

# BASIC SEARCH GUIDE to finding Cochrane Systematic Reviews on the Cochrane Library



The **Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)** is not a vast database in the same way as Medline or CINAHL. The number of completed systematic reviews is less than 5000 (November 2008) and these cover the whole range of interventions in health care.

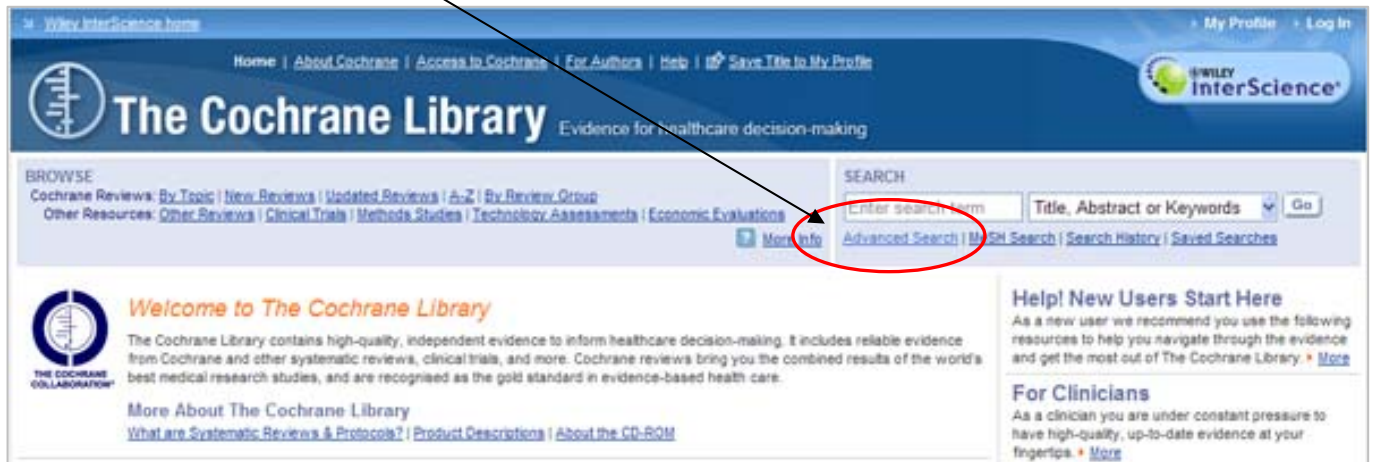
This guide looks at finding Cochrane Systematic Reviews only. A search (as outlined here) will automatically search all six of the databases which comprise the Cochrane Library. The Search Results page will always display the CDSR results first if there are any. Just above the results, across the screen, are links to the other databases in the Library (Other Reviews | Clinical Trials | etc.) If no results are found in the CDSR then it will automatically display the results from the other databases in turn.

## **Keywords:**

Cochrane uses letter by letter searching. Include any synonyms, alternative spellings or alternative names using OR when searching. Remember to also change the drop down menu to the right of the search box to Record Title for each box you use.

## STARTING A SEARCH

**Step 1:** Click on [Advanced Search](#)



**Step 2:** Enter your search term.

The screenshot shows the search form. The 'Search For:' field contains the text 'communication', which is circled in red. Below the search field are four rows, each with an 'AND' dropdown and an empty search field. To the right of the search fields is the 'In:' dropdown menu, which is currently set to 'Search All Text'. Below the search fields are a 'Search' button and a checkbox labeled 'Go directly to Search History'.

Search terms need to be carefully selected. Cochrane will search for the sequence of letters that is entered, without recognising variations in spelling or terminology. A search for paediatric will not find pediatric and a search for pressure ulcer will not find pressure sore.

**Step 3:** Change the search to Record Title

The screenshot shows the search form with the 'In:' dropdown menu open. The 'Record Title' option is highlighted in blue and circled in red. The 'Search For:' field still contains 'communication'. The 'Search' button is circled in red, and an arrow points to it from the text 'Step 4: Click on Search'.

**Step 4:** Click on



**Step 5:** The screen will now display a list of the Systematic Reviews and Protocols which have matched your subject term in the title. Each entry will be marked either **Review** for a full systematic review, or **Protocol** for information on a review currently being undertaken.

