Annual Report 2016
Preface

We proudly present this second Annual Report of Cochrane Insurance Medicine, CIM and inform about our endeavors to consolidate our new Cochrane group by launching important activities:

- We built a collaborative infrastructure across the field using monthly tele conferences across the board, project groups for small scale projects limited in time, the annual face-to-face meeting and ad hoc meetings at conferences. The Dutch group developed a national network within the academic Kenniscentrum Verzeekeringsgeneeskunde, KCVG, a potential role model to others.

- We completed an international survey among insurance medicine (IM) professionals on their (research) knowledge seeking behavior, their experience in evidence-based medicine, knowledge and training needs. Feedback from more than 700 respondents from Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland will inform our strategic plan.

- We launched “Evidence on the Web” (insuremed.cochrane.org/evidence) a collection of reviews on IM topics from Cochrane and other sources to present current scientific evidence. Each quarter, around 200 new individuals attend our website, a third of whom keep returning.

- We negotiated successfully to include the term ‘insurance medicine’ as a topic in the Cochrane Library. This important step will allow to search the library for reviews with IM outcomes. The library will include the new topic in 2017.

- We introduced our field on national and international meetings, e.g. the European EUMASS conference of social insurance physicians or the international ICLAM conference and communicated with our members (more than 300) through quarterly newsletters.

- We valued collaboration with other Cochrane groups, such as Work or Rehabilitation or our national Cochrane centers and connected to professional organisations, such as EUMASS and Swiss Insurance Medicine which joined as new supporters of CIM.

The Dutch team is leading methodological research on generating a core set with IM outcomes. The Canadians engage in the production of a systematic review on opioids for chronic non-cancer pain, a critical health care issue especially in North America. The Swedish team focusses on the promotion of CIM across the international public health community, practicing professionals and young academics, while the Swiss group is pushing DIME, the Database on Insurance Medicine Evidence.

In the context of its strategy 2020, Cochrane has been undertaking formal ‘structure and function’ reviews where our field participated actively. While the review will be formally adopted at the colloquium in September, it is emerging that fields will have a central role in Cochrane’s knowledge translation activities to bring Cochrane evidence to the heterogeneous spectrum of users. This old/new direction matches the strategic goals of CIM where communicating IM evidence to professionals has always been the focus of our efforts.

Activities in the upcoming years will focus on raising the number of new members, organizations and countries, proceeding with our goal of a searchable IM database, continuing with the educational efforts, strengthening the relationships with related groups and aligning our group to the refined directions of Cochrane strategy 2020.

Prof. Dr. Regina Kunz
Director of Cochrane Insurance Medicine
On behalf of the Board of Directors
Director  
Prof. Regina Kunz, Evidence-based Insurance Medicine, EbIM, Research & Education, Department Clinical Research, University Hospital Basel, Switzerland, Member of the Fields Executive in Cochrane.

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, EbIM Research & Education, Department Clinical Research, University Hospital Basel, Switzerland

Collaborators

Switzerland  
Wout de Boer PhD, David von Allmen PhD, Regine Lohss MSc, Nicole Vogel MSc

Netherlands  
Frederieke Schaafsma PhD, Bert Cornelius PhD, Jan Hoving PhD, Jan Buitenhuis PhD, Prof Ute Bültmann, Rob Kok PHD, Liesbeth Wijnvoord, Nico Croon PhD

Sweden  
Emilie Friberg PhD

Canada  
Rachel Couban

Members: n = 318

Supporter:

Swiss Insurance Medicine

European Union of Medicine in Assurance and Social Security (EUMASS)
Peer-reviewed Publications


Ongoing Projects and Collaborative Projects across the Field


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.


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

Alexanderson K. Self-employed and return to work after cancer: a systematic literature review (within the Cancer and Work, CANWON, Network www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/isch/IS1211)

Barroso J, Friberg E, Alexanderson K. Interventions in sickness certification practices: a systematic review. (Translation)


Presentations and Workshops


Kunz R. Introduction to evidence-based insurance medicine and the Cochrane Collaboration: what is insurance medicine? Why does it need more evidence and how to move forward? ICLAM Congress; Maastricht, Netherlands. May 2016.


von Allmen DY. Requirements for reliable assessments in social insurance: talk about work. EUMASS Congress, Ljubljana, Slovenia. June 2016.


Lectures and other Educational Activities


including


Von Elm E, Weida R. Cochrane Groups: Cochrane Switzerland, Cochrane Insurance Medicine, Cochrane Work.

Posters, Podcasts and other Publications


Alexanderson K, et al. Multimorbidity. (Summary of a Swedish report, English translation)
Promotional Activities

Alexanderson K. Information to the 900 members of the EUPHA Section of Social Security, Work and Health. 9-12 November 2016; Vienna, Austria.

Alexanderson K, Friberg E. European Cost network on research about Cancer and Work (CANWON)


Promotion Tables

Swiss Insurance Medicine, SIM, annual conference; March 2016; Olten, Switzerland.

EUMASS Congress; June 2016; Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Dutch International Congress on Insurance Medicine, DICIM; November 2016; Almere, Netherlands.

International Committee for Insurance Medicine Congress, ICLAM; May 2016; Maastricht, Netherlands.

Work Disability Prevention & Integration, WDPI, Congress; September 2016; Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Public Relations

Newsletter


Special thanks to Bert Cornelius who contributes a new comic for each of our Cochrane Insurance Medicine newsletters.
Internal Activities

Member of Cochrane Fields Executive. Attendance of the Cochrane Mid-Year Meeting.

CIM Face to face Meeting: Cochrane Insurance Medicine; May 2016; Maastricht, Netherlands.


Project groups

Education


Risk Assessment

Kunz R, Wijnvoord, L, Weida R. Risk Assessment Project Group meetings (tele conferences) (21 June, 10 August, 16 September, 14 October, 2 December) 2016.

Survey


Evidence on the web

Cochrane Insurance Medicine

at the EUMASS Congress, 9 - 11 June 2016 in Ljubljana, Slovenia

Members of Cochrane Insurance Medicine

From the left to the right: Wout de Boer (CH), Kristina Alexanderson (SE), Bert Cornelius (NL), Rebecca Weida (CH), Regina Kunz (CH), Rob Kok (NL), Sandra Brouwer (NL), Jan Hoving (NL), Frederieke Schaafsma (NL), Emilie Friberg (SE).