International Mobility Program (virtual)
Cochrane Associate Centre - Instituto Universitario Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires

August 2020
Cochrane International Mobility Program

Our Cochrane Associate Centre formally launches an international exchange program focused on systematic review production, information retrieval, and knowledge translation (KT).

Host Cochrane Group

Our Associate Centre was founded in 2015 and we had gathered experience in the production of Cochrane reviews. We have published so far nine Cochrane reviews:

  - Awarded with Cochrane Review Support Programme
  - Awarded with 16º Beca del Consejo de Investigación del Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires

Our projects

We are currently conducting several Cochrane and non-Cochrane reviews. Furthermore, we conduct research on methods and knowledge translation. We are collaborating with the Cancer Network and the Urology Group with a focus on the prioritization of systematic review topics. We are developing a project on the availability of Cochrane evidence in Wikipedia. The full list of our projects can be found at our Open Science Framework site: [https://osf.io/vtp9j/](https://osf.io/vtp9j/)

Our people
Juan Franco is the director of the Centre. Juan is a family physician and a Contact Editor for the Cochrane Urology Group. He also holds a position at the Geographic Group’s Executive. He was recently appointed as a member of the Governing Board. Valeria Vietto is a family physician and coordinates the academic activities of the Centre. Camila Escobar is an information specialist and she is also a member of the Information Specialist Executive. Virginia Garrote is an information specialist, head of our Central Library. We currently have two research fellows: Pablo Roson (psychiatrist) and Luis Garegnani (physiotherapist).

Focus of the exchange
We currently have three possible focus, not mutually exclusive:

- **Systematic review production**: aimed at those interested in collaborating in ongoing projects or new systematic reviews. Tasks may include protocol formulation, screening, data extraction, etc. Some projects may include other forms of evidence synthesis (e.g. scoping reviews, evidence maps, etc.) Priority will be given to Cochrane reviews, those with allocated funds to the project and those linked to KT (e.g. reviews that will be used in guidelines). Applicants should ideally have a background in healthcare and advanced skills in evidence-based medicine.

- **Information retrieval**: aimed at those interested in developing skills in information retrieval and the associated methods. Applicants should ideally have a background on the subject (i.e. medical librarians) and experience in the use of medical databases (MEDLINE, LILACS, CENTRAL).

- **Knowledge translation**: aimed at those interested in collaborating in ongoing or new projects addressing the dissemination of evidence. Our main project now is the Spanish Wikipedia initiative where we work with undergraduate students improving the contents of articles focused on health topics. Applicants should be highly enthusiastic about communication and health literacy. We especially welcome (not exclusively) those with background on the subject (e.g. journalist).

We are open to other lines of work considering their feasibility and relevance.

**Outputs**
Specific outputs will be established based on the participant’s proposed project. It is expected that most projects will lead to a publication in a scientific journal, although other dissemination options will be considered in a case-by-case basis.

**Evaluation**
Successful completion of the programme will be assessed based on the participant’s attitude and satisfaction, achievement of expected objectives and outputs, and individual assessment by the participant mentor.

**Financial support**
There is no funding available

**Practical support / accommodation**
We are currently accepting applicants only for online exchanges considering the mobility challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Training support**
Our staff will be available for supervision. The training will be focused on the project selected by the participant; however, common training sessions and updates will be shared to all those
involved in the program. The participants will be given access to Cochrane training materials. All participants are expected to complete the basic training freely available at Cochrane Interactive Learning.

**Duration of exchange**
This will vary according to the project; however, a minimum of two months is expected in general. The call is available throughout the year, although our capacity to accompany more than one participant at a time is limited.

**Ideal applicant**
The ideal applicant has high interest in evidence-based medicine (EBM) and has at least basic knowledge of EBM. Depending on the project, further qualifications will be needed (see focus of the exchange). Excellent written English is required for Spanish speakers. For people who do not speak Spanish, good English is required for meetings.

**Contact information**
For applications related to systematic reviews and knowledge translation, please submit your motivation letter and CV to Juan Franco: juan.franco@hospitalitaliano.org.ar

For application related to information retrieval, please submit your motivation letter and CV to Camila Escobar: camila.escobar@hospitalitaliano.org.ar