Cochrane impact factors for 2011 released

In June 2012, the impact factors of all journals indexed in the ISI Journal Citation Report were published. The 2011 impact factor for the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (The Cochrane Library) is 5.912. The individualised 2011 impact factor for the Cochrane ENT Group is 3.667 (24 publications cited 88 times). In other words, a review published by the Ear, Nose and Throat Disorders Group in 2009 or 2010 was cited, on average, 3.667 times in 2011. This made us the top-ranking ENT journal.

The top 10 cited ENT reviews in 2011 were:

1. Sublingual immunotherapy for allergic rhinitis
2. Erythropoietin as an adjuvant treatment with (chemo) radiation therapy for head and neck cancer
3. Tinnitus retraining therapy (TRT) for tinnitus
4. Grommets (ventilation tubes) for hearing loss associated with otitis media with effusion in children
5. Tonsillectomy for periodic fever, aphthous stomatitis, pharyngitis and cervical adenitis syndrome (PFAPA)
6. Cognitive behavioural therapy for tinnitus
7. Surgery for tympanic membrane retraction pockets
8. House dust mite avoidance measures for perennial allergic rhinitis
9. Adenoidectomy for otitis media in children
10. Vasodilators and vasoactive substances for idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss

Funded ENT projects

In 2011, we received a Cochrane/National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) (UK) Incentive Award for a systematic review of ‘Antibiotics for otitis media with effusion in children’ (van Zon et al). This important review was completed and published in Issue 9, 2012 of The Cochrane Library.

Our NHS-Cochrane Engagement Award project ‘Helping commissioners, managers and GPs make more use of Cochrane reviews: an investigation focused on ENT disorders’, undertaken in conjunction with the Department of Primary Care at the University of Oxford, was successfully completed in 2011. Recommended changes to our reviews that were an outcome of this project have already been implemented, with the development of linked video content demonstrating the Epley manoeuvre and Dill-Hallpike test.

In 2011 we were successful in our joint application with the University of Utrecht for UK Health Technology Assessment (HTA) funding for an individual patient data meta-analysis on a priority topic: ‘Adenoidectomy with or without grommets in children with otitis media with effusion (OME)’. This project is now nearing completion; the findings were discussed and agreed at a productive and enjoyable joint meeting of the project team and triallists in Oxford in September 2012.
New Cochrane ENT reviews published & in progress

The last 12 months have seen publication in The Cochrane Library of 7 new reviews, 13 new protocols and 4 updated reviews.

New reviews published
- Antibiotics for otitis media with effusion in children
- Antivirals for idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss
- Exercise interventions for shoulder dysfunction in patients treated for head and neck cancer
- Helmint therapy (worms) for allergic rhinitis
- Interventions for atrophic rhinitis
- Modifications of the Epley (canalith repositioning) manoeuvre for posterior canal benign paroxysmal positional vertigo (BPPV)
- Surgery for congenital choanal atresia

Updated reviews published
- Interventions for recurrent idiopathic epistaxis (nosebleeds) in children
- Surgical versus non-surgical interventions for vocal cord nodules
- Antidepressants for patients with tinnitus
- Hyperbaric oxygen for idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss and tinnitus

New protocols published
- Acid reflux treatment for globus pharyngeus
- Acupuncture for sudden idiopathic sensorineural hearing loss
- Amplification with hearing aids for patients with tinnitus and co-existing hearing loss
- Antioxidants for idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss
- Anti-reflux treatment for signs and symptoms of laryngopharyngeal reflux
- Fine-needle aspiration cytology versus core-needle biopsy for major salivary gland lesions
- Interventions for the treatment of Frey's syndrome
- Low-level laser therapy for tinnitus
- Perioperative local anaesthesia for reducing pain following tonsillectomy (registration by new team to update existing review)
- Sentinel lymph node biopsy for oral/oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma
- Steroid-eluting sinus stent for chronic rhinosinusitis patients undergoing functional endoscopic sinus surgery
- Photodynamic therapy (PDT) for recurrent respiratory papillomatosis
- Psychosocial interventions for patients with head and neck cancer
- Radiosurgery for acoustic neuroma
- Zinc supplementation for tinnitus

New titles registered
- Interventions for oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma: effects on swallowing outcomes
- Interventions to improve hearing aid use in adult auditory rehabilitation
- Non-surgical interventions for human papilloma virus-positive local advanced oropharyngeal squamous cell cancer
- Perioperative local anaesthesia for reducing pain following tonsillectomy (registration by new team to update existing review)
- Sentinel lymph node biopsy for oral/oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma
- Steroid-eluting sinus stent for chronic rhinosinusitis patients undergoing functional endoscopic sinus surgery
- Therapeutic ultrasound for chronic rhinosinusitis
- Virtual reality training for improving the skills needed for performing surgery of the ear, nose or throat
- Water precautions for prevention of infection following tympanostomy tube (grommet) insertion in children

A full list of all of our published reviews and those in progress, along with our complete topic list, can be found on our website at: http://ent.cochrane.org/our-reviews. We are always happy to discuss any ideas for systematic reviews from prospective authors. Managing Editor Jenny Bellorini can be contacted at jenny.bellorini@nds.ox.ac.uk for advice.

