Collaborative activities of the Cochrane Public Health Group - one year on

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Overview

• PHRG – who we; why we are; where we are up to
• Relevance to Campbell Groups
• Titles underway
• Collaborative activities
• Other exciting happenings
The Cochrane Collaboration

International non-profit organization that prepares, maintains, and disseminates systematic up-to-date reviews of health care interventions.

Made up of over 70 self-funded entities around the world.

Who the Cochrane PHRG is

Coordinating Editor: Professor Elizabeth Waters
RGC: Jodie Doyle
Knowledge Translation and Support Fellow: Rebecca Armstrong (and Rebecca Conning, Rachel Clarke)
TSC and PH Studies Registry: Ruth Turley and Helen Morgan
Research Assistance: Lisa Willenberg

Editors: Professor Margaret Whitehead (UK)
Dr Mark Petticrew (UK)
Dr Laurie Anderson (USA)
Assoc. Professor Maureen Dobbins (Can)
Dr Omar Abdulwadud (Aus)
Prof Helen Roberts (UK)
Dr Alan Shiell (Economics editor) (Can)
Dr Philip Baker (Feedback editor) (Aus)
Dr Ruhi Saith (Developing countries editorial consultant) (India)
Dr Robin Christensen (Statistical editor) (Denmark)
Prof Sreekumaran Nair (Statistical editor) (India)

Contact database 450 members, from 48 different countries (incl 23 DCs), and a growing list of authors, review advisory group members, peer referees and handsearchers
Development of a Cochrane review group for upstream public health interventions

- Cochrane Review Groups have traditionally addressed single interventions with straightforward outcomes – not congruent with PH interventions and outcomes.

- Need for a CRG to tackle the complex, multi-sectoral, multi-component, population-level interventions called for in public health

- Ensure that high quality evidence reviews focus on ‘what works for whom and why’ - understandable to public health folk as well as those from other sectors

- Need to engage sectors outside health (e.g., Transport, urban planning, education etc.)

- Social determinants focus essential - improving equity

- Consultation with Campbell groups over the years (esp Social Welfare Group)

PHRG topic scope

- Population-level public health interventions

  Generally interventions targeted to address the broader, distal determinants of health and affect material factors and social structural conditions, such as poverty, social exclusion, racism and discrimination, housing and social environments

- Study designs: RCTs, quasi-RCTs, Cluster RCTs, CBA, and ITS

- Qualitative evidence - in background and discussion sections
Cochrane and Campbell Reviews - common process & common goals

Interventions

Experimental studies  Other studies

Synthesis of effects

Making it available/Knowledge translation

Integration into practice/policy

Synthesising best available evidence for interventions of mutual interest

- The Cochrane Collaboration – Public Health Group
- Campbell Crime and Justice Group (joint TRF developed and basic principles and process doc)
- Campbell Social Welfare Group (joint TRF developed and basic principles and process doc)
- Campbell Education Group (initial discussions)
- Campbell Methods Group
PHRG Topic categories

- INCOME DISTRIBUTION and FINANCIAL INTERVENTIONS (in consultation with Campbell Social Welfare Coordinating Group where appropriate)
- EDUCATION (in consultation with Campbell Education Coordinating Group and Cochrane DPLP Group where appropriate)
- PUBLIC SAFETY (in consultation with Campbell Crime & Justice Coordinating Group and Cochrane Injuries Group where appropriate)
- SOCIAL NETWORKS/SUPPORT (in consultation with Campbell Social Welfare Coordinating Group where appropriate)
- HOUSING and THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (in consultation with Campbell Social Welfare Coordinating Group where appropriate)
- EMPLOYMENT & THE WORK ENVIRONMENT (in consultation with Campbell Social Welfare Coordinating Group where appropriate)
- FOOD SUPPLY/ACCESS
- TRANSPORT
- NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
- HEALTH & RELATED SYSTEMS
- OTHER

Examples of titles under development

- Community wide activities for increasing physical activity
- Population level interventions for improving health outcomes in ex-prisoners (AUS – possible co-reg with C&J Group)
- Community-building interventions to improve physical, social and mental health
- Housing improvement interventions to improve health (possible co-reg with C&J Group)
- Food policies to increase access to and/or consumption of healthy food choices
- School-time scheduling and its effects on the health and wellbeing of students
- Interventions addressing gender disparities in family food distribution for improving child nutrition
Collaborative activities

- Identifying priority topics for review (eg. C-C Equity Group)
- Joint editing of co-registered reviews of mutual interest (next slide)
- Co-authoring articles
- Joint conference presentations and meetings
- Other

Proposed editorial process for Cochrane and Campbell co-registered reviews

Reviews progress to final review publication in 3 stages:

1. Title registration – author decide which entity will have primary responsibility for editorial process of review

2. Protocol (sets out plan for conducting the review)
   - Cochrane and Campbell entity view and make comment on protocol. PE has ultimate decision on advice given to author team. Author team and entities maintain right of refusal

3. Completed review
   - As above. PE has responsibility to follow-up re updating.
Other exciting happenings

- Follow-up on recommendations of Global Commission on Social Determinants of Health to sustain efforts of the knowledge networks
- Efforts underway to create a WHO Collaborating Centre for the Synthesis and Translation of Evidence for Public Health
- Involvement, with Campbell Collaboration, with the *International Network for Justice Health* (to create a road map of research needs and provide evidence-based / data-driven recommendations around justice health -> systematic reviews will be the cornerstone of the Network’s work)

Contacts

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- Cochrane Collaboration: www.cochrane.org
- Cochrane Library: www.cochranelibrary.org