

## 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:

8th February, 2024

Time:

13:30 - 16:30

Location:

Lecture Theatre,
Quality Improvement
and Innovation Centre,
South Eastern HSC Trust
HQ, Ulster Hospital,
Dundonald

Skill Level: Introductory

**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 Queen's University Belfast

Places:

65

Fee:

Free

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### Course content/timetable

Session 1, 13.30-16.30	
13:30	Introduction and outline of workshop
13:45	Introduction to Evidence Synthesis Ireland (ESI)  This presentation will provide an overview of ESI including opportunities for learning.
14:00	Introduction to Cochrane Systematic Reviews This presentation will provide an understanding of how the systematic review provides the highest quality of evidence for clinical decision-making.
15:00	Tea/Coffee
15:30	Using the Cochrane Library This presentation will explain how to find systematic reviews in the Cochrane Library. A practical demonstration will be given of searching the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, including free text searching and MeSH searching.
16:00 - 16:30	Questions and Answers

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