

Newsletter



News from the network – May 2025

Core GRADE: a new series of papers providing guidance to the essentials of the GRADE approach

Core GRADE describes the essentials of the GRADE approach in a single series of papers – and includes seven papers in the BMJ. It comes not as an official product of the GRADE Working Group, but rather as the collaborative effort of a group of GRADE experts.

Core GRADE was produced in response to the need for a concise, well organised exposition of the key elements of GRADE. You can read more about the rationale in this introductory paper: [Why Core GRADE is needed: introduction to a new series in The BMJ | The BMJ](#)

The first five parts are published and the final two will come within short.

[Core GRADE 1: overview of the Core GRADE approach | The BMJ](#)

[Core GRADE 2: choosing the target of certainty rating and assessing imprecision | The BMJ](#)

[Core GRADE 3: rating certainty of evidence—assessing inconsistency | The BMJ](#)

[Core GRADE 4: rating certainty of evidence—risk of bias, publication bias, and reasons for rating up certainty | The BMJ](#)

[Core GRADE 5: rating certainty of evidence—assessing indirectness | The BMJ](#)

Cochrane Finland's relaunch

Cochrane Finland has a strong history in evidence-based medicine and the Cochrane network, but recent activities have been fragmented and need reorganization. Thus, the Cochrane Finland (CF-Center) is during spring and summer 2025 restarting its activities in collaboration with the Finnish Medical Society Duodecim and the National Coordination Centre for Health Technology Assessment (FinCCHTA) unit of the Northern Ostrobothnia Welfare Area.

The CF-Center will operate as a Cochrane Associate Centre, communicating Cochrane's work and publications, maintaining international connections, and supporting Cochrane review authors. It will also, in collaboration with other organizations, provide evidence-based medicine training and organize national or regional events in Finland.

The collaboration between Duodecim and FinCCHTA will finance the CF-Center equally. Both organizations will offer necessary support services.

An advisory group has been established, consisting of members from Duodecim, FinCCHTA, and external individuals. Dr. Jorma Komulainen has been nominated as the director of CF-Center for the years 2025-27 and he will represent the center both nationally and internationally. The preliminary budget plan for 2025-2027 is limited, including various expenses related to support services, Nordic and international cooperation, national cooperation, and communication.

We in Cochrane Finland are looking forward to cooperating with other Nordic Cochrane groups.

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Invitation to take part in a study on Summary of Findings (SoF) tables

Colleagues at the University of Split School of Medicine are conducting a research study that explores the cognitive interaction of different user groups with Summary of Findings (SoF) tables and are looking for participants (experts with experience in systematic reviews). The study is designed as an experimental online task where participants are presented with four interactive SoF tables and corresponding questions. The SoF tables are displayed on one screen, while the questions appear on a separate screen. Participants must switch between the two by clicking the top right corner of their screen.

To simulate realistic cognitive processing and track decision-making, key segments of the SoF tables are blurred. Participants must actively click to reveal the information they need in order to answer the questions. The system records which fields are accessed and how frequently participants return to specific sections.

The study includes three distinct groups: experts (GRADE and Cochrane contributors), practicing clinicians, and healthcare consumers (including patients and students). Each participant receives a unique username and password to access the study platform.

This study has been approved by the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split.

If you are interested, please contact: nina.vitlov@gmail.com



Training opportunities

Workshop on qualitative evidence synthesis at Cochrane Norway (in Norwegian)

Fysisk workshop: Systematiske oversikter av kvalitative studier: En introduksjon

14 august 2025: 12.00 - 15.00, Språk: Norsk.

Hvor: Fysisk på HVL campus Bergen, Inndalsveien 28, 5063 Bergen – Fyrrommet

[Link til påmelding](#) Merk at workshopen har begrenset antall plasser.

Courses on systematic review methods at Cochrane Denmark & Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine Odense (CEBMO)

Link to current courses: [Courses and consultancy](#)

Introduction to Cochrane Methodology, 24-28 November

5-day course on systematic review methods, 24 to 28 November at Cochrane Sweden,

Lund: <https://sweden.cochrane.org/sv/courses-workshops/introduction-cochrane-methodology-24-28-november-2025> The course will be conducted in English.

Courses on systematic review methods at SBU (in Swedish)

Introduktion till att göra en systematisk översikt

Datum och tid: 7, 9, 14 och 17 oktober kl. 9:00-12:00, digital kurs

[Läs mer och anmäl dig](#)

Introduktion till att göra en systematisk översikt av kvalitativ forskning

Datum och tid: 3, 5, 17 och 19 november kl. 9:00-12:00, digital kurs

[Läs mer och anmäl dig](#)

Vikten av sammanställd forskning - om SBU:s arbete med att granska och sammanställa olika typer av forskning och hur det kan vara till nytta för dig, digital kurs

Datum och tid: 24 september, kl. 9.00-11.00 [Läs mer och anmäl dig](#)

Datum och tid: 11 december, kl. 9.00-11.00 [Läs mer och anmäl dig](#)

Att kritiskt granska systematiska översikter

Datum och tid: 21 oktober, kl. 9:00-12:00 samt 22 oktober, kl. 9:00-12:00, digital kurs

[Läs mer och anmäl dig](#)

Join the GRADE Working Group

Instructions on how to sign up for the Teams platform of the major GRADE working group is found here: [Teams signup instructions and FAQ \(v1.4\)](#)

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