

**Cochrane CENTRAL Advisory Group (CCAG) Teleconference Summary Minutes**  
**Thursday, 21 April 2005**  
**4:00-5:30 p.m.**

*Present:*

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Kay Dickersin (KD)	(Convenor, US Cochrane Center)
Davina Gherzi (DG)	(CCSG Representative, Breast Cancer Review Group)
Bill Gillespie (BG)	(Coordinating Editor Representative, Musculoskeletal Injuries Review Group)
Elena Glatman (EG)	(CENTRAL Activities Coordinator, US Cochrane Center)
Diane Haughton (DH)	(RGC, Neonatal Review Group)
Carol Lefebvre (CL)	(Information Specialist, UK Cochrane Center)
Steff Lewis (SL)	(CCSG Representative, Stroke Review Group)
Eric Manheimer (EM)	(Field/Network Representative, Complementary Medicine Field)
Hugh McGuire (HM)	(CRG TSC Representative, Depression, Anxiety, and Neurosis Review Group)
Indy Rutks (IR)	(CRG TSC Representative, Prostate Review Group)
Andrew Cullis (AC)	( <i>ex officio</i> , Wiley Representative)
Pauline Howarth (PH)	( <i>ex officio</i> , Wiley Representative)
Mike Clarke (MC)	(Convenor, IMSG(Present for items 1 and 2) )
Monica Kjeldstrom (MK)	(Director, IMS Team) (Present for items 1 and 2)

*Apologies:*

Marijke Moll (MM)	(Field/Network TSC Representative, Rehabilitation and Related Therapies Field)
Deborah Pentesco-Gilbert (DP)	( <i>ex officio</i> , Wiley Representative)
Karen Robinson (KR)	( <i>ex officio</i> , Editor, Cochrane Methodology Review Group)
Hazim Timimi (HT)	( <i>ex officio</i> , Update Software Representative)
Susan Wieland (SW)	( <i>ex officio</i> , US Cochrane Center)

## **1. Melbourne Colloquium**

**Status:** It was agreed to schedule 2 2-hour meetings at the 13<sup>th</sup> Cochrane Colloquium on Monday, October 24 and Tuesday, October 25 from 7:30 am – 9:30 am. KD is the contact person for further arrangements for both of the meetings. Tea/coffee was requested for both of the meetings. Confirmation was received on April 24 from Steve McDonald.

## **2. CCAG subgroup to advise the IMSG**

**Status:** A long discussion took place during the last CCAG teleconference on March 24th, 2005 regarding this item of the agenda. At first, it was suggested that a subgroup would advise the IMSG on issues relevant to the feasibility of integrating specialized registers and

CENTRAL into the IMS and, if judged feasible, on the software and data entry aspects of the integration of specialized registers, CENTRAL and the IMS.

The following aspects were discussed regarding a possible CCAG subgroup:

- How often will this subgroup meet and by what mechanism?
- How will they collect advice?
- What will be the publisher's role on this subgroup?
- Who this Group will be accountable to?

The IMSG does not wish to have a say in the membership of the CCAG or the membership of CTAG as it relates to the much wider scope for the Advisory Group. The IMSG's interest relates only to that part of the remit and membership of the CCAG/CTAG which is concerned with the provision of advice to the IMSG. The discussion circled around whether or not a subgroup would be needed since CTAG (the group that is proposed to replace CCAG) will serve to address many of the same issues that the proposed subgroup would have. It was finally decided that the subgroup is not necessary since the CTAG will play a similar role. All agreed to go ahead with creating the CTAG, and suggestions were made on changes to be made to the CTAG remit. For example, we will specify more clearly the areas of expertise being sought for CTAG, such as experience with study-based registers, PsiTri, etc. CL suggested that it would be good to have a "skeptic" of study-based registers as a member of the CTAG, to represent those views within Cochrane. A group of people within the current CCAG will be led by SL to work on the remit to meet the deadline requested by IMSG of May 6, 2005.

***Action:** All to communicate via e-mail to provide feedback on draft CTAG remit document for the IMSG consideration.*

### **3. CCAG Membership**

**Status:** A 2-week notice was sent out to TSCs asking for nominations for two new TSC members of CCAG.

BG is stepping down this fall. Chris Del Mar from the Acute Respiratory Infections Group has volunteered to serve as a coordinating editor representative on CCAG.

### **4. Other items on agenda**

#### **4.1 Diagnostic Methods Group**

The Screening and Diagnosis Methods Group is planning on creating a study-based register. It would be beneficial to add a CCAG member representing that Group, to avoid duplication of effort, for example, a TSC representative.

*Action:* All agreed that a representative with ties to the Screening and Diagnosis Group should be added to CCAG, preferably a TSC.

#### **4.2 TSC Questionnaire**

A questionnaire was sent to CCAG members by Elena on March 22. The USCC would like to send out the questionnaire to TSCs to learn about the data fields in each specialized register. KD feels it is important for CCAG to have this information as it considers development of a study-based CENTRAL and needs of the TSCs. At least one member proposed that the survey should be put on hold until CTAG is formed, but not all members agreed.

*Action:* All to provide feedback.

#### **4.3 Other Action Items from Previous Meetings**

The group suggested more frequent CCAG teleconference meetings, to have the opportunity to discuss items on Attachments 1 and 1a (Summary Minutes from December 9, 2004 and March 24, 2005 CCAG teleconference) and other agenda items that have not yet been discussed.

*Action:* KD to schedule the next CCAG teleconference on the 2nd week in May, right after the IMSG meeting on May 6.