

# THE SOUTH ASIAN COCHRANE NETWORK:

supporting reviewers in South Asia and contributing to the global Cochrane agenda.

**Prathap Tharyan**

Coordinator, South Asian Cochrane Network

Christian Medical College

Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India

**Sreekumaran Nair,**

Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal,  
Karnataka, India

**Steve McDonald & Sally Green**

Australasian Cochrane Centre

# Exploratory meeting: Goa December 2004



# South Asian Cochrane Network

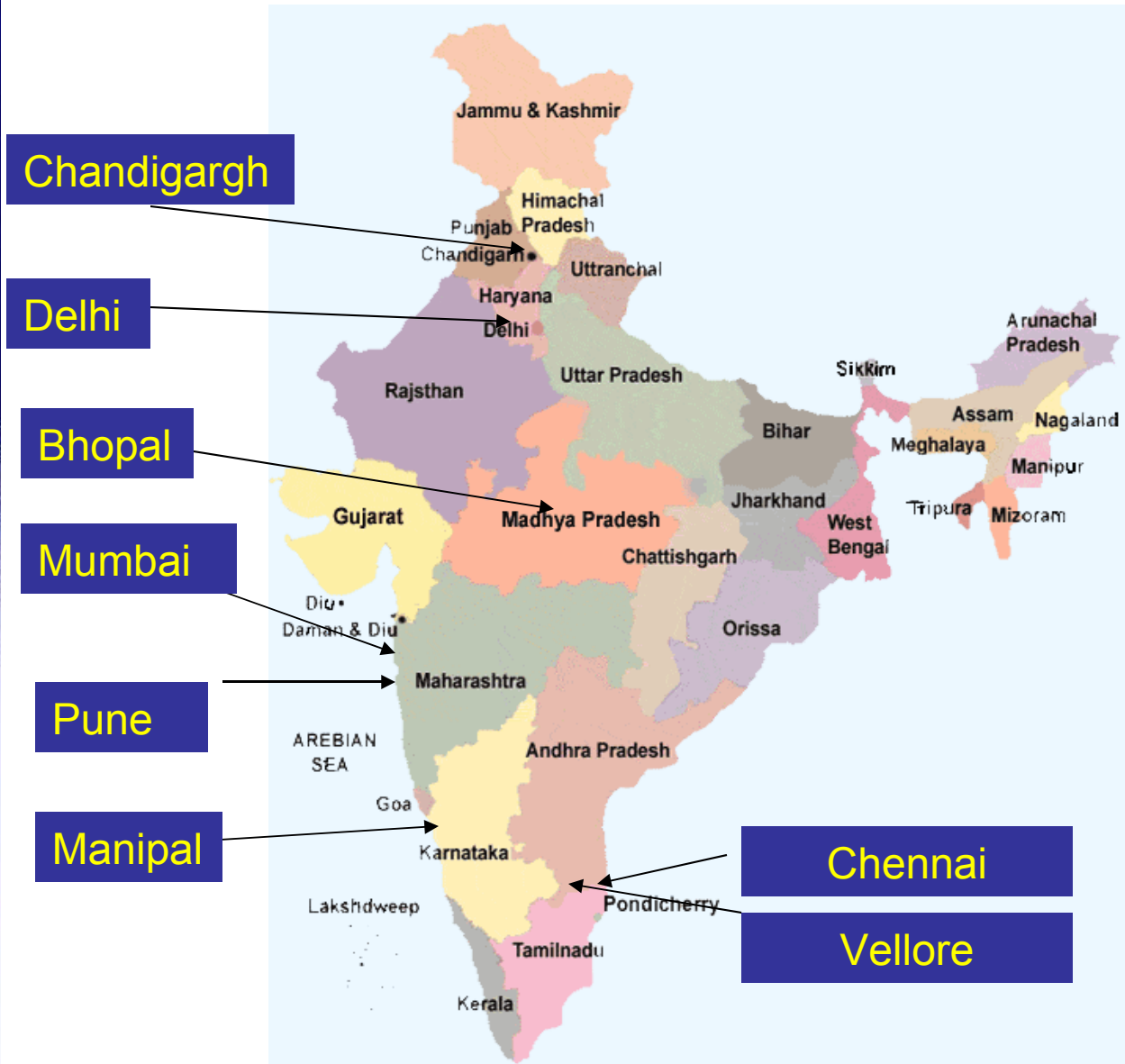


Exploratory meeting at Goa; December 2004

# The South Asian Cochrane Network



# Network Sites in India



SACN Network Site - Vellore (Coordinating Centre)

