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**Feasibility and acceptability of living systematic reviews: results from a mixed methods evaluation**

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**Objectives/aims**

Living systematic reviews (LSRs), as systematic reviews that are continually updated, are a new approach to maintaining evidence synthesis currency. They require modifications to authoring and editorial processes and pose technical and publishing challenges. Several LSRs are currently being piloted by teams within Cochrane and the international LSR Network. To objective of this study is to understand the experiences of authors, editors and others involved in producing LSRs and assess the feasibility and acceptability of this new evidence synthesis approach.

**Methods**

We are conducting a mixed-methods evaluation (completion mid-2018) with 17 participants, including 7 authors, 3 managing editors, 3 search specialists and 4 editorial/other staff. Participants are contributing to one or more of 6 LSRs (3 Cochrane; 3 non-Cochrane). They take part in up to three semi-structured interviews, exploring their experiences of contributing to the LSR, and the barriers, facilitators, challenges and advantages of the LSR processes used. Key pilot team members complete monthly surveys capturing time for key tasks and the number of citations identified and screened.

**Main findings**

Across pilots, search frequency is monthly to 3-monthly, with some using machine learning and Cochrane Crowd to screen searches. Varied approaches are being used to communicate updates to readers. Early results show: strong enthusiasm for involvement; importance of motivated, efficient teams to manage workload; machine learning and Cochrane Crowd helps to manage workflow and save time; the translation of the continuous process into a reliable, streamlined operation; and longer-term potential for time and effort savings. Findings to date support feasibility and acceptability of LSR production.