

Title Registration for Reviews

It is the policy of the Cochrane Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems Review Group policy to ask for some outline answers to the questions on this sheet. This is necessary before a title can be registered in order to clarify the scope of the proposed review and to allow other reviewers to know where there is scope for new reviews without danger of duplication of effort. The issues to be defined can be divided into four main areas following suggestions from Sackett et al in devising answerable questions for evidence-based medicine:

1. Define the population
2. Define the intervention
3. Define the control
4. Define the main outcomes

A framework for answers to these questions for your proposed title is below, and we hope that you will fill it in and return it to the editorial base at the University of Bristol. Please be sure to specify any areas you definitely do not consider including in your review, as well as those you do! If there are remaining issues which are unclear to you or you need advice in completion of the form please contact the editorial base.

PROVISIONAL TITLE (please try to adhere to Cochrane format of "Intervention FOR condition FOR/IN population group/setting):

Financial benefits for child health and well-being in low income or socially disadvantaged families in developed world countries

Define the population *e.g. adults or children, acute or chronic, home or hospital, with learning disabilities or developmental problems, etc. (Specify excluded groups.)*

Families with at least one child under 16, or in which a woman is pregnant, living in a 'high income country as reported in 2005 Human Development Report (UNDP 2005)

Specify the intervention *e.g. behavioural therapy, course of drugs. Specify length of treatment/ delivery system/ dosage regimen, if relevant.*

Interventions to increase the amount of money available to a family. These include:

- Direct cash payments
- Positive taxation schemes, such as Negative Income Tax, which benefit low-income families

Excluded from the review are:

- Vouchers, loans, and conditional payments for commodities (cash that can only be spent in specified ways, for example to pay for personal care for disabled children).

Specify the control comparison *e.g. versus placebo, or another therapy, drug, or delivery method.*

Contemporaneous control group who have received no intervention or a professional intervention such as parental training or professional advice.

Types of studies

· Randomised controlled trials and quasi-randomised (e.g. alternate allocation or allocation by date of birth) controlled trials.

Define the outcome(s) of interest

Primary Outcomes:

1. Any measure of physical child health, including anthropometry or measures of mortality, morbidity (illness diagnosed or treated by medical professionals), admissions to hospital, attendance at emergency medical services, attendance at routine health screening programmes, or uptake of immunisation
2. Any standardised measure of children's mental health or emotional well-being (e.g. quality of life measures, the CBCL (Child Behavior Checklist [Achenbach 1991]) or the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire [Goodman 1997]).

Secondary Outcomes:

1. Any standardised measure of children's psychomotor or cognitive development.
2. Any standardised measure of educational progress or attainment.
3. Numbers of pregnancies, births or STIs among under 16s in target families.

Outcomes will be assessed at three time points: short-term, defined as up to one year following cessation of trial. medium-term (1-3 years following cessation of trial) and long-term (3+ years following cessation of trial).

Any adverse effects reported for any member of the family will be recorded.

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Do you have easy access to a statistician? No

The registration of this title will need to be approved by the editorial board of the Cochrane Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems Group, after which the review area will be held open for you for three months. If you would like to proceed with the review we will require a protocol to be submitted to the editorial board within that period. Please return this form to:

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