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Information Sharing Session on Rapid Review Initiatives

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In the spirit of information sharing...

- Asked to briefly highlight some of the RR research initiatives our group is working on, as well as projects in the planning phases; keen to tackle pressing questions that have emerged for us as we've become more involved with RRs
- Asked to share a few other RR initiatives (not already mentioned)
- Hope this adds to the discussion for this session





Who we are...



Knowledge Synthesis Group (KSG)

- KSG is based at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI), and part of the Ottawa Methods Centre (OMC)
- Led by Dr. David Moher
- An academic team (n=25+) engaged exclusively in systematic reviews, HTAs, guidelines, and related methods research;
- For the last 5+ years our group has explored RR methods; carried out numerous RRs; and have been involved in several training and education sessions



History with RRs

- Interest in RRs started in 2009 with a CIHR Knowledge to Action (KTA) grant in which we partnered with our Local Health Integrated Network (LHIN)
- Essentially, our team set up a **'knowledge intelligence service'** to provide answers for the LHIN to help direct policy, implementation, and practice decisions
- Resulted in our team developing a series of rapid evidence summaries (18 total); each produced within 4-6 weeks in response questions posed by the LHIN
- Based on this work, in 2012, we published the RR approach we had established for this service

[Khangura et al., Systematic Reviews Journal 2012, 1:10]

Last 30 days: 792 accesses

Last 365 days: 7909 accesses

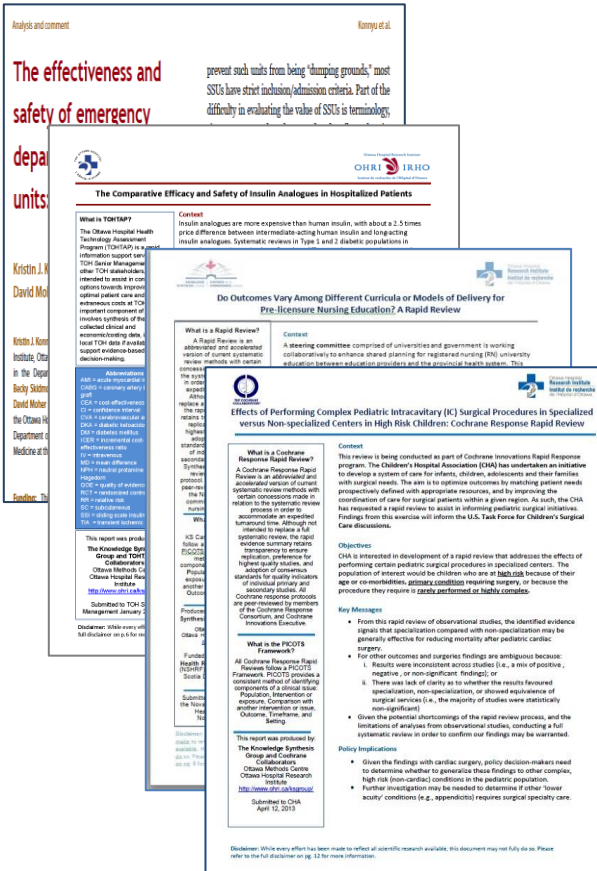
All time: 21209 accesses





Context

- Since then, we've gone on to do >30 RRs for various organizations, including.....



- The Ottawa Hospital
- Cochrane Response (US Children's Hospital Association)
- Nova Scotia Health Services Research Foundation
- Health Quality Ontario
- WHO
- Better Outcomes Registry & Network Ontario (BORN Ontario)
- Alberta Bone and Joint Institute (ABJI)



RR Research Projects at OHRI

1. How has our RR approach evolved since our methods were first published a few years ago?

- Over the course of the last 3 years, as we've expanded to do various types of RRs so our processes and methods have been further refined, and need to be updated (we've become a little more sophisticated)
- Recently started an update our 2012 RR methods paper (*Khangura et al. Systematic Reviews 2012, 1:10*) to reflect these refinements
- Part of this update includes characterizing the different types of RR products we've produced (a spectrum of RRs, and their distinguishing features)
- Aiming for completion this Spring (2015).

