



# Annual Report 2015

## Cochrane Insurance Medicine



- Director** Prof. Regina Kunz, asim Research&Education, University of Basel, Switzerland,  
Member of Cochrane Fields Executive
- Co-directors** Prof. Sandra Brouwer, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Netherlands  
Prof. Kristina Alexanderson, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden  
Prof. Jason Busse, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada
- Coordinator** Rebecca Weida MSc, asim Research&Education, University of Basel, Switzerland

#### **Collaborators**

- Switzerland Wout de Boer PhD, David von Allmen PhD, Klara Ullmann-Kurz MSc, Nicole Vogel  
MSc
- Netherlands Frederieke Schaafsma PhD, Bert Cornelius PhD, Jan Hoving PhD, Jan Buitenhuis  
PhD, Prof Ute Bültmann
- Sweden Emilie Friberg PhD
- Canada Rachel Couban

**Members:** n = 73

Dear Reader,

Welcome to Cochrane Insurance Medicine! Cochrane Insurance Medicine is approaching its first anniversary. It was an exciting time where we could see ourselves grow and thrive. This is what we want to celebrate with you!

Our year was filled up with activities around building the field: Developing physical and virtual structures, setting up a website, establishing processes for long-distance collaboration, dividing tasks.

We promoted Cochrane Insurance Medicine by presenting it at national conferences like the SIM CME Symposium for Medical Experts in October 2015 in Olten, or the Swedish National Forum of Insurance Physicians in Stockholm. We attended the Dutch International Congress on Insurance Medicine in Almere (Nov 2015) and of course the Cochrane Colloquium in Vienna (Oct. 2015).

We patiently answered questions such as: What is Cochrane? What is insurance medicine? What is Cochrane Insurance Medicine? And what are you actually doing?

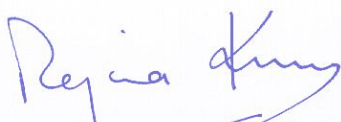
You wonder as well? Explore our website to learn all about: [www.insuremed.cochrane.org](http://www.insuremed.cochrane.org).

Does Cochrane need insurance medicine? We performed an analysis on the awareness of insurance medicine outcomes in Cochrane reviews and approximately 15% reported such outcomes. More than we expected, but 85% of reviews omitted them inappropriately. Good reason for us to raise awareness among review groups such as Common Mental Disorders, Back&Neck, Injuries and others.

What are the information needs of the people working in insurance medicine? Our Dutch colleagues started to ask them. Mid spring 2016, we plan to survey Switzerland.

Our vision is a database with scientific literature of relevance to insurance medicine that supports health professionals to take decisions. On our website, we started a pilot project "Evidence on the Web" where we collect systematic reviews and instruments of key topics in insurance medicine to document it is worth the effort. Feel free to browse: [insuremed.cochrane.org/evidence](http://insuremed.cochrane.org/evidence).

Interested to learn more about whom we are and what we are doing? Have a look and to browse through our annual report. If you want to stay in touch, sign up to our newsletter which appears three times a year. Contact [Rebecca.Weida@usb.ch](mailto:Rebecca.Weida@usb.ch)



Prof. Dr. Regina Kunz  
Director of Cochrane Insurance Medicine  
On behalf of the Board of Directors

Basel, March 2016



## Peer-reviewed Publications

Suijkerbuijk Y, Schaafsma F, van Mechelen J, Ojajärvi A, Anema H, Verbeek J. Interventions for obtaining and maintaining employment in adults with severe mental illness. A network meta-analysis. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, 2015, Issue 9.

Maxwell L, Wells GA, Simon LS, Conaghan PG, Grosskleg S, Busse J, et al. The current state of reporting pain outcomes in Cochrane reviews of chronic musculoskeletal pain conditions and considerations for an OMERACT research agenda. J Rheumatol 2015.

Busse J, Ebrahim S, Et.al. Measures of symptom exaggeration for mental health disorders: A systematic review. Journal of Insurance Medicine. 2015;45(2):103-9.

## Ongoing Projects and Collaborative Projects across the Field

Vogel N, Weida R, de Boer W, von Allmen D, Brouwer S, Hoving J, Schaafsma, F et al. Insurance medicine outcomes in Cochrane reviews. 2016.

Vogel N, Ebrahim S, de Boer W, Busse J, Kunz R, et al. Return to work coordination programmes for improving return to work in workers on sick leave. A Cochrane review. 2016.

Weida R, de Boer W, Ullmann-Kurz K, Kunz R. Evidence in insurance medicine 2015. Available from: <http://insuremed.cochrane.org/evidence>

Hoving J, Kunz R, Schaafsma F, Cornelius LR. Development of an international core outcome set on work participation within insurance medicine (COS-IM, Core Outcome Set).

Sengers J, Abma F, Heerkens Y, Brouwer S. Systematic review on ICF-core sets: Which items are relevant for the assessment of work capacity in a social security setting.

Barth J, Spanjer J, Busse J, Hoving J, Kunz R, et al. The reliability of assessments of work capacity. A systematic review. 2016.

