



COVID-END partners coordination call

Notes from 26 November 2020

<https://zoom.us/j/6163788736>

1. INTRODUCTIONS

- a. Jeremy welcomed new partner representatives who then introduced themselves
 - i. Kerry Albright, and Shivit Bakrania, UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti
 - ii. Sydney Ruller (replacing Lucy Henry), HTAi
- b. Maureen provided an updated about our citizen-engagement strategy
 - i. Four citizens have been recruited to the horizon-scanning panel (and two participated in the panel meeting yesterday) and we continue to look for citizens from low- and middle-income countries
 - ii. Several citizens have been recruited to participate in the partners calls, two of whom joined today's partner call and who then introduced themselves
 1. Lynn Laidlaw who is an experienced citizen partner from Scotland
 2. Brian, who is an experienced citizen partner from Australia
 - iii. **ACTION: Partners to send to Maureen Smith (maureen.smith@rogers.com) potential citizen partners and organizations that engage citizen partners from low- and middle-income countries, keeping in mind that we are trying to focus on citizens who are not also current (or past) health professionals**

2. REVIEW OF COVID-END ACTION ITEMS

- a. Jeremy pointed partners to the partner notes from 12 November (see attachment 2)

3. COVID-END NETWORK UPDATES

- a. Jeremy provided an updated about two papers
 - i. Cochrane supplement, which is at the page proofs stage
 - ii. WHO ECC-19 commentary, which is in an advanced draft stage
- b. CIHR grant
 - i. John provided an update about the submission, which involved around 100 applicants and knowledge users from across Canada, will (if funded) enable 45% of the funds to be allocated to COVID-END priorities like the inventory and horizon scanning (and the balance to provide contextualized evidence syntheses for Canadian decision-makers), and will be adjudicated by 15 December
- c. Adjustments to working groups
 - i. Jeremy and John noted that conversations are ongoing about these adjustments and we will report back after we have a more detailed plan for feedback from partners

4. RECOMMENDING WORKING GROUP PRESENTATION

- a. Per-Olav Vandvik walked partners through a document prepared by the Recommending working group, which will soon be made available in a more dynamic format on the COVID-END website
- b. Partners discussed a number of issues arising from the presentation
 - i. Need for a searchable database of HTAs and guidelines
 - ii. Concern about living guidelines fatigue (and the importance of groups working collaboratively and avoiding duplication)
 - iii. Opportunity to build equity considerations into future iterations of the resource
 - iv. **ACTION: Per to send the Word document to the COVID-END secretariat so it can be prepared for and posted on the COVID-END webpage**

5. PARTNER PROFILE

- a. Highlighting partners' projects and efforts towards the COVID-19 response: PROSPERO
 - i. Lesley Stewart from PROSPERO provided background on the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination and the work of PROSPERO (both in general and specifically focused on COVID-19, with the latter now at 2,618 records) and identified sustainability challenges – see attached slides
 - ii. Kerry Albright agreed that there is a need for awareness raising among researchers about standards and skillsets for systematic reviews
 - iii. Maureen Smith noted that there is also a need for awareness raising among citizens to help them understand how single studies need to be understood in the context of a systematic review (and Lynn Laidlaw suggested that plain-language summaries should likely be required of all COVID-19 systematic reviews)
 - iv. David Gough and Vivian Welch noted that it would be very helpful in future if PROSPERO could extend its pilot of including reviews with non-health outcomes beyond COVID-19

6. NEWS AND INITIATIVES OF INTEREST TO PARTNERS

- a. Nikita Burke provided a brief update about Evidence Synthesis Ireland and Cochrane Ireland's 'Priority 3 study: Setting priorities for rapid review research' and thanked those who participated in the first round of the survey

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Jeremy noted that there was no other business