What are the current expectations of CRGs?

The core functions below were developed in advance of the 2013 CRG monitoring process.

Information relating to the structure and role of Cochrane Review Groups can be found in the Cochrane Organisational Policy Manual: http://community.cochrane.org/organisational-policy-manual/32-cochrane-review-groups. **Please note: this content is currently being updated.

1. To produce and maintain high quality relevant and accessible systematic reviews that inform decision making in healthcare and policy.

Essential activities in support of this function include:

- Developing processes that identify and prioritise reviews that address issues and uncertainties that are of most relevance and importance to users, within the scope of the CRG
- Ensuring that reviews meet the conduct and reporting methodological standards (MECIR) developed by Cochrane
- Ensuring the readability of reviews to ensure that they are comprehensible to the identified user groups
- Ensuring appropriate input into the editorial process via peer review at the protocol and review stages by experts (including content experts, consumers, statisticians and methodologists)
- Ensuring open and transparent editorial processes and decision making in respect of the registration, conduct and production of reviews
- Promoting geographical diversity and inclusiveness within the Collaboration by seeking to recruit authors and editors from low- and middle income country settings and prioritising the publication of reviews that are relevant to these settings where possible
- Helping to monitor the impact of reviews produced by CRGs and contributing as appropriate to activities organised centrally to identify and increase impact and knowledge translation
- Providing support for review authors within the context of available resources and the need to ensure that best possible product for users of the *CDSR*, and maintaining timely and respectful communications with review authors.

2. To identify relevant studies within the scope of the review group and to contribute bibliographic material relevant to these within the CENTRAL register of controlled trials.

Essential activities in support of this function include:

- Developing and maintaining a specialised register and publishing the studies within the register, as appropriate in CENTRAL, unless specific permissions have been approved by

the Editor in Chief in consultation with the Co-ordinating Editors' and TSCs' Executives, and all included and excluded studies identified by the group's reviews are submitted to CENTRAL.

3. To address the requirements in relation to the Collaboration.

Essential activities in support of this function include:

- Complying with reporting requirements, put in place by the Collaboration, necessary to ensure good governance.
- Supporting the development and implementation of strategic plans and governance arrangements developed within the Collaboration.
- Identifying and addressing the professional development needs of core staff at the editorial base.
- Seeking to identify learning opportunities for peer reviewers, review authors and editors and providing advice about accessibility of such resources.
- Maintaining a collegial, respectful relationship with all Cochrane entities and management groups.