Alexanderson K, Wennman Larsen A, et al. Review of studies on breast cancer and return to work/sickness absence. A systematic review.

Alexanderson K, Ernstson O, et. al. Studies of cost of illness related to multiple sclerosis. A systematic review. [under revision]

Busse J, Et.al. Development of a guideline for use of opioids for chronic non-cancer pain, using systematic reviews and GRADE and including an insurance perspective 2017.

## Presentations and Workshops

Kunz R, de Boer W, Brouwer S, Busse J, van Tulder M, Verbeek J, et al. Cochrane Insurance Medicine – A new field within Cochrane (Open Meeting). Cochrane Colloquium; 6 October 2015; Vienna, Austria.

Weida R, Vogel N, de Boer W, von Allmen D, Brouwer S, Hoving J. Insurance medicine related outcomes in Cochrane reviews (Rapid Oral). Cochrane Colloquium; 4 October 2015; Vienna, Austria.

de Boer W. EUMASS and Cochrane Insurance Medicine. Reha Kolloquium; 16 March 2015; Augsburg, Germany.

Kunz R. Insurance professionals meet asim. Introduction to asim's educational and research activities, including evidence-based insurance medicine and Cochrane Insurance Medicine. (Workshop). Swiss Insurance Association (SVV) 2015. Basel, Switzerland.

de Boer W. EUMASS and Cochrane: Happily ever after? EUMASS Seminar; Nuremberg, 16 October 2015.

Weinbrenner S. Social medicine, independent medical evaluations and the Cochrane Field Insurance Medicine; Position of the German Pension Fund. Reha Kolloquium; 16 - 18 March 2015; Augsburg, Germany.

von Elm E. The Cochrane Collaboration. Reha Kolloquium; 16 - 18 March 2015; Augsburg, Germany.

Kunz R. Cochrane - A new way to access knowledge in insurance medicine. Swiss Insurance Medicine, SIM. Evidence based medicine in independent medical evaluations: Wishful thinking or obligation? Seminar. 22 October 2015; Olten.

Kunz R. Can myths be debunked? The role of evidence based medicine. Myths in medicine. Seminar, Swiss Society of Traumatology and Insurance Medicine, SGTV, and Swiss Accident Insurance Fonds, Suva; 14 October 2015; Lucerne, Switzerland.

Kunz R. Evidence based action in insurance medicine. Annual Seminar of the National Disability Insurance. 7 May 2015; Pfäffikon, Switzerland.

Alexanderson K. Problems encountered in systematic reviews regarding sickness absence/ insurance medicine. European Public Health Conference; 15 October 2015; Milan, Italy.

Alexanderson K. Systematic reviews in public health fields: Challenges and how to bridge with policy (Workshop presenter). European Public Health Conference; 15 October 2015; Milan, Italy.

## Lectures and other Educational Activities

Friberg E. Systematic reviews and Cochrane, for PhD-students and junior researchers. Educational activity for PhD-students; February 2015.

Kunz R. Systematic literature search. Lecture and workshop. Postgraduate Master of Advanced Studies in Insurance Medicine. 11 September 2015; Basel, Switzerland.

## Posters, Pamphlets, Podcasts and other “Non-Scientific” Publications

Weida R, de Boer W, Brouwer S, Alexanderson K, Busse J, Kunz R. Cochrane Insurance Medicine - Update at the first anniversary. Suva Medical. Switzerland: Swiss Accident Insurance Fund, Suva; 2016.

Cornelius LR, Weida R. ‘Cochrane Insurance Medicine’ (Poster). Cochrane Colloquium; 4 October 2015; Vienna, Austria.

Ruotsalainen JH, Verbeek JH, Mariné A, Serra C. Prevention of occupational stress in health care workers; 2015. [Podcast by Cochrane Work, translated and narrated by Weida R]. Available from: <http://www.cochrane.org/de/podcasts/10.1002/14651858.CD002892.pub5>

Elrud R, Ljungquist T, Alexanderson K. Literature summary of Swedish reports ('grey literature'). A review of studies. 2015

## Promotional Activities

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine at a national workshop. Association of counties in Sweden; 7 December 2015; Stockholm, Sweden.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine at a seminar arranged for politicians and the public. Almedalen Week; 29 June 2015; Visby, Sweden.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine to the International Advisory Board of the research center Stockholm Stress Center. 7 September 2015; Stockholm, Sweden.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine and Cochrane. Methods and theories in sickness absence research; Stockholm, Sweden, 2015.

Alexanderson K. Presentation of Insurance Medicine, including Cochrane Insurance Medicine. Annual staff day with the Department of Clinical Neuroscience; 26 March 2015 Stockholm, Sweden.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine. Meeting of the Section Council of European Public Health Association (EUPHA); 4 March 2015; Utrecht, Netherlands.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine at the executive board of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) 2015.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine to the Swedish Social Insurance Agency, 2015.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine to members of the Swedish Government, 2015.

