

## Dissemination criteria for Cochrane Reviews

Cochrane editorial and communications staff use the criteria outlined here to identify key information to support informed use of Cochrane evidence. Please review these criteria before completing the [Cochrane Dissemination Brief](#) for intervention and diagnostic reviews.

Question	Suggested criteria
1. Is the topic important in a clinical, global, or public health context?  2. What question does the review answer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevalence of risk factors or disease condition</li> <li>• Severity of disease condition, associated mortality or morbidity</li> <li>• Timeliness of the topic or condition addressed</li> <li>• Review title in the Cochrane Prioritization List?</li> </ul>
3. What does this review tell us?  4. How clear are the outcomes?  5. How does it change behaviour/patient care?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits and potential harms of the treatment or diagnostic test</li> <li>• Preferably based on absolute estimates of treatment effects rather than relative effects (e.g. relative reduction of 50% may mean absolute decrease in outcome from 2 in 1000 to 1 in 1000)</li> <li>• Number needed to treat (NNT), number needed to harm (NNH)</li> <li>• Statistical vs. clinical significance (results may be statistically significant but not relevant clinically)</li> <li>• Surrogate vs. clinical outcomes (e.g. bone mineral density vs. fractures)</li> </ul>
6. What's the strength of the evidence?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of evidence for benefits and harms of treatment or diagnostic test?</li> <li>• GRADE quality ratings for critical outcomes (benefits and harms); if update of an existing review, change in quality of evidence ratings</li> <li>• Limitations of the evidence (e.g. based on sample size, duration of follow-up, measurement of outcome, etc.)</li> <li>• Randomized vs. observational data</li> <li>• Potential conflict of interests?</li> </ul>

<p>7. What are the implications for research/practice?</p> <p>8. How does it inform practice or research?</p>	<p>Implications for practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits vs. harms</li> <li>• Comparators (placebo, standard therapy)</li> <li>• Approval of treatment or diagnostic procedure in different countries</li> <li>• Cost and availability of new treatment or diagnostic test vs. existing alternatives (e.g. surgical vs. drug therapy; invasive diagnostic test vs. physical exam). Based on data presented in the Background, Overall completeness and applicability of evidence and Implications for practice sections). If not known this should be stated.</li> <li>• Is the therapy already widely used?</li> </ul> <p>Implications for research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge gap e.g. highlight in BMJ Uncertainty Series if considerable uncertainty exist in practice</li> <li>• Ongoing studies?</li> </ul>
<p>9. Who do you want to reach? Academics, researchers, policymakers, practitioners, general public?</p>	
<p>10. Is it newsworthy?</p>	<p>Possible dissemination channel(s) based on these criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cochrane Blog</li> <li>• Editorial on Cochrane Library</li> <li>• Podcast</li> <li>• Featured Review on cochrane.org</li> <li>• Targeted</li> <li>• Social media</li> </ul>