Introduction to MEC2IR
Guidance for Campbell Systematic Reviews

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Today’s speakers

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Overview

• What is the Campbell Methods Group?
• What is MEC2IR?
• What are the methodological expectations of Campbell editors?
• Q&A
What is the Campbell Collaboration Methods Coordinating Group?
WHO’S INVOLVED?
Supports production of *Campbell Systematic Reviews*

- Methods peer-review and editing
- Research to improve the methodology of research synthesis
- Disseminate guidelines for state-of-the-art review methods
Several subgroups to provide advice and guidance on specific methodological topics

- Economics
- Equity
- Information retrieval
- Process and implementation
- Statistics
- Training
Offers consultation on specific review methods

- Information retrieval
- Study coding
- Assessing research quality
- Effect size estimation
- Data synthesis
- Research design
- Economic methods
- Process and implementation data
Resource Center

- Review tools (e.g., Effect Size Calculator)
- Review guidance (e.g., C2 Policy Document)
- Useful links (e.g., EQUATOR Network)
- Methods Policy Briefs (e.g., Statistical Analysis)
- *Plan to update Resource Center by March 2015
What is MEC2IR?
Cochrane’s MECIR Standards

• Methodological Expectations of Cochrane Intervention Reviews

• Clear and transparent standards for conducting and reporting (1) review protocols and (2) full manuscripts

• Tool for Cochrane editors to hold authors accountable during the review process

• Helps with liaison between methodologists, editorial teams, and review teams
Campbell’s MEC2IR Standards

- Methodological Expectations of Campbell Collaboration (C2) Intervention Reviews
- Adapted version of Cochrane’s MECIR for interventions in social and behavioral sciences
- Clear and transparent standards for conducting and reporting C2 protocols and reviews
- Tool for C2 editors to ensure consistency and clarity in the review process
Developing MEC2IR

- Working group to review and adapt the Cochrane’s MECIR standards for conducting and reporting of systematic reviews
  - Included representatives from all coordinating groups
  - Karianne Hammerstrøm, Nick Huband, Joshua Polanin, Emily Tanner-Smith, Vivian Welch, John Westbrook, David Wilson, Sandra Jo Wilson

- Proposal was reviewed by the co-chairs of the MG and approved via vote by the Steering Group
Major Differences between MECIR and MEC2IR

- Overall the main adaptions are around:
  - risk of bias assessments
  - assessments of methodological quality of primary studies
  - development/reporting of summary of findings tables

- Other minor changes are standards re-categorization (i.e., mandatory, highly desirable)
What are the expectations of Campbell editors?
Using MEC2IR

• All C2 protocols and reviews need to comply with reporting standards immediately

• All C2 reviews currently not completed need to comply with conduct standards

• All C2 protocols under development need to comply with conduct standards after 1 October 2014
Incorporating MEC2IR into C2 Methods Review Process

• Goal of MEC2IR is to specify methodological expectations for protocols and reviews
  - Helps the Campbell community to align methodological expectations across different coordinating groups
  - Provides authors and editors a common language about the different elements of the protocol and review
Incorporating MEC2IR into C2 Methods Review Process

- Goal of MEC2IR is to specify methodological expectations for protocols and reviews
  - It facilitates the review process that holds authors accountable
  - Methodological expectations explicit by identifying standards as mandatory or highly desirable
  - Protocols and reviews are evaluated against the standards during the review process
  - Providing a completed MEC2IR with the completed review will expedite the review process
What is the advantage of having a Methods Group?
How can I get involved in the C2 Methods Group?
Why did you adapt MECIR? Shouldn’t you have made your own?
Why should I use MEC2IR?

Won’t it add more time to the review process?
I am not familiar with one of the MEC2IR items: whom should I contact with questions?
Where can I find MEC2IR guidelines?

Here!

How was this webcast?

http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1854784/Methods

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