



Cochrane Skin Group

“Just 3 from the CSG”



1. CSG meeting – December 16th & 17th 2013

The 2013 annual meeting of the Cochrane Skin Group will be held at **The University of Nottingham, King's Meadow Campus**, Nottingham, England. It will take place over an afternoon and the following morning: Monday December 16th 2013, 12.30pm – 5pm; Tuesday December 17th 2013, 9am – 12pm. Please visit <http://skin.cochrane.org/csg-annual-meeting-2013> for up-to-date information, and please click [here](#) to download a copy of the programme.

There will be teleconferencing facilities available on the Monday afternoon only (i.e. not on Tuesday) to enable remote participation. Further information about joining remotely will be posted on the

forementioned webpage.

Please confirm your attendance – at the meeting and evening meal – by emailing csg@nottingham.ac.uk by **Friday November 29th 2013**, so we can book somewhere for the meal.

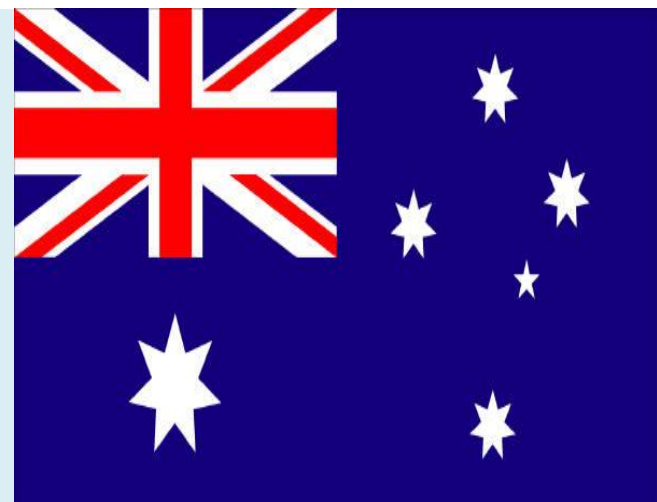
2. A note of caution when considering the interpretation you may put on your meta-analyses

Pereira and colleagues looked at **80 Cochrane reviews where 4 or more studies had been combined in the 2005 publication, and found that the effect size was smaller in the 2010 update**. ('Statistically significant meta-analyses of clinical trials have modest credibility and inflated effects'. Pereira TV, Ioannidis JPA. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology 2011; 64: 1060–9.) Peter Herbison gives a commentary in the Cochrane Methods journal where he makes the point that if meta-analyses with 4 or more included studies are subject to change in a subsequent update of a Cochrane review, then we should be very cautious how we interpret reviews where even fewer studies are combined.

(See pages 25 – 26:

<http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/SpringboardWebApp/userfiles/ccoch/file/Files/Cochrane%20Methods%202013.pdf>)





3. Thank you Philippa and Dedee

After many years of hard work with the Cochrane Skin Group, two of our editors, Philippa Middleton (Methods Editor) and Dedee Murrell (Cochrane Dermatology Editor), have decided to step down from their current roles due to pressure from other work commitments. Both Philippa and Dedee have been with us from the start of our Group, and both have contributed greatly to improving the quality and readability of our reviews and for opening up our Group to colleagues from Australia. It is worth pointing out that Cochrane editors are not paid for their work, which is often done at the weekend and in the evenings. Both Philippa and Dedee will continue as members of our Group, working with us in different ways to ensure that our messages are clear and that they get to the right people. **We wish to thank them both very much for their long**

and dedicated service as editors to our Cochrane Skin Group.

Hywel, Finola, Laura and Liz at the editorial base

Cochrane Skin Group
www.skin.cochrane.org

Centre of Evidence-Based Dermatology
King's Meadow Campus, Room A103,
University of Nottingham
Nottingham, NG7 2NR
UK
Tel: +44 (0)115 84 68635
Fax: +44(0)115 84 68618

Managing Editor
Dr Finola Delamere
Tel: +44 (0)115 8468635
finola.delamere@nottingham.ac.uk

Trials Search Co-ordinator
Liz Doney
Tel: +44 (0) 115 8468626
elizabeth.doney@nottingham.ac.uk

Editorial Assistant
Laura Prescott
Tel: +44 (0) 115 8468627
csg@nottingham.ac.uk

Co-ordinating Editor
Prof Hywel Williams
Tel: +44 (0)115 924 9924 ext 44539
hywel.williams@nottingham.ac.uk