



## Newsletter

November 2009

### **Welcome to the fifth CNCN newsletter, a special 'extended edition' to describe the outcomes of the inaugural CNCN Symposium held in Singapore last month**

We have now reached over 700 CNCN members from close to 30 countries which is continuing to rise. Our target is to have over 1000 members by the end of the year so please encourage all of your colleagues and students to visit the website and sign up!

### **Singapore Symposium**

The first inaugural CNCN Symposium was held in Singapore on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 2009. The two-day event was held at the National University of Singapore and co-organised by The Joanna Briggs Institute and the National University Hospital (NUH), Centre for Evidence-Based Nursing: A Collaborating Centre for Evidence Review in partnership with Alice Lee Nursing Centre for Nursing Studies (ALCNS), NUS and Human Resources Development, NUH.

The intention of the symposium was to establish a strong international collaboration to increase engagement of nurses, nursing care staff, carers and other professionals by raising awareness and interest regarding the CNCN, generate some discussion and debate regarding the role of the CNCN in promoting the use of Cochrane Reviews in informing nursing care and improving health outcomes and to

subsequently develop a plan for action for the CNCN to move forward as a functioning Cochrane entity.

The symposium was officially opened by Ms Pauline Tan, Chief Nursing Officer for the Ministry of Health, Singapore and was broken up into a series of presentations, interactive workshops and open forums, giving attendees an opportunity to raise questions or concerns about the purpose and processes of the CNCN. An impressive attendance of over 135 people was recorded, representing the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Peoples Republic of China, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Qatar, Singapore, United Kingdom, United States of America and Taiwan.

Proposed developments from the Symposium were:

- Expansion of the 5 existing CNCN nodes to include:
  - A Traditional Chinese Node led by Dr Pei-Fan Mu from Taiwan
  - A Simplified Chinese Node led by Professor Professor Hu Yan from Shanghai
  - A Fundamentals of Nursing Node led by Professor Alison Kitson (Australia) and Dr Suzi Robertson Malt (Qatar)
- Renaming the Nursing Care Non-English Node to the Nursing Care European Language Node
- Launching the CNCN Supplement in the International Journal of Nursing Practice (IJNP)
- Recruitment of participants to the Evidence Transfer Program (ETP)

- and initiating the CNCN Corner column and Podcast program
- Planning the following meeting in the next month:
    - “Engaging Nurses in the Cochrane Collaboration” – A half day satellite symposium, part of the Joanna Briggs Institute Convention

Some of the Node convenor/s has been allocated a section of this newsletter to notify you of the outcomes of their workshops and to tempt you into joining their group. Their contact details are available from the website.

For a full wrap up of the Symposium please visit the website to download the meeting notes, the presentation slides and photos from the event.

Lastly a special thanks to the NUH staff for organising such a terrific event, all of the speakers for presenting such interesting talks and to attendees for generating valuable discussion.

## **CNCN Nodes**

### **Nursing Care Review Prioritising Node**

The aim of this Node is to identify priority review topics/questions related to nursing care that are not currently covered by Cochrane reviews. The Node will actively promote Cochrane reviews across nursing care groups internationally and, through the CNCN website, seek suggestions for priority reviews, categorised by Cochrane Review Groups. The Node will encourage the development of Review Questions and direct potential authors to the Nursing Care

Review Support/CRG Liaison Node for advice, support and assistance in submitting Review Questions to the relevant CRG.

In doing this, aid in increasing the use of the Cochrane Library by nurses and others (such as formal and informal carers and other health professionals) involved in delivering, leading or research nursing care.

Following the inaugural meeting of the CNCN in Singapore and a presentation related to priority setting by Dr Ruth Jepson, Senior Research Fellow and Post Graduate Tutor, Department of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Stirling, Stirling, Scotland, UK, the CNCN aim to have a priority setting exercise that fits well into the wider Cochrane Collaborations priority setting strategy. It was clear from the meeting that there are a number of specific aspects of priority setting that could be considered important to development, the:

- clinical relevance and implications for practice
- burden of the disease
- degree of public interest
- support available for the review
- and the scale of any impact from the review

In addition areas such as care of older people and long term conditions were identified for specific significance.

