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).

To learn more about the Group please visit our website at www.ohg.cochrane.org or feel to get in contact with us at the email addresses below.

What’s new in The Cochrane Library? Issues 8, 9 & 10, 2010:-

Updated Reviews
- Interventions for treating oral mucositis for patients with cancer receiving treatment [conclusions changed]
- Interventions for replacing missing teeth: maintaining and recovering soft tissue health around dental implants [conclusions changed]
- Interventions for replacing missing teeth: dental implants in fresh extraction sockets (immediate, immediate-delayed and delayed implants) [conclusions not changed]

New Reviews
- Hypnosis for children undergoing dental treatment
- Interventions for the treatment of oral cavity and oropharyngeal cancer: chemotherapy
- Interventions for the treatment of keratocystic odontogenic tumours (KCOT, odontogenic keratocysts (OKC))
- Pharmacological interventions for pain in patients with temporomandibular disorders

New Protocols
- Interventions for the cessation of pacifier or digit sucking habits in children
- Protective analgesia for postoperative pain following third molar surgery
- Chlorhexidine mouthrinse as an adjunctive treatment for gingival health
- Interventions for correcting relapse of the lower front teeth after orthodontic treatment

You will find all of the above reviews at www.thecochranelibrary.com

OHG progress
Total published reviews: 112
Total published protocols: 73

New Cochrane OHG Editors
We would like to announce that, since the July newsletter, we have recruited 2 more editors: Martin McCabe and May Wong. Martin is a Clinical Senior Lecturer in the School of Cancer and Enabling Sciences here in Manchester. He is a co-author on the series of reviews on treatment/prevention of oral mucositis and candidiasis. May is an Associate Professor in Dental Public Health at the University of Hong Kong. She is the lead author of the review ‘Topical fluoride as a cause of dental fluorosis in children’ and has been helping the editorial team with the assessment and data extraction of Chinese trials and with statistical advice over the last couple of years. We are delighted to have them both on board.
Cochrane News

- **UK & Ireland Annual meeting 2011.** The 16th Annual Meeting of UK and Ireland-based contributors to The Cochrane Collaboration will take place in Belfast, Northern Ireland on the 15th and 16th of March 2011. Registration opens soon.

- **2009/10 Annual Report of The Cochrane Collaboration.** The Annual Report features updates from the Collaboration’s core teams and entity executives, summaries of Cochrane projects, examples of how Cochrane Reviews have changed health care policy, and much more! You can read it here: [www.editorial-unit.cochrane.org](http://www.editorial-unit.cochrane.org).

- **Online learning materials.** The first phase of the development of the online learning materials for authors of Cochrane reviews saw the preparation of six modules, which were made available to UK-based authors in an extended pilot. A version has now been prepared that can be hosted on a more widely accessible web learning platform. It is envisaged that this will be launched on the Cochrane website ([www.cochrane.org](http://www.cochrane.org)) this month, for use by anyone with an Archie login (i.e. Cochrane review authors).

- **Cochrane Consumer Co-ordinator.** The Cochrane Collaboration has appointed Catherine McIlwain as its Consumer Co-ordinator. This new post is intended to improve the level of support available to consumers, and the Cochrane groups with whom they engage. This demonstrates Cochrane’s dedication to its end-users and its belief in the importance of involving consumers in the development of systematic reviews.

- **Cochrane in the USA.** To celebrate the Joint Colloquium of the Cochrane & Campbell Collaborations in Keystone, USA, later this month, *The Cochrane Library* has published a special Editorial on Cochrane in the USA. Please go to [www.thecochranelibrary.com/details/editorial/847239/Cochrane-in-the-United-States-of-America-by-Dr-David-Tovey--Dr-Robert-Dellavalle.html](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/details/editorial/847239/Cochrane-in-the-United-States-of-America-by-Dr-David-Tovey--Dr-Robert-Dellavalle.html).

- **Cochrane Comparing Multiple Interventions Methods Group.** This new Cochrane Group was registered in September and will focus on methodology for comparing multiple interventions for a common condition, both in intervention reviews and overviews of reviews. If you want to learn more about this Group please contact the Convenor, Georgia Salanti, at georgia.salanti@googlemail.com.

Cochrane Oral Health Group to launch Professional Global Alliance

The COHG is to establish a Professional Global Alliance in early 2011. In return for an annual contribution, members of the Professional Global Alliance will be consulted on the prioritization of reviews to be undertaken by the Group, and representatives will join an Advisory Group to ensure that the oral health reviews published in *The Cochrane Library* are of the highest quality: up-to-date, accessible and authoritative. It is anticipated that the additional funding for the Group will increase the number of reviews and review updates published each year. The funding will be used to employ three additional members of staff at the Editorial Base to carry out this important work. To date, the International Association for Dental Research, the British Orthodontic Society, and the Australian Dental Association have pledged support for the Alliance, and the COHG is in consultation with many other groups and associations over the proposal.

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 [http://www.cochrane.org/events/wshops/all](http://www.cochrane.org/events/wshops/all) for further details on how to attend.

**December**
- 1-2: Developing a protocol and introduction to analysis workshop, Sydney, Australia
- 7: Beginning a systematic review protocol, Liverpool, UK
- 8: The methods section of a protocol, Liverpool, UK
- 8-9: Developing a protocol workshop, Penang, Malaysia
- 16: Advanced topics in the analysis and reporting of systematic reviews, Oxford, UK

**January**
- 12-14: Workshop on Developing a Systematic Review, Baltimore, USA
- 18: Beginning a systematic review protocol, Oxford, UK
- 19: The methods section of a protocol, Oxford, UK
- 26: Conducting reviews of complex interventions, Oxford, UK

**February**
- 23: Beginning a systematic review protocol, Cardiff, UK
- 24: The methods section of a protocol, Cardiff, UK

Author tips

- When you have requested or been allocated an Archie user account, the window for activating it is limited to 2 weeks after your registration email is sent. If you are not able to activate your account within this time frame, you should contact the editorial base who will need to resend the registration email.
- If you encounter difficulties with using Archie or RevMan you will find excellent resources to help you located on the Cochrane IMS website ([http://ims.cochrane.org](http://ims.cochrane.org)). Alternatively you may prefer to contact the editorial base, who will be able to assist in setting up user accounts, unlocking reviews, and general management of the review process.

2010/11 Conference dates!

- American Dental Education Association, San Diego, USA, 12-16 Mar
- IADR/AADR/CADR, San Diego, USA, 16-19 Mar
- Australian Dental Association Congress, Brisbane, Australia, 30 Mar-3 Apr
- Society for Clinical Trials, Vancouver, Canada, 15-18 May
- British Dental Association, Manchester, UK, 19-21 May
- Association for Dental Education in Europe, Antalya, Turkey, 7-10 Sept
- American Dental Association, Las Vegas, USA, 10-13 Oct