Cochrane Training

Cochrane tools and systems

Trusted evidence.
Informed decisions.
Better health.

Cochrane Training

Session outline

- Cochrane Review Ecosystem: an overview
- Essentials tools and systems (‘must know’)
- Other tools and systems (‘good to know’)

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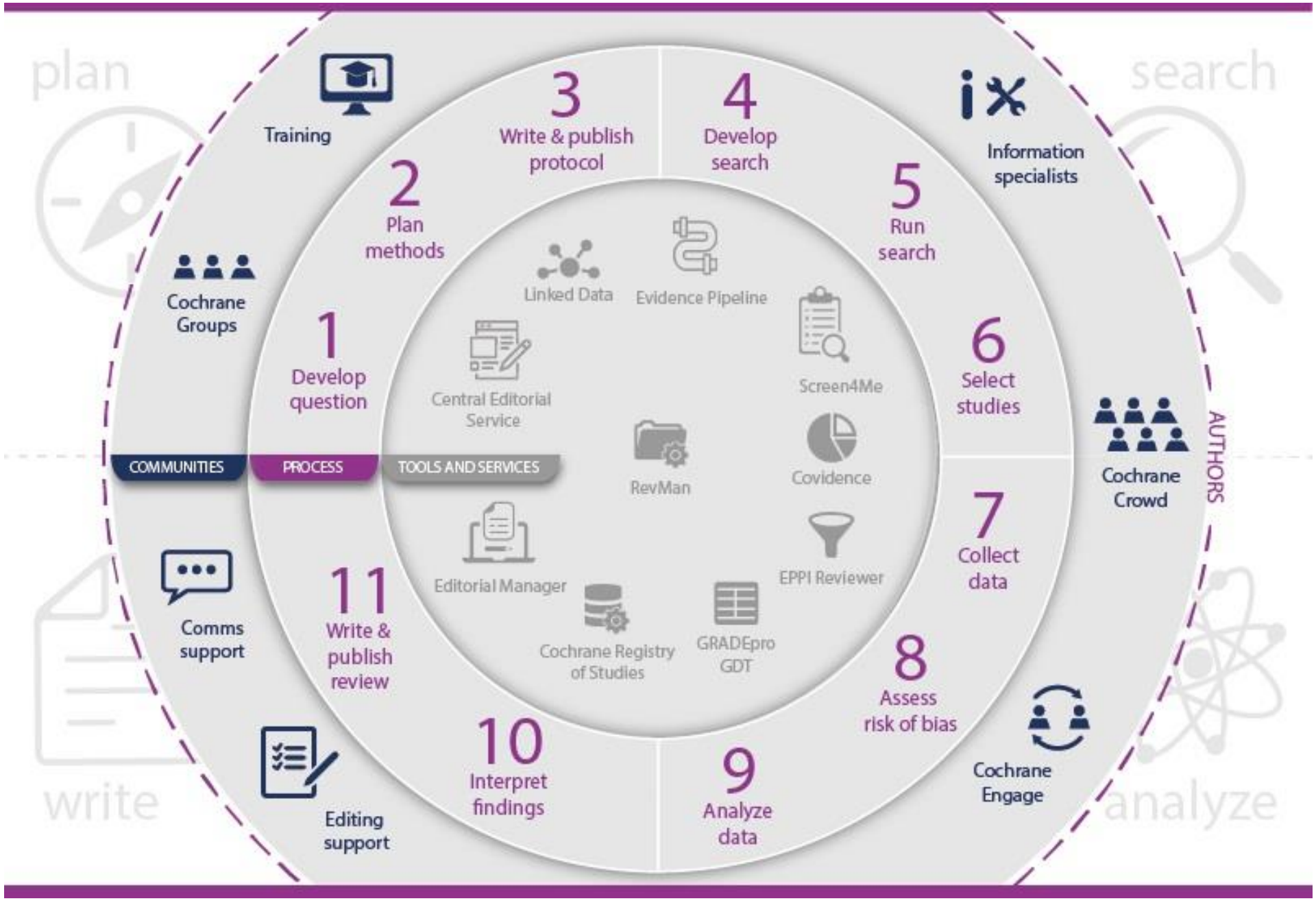
Cochrane Review Ecosystem

Shows the communities, applications and data stores that support the process of conducting a Cochrane Review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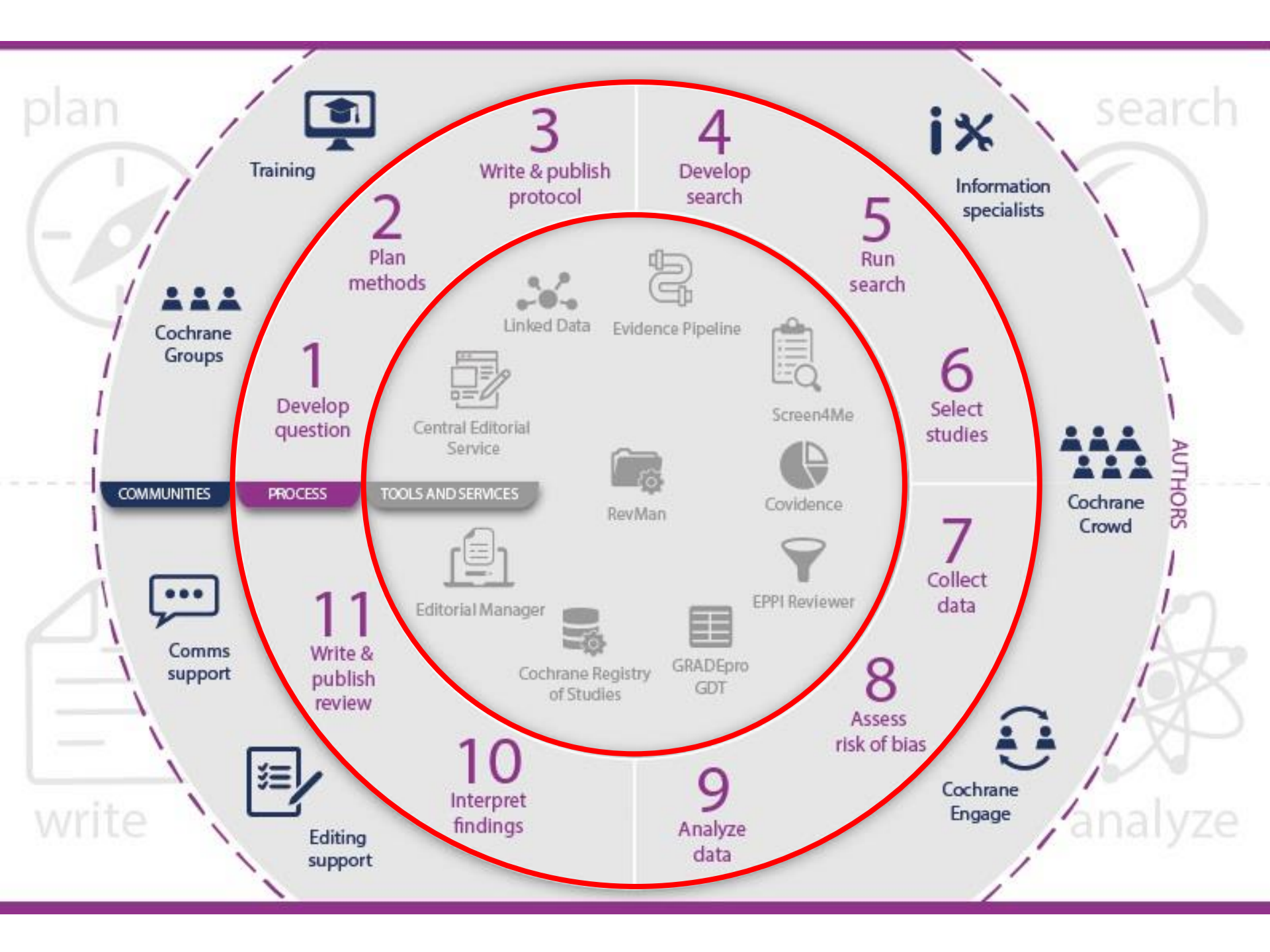
search
write
analyze
Training
3
Write & publish protocol
4
Develop search
Information specialists
2
Plan methods
5
Run search
Cochrane Groups
Linked Data
Evidence Pipeline
1
Develop question
Central Editorial Service
Screen4Me
6
Select studies
Cochrane Crowd
AUTHORS
COMMUNITIES
PROCESS
TOOLS AND SERVICES
RevMan
Covidence
7
Collect data
Comms support
11
Write & publish review
Editorial Manager
EPPI Reviewer
Cochrane Registry of Studies
GRADEpro GDT
8
Assess risk of bias
Cochrane Engage
Editing support
10
Interpret findings
9
Analyze data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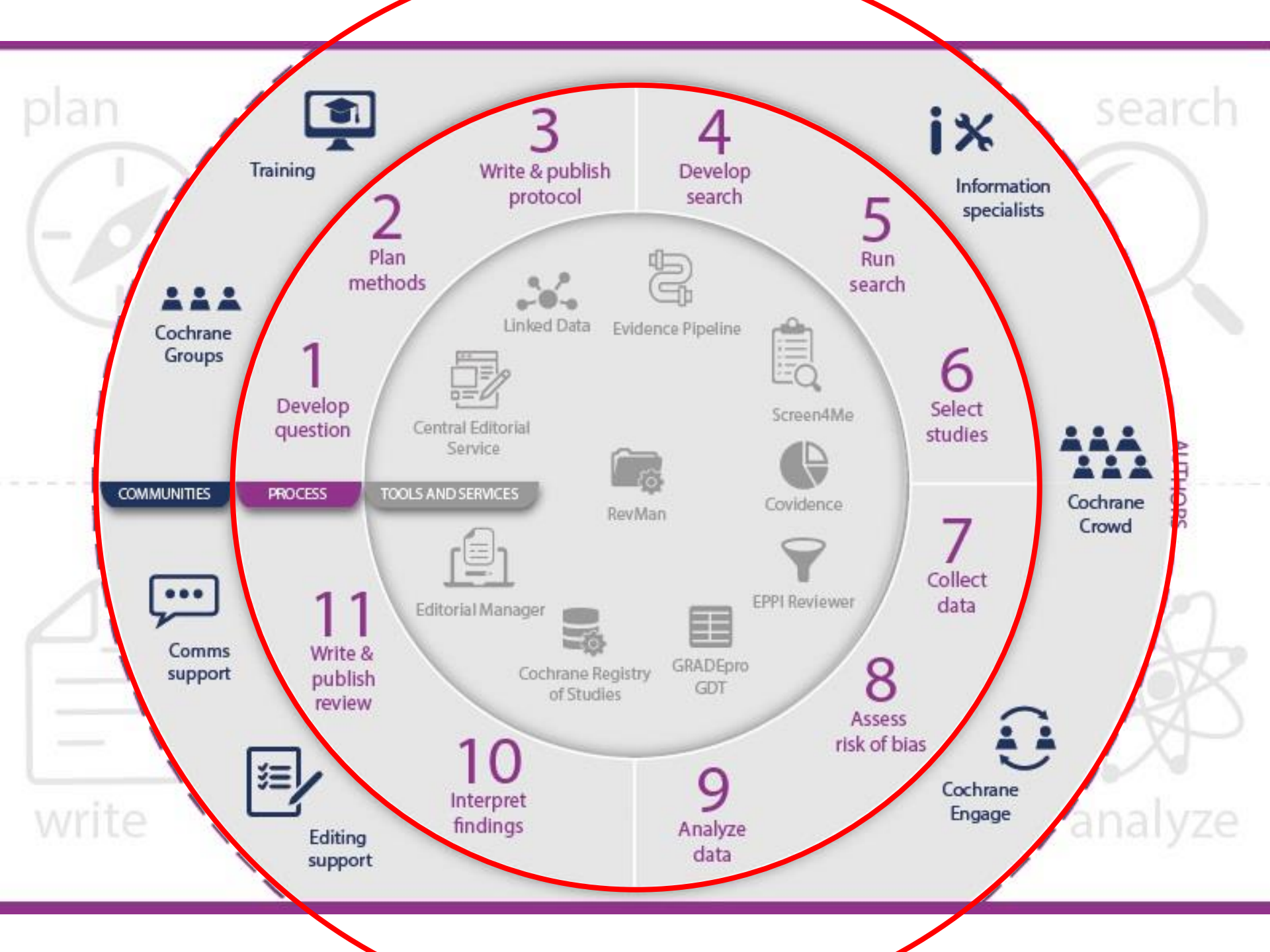
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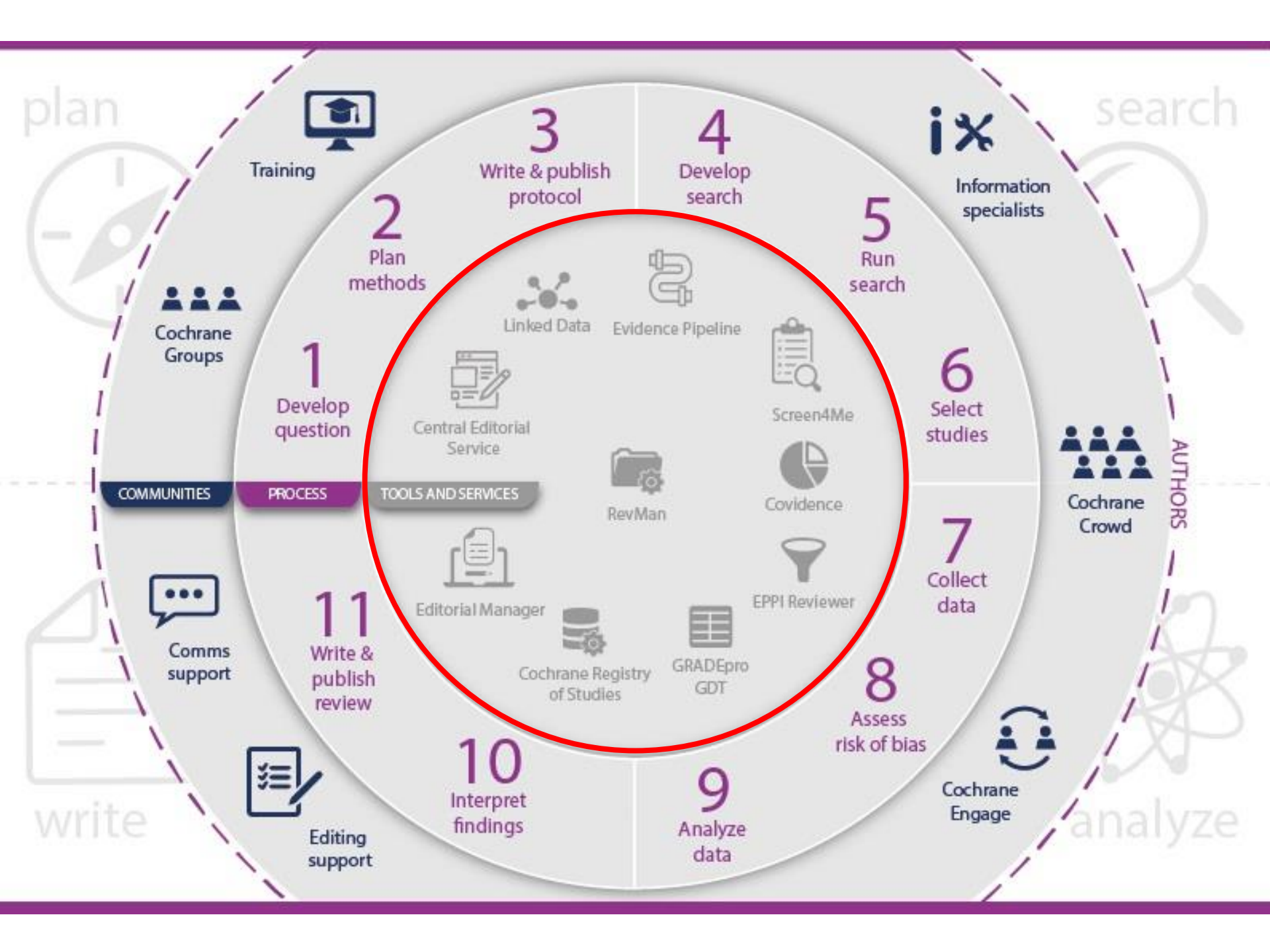
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Essential tools and systems

- RevMan Web
- GRADEpro GDT
- Editorial Manager

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Cochrane RevMan

RevMan Web (RMW)

- Cochrane's cloud-based software for conducting all types of systematic reviews
- You can use RMW to:
  - Create and manage review projects
  - Generate meta-analyses and forest plots
  - Use the calculator tool to assist in data entry
  - Structure and store study data (inc. 'study-centric' data)
  - Collaborate on writing the review protocol and report
  - Access and use previous review versions
  - Organize your team's portfolio of reviews

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Cochrane RevMan

Accessing RevMan Web (RMW)

- Free access for Cochrane Review authors (with their Cochrane Account)
- Paid subscription for non-Cochrane reviews
- Practice reviews and templates available for new starters
- RMW Knowledge Base: https://documentation.cochrane.org/revman-kb

GRADEpro GDT

- Software that compliments RevMan in creating ‘Summary of findings’ tables in Cochrane Reviews
- You can use GRADEpro GDT to:
  - Import data from RevMan
  - Perform calculations to present the key findings of your review
  - Conduct a GRADE assessment of the quality of evidence
- GRADEpro GDT is also used in guideline development
- Free access for Cochrane Review authors
- On a subsription basis for non-Cochrane reviews
- Available at gradepro.org

Editorial Manager

- Cochrane uses Editorial Manager (used by over 250 other publishers including Elsevier, PLOS and OUP) to manage author submissions of Cochrane Reviews
- Editors use Editorial Manager to conduct peer review and move accepted submissions to publication
- Information for authors available at:

  links.cochrane.org/editorial-manager-for-authors

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Other tools and systems

- Covidence
- EPPI-Reviewer
- Other statistical packages
- Volunteer platforms:
  - Cochrane Engage
  - Cochrane Crowd

Covidence and EPPI-Reviewer

- **Covidence** (covidence.org) – an online collaborative tool for:
  - uploading and sharing search results
  - screening and selecting studies
  - data collection

- **EPPI-Reviewer**
  - Especially appropriate for complex systematic reviews
  - Some advance features (e.g. text mining, automatic text translation, features for qualitative analysis)
  - A complement to RevMan for Cochrane Reviews
  - A stand-alone authoring tool for non-Cochrane reviews

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Other statistical packages

- Not part of Cochrane's offer of tools and systems for their authors
- May be useful for less-common analyses (meta-regression, network meta-analysis, diagnostic test accuracy reviews)
- R + add-on packages (e.g., metafor, stan)
  - Cost-free & open-source (R programming necessary)
- Stata (± free add-on commands)
  - Commercial, point and click (Stata programming optional & helpful)
  - Excellent support and documentation
- Comprehensive Meta-Analysis (CMA)
- WinBugs (for network meta-analysis)

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Volunteer platforms

- **Cochrane Engage** (engage.cochrane.org)
  - Volonteering platform for evidence-based health care opportunities such as:
    - translating studies
    - providing consumer peer-review
    - mentoring
    - joining author teams
- **Cochrane Crowd** (crowd.cochrane.org)
    - a citizen science platform for categorising and summarising healthcare evidence (e.g. deciding whether a study is a randomised controlled trial or not)
    - includes pathways for learning about the key concepts in EBM

Take home message

- Cochrane has a range of communities, applications and data stories to support the production of systematic reviews
- RevMan Web is Cochrane's main software for conducting systematic reviews, freely available for authors of Cochrane Reviews and available on a subscription basis for the production of non-Cochrane reviews
- Other tools and systems for production and editorial processing of Cochrane Reviews include GRADEpro GDT, Editorial Manager, Covidence, and EPPI-Reviewer
- Cochrane Crowd and Cochrane Engage are volunteer platforms supporting the work of Cochrane