



COVID-END partners coordination call

Notes from 7 January 2021

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

1. INTRODUCTIONS

- a. Jeremy introduced Claire Allen who is replacing Ben Heaven-Taylor as the representative from Evidence Aid

2. REVIEW OF COVID-END ACTION ITEMS

- a. Jeremy pointed partners to the partner notes from 17 December (see attachment 2)

3. COVID-END NETWORK UPDATES

- a. John noted that news about the funding for COVID-END will remain embargoed until 13 January but that the Secretariat has been heavily engaged in planning for implementation, which has included re-structuring the COVID-END website (and soon we'll be posting David Tovey's tips for using inventory, David Tovey's and Taryn Young's edits to the resources for synthesizers, and the Recommending working groups's resources for guideline developers)
- b. John also noted that the Secretariat has been continuing to: 1) meet with potential co-chairs of working groups; 2) revise the terms of reference for new and existing working groups and new task groups (equity and citizen partnership); and 3) develop a new streamlined meeting schedule; the Secretariat will bring this work to the next co-chairs meeting and, after incorporating their input, will circulate this material to the partners
- c. **ACTION: Partners to consider self-nominating for the new working groups (Prioritizing, Profiling, and Advocating) and for new or existing task groups (Equity and Citizen partnership) – either now or once the new/revised draft terms of reference have been circulated -- and John to note that Sara Loree indicated that she would like to join the Profiling working group and Elie Akl would like to join the Prioritizing working group**

4. PARTNER PROFILE

- a. Vivian Welch provide a summary of the **Campbell Collaboration's** work on COVID-19 and partners made some comments and asked some questions
 - i. Claire Allen from Evidence Aid noted that Evidence Aid could promote the new Campbell reviews being led by Zulfi Bhutta
 - ii. Shivit Bakrania from UNICEF noted that he would be interested in hearing more about the guidelines on rapid reviews, including how they're defined, and that he has found that there's real pressure to include a very broad thematic scope (i.e., many outcomes) and that this affects the ability to do something that is both quick and comprehensive/rigorous

- iii. Kaelan noted that in the health space, rapid reviews/syntheses have 'flooded' the market and David Gough noted that they have seen the same in the economic and social space
- iv. Maureen noted that a multi-stakeholder Cochrane group created resources to help researchers and consumers become involved in rapid review author teams:
<https://consumers.cochrane.org/learning/covid-19-consumer-rapid-response-group-resources>
- v. Elie raised the issue about generalizability of health versus social science reviews (suggesting that the former may be more generalizable to future pandemics than the latter and hence may be best done as full systematic reviews and not as rapid reviews) and the challenges of conducting multi-sectoral reviews
- vi. Kaelan noted that we need the social science content experts to contextualize related evidence for this particular pandemic, so that - while generalizable - the threads can be pulled together to form a cohesive 'whole'/narrative that relates to the issues in front of us

5. NEWS AND INITIATIVES OF INTEREST TO PARTNERS

- a. Jeremy pointed partners to new Cochrane EPOC briefs -- communicating to the public about vaccines and using digital strategies to promote vaccine uptake – that were circulated by Simon Lewin
 - i. Based on evidence from systematic reviews, Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) has prepared three information leaflets for health systems planners and implementers involved in developing vaccine communication strategies, including in the COVID-19 context.
(see attachments 3, 4, 5, 6)
- b. Sara Loree noted that the Librarian Reserve Corps is launching an effort to develop a recommendations statement around literature searching during COVID-19
 - i. **ACTION: Partners to notify Sara Loree (lorees@slhs.org) if they would like to join this effort**

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Jeremy suggested that we move the partners meeting from bi-weekly to weekly
- b. Maureen asked if the co-chairs meeting could happen in the same week as the partner meeting, and John and Jerermy asked if we could confirm this at the co-chairs meeting next Tuesday
- c. **ACTION: Safa to cancel next week's partners meeting and ensure the calendar invitations are bi-weekly going forward**