



EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS
IRELAND



Cochrane
Ireland

Evidence Synthesis Ireland Fellowship Scheme 2020

Review Identification Form

In order to help us advertise your review and select an appropriate fellow, please complete the following:

Review Centre/Group Mentor

Dr Rebecca Ryan, La Trobe, Melbourne & Cochrane Consumers and Communication Review Group

Review title – please provide the review title

What are relevant, feasible, effective approaches to promote acceptance, uptake and adherence to physical distancing measures for COVID-19 prevention and control?

Review type – please identify the type of review in question e.g. qualitative synthesis, Cochrane review of effectiveness, rapid review

Rapid review (update of an existing rapid review for WHO and conversion to a Cochrane rapid review). Quantitative and qualitative primary evidence, guideline and systematic review evidence will all be included.

Review details– please identify the topic of the review and a very brief background, objectives and PICO (or other question format details) of the review. Please also include current status of review (e.g. protocol on PROSPERO, searches started etc.)

Physical distancing measures have been implemented worldwide to contain transmission of COVID-19, but how to best communicate with the public to promote acceptance, uptake and adherence to these measures is less clear.

This review will assess evidence on the broad range of communication approaches (interventions) (eg information provision, support for behaviour change, reminders, facilitating decision making) used to promote physical distancing measures in non-healthcare settings.

It will update a rapid review commissioned by WHO earlier in 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This update will use the rapid review methods established for the original WHO review, to produce a rapid review for publication on the Cochrane Library. We also plan to explore the possibility of establishing this as a 'living' review in order to regularly update the evidence, as needed, over the course of the pandemic.

All study designs will be eligible, but the review will undertake searching activities in a sequential manner (guidelines and systematic reviews relevant to a selected set of infectious diseases in the first instance, with gaps to be filled by primary research on COVID-19). All study designs will be quality assessed using the appropriate methodological tools, and systematic thematic analysis and synthesis of the data will be used to identify main findings to inform policy and practice.

Review current status – *please indicate current status of review (e.g. protocol on PROSPERO, searches started etc.)*

Protocol was submitted to WHO in April 2020.

Review completed June 2020 (still in the approval process with WHO as of August 2020).

Preliminary planning for updating and conversion of the WHO review to a Cochrane rapid review has begun.

Desirable requirements for Fellow

Interest in helping us to establish a new form of rapid review for the Cochrane Library, but no specific knowledge is needed.

Flexibility in time is particularly required as the Review Team are based in Australia.

Estimated start and completion dates

We anticipate further planning and preparation for the review will be undertaken in late September/ October, with the aim of beginning the review in late October to November 2020. We have no firm end (completion) date at this stage, as timelines are subject to funding proposals under consideration. However as this is a rapid review, we anticipate that the first update is likely to be completed within 3 months of beginning the review properly, and we will be exploring the possibility of making at least some of the processes of the review 'living' i.e. with regular updates as the current pandemic requires.