Enhancing underlying data from Cochrane Reviews

Improving interoperability and addressing data sharing concerns: lessons from Cochrane reviews

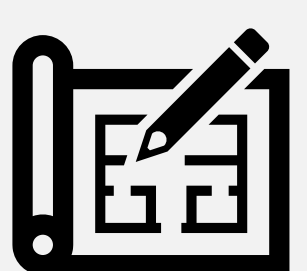## How are we enabling FAIR principles for Cochrane data?

Findable: The data package is **clearly identified** in the supplementary materials and located in the right-hand navigation on the Cochrane review.

Accessible: By using trustworthy publishing platforms, the **data package is part of the Cochrane review** and its associated DOI, making a **clear connection between the article and the dataset**. At present, the associated data package is available under the same license as the parent review ('green' or 'gold') but **we are exploring ways to open the dataset further** as part of Cochrane's continued move to open access.

Interoperable: The interoperability of **datasets is enhanced with new user-friendly, reusable formats** (CSV and RIS files), we have also collaborated with producers of tools in evidence synthesis (Covidence, GRADEPro), guideline developers, and meta-researchers utilizing Cochrane review data, to **ensure the formats are widely interoperable**.

Reusable: Cochrane reviews are **enriched with more usable data associated with the review,** including data relating to the included studies, risk of bias assessments, review's analyses, and references.

*At Cochrane, we believe **increased data-sharing opens opportunities for collaboration**, reduces research waste, makes systematic reviewing more efficient, and **ensures transparency and quality**.*

How do we ensure transparency and integrity of the dataset?

✓ Data package is **submitted with the manuscript** and considered alongside during peer review and editorial assessments.

✓ We **mandate that all reviews share data** with a clear editorial policy and dedicated section in Cochrane reviews for full declarations.

How have we addressed authors' concerns about data sharing?

✓ Our authoring tool **automatically curates data for you,** saving time and easing author burden.

✓ Those reusing data must agree to mandatory terms and conditions, **safeguarding author rights** and addressing concerns around ownership.

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