What is in THE COCHRANE LIBRARY?

The Cochrane Library consists of seven databases and is used by a broad range of people interested in Evidence-Based health care, including consumers, clinicians, policy-makers, researchers, educators, students and others:

**Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Cochrane Reviews)**

The primary output of The Cochrane Collaboration. Each Cochrane Review identifies an intervention for a specific disease (or other problem in health care) and determines whether or not this intervention works by summarising the results of research gathered from randomised controlled trials.

**Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (Other Reviews)**

Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE) is a unique database, containing abstracts of systematic reviews that have been quality assessed. Each abstract includes a summary of the review together with a critical commentary about the overall quality. DARE contains 11,000 such abstracts and over 6,000 quality assessed reviews. Produced by the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) in York, UK.

**Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (Clinical Trials)**

Known as CENTRAL, this database includes details of published trials taken from bibliographic databases and other published resources. CENTRAL includes the title of the article, information on where it was published and, in many cases, the abstract.

**The Cochrane Methodology Register (Method Studies)**

A bibliography of publications that report on methods used when conducting controlled trials, studies of methods used in reviews, and more general methodological studies which could be relevant to anyone preparing systematic reviews. Records include journal articles, books and conference proceedings.

**Health Technology Assessment Database (Technology Assessments)**

Details of completed and ongoing health technology assessments (studies of the medical, social, ethical and economic implications of healthcare interventions) from around the world. Produced by the CRD in York, UK.

**The NHS Economic Evaluation Database (Economic Evaluations)**

Economic evaluations from around the world, evaluated for quality and highlighting relative strengths and weaknesses of each study. Produced by the CRD in York, UK.

Go to [www.thecochranelibrary.com](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com) to discover this essential resource today
Getting Started

It is useful to register with Wiley Online Library, as it offers a number of benefits, and allows you to save searches. To register go to http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/user-registration

Following registration, an authentication e-mail will be sent to your e-mail address. You must click the link in the message (within 24 hours) to validate your new login. This will take you to the My Profile area, which includes your personal navigation bar. You are now logged onto Wiley Online Library and your name appears at the top of the screen.

Accessing THE COCHRANE LIBRARY

1. Go to the Search box, select Publication Titles, type Cochrane and press
2. Click on “The Cochrane Library” from the returned results
3. You are now on The Cochrane Library home page.

This is The Cochrane Library homepage. From here you can easily navigate around the whole site;
- Browse or search across all databases
- Read the latest editorial
- View the Special Collections
- Listen to new podcasts
- Access the Cochrane Journal Club
There are several options to browse and search The Cochrane Library Databases. You can browse all databases from the homepage, conduct a simple search, or click on Advanced Search to access the Advanced and MeSH Searches as well as Search History where you can edit and combine searches.

Every page throughout The Cochrane Library has one of the below headers – from which you can navigate around the rest of the site, get to advanced searching, the homepage or save a search.

**Sign-up:** If you want to set up e-mail alerts for Wiley products, RSS feeds or save and edit your searches – follow this link

**Help:** For access to the search manual

**Learn:** Find links to user guides and other useful information

**Browse:** Browse the complete Library by various criteria

Go directly to Advanced Search, MeSH Search, Search History or Saved Searches.
Use the links provided in the header, to browse The Cochrane Systematic Reviews by various criteria:
- By topic
- New Reviews (if you only want to view new Cochrane Reviews)
- Updated Reviews (if you want to check the updates on existing reviews)
- A-Z (by reviews/protocol or by review group)
- By Review Group (to see all the reviews written by a specific Cochrane Review Group)

**Key to Review Status Buttons**
All Reviews have a key to help readers quickly identify their status:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Review</strong></td>
<td>A full review, complete with results and discussion, possibly including meta-analyses to combine results across studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Protocol</strong></td>
<td>The outline of a review in preparation, including the background, rationale and methods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Methodology</strong></td>
<td>A full-text systematic review of methodological studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diagnostic</strong></td>
<td>A full-text systematic review of studies assessing accuracy of diagnostic tests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overview</strong></td>
<td>An overview of multiple Cochrane intervention reviews addressing the effects of two or more potential interventions for a single condition or health problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New</strong></td>
<td>A new protocol or review that has been published in the most recent issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conclusions changed</strong></td>
<td>There has been an important change to the conclusions of the review published in the most recent issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New search</strong></td>
<td>A new search for studies has been conducted for an existing review as published in the most recent issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major change</strong></td>
<td>The protocol has been amended to reflect a change in scope published in the most recent issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Withdrawn</strong></td>
<td>The review or protocol has been withdrawn, which may be because it was considered to be out of date. Reasons for withdrawal are specified in the document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comment</strong></td>
<td>The review includes comments. Readers can submit comments, which are incorporated into the review together with answers and feedback from the review authors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Advanced Searching