**Search Results**

Show Results in:  
**Cochrane Reviews [9]** | [Other Reviews \[24\]](#) | [Clinical Trials \[634\]](#) | [Methods Studies \[25\]](#) | [Technology Assessments \[14\]](#) | [Economic Evaluations \[30\]](#) | [Cochrane Groups \[1\]](#)

There are 7 results out of 5546 records for: "communication in Record Title in Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews" [Save Search](#)

View: 1-7 [Edit Search](#)

[Export All Results](#)

**Record Information** Restrict to: [Reviews](#) | [Protocols](#) Sort by: [Record Title](#) | [Match %](#) | [Year](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers</b> D Fellowes, S Wilkinson, P Moore Year: 2004 <a href="#">Record</a> <b>Review</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Educational interventions for improving the communication skills of general practice trainees in the clinical consultation</b> Marc van Nuland, Karin Hannes, Bert Aertgeerts, Jozef Goedhuys Year: 2005 <a href="#">Record</a> <b>Protocol</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Interventions for improving communication with children and adolescents about a family member's cancer</b> J Tim Scott, Megan Pricot, Mirjam Harmsen, Alex Broom, Vikki A Entwistle, Amanda J Sowden, Ian Watt Year: 2003 <a href="#">Record</a> <b>Review</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Interventions for improving communication with children and adolescents about their cancer</b> Rita Ranmal, Megan Pricot, J Tim Scott Year: 2008 <a href="#">Record</a> <a href="#">New search</a> <b>Review</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Interventions for promoting information and communication technologies adoption in healthcare professionals</b> Marie-Pierre Gagnon, France Légaré, Michel Labrecque, Pierre Frémont, Pierre Pluye, Johanne Gagnon, Karine Gravel Year: 2006 <a href="#">Record</a> <b>Protocol</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Personalised risk communication for informed decision making about taking screening tests</b> Adrian GK Edwards, Rhodri Evans, Joanna Dundon, Sally Haigh, Kerry Hood, Glyn J Elwyn Year: 2006 <a href="#">Record</a> <b>Review</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Treatment delivery using information and communication technology for people with schizophrenia</b> M Valimaki, H Hatonen, T Jakobsson, S Kaur, L Kuosmanen Year: 2008 <a href="#">Record</a> <b>Protocol</b>

**Step 6:** To see the full Review or Protocol click on [Record](#)

**Step 7:** The easiest way to view and print or save a Review is as a PDF file. To do this, click on **PDF**

**BROWSE**  
 Cochrane Reviews: [By Topic](#) | [New Reviews](#) | [Updated Reviews](#) | [A-Z](#) | [By Review Group](#)  
 Other Resources: [Other Reviews](#) | [Clinical Trials](#) | [Methods Studies](#) | [Technology Assessments](#) | [Economic Evaluations](#) [More Info](#)

**SEARCH**  
 Enter search term:  Title, Abstract or Keywords   
[Advanced Search](#) | [MeSH Search](#) | [Search History](#) | [Saved Searches](#)

**[Review]**  
**Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers**  
 PDF (Size 200 K)

- [Abstract](#)
- [Plain language summary](#)
- [Background](#)
- [Objectives](#)
- [Criteria for considering studies for this review](#)
- [Search methods for identification of studies](#)
- [Methods of the review](#)
- [Description of studies](#)
- [Methodological quality](#)
- [Results](#)
- [Discussion](#)
- [Authors' conclusions](#)

**[Review]**  
**Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers**  
 D Fellowes, S Wilkinson, P Moore  
 Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008 Issue 4 (Status: Unchanged)  
 Copyright © 2008 The Cochrane Collaboration. Published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.  
 DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD003751.pub2 This version first published online: 19 April 2004 in Issue 2, 2004

This record should be cited as: Fellowes D, Wilkinson S, Moore P. Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2004, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD003751. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD003751.pub2. [Next >](#)

**Abstract**

**Background**  
 Research suggests communication skills do not reliably improve with experience. Considerable effort is dedicated to courses improving communication skills for health professionals. Evaluation of such courses is important to enable evidence-based teaching and practice.

**Objectives**  
 To assess whether communication skills training is effective in changing health professionals' behaviour in cancer care with regard to communication/interaction with patients.

## Step 8: The Review

To print or save the review use the icons on the tool bar at the top of the image.

WILEY InterScience®  
Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews  
Abstract | Full Text: HTML, PDF (200 K)

Save a Copy Print Search Select Zoom 84% Sign

Pages

Attachments

Comments

Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers (Review)

Fellowes D, Wilkinson S, Moore P

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

This is a reprint of a Cochrane review, prepared and maintained by The Cochrane Collaboration and published in *The Cochrane Library* 2008, Issue 4

<http://www.thecochranelibrary.com>

WILEY  
Publishers Since 1807

Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers (Review)  
Copyright © 2008 The Cochrane Collaboration. Published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd

1 of 19

## Step 9: How to reference a review

This record should be cited as:

Fellowes D, Wilkinson S, Moore P. Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2004, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD003751. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD003751.pub2.

On the page of the Review with the title and abstract, it also says “This record should be cited as:” The reference information is all included. To conform to the Faculty of Health Guidelines, place the year in brackets after the authors. Do not include the Article No. or DOI.

The above reference would therefore appear as:

**FELLOWES, D., WILKINSON, S. & MOORE, P.** (2004) Communication skills training for health care professionals working with cancer patients, their families and/or carers. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*. Issue 2.