[Garritty, Stevens & Moher]



RR Research Projects at OHRI

2. How should we characterize RRs in terms of their conduct, reporting, and format?

- Unlike the SRs world, no tools yet available to researchers in the RR realm to assess quality of RRs, transparency in reporting etc.
- As a first step, proposing to undertake a meta-epidemiological look/ cross sectional analysis of a global sample of RRs (both published and unpublished) in order to get a sense of the epidemiological, methodological, and reporting characteristics across individual RR reports
- Aim is to also map reports back to SR best practices [E.g., how well do individual RRs fare against such tools like AMSTAR and PRIMSA]
- We also intend to capture various characteristics on RR report formats; how is information being packaged for decision makers
- Still thinking through several of the logistics

[Stevens & Garritty, PhD work]



RR Research Projects at OHRI

3. When is it appropriate to undertake a RR; and what is the optimal way to conduct a RR?

- Proposing to develop a RR '**process map**' as a digital tool to guide *when* and *how* to undertake a RR
- Aim is to help assess 'fit' of the RR approach for a given issue/question
- Aim is also to provide clear RR review steps for researchers and suggested actions at various decision points in the process; highlighting possible implications of taking shortcuts across certain stages (risks of potential biases)
- Overall, intended for producers and consumers of RRs as an eLearning tool, RR resource/ tool kit, and possible discussion forum (conceptual at this stage)

[C Garritty, PhD work]



RR Research Projects at OHRI

4. How can current tools that are used to guide the conduct and reporting of SRs be extended or developed to address RRs?

- Building upon some of the earlier projects, the intention is to extend or develop reporting guidance or a quality assessment tool specific to RRs (to be determined)

[A Stevens, PhD work]

5. To what extent have funding agencies adopted the use of RRs, and in what capacity? What is the perceived utility of RRs to the funding process?

- Interested in determining the use of RRs as a tool for research funding agencies in identifying knowledge gaps, setting priorities, and ensuring appropriate use of funding dollars
 - Many applications for funding of primary studies seek SRs to justify requests (could RRs play a role here)?
 - Do agencies fund RRs? [pending funding]



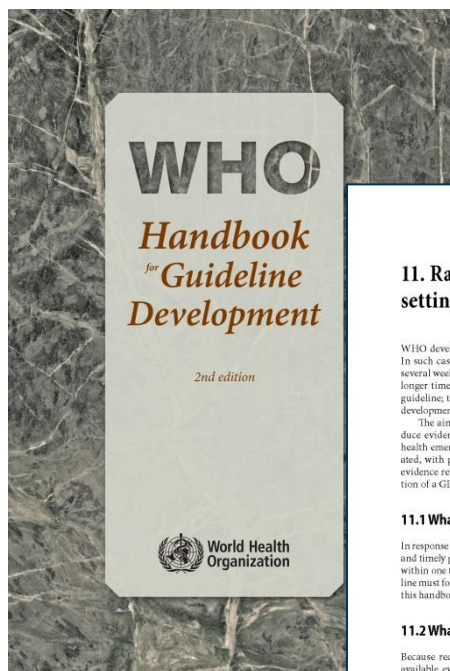
Other RR Research Initiatives....

- Currently seeking funding to assist with the abovementioned projects (2-5)
 - Submitting to CIHR in early March, 2015 [D. Moher – Principal Applicant]

- Important MSc thesis work led by Shannon Kelly (uOttawa)
 - Examining the characteristics that define RRs and trying to determine how a RR is distinguished from other types of reviews using eDelphi methods
 - Looking forward to her results; important contribution



Rapid Reviews for WHO Rapid Advice Guidelines (RAG)



11. Rapid advice guidelines in the setting of a public health emergency

WHO develops guidelines in response to emergencies or to an urgent need. In such cases, a rapid response guideline may be issued within one day to several weeks, or a rapid advice guideline may be needed within a somewhat longer timeline (see Chapter 1). This chapter focuses on the second type of guideline; the methods for producing a rapid response guideline are under development by the GRC Secretariat.

