

## Participating on call

*David welcomed Gordon Dooley, Managing Director of Metaxis; Technical director of Update software; currently working with Cochrane on registry of studies and the Cochrane Crowd (citizen science platform). Has also worked with CRD for 20+ years on software to manage their data, with WHO (on health library) and NHS on research registry*

*Alfonso Iorio  
Brian Alper  
Gabriel Rada  
Gordon Dooley  
Gunn Vist  
Jerry Osheroff  
Kaelen Moat*

*Secretariat: Anna Dion, David Tovey, Safa Al-Khateeb*

## 1. 'ENHANCE MY RIS FILE' PROJECT

- a. Prepare a document describing use cases for Enhance my RIS file feature to share with broad COVID-END community*
- b. Testing of "Enhance my RIS" across different repositories to identify codes that may be most relevant*
- c. Developing "proof-of-concept" tools to be used for internal communication, education and as potential pilot data for funding applications*

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t2vtgVs4IwcJ2-zc8SypQN7OKldV\\_qK9iuJ\\_UVK7WJY/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t2vtgVs4IwcJ2-zc8SypQN7OKldV_qK9iuJ_UVK7WJY/edit)

- *Alfonso briefly reviewed the Digitizing working group's approach to addressing challenges identified by other working groups, focusing initially on de-duplication with view towards eventually contributing to federated searching capacities*
- *Described three areas with clear value added, but emphasized need explain in a way that advantages are clear (and needing to do this together with user community):*
  - *through enhanced RIS file, across voluntary repositories (for now Cochrane, McMaster PLUS and Epistemonikos)*
  - *same RIS file to extract data from EBMonFIHR with available meta-data, feeding meta-data back into search to contribute to standard development*
  - *capture non peer-reviewed literature (COKA moving this forward through citation data for rapid reviews)*

- *Using existing processes to contribute to taxonomy database (broad search, de-duplication, adding meta-data, doing and/or tracking appraisal)*
- *Suggested starting with most comprehensive databases and enhancing them. Studies may be captured through other repositories, but then meta-data added back in to strengthen them*
- *Guidelines as resource, given huge amount of searching, appraising, summarizing as part of guideline development, though not always searchable*
- *The group clarified three distinct use cases:*
  - 1) *those doing reviews, who would benefit from broad uptake of enhance my RIS feature*
  - 2) *those who want comprehensive search*
  - 3) *those who want a single best product, should it exist*
- *Main obstacles to achieving solution are 1) agreeing on the technical possibilities to pursue, and 2) willingness to share information, data and efforts*
- *Difficult to agree on an approach that works for everyone, though would be helpful to clarify opportunities for exchange, collaboration and creating systems that are more robust.*
- *Gabriel explained that L\*VE based on comprehensive taxonomy, though happy to refine improve and adjust. For each term in taxonomy, system to develop AI component so that when new term is introduced, system develops AI algorithm and boolean strategy feeds it into the platform*
- *Brian described some features to facilitate sharing across repositories, licensed under creative commons share alike (e.g. tailor standards for sensitivity and specificity of classifiers, streamlining and making accessible computable and human-readable layers of repositories)*
- *Critical challenge is to better support communication between digitizing community and end-user community*
- *Group agreed that a helpful next step would be to prepare a document to broader COVID-END community about key areas for development and collaboration, primarily organized around the three use cases.*

**ACTION ITEM:** Kaelen offered to map out the three use cases to share back with the working group

## **2. DIGITAL SOLUTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS PROCESS**

a. *Ways in which digitization could contribute to processes identified in the flow diagram for evidence synthesis (<https://www.mcmasterforum.org/networks/covid-end/resources-for-researchers/interactive-flow-diagram>)*

- *This was not discussed at this meeting*

### 3. COLLABORATION WITH COKA AND ACTS PROJECT

<https://www.mcmasterforum.org/networks/covid-end/working-groups/digitizing>

- *Jerry shared a COVID-19 Dashboard of guidance to action collaborative (from intervention sources, living guidance summary, living guidance recommendation, living reviews to implementation status). Opportunity for COVID-END partners and working groups to join meeting (every Friday at noon EDT) and identify key areas for collaboration*
- *Brian shared a COVID information portal: <https://covid-19.ebscomedical.com/> cataloguing COVID related information page; catalogue all individual SRs and RRs on EBSCO Medical. Intended to reduce manual labour of harvesting rapid reviews, also able to add meta-data including date and quality (though there are many different ways into quality, requiring significant manual work). Output as JSON file with all relevant information*

### 4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. *Breaks in meeting schedules for partners, co-chairs and working groups:*  
*June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup>*  
*August 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 7<sup>th</sup>*  
*August 31 – September 4<sup>th</sup>*