Feedback from the 2010 Colloquium

It was a long journey to Keystone, but CCNet is focused on strategic growth and ready to take action.

Cochrane remains committed to supporting consumers and ‘consumer’ presentations and workshops were plentiful during every timeslot.

Several plenary presentations are of special interest to consumers. These sessions informed participants about the obstacles in providing consumer support globally.

Podcasts from the plenary sessions are available online.

MingMing Zhang’s (of the CCNet Consumers’ Executive) presentation demonstrated a need for greater consumer involvement during plenary 1.

Plenary 3 examined audience clarification in an effort to overcome the challenges of evidence communication for consumers.

Conversely, language access issues and the resulting global spread of diseases were the focus of Plenary 4.

All plenary presentations are available on the Cochrane website. A complete list of plenary topics can be found in the grey box on the left.

To view podcasts, click below:

http://www.cochrane.org/multimedia/multimedia-cochrane-colloquia-and-meetings/colloquium-colorado-2010

CCNet - How It Works

CCNet is a consumer network that strives to make Cochrane reviews relevant and accessible to consumers.

Around the globe, consumers’ needs are articulated by local geographic representatives on CCNet’s Advisory Group.

Activities are determined by open collaboration among CCNet members. This year, working groups are in place to further consumer involvement.

Implementation of consumer activities is managed by a five-person team, the Consumers Executive, which ensures that CCNet can meet its objectives.

This team oversees the work of the Consumer Co-ordinator, who supports consumers, CCNet and the Consumers Executive.

Administrative responsibilities are completed by the Cochrane Secretariat’s Team P.A.
CCNet and Cochrane Fields

CCNet was founded upon the guiding principles of Cochrane:

- Collaboration
- Good communication
- Open decision-making
- Teamwork
- Avoidance of duplication
- Reduction of bureaucracy
- Avoidance of conflicts of interest
- Continuity
- International representation
- Wide participation

It is integrated with other Cochrane ‘entities’ that share a similar purpose. These entities are called fields.

Cochrane fields focus on dimensions of health care such as the setting of care (e.g. primary care) or the type of consumer (e.g. older people), provider (e.g. nurses) or intervention (e.g. physical therapies).

Fields advocate for access to evidence-based information within their area of health care. CCNet emphasizes this issue for consumers.

CCNet Activities Forms Working Groups

CCNet participates in a wide array of activities to support the role of consumers.

Activities range from developing training modules for consumers to ensuring that plain language summaries are consumer-oriented.

At CCNet’s general meeting, working groups were generated to ensure that resources are focused effectively.

Five working groups have been created: training, global involvement, communications, consumer support, and consumer involvement.

These are open to anyone who wishes to aid the work of the CCNet. For more information, or to join a group, please email your Consumer Co-ordinator, Catherine McIlwain, at cmcilwain@cochrane.org.

CUE’s Pre-Conference on Advocacy

Consumers rallied together during the pre-conference, Advocacy in an Era of Evidence: An International Summit for Consumer Advocates.

Hosted by Consumers United for Evidence-based Health Care (CUE), the event attracted many new members and organizations not yet affiliated with Cochrane.

The presentations discussed strategies to address consumer needs on medical panel and impact policy.

Watch out for podcasts at: http://apps3.jhsph.edu/cochraneus/NSCUE.htm