# The Cochrane Knowledge Translation Strategy

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Cochrane Rehabilitation (CR) is aimed to ensure that all rehabilitation professionals can apply Evidence Based Clinical Practice and take decisions according to the best and most appropriate evidence in this specific field, combining the best available evidence as gathered by high quality Cochrane systematic reviews, with their own clinical expertise and the values of patients. The main activities of CR are: networking, knowledge translation and improving methodology in rehabilitation.

It is well known how difficult it is to effectively apply in everyday life what we would like to do and to apply the scientific knowledge in the clinical field: this is called the "know-do gap". In the field of Evidence Based Medicine, where Cochrane belongs, it has been proven that high quality evidence is not consistently applied in practice. A solution to these problems is the so-called "Knowledge Translation". In this context, Cochrane Rehabilitation is organized to provide the best possible Knowledge Translation in both directions (bridging function), toward the world of rehabilitation (spreading reviews), and to the Cochrane community (production of reviews significant for rehabilitation). The evolution of Cochrane toward Knowledge Translation creates the base for Cochrane Rehabilitation work, but also for the production of evidence more meaningful for the world of rehabilitation. To do this, CR has begun the "tagging" of Cochrane Systematic Reviews relevant for rehabilitation, to make them more accessible to stakeholders and to disseminate them, through CR communication tools, such as social media, website, newsletters and blogshots. An e-book on Rehabilitation will be produced, reporting and summarizing the available Cochrane Rehabilitation evidence to the clinical, scientific, political and public communities.

Randomized controlled trials (RCTs), the gold standard in research, may be difficult to carry out in rehabilitation practice due to specific contextual factors. Therefore, new methods are needed to evaluate the quality of other sources of evidence in rehabilitation, in order to inform healthcare decision makers.

CR has created a methodology committee that will work on this goal with the Cochrane Methods groups and has submitted a paper about the pros and cons of RCTs in rehabilitation.

**Keywords:** knowledge translation, dissemination, evidence-based clinical practice, Cochrane, rehabilitation.