The Cochrane Collaboration is an international organisation that aims to help people make well-informed decisions about healthcare by preparing, maintaining and promoting the accessibility of systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions.

The Cochrane Oral Health Group (OHG) aims to produce systematic reviews which primarily include all randomised controlled trials (RCTs) in oral health. Oral health is broadly conceived to include the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of oral, dental and craniofacial diseases and disorders.

The OHG is composed of persons from around the world who share an interest in developing and maintaining systematic reviews relevant to the field of oral health. Reviewers are encouraged to collaborate on reviews and the OHG is able to facilitate contacts with colleagues around the world. The group is co-ordinated by an Editorial Team who edit and assemble completed reviews into modules for inclusion in The Cochrane Library (an electronic database updated quarterly).

What’s new in The Cochrane Library?
Issue 1, 2007:-

New Reviews
- Management of the fractured edentulous atrophic mandible
- Preformed metal crowns for decayed primary molar teeth
- Root canal posts for the restoration of root filled teeth

Review Updates
- Interventions for preventing oral candidiasis for patients with cancer receiving treatment

New Protocols
- Arthroscopy for temporomandibular disorders
- Interventions for the treatment of oral cancer: chemotherapy
- Interventions for the treatment of oral cancer: radiotherapy
- Ultrasonic versus hand instrumentation for orthograde root canal treatment of permanent teeth

Submission & publication dates 2007

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New titles registered with OHG

- Removal of mandibular third molars for lower anterior crowding
- Primary surgical versus primary non-surgical interventions for giant cell lesions (GCL) of the jaws
- Interventions for the management of herpes simplex virus in patients being treated for cancer
- Interventions for treating traumatised permanent front teeth: displaced ankylosed teeth
- Interventions for the management of the submucous cleft palate
- Fissure sealants for the management of dental decay in molar teeth
- Interventions for the treatment of odontogenic keratocysts (primordial cyst)
- Interventions for preventing Frey's syndrome in patients following parotidectomy
- Bonded intracoronar restorations versus extracoronal restorations for cracked tooth syndrome

The Cochrane Oral Health Group (OHG) specialised register continues to grow - now approaching 22,000 records!

Essentially the register is a collection of reports of Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs) and CCTs and associated material such as published correspondence, conference proceedings, research abstracts, etc. The register is continually being expanded as new material is identified. The foundation for its on-going development is the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) contained within The Cochrane Library (an electronic library updated quarterly). Another major source of material is obtained from handsearching journals from cover to cover to identify trials not picked up by electronic searches due to lack of detail in titles and abstracts. Once identified, these trials are downloaded electronically or entered manually into the OHG Trials Register.

The register is maintained and managed from our editorial base and staff will be pleased to assist Cochrane review authors in carrying out searches of the database.

For further information please contact Sylvia Bickley, Trials Search Co-ordinator (sylvia.r.bickley@manchester.ac.uk).
OHG News

• **OHG wins further funding!** The Department of Health England, the Group’s main funding body, announced in December 2006 that the Group’s current Cochrane Review Group contract is to be extended for one further year until 31 March 2010.

• **Chinese collaboration!** Members of the Editorial Team have recently been collaborating with colleagues from West China College of Stomatology and the Chinese Cochrane Centre, on chapters of the 2nd edition of a book on evidence-based stomatology. The book was recently approved by the Ministry of Education of China as a teaching textbook for dental postgraduates in China.

• **OHG wins award!** The Department of Health England, Cochrane Incentive Scheme awarded £5000 in December 2006 for updating the review ‘Routine scale and polish for periodontal health in adults’.

• **Symposium report available online!** The OHG celebrated its 10th anniversary in May 2006 at a symposium entitled ‘Evidence for up-to-date clinical dental practice’. The report is available online with links to some of the presentations: [www.ohg.cochrane.org/symposium.html](http://www.ohg.cochrane.org/symposium.html).

• **OHG performance praised!** The latest Department of Health Annual report congratulated the Group on a highly successful year. We are in 8th position within the distribution of progress scores for all 24 UK-based Review Groups. We now have 62 reviews and 67 protocols!

Cochrane News

To keep up to date with all the latest Cochrane news and developments please visit the Cochrane Collaboration official website at [www.cochrane.org](http://www.cochrane.org).

• **RevMan 5 goes live summer 2007!** RevMan software is designed to help authors construct Cochrane reviews. RevMan 5 will let you do more while also being simpler to use. To learn more, please visit [www.cc-ims.net/RevMan/RevMan5](http://www.cc-ims.net/RevMan/RevMan5) or download the current version, 4.2.10, at [www.cc-ims.net/RevMan](http://www.cc-ims.net/RevMan).

• **Update!** The *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions* is the official document which describes in detail the process of creating Cochrane systematic reviews. The latest version 4.2.6 (available in Word and PDF) is available at [www.cochrane.org/resources/handbook/index.htm](http://www.cochrane.org/resources/handbook/index.htm).

• **Update!** The Cochrane Manual is The Cochrane Collaboration’s principal procedural resource. Issue 1, 2007 is the latest version and is available at [www.cochrane.org/admin/manual.htm](http://www.cochrane.org/admin/manual.htm).

• **The Collaboration creates Opportunities Fund!** New fund provides Cochrane entities the opportunity to obtain core Collaboration funds to undertake project work on their own initiative. Closing date for submission of proposals: 23 February 2007. [www.cochrane.org/admin/rfps/opportunities_fund_rfp.htm](http://www.cochrane.org/admin/rfps/opportunities_fund_rfp.htm).

• **Wiley acquires Blackwell Publishing!** This will give The Cochrane Collaboration a higher profile in medical publishing and allow for improved sales and marketing opportunities.

Cochrane Training & Events

Cochrane events and workshops are a great way to get to know how the Collaboration works, make new friends and learn new skills – and all this whilst having fun!!! Please visit [www.cochrane.org/news/workshops.shtml](http://www.cochrane.org/news/workshops.shtml) for further details on how to attend.

February 2007  
12-13 Feb: 5th Canadian Cochrane Symposium, Ottawa, Canada  
21 Feb: Introduction to Analysis, Liverpool, UK

March 2007  
12 Mar: Developing a Protocol for a Systematic Review Workshop, Auckland, New Zealand  
13 Mar: Introduction to Analysis, Auckland, New Zealand  
19 Mar: Annual UK & Irish Meeting, Oxford, UK  
22-23 Mar: Evidence-based Practice Workshops, South Africa  
29 Mar: Introduction to Analysis, Oxford, UK  
TBC Mar: How to update a review, Sydney, Australia

April 2007  
2-5 Apr: Protocol Development & RevMan, Cape Town, S. Africa  
19-20 Apr: How to Conduct a Review Workshop, Singapore

October 2007  
21-25 Oct: The 15th Cochrane Colloquium, Sao Paulo, Brazil

2007 Dental Diary Dates!  
• IADR General Session & Exhibition, New Orleans, USA, 21-24 March  
• BSDR & NOF Joint Scientific Meeting, Durham, UK, 3-5 April  
• British Dental Conference & Exhibition, Harrogate, UK, 24-26 May  
• American Dental Association Annual Session, San Francisco, USA, 27-30 Sep