

Using the Cochrane Library

The Cochrane Library is a collection of databases that contain high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making. It includes reliable evidence from Cochrane reviews and other systematic reviews, assessments and clinical trials. You can search over all these databases or you can select which one you want to search in:

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

This investigates the effects of interventions for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation in a healthcare setting.

The database also includes the full text of systematic reviews of empirical methodological studies. These contain all known references to trials on a particular intervention and a comprehensive summary of the available evidence. The reviews are therefore also valuable sources of information for those receiving care, as well as for decision makers and researchers.

Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE)

DARE is the only database to contain abstracts of systematic reviews that have been quality-assessed. Each abstract includes a summary of the review together with a critical commentary about the overall quality. It includes over 3000 abstracts of reviews in fields as diverse as diagnostic tests, public health, health promotion, pharmacology, surgery, psychology and the organization and delivery of health care.

DARE complements the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* by quality-assessing and summarizing reviews that have not yet been carried out by The Cochrane Collaboration.

Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL)

CENTRAL includes details of published randomised control trial (RCT) articles taken from bibliographic databases (notably MEDLINE and EMBASE), and other published and unpublished sources. They may contain a summary but not the full text of the article.

Cochrane Methodology Register (CMR)

The Cochrane Methodology Register is a bibliography of publications which report on methods used in the conduct of controlled trials. It includes journal articles, books and conference proceedings. The database contains studies of methods used in reviews and more general methodological studies which could be relevant to anyone preparing systematic reviews. CMR records do not contain the full text of articles but may include a summary.

Health Technology Assessment Database (HTA)

The HTA database brings together details of completed and ongoing health technology assessments (studies of the medical, social, ethical and economic implications of healthcare interventions) from around the world. The aim of the database is to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care.

NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHSEED)

NHS EED assists decision-makers by systematically identifying economic evaluations from around the world, appraising their quality and highlighting their relative strengths and weaknesses. The database contains over 5000 abstracts of quality-assessed economic evaluations.

Searching Cochrane

A) You can either use the Browse tab to browse various parts of the database to look through the reviews by topic alphabetically

or...

B) you can search for a specific topic:

Search

Just enter your search term or terms into the Search box (e.g. **heart attack drugs**) and click the Go button to get a list of results. The terms will be combined to find all the results on drugs and heart attacks. If you want to search alternative terms because you are not sure which is the best to use combine them with a comma (e.g. **heart attack, myocardial infarction** will be a more comprehensive search)

Search Manager

Search manager allows you to conduct several searches and then combine the individual elements. Each strand is given a search set number, e.g.: #2. At any point you can combine sets using Boolean operators, as illustrated in this simple example:

Search	Search Manager	Medical Terms (MeSH)	Browse	
To search an exact word(s) use quotation marks, e.g. "hospital" finds hospital; hospital (no quotation marks) finds hospital and hospitals; pay finds paid, pays, paying, payed				
Add to top				
[-]	[+]	#1 heart attack:ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)	[S] 1180	
[-]	[Edit]	[+]	#2 drugs	[m] 297115
[-]	[Edit]	[+]	#3 #1 and #2	[m] 885
[-]	[+]	#4	[m] [m]	N/A

The Boolean operators are AND, OR, NOT and must be entered in capital letters.

To display results click on the box containing the number of results.

Results list:

There are 97 results from 7530 records for your search on #3 - #1 and #2 in Cochrane Reviews in the strategy currently being edited

Pages 1 - 25 | 26 - 50 | 51 - 75 | 76 - 97

Sort by Relevance

Select all | Export all | Export selected

- Anticoagulants for preventing recurrence following presumed non-cardioembolic ischaemic stroke or transient ischaemic attack
Peter AG Sandercock , Lorna M Gibson and Ming Liu
April 2009
Ns Review
- Triflusal for preventing serious vascular events in people at high risk
João Costa , José M Ferro , Jordi Matias-Guiu , Jose Alvarez-Sabin and Ferran Torres
January 2009
Review
- Dipyridamole for preventing stroke and other vascular events in patients with vascular disease
Els LLM De Schryver , Ale Algra and Jan van Gijn
September 2010
Cm Review
- Anticoagulants versus antiplatelet therapy for preventing stroke in patients with nonrheumatic atrial fibrillation and a history of stroke or transient ischemic attack
Ritu Saxena and Peter J Koudstaal
April 2011
Cm Review
- Anticoagulants for preventing stroke in patients with nonrheumatic atrial fibrillation and a history of stroke or transient ischaemic attack
Ritu Saxena and Peter J Koudstaal
April 2011

Filters on the left:

- Cochrane Reviews (97)
 - All
 - Review
 - Protocol
 - Other Reviews (0)
 - Trials (779)
 - Methods Studies (6)
 - Technology Assessments (1)
 - Economic Evaluations (2)
 - Cochrane Groups (0)
- All
- Current Issue
- Me Methodology
- Dg Diagnostic
- Ov Overview
- Cc Conclusions changed
- Ns New search
- Mc Major change
- Up Update
- Wd Withdrawn
- Cm Comment

You can restrict your results by different types, including review and protocol

Key:

Review is a the full review, including results, discussion and an odds-ratio diagram for the review

Protocol is an outline of reviews in preparation including the background, rationale and methods.

Comment is a full review that also contains commentary and criticism. Readers can submit their own comments which are incorporated into the review and answered by the author.

New is a new protocol or review that has been published in the most recent quarter.

Update is a review that has been published in the most recent quarter.

Click on the item result title to view the full text. Most entries will have at least two different file types for you to download, usually including a pdf option.

Please also the separate article od downloading references to EndNote.