

## **COCHRANE QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS GROUP**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2007**

Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting of the Cochrane Qualitative Methods Research Group of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October, Rotterdam Room, World Trade Centre, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 11am

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

**Alan Pearson**  
**Alison Weightman**  
**Angela Harden**  
**Craig Lockwood**  
**Eduardo Vieira Neto**  
**Emma Irvia**  
**Fernanda deCarrollio**  
**June Hoirup Petersen**  
**Luis Taesan Chen**  
**Mauro Ramos**  
**Mioria Stelle Catral de Dejarario**  
**Silvia Minozzi**  
**Suzane K Ono-Nita**  
**Tereza Toma**  
**Valevia Cassetri**

#### **INTRODUCTORY AND FORMAL BUSINESS**

#### **WELCOME TO MEETNG AND OPENING REMARKS**

Alan Pearson, Co-Convenor, welcomed members to the meeting.

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Professor Jane Noyes, Dr Mary Dixon-Woods, Andrew Booth, Janet Harris and Karin Hanes.

#### **2. INTRODUCTORY AND FORMAL BUSINESS**

- 2.1 The meeting opened at 1115
- 2.2 It was noted that there were no minutes recorded at the previous meeting, but that Jane Noyes (Lead Convenor) had chaired the 2006 AGM and taken notes that were unavailable for the 2007 AGM.

#### **3. CHAIRS REPORT**

- 3.1 It was reported that Jennie Popay stood down as lead convenor of the CQRMG in early 2007 and Jane Noyes was subsequently appointed lead convenor while Jennie continued to lead the methodological guidance sub group.
- 3.2 It was reported that the CQRMG had been invited to submit, and had finalised a contribution to the Cochrane Handbook which would be available in early 2008 electronically and, for the first time, in hard copy.
- 3.3 It was reported that Jennie Popay, Nicky Britten and Cathy Pope (Methodological Guidance Group) had resigned from the CQRMG in September 2007.
- 3.4 It was reported that on inception, the CQRMG had had ties with both the Cochrane and the Campbell Collaborations. In 2006, the Campbell Collaboration withdrew from the arrangement; hence the methods group is now specific to the Cochrane Collaboration .

#### **4. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 4.1 Attendees of the CQRMG AGM were advised about the structure of the CQRMG, including the members and affiliates programs. Attendees were encouraged to visit the website, and consider a formal relationship with the CQRMG via the programs available. Attendees were advised that membership brings opportunity to engage with the group, receive the regular electronic newsletter, and contribute to the groups core activities as well as access its resources. This led to further discussion on the role of the CQRMG in offering training and education, details of which would be available from the website. Attendees were notified that the website itself had been redeveloped and was now able to accept registrations of interest and that convenors, members and affiliates were able to access, and to participate in the population of the databases.

#### **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 5.1 There was general discussion on why attendees had chosen to come to the meeting. Most attendees were there “out of interest” as the entity or organisation they were part of was considering the role qualitative evidence might have in their reviews. Some attendees from organisations which regularly conduct reviews (i.e. EPPI) were looking for an update on the work of the CQRMG in terms of methodological development
- 5.2 There was general discussion from attendees on methodological guidance, seeking an indication of progress, barriers and their views. This included discussion of approaches to qualitative review, including realist synthesis, meta ethnography and aggregative synthesis; approaches by other entities such as EPPI with comment by EPPI staff on differing views of appraisal.

#### **6. CLOSURE**

The Meeting closed at 1230.