



Programme DiMoPEX Training School

Title: **Advanced Epidemiology and Statistics Part 1: Systematic Reviews**

Venue: University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary

Dates: June 28-29, 2017

Wednesday, June 28th Orientation and training on systematic reviews

08:30 Welcome with coffee/tea/water

09:00 Opening of the Training School (TS) (Balazs Adam and Lygia Budnik)

09:10 Brief introduction of your trainers and quick round to become acquainted with all participants

09:30 TS Programme and aims of the Systematic Review 2 (SR2) project meeting (Paul Scheepers)

09:45 Introduction to the World Health Organization-International Labour Organization (WHO-ILO) project (Frank Pega via Skype, Paul Scheepers, moderator)

10:00 Introduction to the role of systematic reviews in chemical risk assessment (Paul Whaley)

- Controversies in chemical risk assessment, e.g. PFCs, glyphosate, BPA, phthalates
- How systematic review methods may help overcome them (focus on Navigation Guide)
- Challenges in SR methods for CRA; recommendations from 2014 workshop
- How the recommendations are being acted on (e.g. Environment International etc.)

10:45 Break with coffee/tea/water

11:00 Interactive session using a case in systematic reviews (Paul Whaley)

The "Navigation Guide" systematic review of triclosan as a reproductive toxicant

- Walk-through of highlights in terms of best practices in up-to-date SR techniques

11:45 Questions and discussion

12:00 Lunch

13:00 How to assess 'risk of bias' in SRs of observational studies (Daniele Mandrioli)

Navigation guide and Cochrane principles



13:45 Questions and discussion

14:00 Code of practice in systematic reviews (Paul Whaley)

- Introduction to quality control issues in conduct, reporting and publication of SRs
- Overview of the "COSTEHR" code of practice for SRs in environmental health

14:45 Break with coffee/tea/water

15:00 Systematic review process: how to apply the code of practice to SR2 (Paul Whaley)

- Introduction to "EPSTEHR", a peer-review and quality control tool for SRs
- How EPSTEHR is used in ensuring a SR is fit for purpose: a case study. For this an imperfect SR will be selected to demonstrate how the EPSTEHR tool helps peer-reviewers (either internal or external) to provide comprehensive, constructive critique of limitations in the design, conduct and reporting of a systematic review, to help ensure a SR is compliant with the COSTEHR code of practice.
- It is proposed to do some of this work in break-out groups of 5 persons.

17:00 Evaluation

17:30 Closure

19:00 Dinner



Thursday, June 29th Putting SR2 on the road

09:00 Welcome with coffee/tea/water

09:15 Orientation on preparation of a protocol for the SR on pneumoconiosis (Daniele Mandrioli)

09:45 Introduction to the health outcome of pneumoconiosis (Ben Nemery)

10:30 Break with coffee/tea/water

10:45 Round table discussion: definition and redefinition of health outcome (Ben Nemery)

[Starting point will be the outcome of the discussion and scoping statement from the Copenhagen meeting; the product should be a PECO statement, definition of search terms]

11:30 Discussion session with WHO Officer Frank Pega (via Skype)

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Workshop: Consensus on all necessary ingredients of the SR2 protocol (Vivi Schlüsslen)

The shopping list will cover the items needed for preparing a PRISMA-P protocol:

- 1a. Title
- 2. Registration
- 3. Authors
- 3a. Contact
- 3b. Contributions
- 5. Support
- 6. Rationale
- 7. Objectives
- 8. Eligibility criteria – PECO (Population; Exposure; Comparators; Outcome).
- 9. Information sources
- 10. Search strategy

15:00 Break with coffee/tea/water

- 11 Study records (Data management, Selection process, Data collection process)
- 12. Data items to be tabulated
- 13. Outcomes and prioritization
- 14. Risk of bias in individual studies
- 15. Data synthesis (Criteria under which study data will be quantitatively synthesized; If quantitative synthesis not appropriate, description of the type of summary planned)
- 16. Meta-biases
- 17. Confidence in cumulative evidence

15:30 Discussion of general outline and time-frame for the whole SR2 project (Daniele Mandrioli)

16:00 Summary, conclusions and next steps (Paul Scheepers)

16:30 Closure