

# Partnerships on core outcomes in pain: report from a conference involving OMERACT, COMET and others

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# What is Cochrane?



The Cochrane Collaboration is an **international, independent** organisation that aims to help people make **well-informed decisions** about health care by **preparing, maintaining** and promoting the **use** of high quality **systematic reviews** of the effects of healthcare interventions

>30,000 people

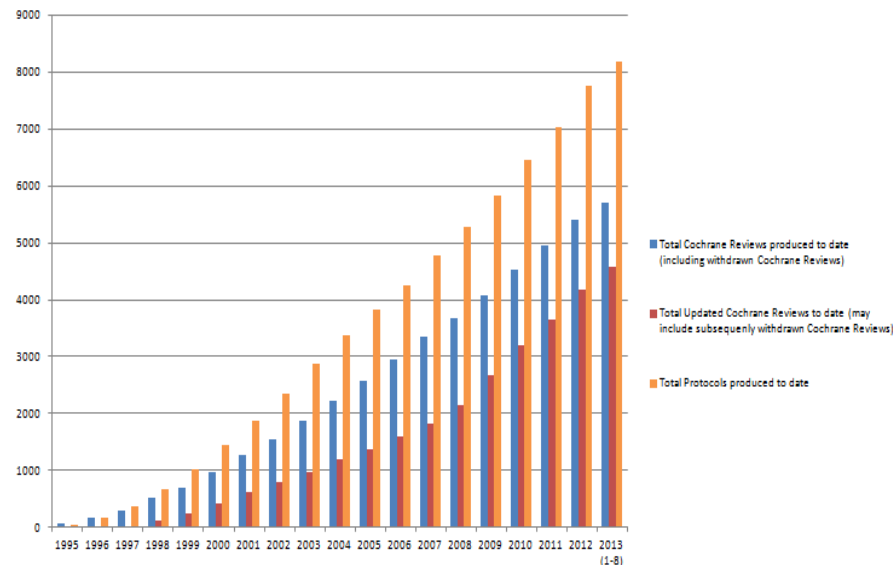
>120 countries



**Advocating** for evidence informed decision making

**Cochrane evidence used** worldwide by wide range of stakeholders in diverse products and activities

**Advancing** the **science** of synthesis

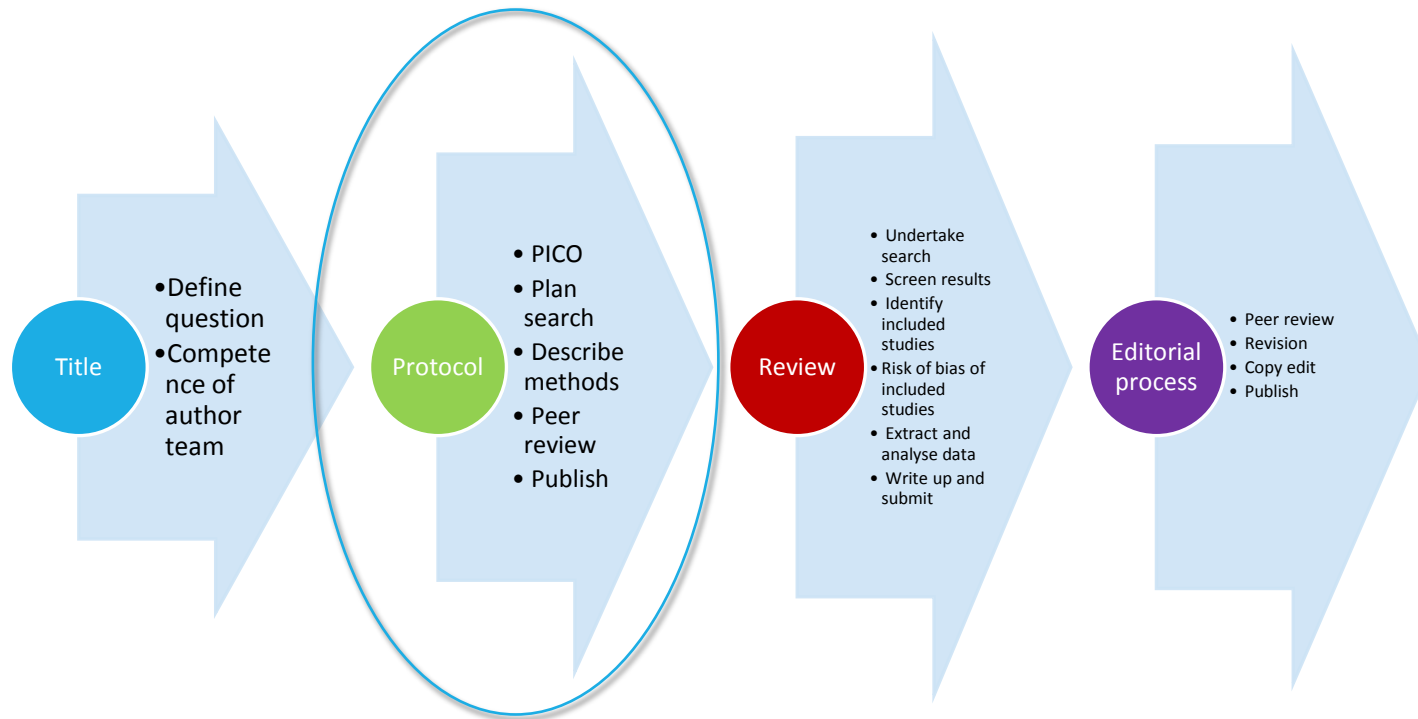


“All the high quality evidence”

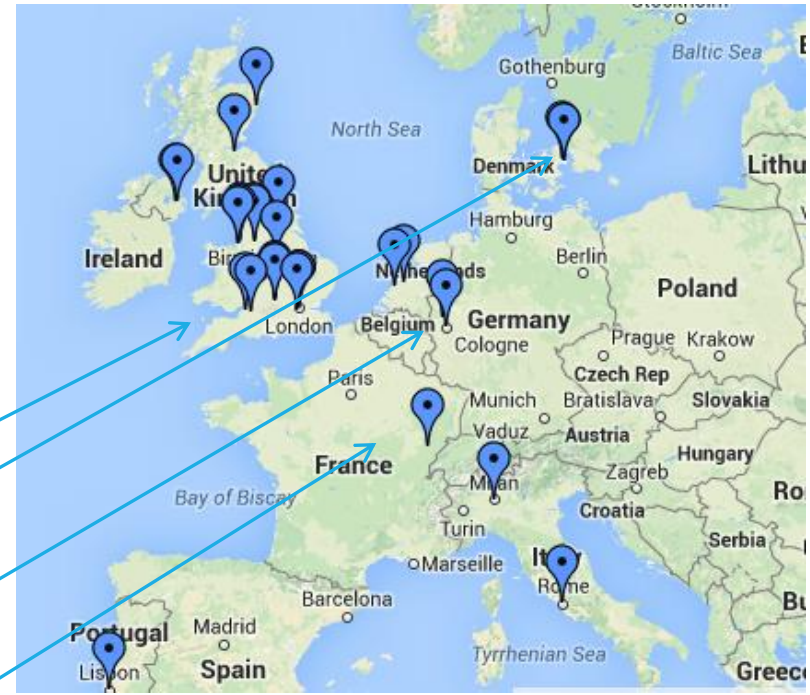
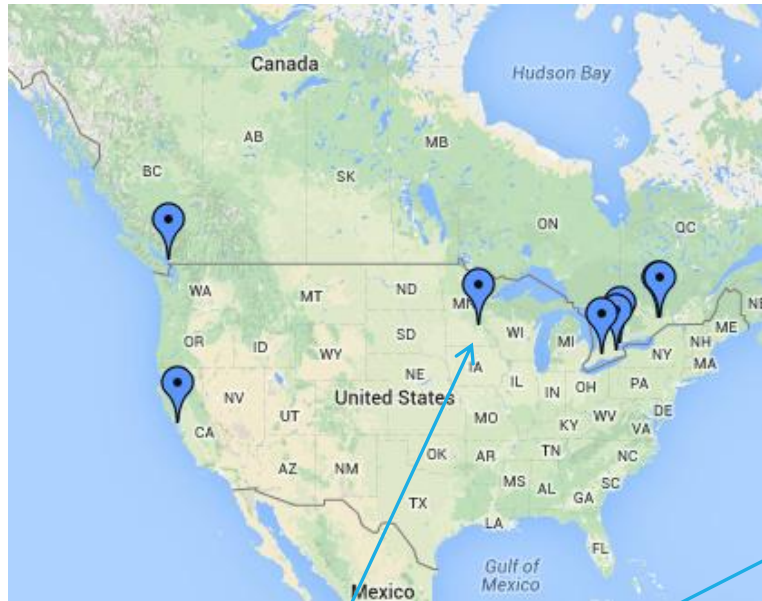
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# “All the high quality evidence”