The Cochrane Library submission deadlines & publication dates

The following are the last key dates for 2012. Dates for 2013 submissions/publication will be found at http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/PublicationDates.html when released by Wiley.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Submission deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issue 10, 2012</td>
<td></td>
<td>17 October 2012</td>
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<td>Issue 11, 2012</td>
<td>18 October 2012</td>
<td>14 November 2012</td>
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<td>Issue 12, 2012</td>
<td>15 November 2012</td>
<td>12 December 2012</td>
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*This is the last date by which the Cochrane ENT Group editorial team can submit finalised reviews and protocols for publication.
### Top 10 tinnitus research questions

In September 2012, the James Lind Alliance (JLA) Tinnitus Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) published the top 10 research uncertainties for tinnitus agreed by patients and clinicians:

1. What management strategies are more effective than a usual model of audiological care in improving outcomes for people with tinnitus?
2. Is cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT), delivered by audiology professionals, effective for people with tinnitus? Here comparisons might be with usual audiological care or CBT delivered by a psychologist.
3. What management strategies are more effective for improving tinnitus-related insomnia than a usual model of care?
4. Do any of the various available complementary therapies provide improved outcome for people with tinnitus compared with a usual model of care?
5. What type of digital hearing aid or amplification strategy provides the most effective tinnitus relief?
6. What is the optimal set of guidelines for assessing children with tinnitus?
7. How can tinnitus be effectively managed in people who are deaf or who have a profound hearing loss?
8. Are there different types of tinnitus and can they be explained by different mechanisms in the ear or brain?
9. What is the link between tinnitus and hyperacusis (oversensitivity to sounds)?
10. Which medications have proven to be effective in tinnitus management compared with placebo?

### Could you help us with occasional translation?

When our authors are working on their systematic reviews they frequently identify trials published in languages other than English. As the range of international databases we search on behalf of authors has expanded over the years, the number of non-English language papers encountered has steadily increased. These papers need to be assessed for eligibility for potential inclusion in our reviews and, if they meet the necessary criteria, have data and other information extracted. For this we need a pool of volunteers with a wide range of languages that we can call on from time to time.

We are enormously grateful to the Cochrane authors who already regularly help us out with occasional translation; from a basic quick check for eligibility to full data extraction. We always need more translators, however. If you have a language and would be able to offer occasional help please get in touch with Jenny Bellorini, Managing Editor (jenny.bellorini@nds.ox.ac.uk).

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### UK Cochrane meeting 2013

Registration will soon be open for the 2013 Cochrane UK & Ireland 21st Anniversary Symposium. This meeting is open to all Cochrane contributors based in the UK, Ireland and other parts of the world that have the UK as their reference Cochrane Centre. The meeting will take place on **Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March 2013 at the Said Business School in Oxford**. This will be an occasion to celebrate the 21st birthday of the Cochrane Collaboration, reflecting on the beginning of the UK Cochrane Centre and all that has been achieved over the years. The meeting will convene on the Wednesday afternoon for a plenary session at which Chief Medical Officer Professor Dame Sally Davies will be speaking, followed by a ‘Gala Birthday Dinner’ to be held at Balliol College hall in the evening. There will then be a full day of activities - plenary sessions and workshops - on Thursday. Whilst the main meeting finishes on Thursday evening, various groups will be holding business meetings on Friday. For further details see the UK Cochrane Centre website: [http://ukcc.cochrane.org/](http://ukcc.cochrane.org/).
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Details of The Cochrane Library can be found on the Cochrane Collaboration website http://www.cochrane.org

For subscription information please see: http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/

Residents in a number of countries or regions can access The Cochrane Library online for free through a ‘provision’ or a special scheme. These exist for the following geographic areas: Australia; Canada (New Brunswick, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Yukon, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan); Denmark; Finland; India; Ireland; Latin America and the Caribbean; low-income countries; New Zealand; Norway; Pakistan; South African Cochrane Centre Sponsorship; Spain; Sweden; United Kingdom; United States (Wyoming).

For full details see http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/ ('Access').

The Cochrane Centres
There are currently 14 Cochrane Centres around the world, located in:

Australia (Monash) (http://acc.cochrane.org/); Brazil (São Paulo) (http://www.centrocochranedobrasil.org/); Canada (Ottawa) (http://ccnc.cochrane.org/); China (Chengdu) (http://www.ebm.org.cn/); France (Paris) (email: juliane.ried@htd.aphp.fr); Germany (Freiburg) (http://www.cochrane.de/de/index.htm); Iberoamerican (Barcelona) (http://www.cochrane.es/); Italy (Milan) (http://www.cochrane.it/); The Netherlands (Amsterdam) (http://dcc.cochrane.org/); Nordic (Copenhagen) (http://www.cochrane.dk/); South Africa (Cape Town) (http://www.mrc.ac.za/cochrane/cochrane.htm); South Asian (Vellore) (www.cochrane-sacn.org); UK (Oxford) (http://www.cochrane.co.uk/); USA (Baltimore) (http://www.cochrane.us/).

All the centres provide support for Cochrane review authors and other volunteers in their areas. Details can be found on the Cochrane website (http://www.cochrane.org) or obtained from the Cochrane ENT Group.