To reach the Advanced Search page simply click on one of the below links (depending on the page you’re navigating from).

On the Advanced Search page, you can use the asterisk, double quotation marks and Boolean operators – AND, OR, NOT, to refine or broaden your search.

You can also limit your search to specific fields such as Full text, Title, Author, Abstract or Keywords.

You can refine your search by selecting the databases you would like to search. Select one or more titles by clicking the boxes.

Search History

- Provides a history of your searches in your current session.
- Your searches are numbered (#1, #2 and so on) to combine them enter the # symbol followed by the search number.
- If you want to save your searches for future use in other sessions, you can either use the Save Search function, or you can use the Save Search Strategy function.
You can toggle between results listed for the different databases in The Cochrane Library here.

There are 25 results per page; go to more results using these links.

Use these links to sort your search results by Title, Match%, or date.

Use these links to view results from the current issue, or from the entire database.

Click on the title to view the article.

The number in brackets indicates the number of records that match your search in each database.

You can save or edit your search using the links on the right. The Save Search feature is only available if you are a registered Wiley user.

From the search results click on Record to view an article.

If you want to save your search, you can do so by selecting the Save Search button.

The “Saved Searches” page allows you to manage and view searches you have previously saved.

Export: You can export the search criteria by clicking on this link.

Activate Alert: to be alerted by e-mail on any new or updated record relevant to your search.
Search Basics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How to search for</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Automatic stemming</td>
<td>clear tumor mouse run</td>
<td>The search system performs automatic stemming of the term(s) eliminating the need for users to manually type common variants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Semantic variants:</strong> clear finds clear, clears, cleared, clearing, clearer, clearest <strong>Common British vs. American spelling variants:</strong> tumor also finds tumour <strong>Non-standard plural variants:</strong> mouse also finds mice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Common irregular verbs:</strong> run also finds ran, runs, running Automatic stemming can be shut off by putting the term in quotes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single term</td>
<td>Cloning</td>
<td>Searches for specific term in article or selected fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple words</td>
<td>diabetes mellitus</td>
<td>If no quotes are used, search will “AND” terms and find articles or selected fields where both terms appear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phrase Searching</td>
<td>diabetes mellitus hearing NEXT aid*</td>
<td>Use quotes to find exact phrases. This search finds the phrase diabetes mellitus in the article or selected fields. If using wildcards, use NEXT. Phrase search doesn't support wildcards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildcard (or truncation)</td>
<td>transplant*</td>
<td>Use an asterisk (<em>) to match all terms beginning with a word root. transplant</em> finds transplant, transplants, transplanting, transplantation, and transplantable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*glycemia</td>
<td>Use an asterisk (*) at the beginning of a word to match terms with the same suffix. *glycemia will match hyperglycemia or hypoglycemia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>leuk*mia</td>
<td>Use an asterisk to match multiple characters within a word. leuk*mia will find both leukemia and leukaemia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>wom?n</td>
<td>Use a question mark (?) to match a single character within a word. wom?n will find women or woman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>system?</td>
<td>Use a question mark to match all terms beginning with the word root + 1 additional character. System? Will match system and systems but not systematic or systemic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyphenated phrases</td>
<td>“evidence based”</td>
<td>For terms that generally are hyphenated in the text, e.g. evidence-based, do not include the hyphen when searching. Hyphen should be used when searching a DOI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logical operators in phrases</td>
<td>“Food and Drug Administration”</td>
<td>To find phrases which contain a logical operators (and, or) or stopwords (small words like a, an, the, off), search using quotes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Support for Logical (Boolean) Operators

