1. **INTRODUCTIONS**

David welcomed new working group members:

i. Karla Soares Weiser, Editor-in-Chief, Cochrane Collaboration  
ii. Vivian Welch, Editor and chief of Campbell Collaboration, Cochrane co-convenor of equity group

Also participating in call:  
Andrea Tricco  
Birte Snilsveit  
Edoardo Aromataris  
Isabelle Boutron  
Gabriel Rada  
Gunn Vist  
Taryn Young  
Anna Dion  
John Lavis  
Michael Wilson  
Safa Al-Khateeb

- David confirmed that Taryn Young has agreed to co-chair the Synthesizing Working Group.

2. **FOLLOW-UP ON ACTION ITEMS**

- David reviewed the terms of reference for the synthesizing working group. The group did not have additional comments or changes.

3. **SYNTHESIS RESOURCE BASE AND TOOL INVENTORY**

- Developing inventory of tools and resources building from COVID-END "tips and tools for researchers"  
  i. Registration of reviews that do not fit PROSPERO’s criteria (raised by Engaging Working Group)

- Document a starting position to generate discussion
- Include pre-amble at beginning stating intent not to be comprehensive guide to all evidence synthesis resources, but to help those new to evidence synthesis
navigate through high-quality resources accessible to support COVID-related efforts

• Include opening statement suggesting those new to evidence synthesis seek out more experienced teams for guidance/mentoring (adapt text from existing tips and tricks section of COVID-END website).
  o May be opportunities to identify expert mentors willing to support less experienced teams
  o Recognize additional challenges in navigating evidence synthesis community (finding teams within specific areas of expertise, language to optimize connection)

• Many different ways to organize review types (e.g. systematic reviews vs. broad types of synthesizes; qualitative and LSRs as components of reviews that can be incorporated into other types reviews)

• Can also include guidance (where available) about how to move through different review options in context of COVID-19. (e.g. rapid review, SR done rapidly, LSRs, etc.)

• Discussed option of developing a taxonomy of reviews, linked to associated appraisal tools

**ACTION:** David, Taryn and Anna to revise document and share back to working group prior to next week’s meeting

### 4. ENGAGING WITH WORKING GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

15 min

- Discussing questions brought up by Digitizing Working Group
  i. What do you see as the biggest blocker to your work right now?
  ii. What is your biggest technical blocker?

- Challenges mentioned include:
  o Coordinate across different databases so that they can share and speak across to each to each to reduce need to search across multiple databases
  o Lack of transparency and reliability of existing technological tools and integration of technological tools across the evidence synthesis system (from searching to data extraction)

- Any additional organizations that are currently supporting decision-makers from list shared by Engaging Working Group

- Group asked to share any suggestions to Engaging group co-chairs or Secretariat

### 5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

5 min