SOUTH ASIAN COCHRANE NETWORK



# Christian Medical College

CMC Vellore India

Vellore, India

Prof Bhooshanam V.Moses Centre for Clinical Trials and Evidence Based Medicine

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The Christian Medical College at Vellore in Tamil Nadu, is a premier, teaching institution with a 2000-bedded multi-campus hospital, a diverse array of educational programmes in health care, state of the art medical facilities, and a vibrant, multi-denominational community. It attracts people from all over the country and neighbouring regions, who come for medical treatment or to work in its various departments. CMC Vellore was founded in by Dr. Ida Scudder in 1900 as a 2-bed clinic and, throughout its growth over the past century, the institution has continued to affirm the need to heal the whole person, in the spirit of Christ, as well as the need to balance the pursuit of academic and professional excellence with the care of the disadvantaged, the differently abled, and marginalised. The motto of the institution is 'To serve and not to be served'



**Sir Iain Chalmers to visit India in November 2005**  
 Sir Iain Chalmers, the moving force behind the setting up of the Cochrane Collaboration will be visiting the Christian Medical College at Vellore.

# Christian Medical College

CMC  
Vellore  
India

Vellore, India



cochrane

# The coordinating centre of the SACN: CMC Vellore, India





# Prof BV Moses Centre for Clinical Trials & EBM



cochrane

# Prof BV Moses Centre for Clinical Trials & EBM





# South Asian Cochrane Network

## Quick Link



**Manipal Academy of Higher Education**

**SACN**

**(MAHE - Deemed University), Manipal**



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The Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) is a Deemed University which has constituent professional colleges of Medicine, Dental, Pharmaceutical, Engineering, Management, Allied Health Sciences and Communication. The university has at any given time more than 10,000 students in roll from over 32 countries.



N.Sreekumaran Nair, PhD Professor of Biostatistics Department of Community Medicine Kasturba Medical College, Manipal Karnataka, India -576 104  
 nsknairmc@yahoo.co.in

Dr.N.Sreekumaran Nair, Professor of Biostatistics and Statistical editor, ARI-CRG has been appointed as coordinator for MAHE's Cochrane activities.



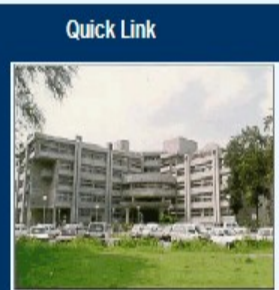
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# South Asian Cochrane Network



Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research Chandigarh

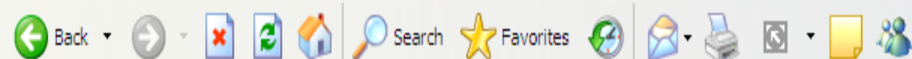
## A NETWORK SITE OF THE SOUTH ASIAN COCHRANE NETWORK

Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh is an institute of national importance committed to service to patients, training at post graduate level and research.

### Objectives of the PGIMER:

- Provide high quality patient care.
- Attain self-sufficiency in postgraduate medical education and to meet the country's need for highly qualified medical teachers in all medical and surgical fields.
- Provide educational facilities for the training of personnel in all-important branches of health activity.
- Undertake basic community based research.

The Institute conceived in 1960 as a centre of excellence, which would endeavor to develop patterns of teaching in postgraduate medical education in as many branches as possible has produced specialists in several disciplines of medicine. These specialists have spread out in the country in the various medical colleges and medical institutions and impart specialty medical education of highest standard to the students setting up



Internet, and boarding and lodging facilities. Ancillary facilities include an animal house, a central workshop and a shopping centre. The teaching faculty consists of 330 highly qualified doctors.

