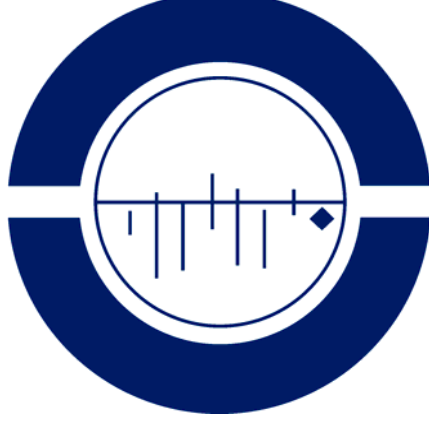


Want to know more?

Read the *Newcomers' Guide* (www.cochrane.org/docs/newcomersguide.htm); then contact your nearest Cochrane Centre (www.cochrane.org/contact), or The Cochrane Collaboration Secretariat: Tel +44 (0)1865 310138; Fax +44 (0)1865 316023; E-mail secretariat@cochrane.org.

The Cochrane Library

You don't have to help prepare Cochrane reviews to want to make sure that your treatment is evidence-based. Visit *The Cochrane Library* (www.thecochranelibrary.com) to see Cochrane reviews of the effectiveness of thousands of healthcare interventions. Abstracts and summaries of reviews can be viewed online at no cost. In some countries access to the full reviews is free, thanks to national licences. Elsewhere it is subscription-based, or pay-per-view. *The Cochrane Library* is published by John Wiley & Sons Ltd (www3.interscience.wiley.com).



**THE COCHRANE
COLLABORATION®**

**Providing up to date evidence
of the effects of health care**

*Our vision is that healthcare decision-making
around the world will be informed by high quality,
timely research evidence, and that
The Cochrane Collaboration will play a pivotal role
in the production and dissemination of this evidence
across all areas of health care*

**Implementation and
dissemination of
Cochrane evidence**

We start with Cochrane reviews, and then...

Cochrane reviews must be disseminated and accessible in order to influence practice, and ultimately achieve better health outcomes in the real world. Cochrane reviews are published in *The Cochrane Library*, but is this enough? Until recently, there had been no co-ordinated attempt to collect knowledge about the dissemination and implementation of Cochrane reviews. In 2004, the Canadian Cochrane Centre initiated two projects, to collect examples and document the dissemination and practical influence of Cochrane reviews.

Dissemination

It is important that information from Cochrane reviews is widely available to those who need to use it. Recognising barriers to the clear communication of evidence, many Cochrane Review Groups translate and interpret their reviews to make them more meaningful for users interested in evidence-based health care, including healthcare consumers, clinicians, policy-makers, researchers, educators, students and others in many countries. As Cochrane reviews have become respected internationally, other organisations (academic, government and private) have also begun to use them.

In the first inventory, The Dissemination of Cochrane Evidence, over 70 examples were collected of print and online resources that incorporate Cochrane reviews into the health information they provide. The inventory includes sources from 19 different countries, in 20 languages. The full text is available at www.cochrane.org/reviews/impact. The inventory is always expanding – new examples and additional information are always welcome.

An example of Cochrane reviews affecting practice

Revisioni Scelte dal Database Cochrane

(Produced by: Cochrane Neurological Network; Editore Zedig.)

This booklet contains structured summaries of twenty selected Cochrane reviews of neurological interest, covering stroke, epilepsy, dementia, tumours and other neurological problems. Each two-page summary includes charts and bibliographies. There is also an extensive introductory section focusing on The Cochrane Collaboration, its history, methodology and current work.

Implementation

Considering the many mechanisms for distributing and accessing Cochrane reviews, it is important to know how they are used in practice to improve health care. The second inventory is a collection of good news stories - examples of how Cochrane reviews contributed to important changes in:

- Healthcare practice, including any health intervention in any setting, preferably with evaluated outcomes;
- Healthcare policy, including decisions, guidelines, campaigns, priorities, etc.; and
- Healthcare research, including new studies and priorities.

This inventory is still under construction; however, over 30 examples have been collected, including award-winning projects that have improved patient outcomes, and evidence-based strategies for implementation. These stories are a resource for those who wish to see how good quality evidence can be used to achieve better patient outcomes, and a source of inspiration and ideas for those who may wish to adapt and evaluate evidence-based projects of their own.

When finalised, the inventory will be available at www.cochrane.org/reviews/impact. Contributions are welcome.

The screenshot shows the American Academy of Family Physicians website. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'HOME', 'ABOUT AAFP', 'CLINICAL SCENARIOS', 'NEW EVIDENCE', 'RESEARCH', 'ABOUT US', 'MEMBERS', and 'CONTACT US'. The main content area features a 'Cochrane for Clinicians' section with the title 'Home Oxygen Therapy for Treatment of Patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease'. Below the title, it lists the author 'R. EDIBER BAILEY, M.D., Case University of Ohio, Square Medical University, Syracuse, New York' and a brief summary of the article. A 'Clinical Scenario' section is also visible at the bottom of the article preview.

The screenshot shows the BMJ Clinical Evidence website. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'HOME', 'ABOUT US', 'PRODUCTS', 'CONTRIBUTE', 'RESOURCES', and 'CONTACT US'. The main content area features a 'Welcome to Clinical Evidence' section with a brief introduction to the service. Below this, there are several sections: 'New and updated topics' listing various medical conditions, 'New and updated topics' listing various medical conditions, and 'New and updated topics' listing various medical conditions. A 'Get Clinical Evidence on your mobile' section is also visible at the bottom.

American Family Physician
www.afp.org/afp.xml

BMJ Clinical Evidence
www.clinicalevidence.com