Annual Report 2017
Preface

It is with great pleasure that we present the 2017 CIM Annual Report. This report summarizes a productive year with many activities, successes and public awareness.

Publications

From our scientific output, 2017 was a productive year for CIM: We saw two Cochrane reviews with (co-) authorship from CIM collaborators published, one on ‘Interventions for obtaining and maintaining employment in adults with severe mental illness’, a second one on the Effect of return-to-work coordination programmes for workers on sick leave. A third systematic review on ‘Inter-rater agreement in evaluation of disability’ (BMJ) attracted a very high level of public attention. Open access of all reviews facilitates widespread dissemination. In its recent issue on evidence-based insurance medicine (IM), the Dutch journal TBV allotted space for five articles related to CIM. Titled ‘Insurance medicine in clinical epidemiological terms’, the authors introduced a framework how to make IM amenable to research by linking the tasks of insurance physicians to the methodology of clinical epidemiology (English). Since the concept elicited discussion, we would like to invite the IM community for feedback on the proposed concept. Please respond to insuremed.cochrane@usb.ch

Teaching and Training

Teaching and Training has a high priority within CIM. In all countries, CIM members offered teaching and training activities to highly diverse audiences, such as medical, PhD and postgraduate students, insurance and occupational physicians, case managers, non-medical insurance staff, researchers, senior leadership in medical assessments, social judges. These high demands indicate a perceived gap in current IM that we strive to fill in and develop further.

Strategy

With Cochrane starting to establish Cochrane review networks or clusters within Cochrane, we launched cooperation with Cochrane Work, led by Jos Verbeek and Jani Ruotsalainen at the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health in Kuopio, and thereby put a friendship in a format. Work and Insurance Medicine share their concerns on keeping people in the work force: prevent (sick) people from dropping out of work and help them to get back again. Cochrane Corners are one tool for achieving this goal. Cochrane Corners summarize reviews of high importance in a plain language put them in a context that illustrates their potential impact in health and social care. Such easy-to-digest reviews will be placed at easy-to-access spots for stakeholders to encounter. Cochrane Corners belong to CIM’s knowledge translation strategy.

People

Sandra Brouwer, Groningen, NL, withdrew from the board for private reasons but will remain an active member within CIM. Jan Hoving, Amsterdam, NL, replaced her and took on the function as deputy director of CIM. Our coordinator, Rebecca Weida-Cuignet, left for new challenges back in Germany.

Thank you, Rebecca, for your enthusiasm for CIM and your charming ability to engage with everybody. We will remember you. Adrian Verbel, a family physician and training in public health will succeed as CIM coordinator and researcher in early spring. Welcome Adrian.

We look forward to your feedback and wish you a stimulating and enjoyable reading

Regina Kunz
on behalf of the board of directors

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1 Tijdschrift voor Bedrijfs- en Verzekeringsgeneeskunde (Journal for Occupational and Insurance Medicine)
2 Access the article through insuremed.cochrane.org/news/ebim-clin-epi
**Director**  Regina Kunz, Evidence-based Insurance Medicine, EbIM Research & Education, Department Clinical Research, University and University Hospital Basel, Switzerland, Member of the Fields Executive in Cochrane.

**Co-directors**  Jan Hoving (Deputy), Dept. Coronel Institute of Occupational Health & KCVG, Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
Emilie Friberg PhD, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden  
Jason Busse, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

**Coordinator**  Rebecca Weida MSc, EbIM Research & Education, Department Clinical Research, University Hospital Basel, Switzerland

**Collaborators**

**Switzerland**  David von Allmen PhD (EbIM), Regine Lohss MSc (EbIM)

**Netherlands**  Sandra Brouwer PhD (KCVG, Groningen), Wout de Boer PhD (CIM), Frederieke Schaafsma PhD (KCVG, Amsterdam), Bert Cornelius PhD (KCVG, Groningen), Jan Buitenhuys PhD (DACIM, Groningen), Ute Bultmann PhD (KCVG, Groningen), Rob Kok PhD (KCVG, UWV), Liesbeth Wijnvoord (DACIM, Groningen), Nico Croon PhD (CIM)

**Sweden**  Kristina Alexanderson (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm)

**Canada**  Rachel Couban (McMaster University, Hamilton)

**Members: n = 338**

**Supporter:**

Swiss Insurance Medicine

European Union of Medicine in Assurance and Social Security (EUMASS)
Cochrane Insurance Medicine
Meeting at the Coronel Institute of Occupational Health, Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. March 2017
Peer-reviewed Publications


de Boer W, Brage S, Kunz R. *Insurance medicine in clinical epidemiological terms: A concept paper for discussion.* (English) TBV – Tijdschrift voor Bedrijfs- en Verzekeringsgeneeskunde. 2017 [Accepted]


Ongoing Projects and Collaborative Projects across the Field

Alexanderson K. Self-employed and return to work after cancer: a systematic literature review within the Cancer and Work, CANWON, Network.


Hoving J, Kunz R, Verbeek J, Prinsen S, Suiter J. Development of an international core outcome set on work participation within insurance medicine (COS-IM, Core Outcome Set).

Hoving JL, Kok R, Cornelius B, Schaafsma F. Can we keep insurance physicians up to date with the evidence using an email alert? The development and evaluation of an electronic insurance medicine’ email alert.


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.
Presentations and Workshops


Lectures and other Educational Activities


Friberg E. Lectures and introductory training in how to systematically review literature in Insurance Medicine at the advanced course in insurance medicine for physicians (course leader Alexanderson K). 9 hours course and group work spread over 3 semesters 2016-17. Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden.

Hoving J, Kok R, Smits P. Training in evidence-based medicine to Dutch insurance physicians. A 5 days’ course on ebm over 5 months. Coronel Institute of Occupational Health, Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. November 2016 to April 2017.


Weida R. Cochrane, systematic reviews of interventions, and how to read them. DAS Work&Health, University of Zurich, Switzerland. March 2017.
Posters, Podcasts and other Publications

Alexanderson K, al. e. A report covering “grey literature” including publications presenting empirical data on sickness absentees. (English translation of a Swedish report).

Alexanderson K, al. e. 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. 1-4 November 2017; Stockholm, Sweden.

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


Promotion Tables

Swiss Insurance Medicine, SIM, Annual Conference; March 2017; Olten, Switzerland.

Dutch International Congress on Insurance Medicine, DICIM; November 2017; Almere, the 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 in London.

CIM Meeting: Cochrane Insurance Medicine; March 2017; Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

CIM Meeting at DICIM; 8 November 2017; Almere, the Netherlands.


Project groups

Education


Risk Assessment


Evidence on the web


Collaboration with Cochrane Work


Tagging

Kunz R, Roeschard S, Weida R. Tagging topics about insurance medicine for Cochrane Library.
Cochrane Insurance Medicine

DICIM Congress, 8 – 10 November 2017 in Almere, the Netherlands.

From left to the right:

Rebecca Weida (CIM, EbIM, CH), Gert Lindenger (EUMASS, SE), Jan Buitenhuis (DACIM, NL), Wout de Boer (CIM, NL), Diederieke Holtkamp (KCVG, NL), Jan Hoving (KCVG, Coronel, NL), Liesbeth Wijnvoord (DACIM, NL), Anette de Wind (EUMASS, BE), Regina Kunz (CIM, EbIM, CH), Rob Kok (KCVG, UWV, NL), Regine Lohss (CIM, EbIM, CH).