The Nehru Hospital is a referral centre for several northern states, and provides tertiary care, and emergency medical, surgical and intensive care services. The Institute has played a leading role in setting up the first separate departments of Nephrology, Neonatology, Gastroenterology, Neurosurgery and Advanced Paediatric Centre. The Institute is known all over the world because of the work, which emerged from it since its inception. The Institute can also boast of producing the largest number of specialists throughout the length and breadth of the country and many of whom have established and are heading the departments in their respective institutions. Attention has been primarily focused on problems, which are seen in the tropical environment. On the academic side, its Clinico Pathological Conference and medical care conferences are rated as the best in the country.

The Institute has witnessed spectacular growth in its physical size, faculty, students, and academic programmes over the years. The Institute vibrates with academic activity throughout the year. Each year it holds and hosts national and international conferences, conducts continuing medical education programmes to highlight the current state-of-art in various specialties, holds seminars and symposia. A large number of faculty members are invited by various international organizations to deliver guest lectures

The Network Site of the SACN at PGIMER, Chandigarh is located in the 300 bed Advanced Pediatrics Centre.

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 Education and Research Sector 12,  
 Chandigarh 160012, India Tel: 91  
 0172-2755306 Email:  
[meenusingh4@rediffmail.com](mailto:meenusingh4@rediffmail.com) URL:  
<http://pgimer.nic.in/>

Dr. Meenu Singh

Editor, Cochrane Acute Respiratory Infections Review Group Additional Professor of Pediatrics Advanced  
 Pediatric Centre

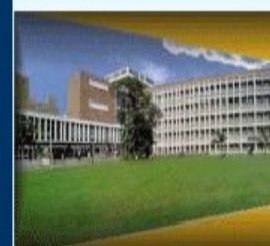


# South Asian Cochrane Network

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## SACN All-India Institute of Medical Sciences Delhi



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The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) was established as an institution of national importance by an Act of Parliament with the objects to develop patterns of teaching in Undergraduate and Post-graduate Medical Education in all its branches so as to demonstrate a high standard of Medical Education in India; to bring together in one place educational facilities of the highest order for the training of personnel in all important branches of health activity; and to attain self-sufficiency in Post-graduate Medical Education.

The Network site at AIIMS is situated in the [Department of Neurology](#) at the Neurosciences Centre.  
Site Representative:

**Professor Kameshwar Prasad**

Room No.704, 7th Floor

Department of Neurology Neurosciences Centre All India  
Institute of Medical Sciences Ansari Nagar, New Delhi -  
110029 INDIA





# South Asian Cochrane Network



## SACN TATA MEMORIAL CENTER MUMBAI



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A NETWORK SITE OF THE SOUTH ASIAN COCHRANE NETWORK

The *Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai*, is the national comprehensive cancer centre for the prevention, treatment, education and research in Cancer and is recognised as one of the leading cancer centres in this part of the world.



**Site Representative:** Dr. Purvish M. Parikh MD, DNB, FICP, PhD  
Professor & Head, Dept of Medical Oncology & Hematology Room 33,  
Ground Floor, Main Bldg., Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel, Mumbai 400  
012, India

Tel: (022) 2417-7213 Fax: (022) 2414-6937

email : [purvish@rediffmail.com](mailto:purvish@rediffmail.com)



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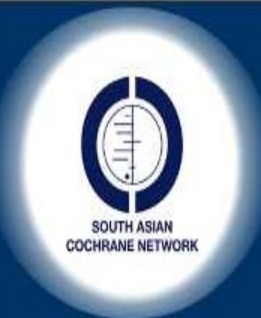
This Network site is housed in the BVDU Dental College, situated in the beautiful sprawling Dhankawadi campus that is located on the Pune-Bangalore highway about 5 km from Swargate



Dr. Shailesh Lele (Editor, SACN Newsletter); Principal, BV DU Dental College & Hospital, Pune-43 Tel.No.: (020) 24376155 (O), 24211016 (R); Mobile: 9422309862 Fax: (020) 24379163;

e-mail: [lelesgs@vsnl.net](mailto:lelesgs@vsnl.net), [principalbvdch@vsnl.net](mailto:principalbvdch@vsnl.net) URL: <http://dental.bharatividyapeeth.edu>