Cancer

# Where are we now?

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COMET paper on range of outcomes used in Cochrane Reviews

- Discrepancy between pre-specified and reported outcomes
- Inconsistencies of outcomes chosen between CRGs even when same conditions and similar comparisons

This work was done as part of the COMET Initiative, with funding from the European Union Seventh Framework Programme under grant agreement n°305081. The main credit goes to Valerie Smith at Trinity College Dublin who extracted, coded and analyzed the bulk of the data. Thanks to Mike Clarke for the slides.

# Cochrane Review Groups with “chronic” pain (n=14)

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Back

Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma

Cystic Fibrosis and Genetic Disorders

Effective Practice and Organisation of Care

Fertility Regulation

Incontinence

Inflammatory Bowel Disease and

Functional Bowel Disorders

Menstrual Disorders and Subfertility

Musculoskeletal

Neuromuscular Disease

Oral Health

Pain, Palliative and Supportive Care

Peripheral Vascular Diseases

Schizophrenia

# Cochrane Reviews with “chronic” pain (n=63)

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“Random” examples

Acupuncture for cancer pain in adults

Antiplatelet agents for intermittent claudication

Aquatic exercise for the treatment of knee and hip osteoarthritis

Corticosteroids for treating nerve damage in leprosy

Fluid replacement therapy for acute episodes of pain in people with sickle cell disease

Hypnotherapy for treatment of irritable bowel syndrome

Low level laser therapy for nonspecific low-back pain

Oral health advice for people with serious mental illness

Rehabilitation for hamstring injuries

# Measures of “chronic” pain in Cochrane Reviews

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“Random” examples

Pain relief of 50% (30%) or greater

Pain free walking distance

Pain >6 months after surgery

Perineal pain at 3 and 6 months after birth

Incidence of pain associated with herpes zoster at least 4 months after the onset of the rash

Satisfaction with pain relief

Patient comfort (self-perceived pain)

Episodes of non-specific back pain during follow-up

Sick leave due to back pain

Frequency or intensity of sickle pain crises

# Meeting of co-ordinating editors 2014

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Generally positive about COS – some saying “essential”

Recognition that particularly important for “cross-cutting” topic areas

Some scepticism: not well developed in specific disciplines, not sure clinical trialists would use

Some concern about patient / consumer involvement in development of COS

# Developing “alliances”

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Cancer

Antibiotic resistance

Pain

Nutrition

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Patient safety

Mental health

NCDs etc

# Developing “alliances”

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Cancer

Antibiotic resistance

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Identifying gaps and overlaps

Shared methodological approaches  
(including use of COS)

Joint publications

Point of contact

# Handover to Peter

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