There are currently a number of priority setting initiatives underway within Cochrane, and no consensus as to the

best model. However, there is an example of partnership working between a Field and a CRG to develop and implement priority setting that the CNCN node could draw upon. The CNCN needs to make sure any priority setting exercise is mindful of the challenges both internally and externally, and is sensitive to the other (perhaps competing) priorities that operate within the Cochrane Collaboration, and within countries, health care systems and clinical settings in which members of the CNCN work. Next steps for the node will be to consider a survey of Cochrane entities and the CNCN members to determine criteria for priorities, and topic areas. The node would wish to consider increasing its membership to make sure that it represents a range of people from different geographical locations and specialties. Finally, any priority setting exercise will need to take into account issues of equity to ensure that the topics that are prioritised do not favour one particular group of patients or health care setting.

#### **Nursing Care Review Support/Cochrane Review Group (CRG) Liaison Node**

The primary aim of this node is to develop support for nursing care practitioners as they seek to develop and conduct Cochrane systematic reviews. Four action points were developed at the Symposium which will provide a variety of opportunities for people to get involved with this node.

1. Develop a list of resources currently available that provide training and guidance in the conduct of Cochrane systematic reviews. Links to online resources will be collected in a dedicated part of the CNCN website and regularly

maintained. A calendar of face-to-face training events will also be developed and maintained. Reviews of other hard-copy training manuals and books will be developed and posted on the website. Anyone with information on the availability of such training resources is asked to contact the node convenor.

2. Mentoring opportunities for new Cochrane reviewers will be developed. Anyone with experience conducting Cochrane systematic reviews who is willing to mentor a new reviewer should let the node convenor know about their availability. A process will be developed whereby those interested in conducting their first Cochrane review can seek out a mentor with the most suitable experience and location.

3. A 'Tips and Tricks' column will be developed for the CNCN supplement to provide regular, practical ideas for the conduct of Cochrane systematic reviews relevant to nursing care. Those interested in contributing to this column, or who would like to suggest practical questions to be addressed in the column, should contact the node convenor.

4. A more long-term goal is to conduct a needs assessment for training and mentoring resources. This will include examining whether training resources are needed in particular languages and whether face-to-face training is needed in particular locations. Responses to these needs will be developed in collaboration with other relevant CNCN nodes.

The node co-convenors are Dónal O'Mathúna (Dublin City University, Ireland) and Joyce Kenkre (University of

Glamorgan, Wales). Please contact Dónal in response to the any of the opportunities above (donal.omathuna@dcu.ie).

### **Nursing Care Review Integration Node**

The workshop in Singapore was well attended, with over 100 participants. The aim of the workshop was to highlight the scope of the nodes activities and for participants to have opportunity to get some hands on experience with some of the practical aspects of identifying concepts related to nursing care. The exercise involved cross comparing the scope of Cochrane Review Groups against two nursing classification systems. The exercises were enthusiastically received and participants were keen to hear from the Node coordinators when they are ready to link up internationally.

### **Nursing Care European Language Node (previously the Nursing Care Non-English Node).**

Node Co-Convenors: Teresa Moreno-Casbas, Esther González-María, Micheline Gobert, Bart Geurden and Sabine Lins.

The aims of this node are:

- ~ To identify topics/questions related to nursing care priority for European countries and those with one of European languages, that are not covered by existing Cochrane reviews
- ~ To identify those Cochrane reviews that need to be updated with European languages
- ~ To contribute to the dissemination of Nursing Care Cochrane related reviews

~ To actively promote Cochrane reviews across nursing care groups internationally and, through the CNCN website

~ To seek suggestions for priority reviews, categorised by Cochrane Review Groups

~ To encourage the development of Review Questions and direct potential authors to the Nursing Care Review Prioritising Node for advice, support and assistance in submitting Review Questions to the relevant CRG

The following activities will be the focus in the next year:

- ~ To include other European language countries such as Germany, Belgium, Italian, Denmark in the node activities
- ~ To identify RCTs in these languages
- ~ To identify Nursing Care Cochrane related reviews
- ~ Collaborate with the Nursing Care Review Prioritising Node with the priorities from these countries
- ~ Identify groups able to translate papers into their own languages
- ~ To summarise and publish in these languages nursing care related Cochrane reviews (NCCSR)
- ~ To help others groups with critical appraisal for NCCSR

If you wish to be member of this node, you can visit:

<http://www.evidenciaencuidados.es>

### **Simplified Chinese Node**

The aim of the Simplified Chinese Node is to identify and summarise nursing care

Cochrane related resources published in Simplified Chinese. The specific activities of the node include: identifying RCTs, CCTs and nursing care Cochrane related reviews published in Simplified Chinese language, to summarise, publish, and update nursing care related Cochrane review in Simplified Chinese, to collaborate with the prioritising group with the priorities from mainland China, and to help with critical appraisal to other groups in NCCSR.