The following operators can be used in the advanced search pages by selecting them from the pull down boxes or by entering them directly in the search history box or the basic or advanced search box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>insulin AND diabetes</td>
<td>Both terms MUST appear in the article or selected field(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>heart OR cardiac</td>
<td>At least one of the terms must appear in the article or selected field(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOT</td>
<td>aids NOT hearing</td>
<td>The first word must appear but the second word cannot appear in the article or selected field(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORDER OF PRECEDENCE (NOT, AND, OR)</td>
<td>kidney OR renal and dialysis</td>
<td>If your search contains more than one of these logical operators, the system will execute the search in the following order: All NOT operations first, all AND operations second, All OR operations last. For better precision, use nesting to specify order of operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grouping (or nesting)</td>
<td>kidney OR renal AND dialysis</td>
<td>Default precedence order can be changed by using parentheses () to explicitly group searches using logical operators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combining Searches</td>
<td>#1 or #2 or #3 (or #1 and #2) and #3</td>
<td>Combine results from multiple search lines into a combined result set. Supports Boolean (AND, OR, NOT) and nesting. Precedence rules would be applied if not explicitly given through nesting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proximity</td>
<td>NEAR cancer near lung</td>
<td>Terms can appear in either order. Finds “lung cancer” and “cancer of the lung” NEAR automatically defaults to near/6 (within 6 words). Stopwords are not counted when determining word count.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NEAR/x cancer near/2 lung</td>
<td>Terms can appear in either order. User can decide number of terms using the near/x command where x = the maximum number of words between search terms. Word counts don't include stopwords.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NEXT lung next cancer hearing next aid*</td>
<td>Terms must appear in order keyed and assumes terms are next to each other. lung next cancer finds lung cancer but not cancer of the lung. Does not support the /x parameter. Almost identical to phrase searching (but ignores stopwords) and allows use of wildcards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MeSH Searching

To reach the MeSH search page simply click on the link in the top banner (if the page you’re navigating from has one) or directly from the Advanced Search page.

MeSH is the U.S. National Library of Medicine’s controlled vocabulary used for indexing articles for MEDLINE and PubMed. MeSH terminology provides a consistent way to retrieve information that may use different terminology for the same concepts (see http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov).

Keywords drawn from the MeSH Thesaurus, published by National Library of Medicine, have been attached to many, but not all of the records in The Cochrane Library.

What Sources in The Cochrane Library have MeSH Indexing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>MeSH Indexing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cochrane Reviews</td>
<td>Fully indexed. NEW reviews are indexed within 4 months of being published.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cochrane Protocols</td>
<td>No MeSH indexing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Trials</td>
<td>Medline indexing: Fully Indexed EMbase and Handsearch: No MeSH indexing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Reviews</td>
<td>Fully indexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Assessments</td>
<td>Fully indexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Evaluations</td>
<td>Fully indexed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Navigate Your Way Around an Article

Use Database tools to add The Cochrane Library to your Saved Publications list in “My Profile” page.

Specific search feature available from all pages of The Cochrane Library, including link to Advanced Search, MeSH Search, Search History and Saved Searches.


Select to view author address information, how to cite, publication history and funding information.

Tabs provide easy access to journal content.

The full text of articles is also available in PDF which can be saved and printed.

At the bottom of each article you will find links to related content.

Jump to… navigation allows quick access to specific sections of the article.
Results and Figures
Links within articles to meta-analysis diagrams for studies including in the documents. Click on an image to enlarge for easy viewing.

References tab includes links to internal or external sources of referenced documents – where available.

Cited by tab information (subscribers only) displays a list of articles that have cited the article you are viewing. Includes citing articles from Wiley and other publishers.

Other Versions tab displays all previous versions of the article.
Customer Training

To help you make the most of the site, take advantage of these free training resources:

**Online tutorials – available 24/7**
Self-paced online tutorial. Available in 12 different languages.

**Free Instructor-led Web Training**
Participate in live online sessions from our calendar or bespoke training on request.

**How to Order**
*The Cochrane Library* is available:
- Online
- On DVD
- On PDA (www.skyscape.com/cochrane)

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Additionally, institutional customers can choose a Basic Access Licence (BAL) – one site access for one concurrent user.

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- **By E-mail:** cs-cochrane@wiley.com

**Contact**
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