



# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS IRELAND

## An Introduction to Evidence Synthesis (In-person)

### Background

Health care policy and practice decisions should be based on a synthesis of the global body of evidence rather than relying on individual studies. High quality, relevant systematic reviews and other synthesised research evidence are fundamental to evidence-based healthcare policy and practice.

### Aim

This workshop introduces systematic reviews and describes why they are an important source of evidence. The focus of the workshop will be on outlining the process of designing a systematic review and the steps in conducting a systematic review.

### Learning outcomes

At the end of this workshop, participants will:

- Understand what systematic reviews are and why they are important
- Be able to identify the elements of a well-defined question for a systematic review
- Understand the steps of a systematic review

### Target Audience:

Healthcare professionals, academics, researchers, decision makers, librarians, information specialists, and Evidence Synthesis Ireland fellows and teaching faculty who would like to learn more about systematic reviews and other evidence syntheses.

### Teaching Strategies:

The workshop will consist of a mixture of short presentations and question and answer sessions.

### Date:

**12th April, 2024**

### Time:

**12:45 – 15:45**

### Location:

**Medical & Dental  
Education & Training  
(MedEdWest), Altnagelvin  
Hospital, Derry**

### Skill Level:

**Introductory**

### Prerequisites:

**Knowledge of study  
designs, evidence  
synthesis methods and  
Cochrane reviews**

### Facilitators:

**Prof. Bronagh Blackwood**  
Chair in Critical Care & NI Lead  
for Evidence Synthesis Ireland,  
Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for  
Experimental Medicine, Queen's  
University Belfast

### Dr Jennifer McGaughey

Affiliate to ESI

### Places:

**50**

### Fee:

**Free**

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### Course content/timetable

12th April, 2024	
12:45	Introduction and outline of workshop
13:00	Introduction to Evidence Synthesis Ireland <i>This presentation will provide an overview of Evidence Synthesis Ireland including opportunities for learning.</i>
13:30	Introduction to Cochrane Systematic Reviews <i>This presentation will present an overview of the process involved in a Cochrane systematic review. The steps used apply to many systematic reviews outside of Cochrane reviews.</i>
14:30	Tea/Coffee
15:00	Using the Cochrane Library <i>This presentation will explain what the Cochrane Library is and how to use it. A practical demonstration will be given of searching the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, including free text searching and MeSH searching.</i>
15:30 - 15:45	Questions and Answers

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