Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions What's new in Version 5.0.1 (September 2008)

Main reason for update: to replicate the version published as a book (John Wiley & Sons, 2008).

Throughout

• Extensive copy editing for style, spelling and grammar.

Chapter 3

- Section 3.2.5.1: clarification that updated reviews are flagged with a 'New search' flag in CDSR.
- Section 3.5.2: clarification that withdrawn reviews should be given an 'Amended' event in the 'What's new' table.

Chapter 4

• Section 4.5: added "Review authors who wish to mix recommended with optional subheadings should ensure that they are all displayed in appropriately consistent styles, which may require deactivating all of the recommended headings embedded in RevMan and creating them manually."

Chapter 6

- Section 6.2.3.4: added mention of Section 801 of the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007.
- Section 6.3.2.1: search strategy in 2nd paragraph rephrased
- Section 6.4.11: added mention of search filter appraisal tool.
- Boxes 6.4.a, 6.4.b, 6.4.c, 6.4.d : last two lines of each strategy corrected.
- Box 6.4.f: lines 9 and 10 of search strategy corrected.

Chapter 7

• Section 7.7.6: added reference to Tierney 2007.

Chapter 9

- Section 9.4.1: added mention of supplementary document *Statistical Algorithms in Review Manager 5*.
- Section 9.5.4: added reference for predictive intervals for random-effects meta-analysis.

Chapter 11

- Section 11.5.6.2: added "If there is an excessive number of outcomes in the review, authors will need to omit the less important outcomes."
- Section 11.8: clarified that trade names should not be used.

Chapter 12

- added new key point, "Quality ratings are made separately for each outcome".
- Section 12.6.4: new discussion of source of standard deviations for interpreting SMDs.

Chapter 13

- Section 13.1.2, item (e): removed text "However, justifying a systematic review of NRS on the ground of supplementing randomized trial evidence may be acceptable if the available evidence from randomized trials is of such limited quantity or poor quality that NRS may actually provide better evidence."
- Tables 13.2.a and 13.2.b: added 'Some other process (specify)? as an option for allocation to groups.

Chapter 15

• Section 15.6.1: more information on Purchasing Power Parities and use of gross domestic product deflators.

Chapter 18

• added new key point, "There may be circumstances where the benefits of obtaining IPD are marginal; others where it could be vital."

Chapter 21

• changed from "health promotion and public health" to "public health and health promotion".

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