

MECCIR Standards: Methodological Expectations for Campbell Collaboration Intervention Reviews

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- The Campbell Collaboration
 - Produces systematic reviews of credible evidence to inform policy and practice
 - Develops guidelines and standards for the conduct and reporting of systematic reviews (SRs)
 - MECCIR standards aim to reduce bias and error, increase transparency at each step in the review process

MECCIR standards are part of a suite of Campbell guidelines and standards for SRs, including

1. General guidelines for SRs (updated 2016)

<https://campbellcollaboration.org/library/campbell-collaboration-systematic-reviews-policies-and-guidelines.html>

2. Guidelines for information retrieval (updated 2017)

<https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/library/searching-for-studies-information-retrieval-guide-campbell-reviews.html>

3. Guidance on specific topics, e.g., economic methods, network meta-analysis, synthesis of single subject designs



- Adapted from Cochrane's MECIR standards
(Methodological Expectations of Cochrane Intervention Reviews,
Chandler et al., 2012)
- For SRs on *interventions* relevant for social and
economic policy
- Separate standards for conduct and reporting of SRs

<https://campbellcollaboration.org/library/campbell-methods-conduct-standards.html>

- Steps to reduce bias and error in the review process: clear objectives, clear inclusion criteria, include unpublished studies that meet criteria, reliably extract data from studies, etc.
- 44 **mandatory** standards - must be met prior to publication in the Campbell library
- 28 **highly desirable** standards - should generally be met, but there are justifiable exceptions
- 4 **optional** items - done at the authors' discretion

<https://campbellcollaboration.org/library/campbell-methods-reporting-standards.html>

- Steps to produce transparent, replicable systematic reviews: detailed description of search, screening, coding, analytic, and synthesis procedures
- 69 **mandatory** items
- 37 **highly desirable** items
- 2 **optional** items

Using the MECCIR standards

- Don't be intimidated by the sheer number of items; many of these standards are easily met
- Help is available – in the form of written guidelines and *in vivo* and online training – from the Campbell Collaboration and other sources

- Campbell policy guidelines, Cochrane Handbook
- Campbell checklists and templates (process) for
 - Title registration
 - Protocols
 - Completed reviews
- Available on website and from Campbell's Managing Editors

In vivo workshops and online training videos follow steps in the review process:

- Problem formulation, searching, screening and selection of studies, data extraction, risk of bias assessment, meta-analysis
- Introductory methods video series
 - <https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/the-introductory-methods.html>
- Advanced methods video series
 - <https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/the-advanced-methods-applied-topics.html>

- Email: info@campbellcollaboration.org
- www.campbellcollaboration.org
- @campbellreviews on Twitter
- The Campbell Collaboration on Facebook

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