**Data guide and meta-data**

*Study:*

*The epidemiology of systematic review updates: a longitudinal study of updating of Cochrane reviews, 2003 to 2018.*

December 2019

Data, analytic code, and other materials for this project are at:

<https://github.com/hildabast/cochrane-updating/>

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**Table 1. Data files for analyses and their characteristics.**

| **File No.** | **File name** | **Format** | **Size** | **Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | reviews\_2002 | csv | 21kb | All Cochrane reviews in 2002, including whether updated between 2003 and 2011, and status in 2011. |
| 2 | cohort\_2018 | csv | 18kb | Data on cohort of 177 Cochrane reviews updated in 2003, including first publication, status and included studies at intervals, and year of each update. |
| 3 | crgs | csv | 10kb | Names of Cochrane review groups (CRGs) by year, 1995 to 2002 and 2019. Notes name changes and mergers. |
| 4 | summary\_1995\_2002 | csv | 157b | Number of new Cochrane reviews and CRGs by year, 1995 to 2002, and the years the 2003 update cohort were first published. |
| 5 | crgs\_recent\_revs | csv | 21kb | CRGs normalised to 2019, with the number of their new and updated reviews in 2017 and 2018 combined. |
| 6 | reporting\_quality\_2011 | csv | 1kb | Cohort reviews, data on major change in conclusion in 2003, update reporting quality, and years since search in 2011. |

**Table 2. Data descriptions (except for file 3), alphabetically by data descriptor used in data files.**

| **Data descriptor** | **Options** | **Explanation** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| cd\_id | Cochrane review ID number | CD followed by 6 digits  Example: CD999999  (Individual reviews can be found by using this ID in the DOI field of advanced search in the CDSR/Cochrane Library). |
| cohort\_published | Number | Number of reviews in the 2003 update cohort that were first published in that year. |
| crg | Group name | The Cochrane review group responsible for the review in 2019. |
| crgs | Number | Number of Cochrane review groups (CRGs). |
| first\_published | Year | Year the review was first published. |
| included\_before\_  2003\_update | Number | The number of included studies in the review in the version that was current in 2002. |
|  | [blank] | Number of included studies not identified, version of the review not accessible. |
| included\_2003\_update | Number | Number of included studies in the 2003 update. |
| included\_2011 | Number | Number of included studies in the review in 2011. |
| included\_2018 | Number | Number of included studies in the review in 2018. |
| indexed\_late | Y | Published by end of 2002, but not indexed in PubMed until later. |
| major\_2003 | Y | Major change in conclusion in 2003 update. |
|  | N | No major change in conclusion in 2003 update. |
| new\_reviews | Number | Number of new reviews published in that year. |
| ongoing\_2011 | Y | The review was ongoing (neither stable nor withdrawn/retracted) at the end of 2011. |
|  | N | The review was not ongoing at the end of 2011 (either stable or withdrawn/retracted). |
| ongoing\_2018 | Y | The review was ongoing (neither stable nor withdrawn/retracted) at the end of 2018. |
|  | N | The review was not ongoing at the end of 2018 (either stable or withdrawn/retracted). |
| pmid\_latest | PubMed ID | Up to an 8-digit number; ID for the latest available PubMed record for the review. |
| pmid\_year | Year | Year of the latest PubMed ID. |
| republished | Y | Withdrawn/retracted review was republished. |
|  | [blank] | Review was either never withdrawn/retracted, or it retained that status at the end of 2018. |
| retracted | Y | Review withdrawn or retracted. |
|  | N | Review neither withdrawn nor retracted. |
| reviews | Number | Number of reviews for which that CRG was responsible. |
| searches\_reported\_2011 | Y | All known searches reported in What’s New, History, or Notes in 2011. |
|  | N | All known searches were not reported in What’s New, History, or Notes in 2011. |
| stable | Y | Review designated stable (not eligible for updating). |
|  | N | Review not designated stable. |
| status | A | Ongoing review, eligible for updating at the end of 2011. |
|  | S | Designated stable (not eligible for updating) at the end of 2011. |
|  | W | Withdrawn, the Cochrane designation for retracted at the end of 2011. (Note: All retracted includes this and X below.) |
|  | X | No longer in *CDSR* at end of 2011, with no notice of retraction. |
| trial\_changes\_reported\_2011 | Y | Included studies after update reported in What’s New, History, or Notes in 2011. |
|  | N | Included studies after update not reported in What’s New, History, or Notes in 2011. |
| update\_1 | Year | Year of first update. |
| update\_2 | Year | Year of second update. |
|  | [blank] | No second update. |
| update\_2004\_plus | Y | Review was updated between 2004 and 2011. |
|  | N | Review was not updated between 2004 and 2011. |
| update\_3 | Year | Year of third update. |
|  | [blank] | No third update. |
| update\_4 | Year | Year of fourth update. |
|  | [blank] | No fourt update. |
| update\_5 | Year | Year of fifth update. |
|  | [blank] | No fifth update. |
| update\_6 | Year | Year of sixth update. |
|  | [blank] | No sixth update. |
| update\_7 | Year | Year of seventh update. |
|  | [blank] | No seventh update. |
| update\_8 | Year | Year of eighth update. |
|  | [blank] | No eighth update. |
| update\_9 | Year | Year of ninth update. |
|  | [blank] | No ninth update. |
| update\_10 | Year | Year of tenth update. |
|  | [blank] | No tenth update. |
| update\_11 | Year | Year of eleventh update. |
|  | [blank] | No eleventh update. |
| updated | Y | The review was updated at least once between 2003 and 2011. |
|  | N | The review was not updated at least once between 2003 and 2011. |
| updates\_to\_2018 | Number | Total number of updates to the review, from publication to the end of 2018. |
| year | Year | Year. |
| year\_republished | Year | Year the withdrawn/retracted review was republished. |
|  | [blank] | Review was never withdrawn/retracted and subsequently republished. |
| year\_retracted | Year | Year the review was withdrawn/retracted. |
|  | [blank] | Review not withdrawn/retracted. |
| years\_since\_search\_april\_2011 | Number | Number of years since last search in April 2011, 0 is less than 1 year. |
|  | [blank] | No date was found for last search. |
| year\_stable | Year | Year the review was designated stable. |
|  | [blank] | Review not designated stable. |
| years\_utd\_2018 | Number | For ongoing reviews in 2018, the number of years they were up-to-date assuming a standard two-year updating interval. |