

ICMR Advanced Centre for Research & Training in Evidence-Informed Health Care

Strategic Plan

August 2007- August 2012

The goals, themes and activities of the funding from the ICMR form part of the Strategic Plan of the SACNC and are:

GOAL 1: Build capacity among network sites of the South Asian Cochrane Network to undertake training workshops in developing systematic reviews and contribute towards evidence based practice

Theme 1 *Building/increasing capacity, support and co-ordination of network sites in India*

Activity 1.1 Establish a 'train-the-trainers' program to build training capacity at the Network sites across India

Activity 1.2 Co-ordinate Cochrane systematic review training activities in India

Activity 1.3 Monitor Cochrane Systematic review training activities in India

Activity 1.4 Identify strengths in network sites and facilitate the development of programmes that optimally use these strengths to further the overall goals of the proposal

GOAL 2: Identifying and prioritizing locally relevant areas for research

Theme 2 *Prioritizing systematic reviews and identifying evidence-practice gaps*

Activity 2.1 In collaboration with clinicians, policy makers, researchers and consumers identify areas where evidence exists but needs to be synthesized in systematic reviews

Activity 2.2 In collaboration with clinicians, policy makers, researchers and consumers identify areas where randomized trials are required

Activity 2.3 Encourage funding agencies / ethics committees to require that evidence from systematic reviews is included in funding applications for randomized trials before new trials are funded / permitted

Goal 3 *Increasing capacity to understand the role of and to undertake systematic reviews*

Theme 3 *Training and supporting review authors in India*

Activity 3.1 Provide introductory sessions / workshops regarding the role of systematic reviews in healthcare at local, regional and national conferences

Activity 3.2 Conduct workshops that train review authors in developing protocols for systematic reviews

Activity 3.3 Provide workshops on basic and advanced statistics in meta-analysis

- Activity 3.4 Conduct workshops to help authors' complete systematic reviews
- Activity 3.5 Provide mentorship programmes for review authors
- Activity 3.6 Providing help in running searches for trials and retrieving trials to include in systematic reviews
- Activity 3.7 Develop distance learning technology/packages for systematic reviews

Goal 4 Making research from India and South Asia available

Theme 4 Maintaining a register of published and unpublished trials from South Asia

- Activity 4.1 Establish a register of published trials from Indian and South Asian Medical and International journals conducted in India and South Asia
- Activity 4.2 Hand-search South Asian journals that are not indexed to identify clinical trials
- Activity 4.3 Search conference proceedings from South Asia for unpublished trials
- Activity 4.4 Establish a register of dissertations to identify unpublished trials

GOAL 5 Informing healthcare decisions through the uptake of evidence from systematic reviews

Theme 5 Promoting use of The Cochrane Library

- Activity 5.1 Publicize the national provision to *The Cochrane Library*
- Activity 5.2 Provide training on using *The Cochrane Library*
- Activity 5.3 Evaluate existing training materials for *The Cochrane Library* and develop additional training materials as required

Theme 6 Disseminating information in The Cochrane Library

- Activity 6.1 Prepare and disseminate Evidence Updates (two-page summaries of Cochrane reviews) in areas of national health priority
- Activity 6.2 Prepare and disseminate introductions to evaluating systematic reviews and Evidence Updates
- Activity 6.3 Evaluate use of Evidence Updates by clinicians

Theme 7 Disseminate information about Systematic reviews, The Cochrane Library and Evidence Based Practice

- Activity 7.1 Write articles in the lay press on evidence based practice
- Activity 7.2 Write articles in medical journals on understanding and undertaking systematic reviews, and on evidence based practice

GOAL 6 Increasing capacity and skills for evidence-based practice

Theme 8 Increase capacity among policy makers to access, appraise, and implement evidence-based health policy

GOAL 6 Increasing capacity and skills for evidence-based practice

Theme 8 ***Increase capacity among policy makers to access, appraise, and implement evidence based health policy***

- Activity 8.1 Hold workshops for policy makers on the role of systematic reviews, the Cochrane Library and other EBM resources in providing reliable evidence on interventions used in healthcare
- Activity 8.2 Include policy makers in workshops that support the production of systematic reviews
- Activity 8.3 Appraise national guidelines for the inclusion of evidence-based recommendations
- Activity 8.4 Attempt to change policy through dissemination of reliable evidence from systematic reviews when needed

Theme 9 ***Increasing capacity among clinicians to access, appraise and implement evidence based practice***

- Activity 9.1 Hold workshops in local, regional and national conferences on evidence based practice
- Activity 9.2 Develop distance education tools in evidence based practice and on auditing clinical practice against evidence-based guide lines
- Activity 9.3 Develop and offer fellowships and short courses in research methods, critical appraisal, accessing evidence based guidelines and using evidence from systematic reviews
- Activity 9.4 Introduce modules on systematic reviews, critical appraisal and evidence based practice in undergraduate and postgraduate curricula

Goal 7 **Improving the transparency, conduct and reporting of clinical trials in India**

Theme 10 ***Encouraging the prospective registration of clinical trials in India and the region***

- Activity 10.1 Collaborate with the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform and the Clinical Trials Registry-India (www.ctri.in) in facilitating the prospective registration of clinical trials

Theme 11 **Facilitating better conduct of clinical trials in India**

- Activity 11.1 Evaluate the quality of conduct and reporting of trials from India
- Activity 11.2 Conduct workshops on improving the design, conduct and reporting of clinical trials

GOAL 8 **Contributing to the Cochrane Collaboration and coordinating Cochrane activities in South Asia**

Theme 12 ***Establishing a South Asian Cochrane Centre and Network***

- Activity 12.1 Establish a South Asian Cochrane Centre and Network with its coordinating centre at CMC Vellore
- Activity 11.2 Integrate training and support activities within all countries in South Asia
- Activity 11.3 Organize an annual EBM seminar/conference in different locations in India and the region