#### **Traditional Chinese Node**

This Node is responsible for enhancing evidence-based nursing care in relation to Chinese culture by: translating nursing care evidence-based papers that are currently covered by Cochrane reviews and JBI-CONNECT, identifying the priority topics/questions related to nursing care in Chinese culture in which Cochrane reviews will need updating, identifying nursing care relevant primary studies through searching databases and hand searching relevant journals and conference proceedings published in the traditional character of Chinese. Furthermore, the Node will actively promote Cochrane reviews across nursing care groups internationally and, through the CNCN website.

#### **Cochrane Nursing Care Journal coming in 2010!**

The *CNC Journal* – a new supplement to be published in the International Journal of Nursing Practice - will be a substantive contribution to nursing care internationally from the CNCN. It will include a range of features and sections designed to increase

awareness of Cochrane by nurses and others associated with nursing care; to improve access and usage of Cochrane reviews; and promote the ongoing contribution of nurses to the Cochrane Collaboration.

Each issue will include:

- A topical editorial from the CNCN Journal Editorial Board;
- An Overview Review of Cochrane reviews relevant to a specific area of nursing care
- An open section for the submission of papers (see below for further detail)
- News and information on the CNCN and the Cochrane Collaboration
- A “tips and tricks” column designed to promote understanding and accessibility of relevant statistics
- Transcripts of recent CNCN podcasts, and a link to the podcast website where you can download the mp3s

The CNCN Journal is calling for authors who have conducted implementation or evaluation projects that used Cochrane resources (these may include audit or quality improvement projects, research or systematic review based projects.)

You may be interested in working with others on a Cochrane overview of reviews – if so, please contact the receiving editor Craig Lockwood ([craig.lockwood@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:craig.lockwood@adelaide.edu.au)) to indicate your interest. The CNCN Journal will be publishing an ongoing series of overviews of Cochrane reviews commencing with its first issue in 2010.

## **CNCN Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The CNCN held its first AGM on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October during the Cochrane Colloquium. Please visit the website to view the minutes.

## **CNCN Evidence Transfer Program (ETP)**

The CNCN is pleased to announce that *The International Journal of Evidence-Based HealthCare* (IJEbHC) is the first journal to agree to publish review summaries as part of the CNCN ETP.

We are also in the final stages of negotiations with a handful of other international nursing journals that want to be involved in the ETP. Please watch the website for more information as it unfolds.

We still require more CNCN members to become involved in the program by developing summaries of Cochrane Reviews related to nursing care. By being part of this program, you will become a published author in an international journal as well as being acknowledged on the CNCN website.

We are also looking for CNCN members who want to be involved in our podcast program. If you have any experience with podcasting or just want to be involved please contact us: [cncn@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:cncn@adelaide.edu.au)

## **Final reminder - CNCN International Symposium on “Engaging Nurses in the Cochrane Collaboration” November 2009**

The CNCN will be the focus of a one-day symposium on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November, as part of the Joanna Briggs Institute Convention. This event will be hosted in Adelaide, Australia and will be a great opportunity to raise awareness of the CNCN and to discuss the outcomes of the Symposium. If you would like more information contact [chris.cafcakis@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:chris.cafcakis@adelaide.edu.au)

## **Cochrane News**

The first ever published overview of reviews is available to access through the Cochrane Library. The topic is on the effects of different disease modifying drugs in rheumatoid arthritis.

The Cochrane Journal Club has recently been launched. The club presents a recent Cochrane review, along with background information and podcasts, as well as a set of discussion questions to help guide you through the review methods and findings in greater detail. For more information visit [www.cochranejournalclub.com](http://www.cochranejournalclub.com)

The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews has recently been awarded an Impact Factor of 5.182. This is higher than the previous year, demonstrating the importance of Cochrane reviews.

## **Contact Us**

If you would like to make any suggestions for information to be included into the newsletter or have any questions about the

CNCN you can contact us by email:

[cncn@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:cncn@adelaide.edu.au)

Our website:

<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/cncn/index.php>