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Advancing EBM competency through EACA collaboration

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Topics

- Two goals
- Possible collaborative projects
- Some shared experiences

Two goals



EBM vs Cochrane goals

- EBM educators / promoters
 - develop EBM competence in our medical professionals
 - develop EBM literacy in the public
 - develop high quality EB-products
- Cochrane Collaboration advocates
 - build capacity to do Cochrane systematic reviews
 - skills to use SRs in practice, guidelines & policy

EBM competency is expected

- In the SCIENTIFIC AGE, the practitioner of medicine is expected to be as scientifically evidence-based as the developer of medicines
 - justify practice (risk-benefit)
 - protection against misleading claims
 - engage in valid & impactful research

Public EBM literacy

- In the INFORMATION AGE we can no longer assume that patients
 - don't know
 - don't need to be persuaded
 - don't care to be involved
- But they may still be scientifically ignorant

High quality EB products & services

- Products & services from medical professionals are now expected to be evidence-based
 - advice
 - individualized patient care
 - clinical pathways/algorithms
 - CPGs
 - policies
 - research protocols
 - systematic reviews

Cochrane Collaboration goals

- Centered around production, dissemination & use of systematic reviews in the Cochrane Library
- This set of goals can be harmonized with the broader goal of developing EBM competency

Linking the two goals

- EBM goals can use systematic review development & use as a specific target to build skills
- Cochrane-specific goals can only be achieved & sustained by strong foundation of EBM core skills in developers & users of reviews
- Organizations that have either one of these as their primary goals can benefit by expanding their remit

Possible collaborative projects



Curriculum development

- Curriculum development for undergraduate & post-graduate training
 - identification of core skills
 - development of teaching material
 - development of assessment tools

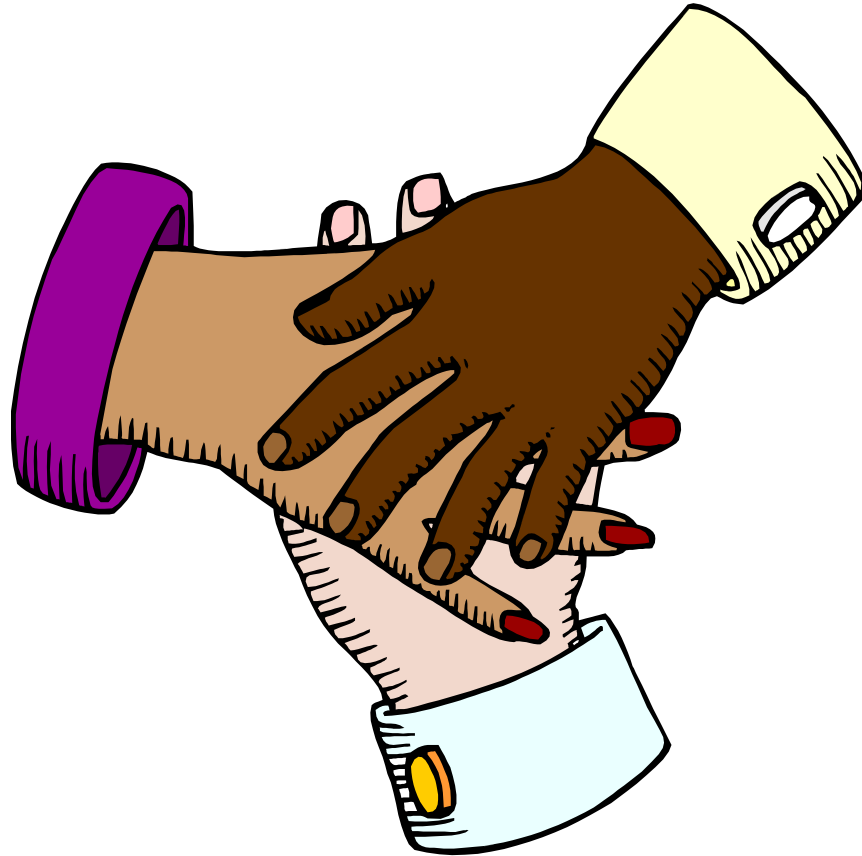
Training - workshops & on-line courses

- Promotion of research competency
 - systematic review training workshops
 - critical appraisal skills workshops
 - grantsmanship workshops
 - developing on-line skills modules
 - certification of EBM competency, analogous to CITI certification for research ethics training

Reviews & CPGs

- Production of systematic reviews
 - e.g. Cochrane Reviews
 - special topics e.g. traditional medicines
- Production of evidence-tables for CPGs
- Software for producing Guidelines compatible with AGREE

Some shared experiences



Systematic reviews

- One review finished (Taiwan)
- Three Cochrane reviews in preparation (Taiwan)



Workshops

- Singapore APEBMN workshop & conference
- 8th APENMN workshop (Penang Adventist Hospital, Malaysia)
- National EBMN workshop (Brunei)
- Cochrane SR workshops (TEBMA, Taiwan)

Singapore APEBMN workshops

- 3.5 days workshop, now into its 10th year
- small group interactive sessions + a few lectures by faculty +/- poster sessions
- mainly local participants with a core pool of local facilitators
- adapted from McMaster University model, to suit Asian expectations

8th APEBMN - Penang Adventist Hospital

- An attempt to import whole-scale the Singapore style workshop to Malaysia
- Not sustainable because
 - seen as a rival's activity, lack of support from other medical universities in Malaysia – no funding support for their staff to attend
 - start-up costs high because
 - initial scale too big
 - lack of local facilitators

Brunei National EBMN workshop

- two have already been organized, adopts APEBMN programme but without lectures (3-days)
- good signs of sustainability
 - support from Brunei MOH
 - started small with 4 groups of potential facilitators (train the trainer)
 - adapted programme to core needs & budget
 - joint organization with other funded “hot” topics

Cochrane SR workshops (TEBMA, Taiwan)

- collaboration with regional Cochrane entities to build local capacity to conduct Cochrane reviews
- good signs of sustainability
 - hospital accreditation system recognizes importance of EBM
 - TEBMA is the EBM champion in Taiwan across hospitals
 - SRs seen as an important EBM activity
 - strong group of local facilitators

Joint rotating workshop - challenges for sustainability

- Medium of instruction
- Funding
- Development of local trainers



Thank You

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Thank you