measuring child psychopathology and child attachment disorders were worse in treatment group than in control
 - 1 outcome measuring foster parents` CBT-knowledge was better in treatment group than in control

RESULTS – what does the reviewers conclude?

- *Behavioural and cognitive behavioural training interventions for assisting foster carers in the management of difficult behaviour - no strong evidence yet.*
- *Results suggest little evidence of effect...*
- *The results provide no evidence that training foster carers in cognitive-behavioural methods has a significant impact on psychological functioning of looked after children, their behavioural profile or their interpersonal functioning*
- *It is difficult to offer practice guidelines and recommendations based on results from these six studies. Training interventions... appear to have very little effect on outcomes relating to looked-after children...Results relating to foster carer(s) outcomes also show no evidence of effectiveness...*



HOW ARE RESULTS PRESENTED?

Review:

Mitchell O., Wilson D., MacKenzie D: *The effectiveness of Incarceration-Based Drug Treatment on Criminal Behaviour.*
Campbell Collaboration 2006



AN INTERESTING RESULT?

Reviewers' conclusions

No evidence from randomised controlled trials or quasi-randomised controlled trials exists regarding the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioural interventions for gang prevention. [...] Reviewers conclude there is an urgent need for rigorous primary evaluations of cognitive-behavioural interventions for gang prevention to develop this research field and guide future gang prevention programmes and policies.

Fisher, H, Gardner FEM, Montgomery P: *Cognitive-behavioural interventions for preventing youth gang involvement for children and young people (7-16)*. Campbell Collaboration 2008.

Reviewers' conclusions

No evidence from randomised controlled trials or quasi-randomised controlled trials currently exists regarding the effectiveness of opportunities provision for gang prevention. [...] Rigorous primary evaluations of gang prevention strategies are crucial to develop this research field, justify funding of existing interventions, and guide future gang prevention programmes and policies.

Fisher, H, Gardner FEM, Montgomery P: *Opportunities provision for preventing youth gang involvement for children and young people (7-16)*. Campbell Collaboration 2008.



WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING RESULT?

Review

Mark W. Lipsey, Nana A. Landenberger, Sandra J. Wilson:
Effects of Cognitive-Behavioral Programs for Criminal Offenders.
Campbell Collaboration 2007



WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING RESULT?

WELL-IMPLEMENTED COGNITIVE-BEHAVIOURAL THERAPY HALVES THE RECIDIVISM OF CRIMINAL OFFENDERS

Cognitive-behavioural therapy can prevent criminal offenders from continuing their criminal careers. However, some treatment programmes work better than others. A new Campbell review shows that a small number of factors make the difference. It is particularly important for the programmes to be stringently implemented, by well-trained providers. No significant differences were found in the effectiveness of the different types of programmes or “brand names”. Whether the treatment is implemented in prison or in the community has no influence on the outcome.



WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING RESULT?

Newspaper headlines:

VICTIM CONFRONTATION ONLY MAKE
MATTERS WORSE

and

VICTIMS INCREASE CRIME



WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING RESULT?

Now the press wanted to know:

- a) Why?
- b) How big is the effect?



Step 2

CONTEXTIALISATION OF USER ABSTRACTS

- Add comments from a local practitioner
- Add box with local facts on the problem, intervention etc.
- Adjust to your organisation's layout (with proper references)



USER ABSTRACTS AVAILABLE NOW

at the C2UG-website (<http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/UGindex.asp>)

Well-implemented cognitive-behavioural therapy halves the recidivism of criminal offenders

Review: *Effects of Cognitive-Behavioral Programs for Criminal Offenders.*

Education programmes may reduce bullying and conflicts among children

Review: *The Effects of School-based Social Information Processing Interventions on Aggressive Behaviour, Part I: Universal Programmes & Part II: Selected/Indicated Pull-out Programmes.*

Need for further research on cognitive-behavioural training interventions for foster carers

Review: *Behavioural and cognitive behavioural training interventions for assisting foster carers in the management of difficult behaviour.*

Treatment reduces criminal recidivism in young people

Review: *Cognitive-behavioural treatment for antisocial behaviour in youth in residential treatment.*

Unclear whether cognitive behavioural therapy stops physical abuse of women by their male partner

Review: *Cognitive-behavioural treatment for antisocial behaviour in youth in residential treatment.*

Exercise improves self-esteem in children and young people

Review: *Exercise to improve self-esteem in children and young people.*

Cognitive-behavioural interventions can help sexually abused children

Review: *Cognitive-behavioral interventions for sexually abused children.*

Education programmes increase children's knowledge of sexual abuse and may promote protective behaviour

Review: *School-based education programmes for the prevention of child sexual abuse.*

Treatment of incarcerated drug abusers reduces recidivism

Review: *The effectiveness of Incarceration-Based Drug Treatment on Criminal Behaviour.*

Group-based parent training can reduce the emotional and behavioural problems of young children

Review: *Group-based parent-training programmes for improving emotional and behavioural adjustment in 0-3 year old children.*

Boot camps do not reduce criminal behaviour

Review: *Effects of Correctional Boot Camps on Offending.*

An active labour-market policy has a minor positive effect

Review: *Work programmes for welfare recipients.*

Independent living programmes for young people leaving the care system – training in adult life skills

Review: *Independent living programs for improving outcomes for young people leaving the care system.*

Speech and language therapy can help children with expressive phonological and expressive vocabulary difficulties

Review: *Speech and language therapy interventions for children with primary speech and language delay or disorder.*

Multisystematic therapy: Doubts about the effects

Review: *Multisystemic Therapy for social, emotional and behavioural problems in youth.*

IF YOU WANT TO WRITE A CAMPBELL USER ABSTRACT

Contact the C2UG secretariat:

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