

Synthesizing Working Group Notes from Webex call on 22 July 2020 https://mcmaster.webex.com/meet/rise

Participating on call Brenda Allen Kawala Cheow Peng Ooi David Tovey Gabriel Rada Karla Soares-Weiser Stephanie Chang Taryn Young Vivian Welch

Presenters from Digitizing working group: Alfonso Iorio and Chris Mavergames Secretariat: Anna Dion and Safa Al-Khateeb

1. FOLLOW-UP ON ACTION ITEMS

- a. Notes from last meeting and any additional comments (see attachment 2)
- Taryn reviewed notes from previous meeting

2. DIGITIZING WORKING GROUP PRESENTATION ON 'IMPROVE MY RIS FILE' PROJECT (see attachment 3)

- Alfonso presented the "Enhance my RIS" presentation, highlighting that the group is open to adapting and tailoring to what is most useful to community
- David and Alfonso emphasized that this work is a proof-of-concept and is intended to be a foundation to build upon (e.g. leading to federated searches, searching across multiple databases)

ACTION: Working group members to review presentation in detail and share comments back to Alfonso and Chris and/or on the MS Teams site

3. EQUITY IN EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS AND ACROSS COVID-END

- Vivian shared presentation on equity considerations in evidence synthesis and COVID
- Karla shared that Cochrane continue to be in discussion with WHO about how to support reviews that are relevant to LMICs and incorporate equity considerations in priority setting in Cochrane. Suggested sharing Vivian's webinar as resource.
- Karla invited suggestions about practical inclusions to Cochrane's template for the rapid review protocol

- Need practical ways to encourage consideration of differential impacts in a way that can be useful to decision-makers
- David suggested sharing presentation at partners meeting, asking working groups to identify additional resources

ACTION: Anna to coordinate with Secretariat to include in a presentation to partners in August

3. IDENTIFYING NEXT PRIORITIES IN TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of reference

- 1. Contribute to the development and maintenance of the resources and tools for researchers considering and conducting COVID-19 evidence syntheses and encouraging its use by researchers and evidence users to avoid unnecessary duplication
- 2. Encourage updating or extending existing reviews in conjunction with other interested groups within and beyond COVID-END
- 3. Share evidence tables that can be used in local guideline-development processes (or local evidence-contextualization processes more generally)
- 4. Identify and promote guidance and expectations for conducting and reporting all the different forms of evidence synthesis that may be used to inform decisions and address issues related to COVID-19
- 5. Promote and share the quality assurance, publishing, translation and other benefits that come from working with major international evidence producers and publishers and considering how these should be applied in the context of COVID-19
- 6. Draft guidance for and promote living reviews (and living guidelines) where appropriate as an emerging standard for evidence synthesis in the context of COVID-19, ensuring that these encompass different content areas, intervention and review types
- Taryn asked if group interested in address sharing evidence tables for guidance development (item #3 in TORs) and potential to engage with Recommending working group
- Gabriel shared some challenges in working with evidence tables as many evidence tables are not up to date; may be helpful to share data to build tables than sharing table themselves

ACTION: Group agreed to revisit this discussion and whether helpful to coordinate with Recommending group (Note: notes from June 24th working group meeting discussing evidence tables is pasted below meeting notes for reference)

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS