Additional resources

The following are additional resources relevant for the Dissemination Essentials course, Module 2: Ensuring a reasonable representation of the evidence:

Cochrane guidance

Guidance for Cochrane review authors on interpreting and drawing conclusions is in Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions, Chapter 15. The chapter contains a lot of detail which is primarily aimed at review authors. The **important information relevant for everyone interested in ensuring a reasonable representation of the evidence in any format is in section 15.6**, especially Table 15.6.b

Cochrane training

The **'Common errors' online learning module 'Summary versions of a review'** has a section on **'Summary of findings' tables**. This is a helpful resource if you want to become more familiar with 'Summary of findings' tables. Editors and authors may want to refresh their skills in recognising and addressing some of the common errors that can occur in 'Summary of findings' tables.

Development of GRADE narrative statements

This article by by Santesso and colleagues (2020) in Journal of Clinical Epidemiology summarises the research behind the development of the **GRADE narrative statements** GRADE guideline 26: informative statements to communicate the findings of systematic reviews of interventions

Data visualisation tool

You may want to check out the !RealRisk tool from the Winton Centre, University of Cambridge, which you can use to **generate visual representations of data** (caveat: you will need information about baseline risks, so this is perhaps not so helpful if you only have access to short summaries that only present relative effects)

No evidence of effect?

This Students for Best Evidence blog post (Oct 2020) is a helpful summary about **the difference between 'no evidence of effect' and 'evidence of no effect'**

https://s4be.cochrane.org/blog/2020/10/09/no-evidence-of-effect-versus-evidence-of-no-effect-how-do-they-differ/?preview_id=16129

Cochrane's Learning team produced a brief animation about (mis)using the phrase 'evidence of no effect' in interpreting the results of meta-analysis:

https://youtu.be/E7PStdiZeg0?list=PLxFw8aTtvq-ekgeZ11oiuWm3ll0KtkalO

Interesting recent research about communicating uncertain evidence to the public

Schneider CR, Freeman ALJ, Spiegelhalter DJ, van der Linden S. **The effects of quality of evidence communication on perception of public health information about COVID-19: two randomised controlled trials** 2021 Apr medRxiv preprint https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.04.07.21255010

van der Bles AM, van der Linden S, Freeman ALJ, Spiegelhalter DJ. **The effects of communicating uncertainty on public trust in facts and numbers** Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Apr 2020, 117 (14) 7672-7683 http://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1913678117

van der Bles AM, van der Linden S, Freeman ALJ, Mitchell J, Galvao AB, Zaval L, Spiegelhalter DJ. **Communicating uncertainty about facts, numbers and science** Royal Society Open Science May 2019 , 6 (5) 181870 http://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.181870