The aim of this chapter is to provide detailed guidance on how to produce evidence-informed rapid advice guidelines in the context of a public health emergency. We focus on how guideline development can be accelerated, with particular attention to the planning phase, the execution of the evidence reviews that will inform the recommendations, and the mobilization of a GDG to formulate recommendations.

11.1 What is a rapid advice guideline?

In response to a public health emergency, WHO must provide global leadership and timely guidance in the form of an evidence-informed guideline produced within one to three months. The steering group for such a rapid advice guideline must follow all of the basic steps for guideline development as described in this handbook, but with modifications to meet the accelerated timeline.

11.2 What is a rapid review?

Because recommendations issued by WHO need to be based on the best available evidence, guidelines typically draw on evidence from well conducted and reported systematic reviews, whether they exist already or are undertaken to inform the development of the guideline. Producing systematic reviews can take varying amounts of time – from six months to more than one year – depending on the complexity of the topic and the available resources. In a public health emergency, conducting a conventional or standard systematic review de novo may not be feasible. Rapid reviews have emerged as a streamlined approach to synthesizing evidence quickly, typi-

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- In 2014, we assisted the WHO with establishing guidance on how to produce evidence-informed RAGs in the context of a public health emergency; using ‘rapid reviews’ in order to inform recommendations
- In the midst of process, Ebola came along....opportunity to apply our draft guidance and then refine
- End result: is a new chapter included in the most recent version of the WHO Handbook (Garritty, Norris, Moher)
- Manuscript submission (co-publication) – expected February, 2015.



Guidelines International Network (G-I-N)

Accelerated Guideline Development Working Group



- This is a newly established group (in the early phases) - formed this past Fall (2014) following discussions at previous G-I-N meetings
- Comprised of a steering committee (Chaired by Dr. Michel Laurence, HAS, France) and work group (broad representation)
- Group's objective is focused on mechanisms for developing guidelines in an accelerated time frame (based on RRs)
- Working group aims to develop RR materials, test and to disseminate
 - Completed a background scoping exercise (Jan. 2015)
 - Embarking upon a survey of guideline working group members on RR methods they use (questionnaire under development)
 - This will inform development of AGD Manual (to be presented in draft in Amsterdam, 2015); testing and final manual (Nov. 2016)



Establishing a Cochrane RR Methods Group



- Currently involved in trying to establish a RR methods group within the Cochrane Collaboration
- Sparked by several discussions and an exploratory meeting held at the Cochrane Colloquium in 2013; and an additional exploratory meeting Canadian Cochrane Symposium (April 2014)
- In gaging interest, we've received strong signals to move forward
- In the midst of completing the registration application:
 - Proposing the group be co-convened by CADTH, Oregon Health & Science University, and OHRI;
 - Aim to be registered for the upcoming Colloquium (Vienna, Oct/15)
- Proposed core functions would be to:
 - Provide policy advice (e.g., CEU, CRGs, fields, methods groups, SG)
 - Serve as a RR discussion forum; oversee network of those interested in RRs
 - Provide RR training and support for the collaboration
 - Track RR methods research, and do methods research if funding available





Upcoming Rapid Review Training

Rapid Reviews: A Practical Knowledge Synthesis Tool for Decision Makers (90 min workshop) (C Garritty, V King, J Polisena)

Evidence Live (Oxford, UK) – April 13-14, 2015

www.evidencelive.org



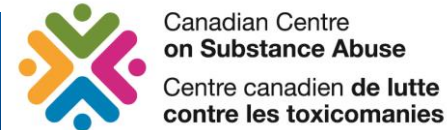
One Day Short Course - Rapid Review Methods –

Tuesday, 12th May 2015 (Sheffield, UK)

http://www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/rapid_review_methods

Email at scharr-scu@sheffield.ac.uk or call +44 (0)114 222 2968.

Various Organizations Engaging in Rapid Reviews





Look forward to hearing about other RRs initiatives

