



Finding the evidence: Using the Cochrane Library for find high quality information

The Cochrane library brings together systematic reviews, technology and economic assessments of healthcare interventions. This course explores effective search methods to retrieve what is generally regarded as the most robust and high quality evidence.

Aimed at: Health professionals who wish to find the most reliable evidence relating to healthcare practice, and specifically that from published systematic reviews and related documents.

Duration: 2 hours

Pre-requisites:

- Basic IT skills and the ability to use a mouse
- Familiarity with use of the internet

Support for CPD Frameworks

This course support KSF dimensions:

IK2: Information collection and analysis

IK3: Knowledge and information systems

It will also contribute to other dimensions which require use of or familiarity with EVIDENCE or EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDELINES, or require identification of NEW AND EMERGING DEVELOPMENTS.

Course content:

By the end of the session participants should be able to:

- Understand the structure of the Cochrane Library and the different databases within it
- Differentiate between levels of evidence
- Understand what the Cochrane Library should be used for/not used for
- Plan a search using an appropriate method e.g. PICO
- Search the Cochrane Library using both free-text and thesaurus/subject heading (MeSH) searching
- Understand the advantages and disadvantages of each search method
- Search for single citations using title or author
- Browse the Cochrane Library by review group, topic or alphabetically by article title
- Identify and understand the different types of record found within a search
- Print and/or save the results of the search
- Save the search and know how to re-run it at a later date