Alexanderson K, Friberg E. Promoting Cochrane Insurance Medicine within the European Cost network on research about Cancer and Work (CANWON). 2015.

Friberg E. Short promotional talk about Cochrane Insurance Medicine. Research forum at Institute for Safety, Compensation and Recovery Research; 15 December 2015; Melbourne, Australia.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine to the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) Section of Social Security and Health 2015.

Alexanderson K. Information about Cochrane Insurance Medicine through the Web site of the Division of Insurance Medicine, Karolinska Institutet Stockholm, Sweden, 2015.

Friberg E. Cochrane Insurance Medicine. Round table with senior management at Worksafe Victoria; 15 December 2015; Melbourne, Australia.

Alexanderson K. Lecture to people from the county and insurance agency in the county of Gävleborg. 1 October 2015.

Alexanderson K. Lecture to physicians at a course in insurance medicine, 2015.

Alexanderson K. Keynote speaker at the 40 year anniversary of national conferences in insurance medicine in Norway National conference in insurance Medicine; Osla, Norway.

Alexanderson K. Keynote speaker at a national conference National conference of the Swedish National Forum of Insurance Medicine; 24 September 2015.

Alexanderson K. Lecture to employees in the county of Dalarna. 31 March 2015.

Alexanderson K. Lecture to judges from all of Sweden, 2015.

## **Public Relations**

Table at "Meet the Groups" session. Cochrane Colloquium; 5 October 2015; Vienna, Austria.

Table at DICIM, the Dutch International Congress on Insurance Medicine; 5 - 6 November 2015; Almere, Netherlands.

First Cochrane Insurance Medicine Newsletter 2015. Available from: <http://us11.campaign-archive1.com/?u=7f2f51d9b45535aed49ecd198&id=aaf4f0c629&e=aba2f3c8e8>



## Internal Activities

Kunz R, Brouwer S, Busse J, Alexanderson K, Hoving J, Buitenhuis J, et al. Inaugural Meeting of Cochrane Insurance Medicine. 13 - 14 March 2015; Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Kunz, R. Member of the Fields Executive. Attendance of the Cochrane Mid Term Meeting; 5-6 May 2015; Athens, Greece and the Cochrane Fields' Meeting in Vienna.

Kunz R, Brouwer S, Busse J, Alexanderson K, Busse J, Weida R, de Boer W. Monthly board meeting (tele conference) (20 January, 19 February, 20 May, 18 June, 2 September, 3 November, 8 December), 2015.

Kunz R, De Boer W, Weida R, Brouwer S, Hoving J, Cornelius LR, Alexanderson K, Busse J, et al. Cochrane Insurance Medicine, Internal Meeting. Cochrane Colloquium; 3 - 7 October 2015.; Vienna, Austria.

Weida R. Short communications from the board teles to collaborators 2015.

## Project groups

### Education

Weida R, Bültmann U, Schaafsma F, Cornelius LR, Kunz R, Busse J, Alexanderson K. Education project group. 9 December 2015. [ongoing]

### Survey

Weida R, de Boer W, Hoving J, Schaafsma F. Information needs and priority setting among insurance physicians. Online survey at the international EUMASS congress and the international ICLAM congress, 2016. [ongoing]

### Contributors

de Boer W, Weida R, Kunz R, Brouwer S, Busse J, Alexanderson K. Concept for contributor tasks within Cochrane Insurance Medicine.

### Tagging Cochrane reviews

Weida R, de Boer W, Ullmann-Kurz K, Kunz R. Prevalence of insurance medicine outcomes in Cochrane reviews. An ongoing analysis while tagging. 2015

### Colloquium

Weida R, Cornelius LR, Kunz R, de Boer W, Brouwer S, Hoving J, Busse J, Alexanderson K. Promoting the field at the Cochrane Colloquium [closed].

### Newsletter

Weida R, Kunz R. Conception of Cochrane Insurance Medicine newsletter [closed].

**Website**

Busse J, Courban R, Vogel N, Schaafsma F, Weida R, Kunz R. Improving the Cochrane Insurance Medicine website [closed].

**Cochrane Insurance Medicine table**

**Dutch International Congress on Insurance Medicine**

**5 - 6 November 2015 in Almere, Netherlands**



**From left to right:** Diederike Holtkamp (Coordinator, research, Dutch Knowledge Centre Insurance medicine), Frederieke Schaafsma (Researcher, VU Medical Center Amsterdam), Rebecca Weida (Coordinator Cochrane Insurance Medicine, Swiss Academy for Insurance Medicine), Jan Buitenhuis (Researcher, Dutch Academic Center for Insurance medicine), Jan Hoving (Researcher, Academic Medical Centre Amsterdam), Regina Kunz (director, Swiss Academy for Insurance Medicine), Rob Kok (Researcher, Employee Insurance Agency), Bert Cornelius (Researcher, Dutch Knowledge Centre Insurance Medicine), Gert Lindenger (President, European Union of Medicine in Assurance and Social Security).

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