# South Asian Cochrane Network

SACN Networksite - Chennai



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The Nerve Centre" No 15 (Old 25)  
 Parthasarathypuram, T.Nagar, Chennai.  
 600017.  
 Tamil Nadu, India  
 Tel +91 44 2814 3365

Email: [sacnchennai@thenervecentre.net](mailto:sacnchennai@thenervecentre.net)

Dr. Sridharan Ramarathinam  
(Site Representative)

The Chennai site is being managed by Dr. Sridharan and Dr. Lakshminarasimhan and functions out of the Nerve Centre, a non-governmental organisation. The site is equipped with a broadband internet access and two copies of the Cochrane Library. The site has been fairly active since inception. The site offers people the opportunity to utilize the Cochrane Library.

# Network Sites in Pakistan





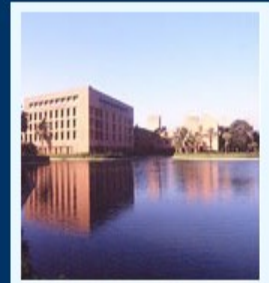
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# South Asian Cochrane Network




## Aga Khan University Karachi



The [Aga Khan University](#) is an academic centre of Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), a group of development agencies, institutions, and programmes that work primarily in the developing parts of Asia and Africa. Founded by His Highness the Aga Khan and chartered in 1983 as Pakistan's first private university, AKU's objective is to promote human welfare in general, and the welfare of the people of Pakistan in particular, by disseminating knowledge and providing instruction, training, research and service in the health sciences, education and such other branches of learning as the University may determine. The Aga Khan University Medical College, which commenced its operation in 1983, is an academic unit of the Faculty of Health Sciences, alongside the School of Nursing.



The South Asian Cochrane Network Site at the Aga Khan University is currently administered through the Department of Pediatrics

Site Representative  
Dr. Anita Zaidi  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Microbiology,  
Aga Khan University Hospital  
Stadium Road PO Box 3500 Karachi  
74800, Pakistan  
Tel: 922148594734 Fax: 92214934294  
Email : [anita.zaidi@aku.edu](mailto:anita.zaidi@aku.edu)



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A NETWORK SITE OF THE SOUTH ASIAN COCHRANE NETWORK

contact details :

Dr. Saeed Farooq

Associate Professor and Head

Department of Psychiatry

Post Graduate Institute Lady Reading Hospital

Lady Reading Hospital, Peshwar

Pakistan

Phone : 92-91-218690

# Network Site in Sri Lanka



Ragama





# South Asian Cochrane Network

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The Sri Lankan Site of the South Asian Cochrane Network is situated at the [Department of Community & Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Ragama, Sri Lanka](#)

### Objectives

1. To raise awareness about Cochrane reviews and evidence based practice in Sri Lanka.
2. To train and support contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration in Sri Lanka.

### Activities:

1. To conduct workshops on
  - Introduction to systematic reviews and Cochrane collaboration.
  - Practical development sessions

# Network Site in Bangladesh





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# South Asian Cochrane Network



Independent University, Dhaka  
Bangladesh



A NETWORK SITE OF THE SOUTH ASIAN COCHRANE NETWORK

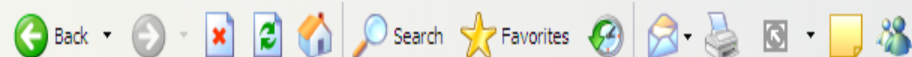
The Network site of the South Asian Cochrane Network in Bangladesh is situated in the Independent University, Dhaka, Bangladesh at the Centre for Health, Population and Development.

The Centre for Health, Population and Development (CHPD) at Independent University, Bangladesh, is a university wide centre which will co-ordinate and facilitate research, scholarly activities, and policy dialogue in the multi-faceted relationships between development, health and population. It will draw its membership from scholars and policymakers both within Bangladesh and Internationally.

The activities of this centre consist of:

1. sponsoring seminars and roundtables on relevant topics associated with development;
2. organizing a journal club for professional development of students and junior faculty;
3. conducting research and policy related workshops;
4. sponsoring short instructional courses on research methodology;
5. producing a regular working paper series;





basis;

7. producing peer-reviewed journal articles by centre associates/fellows;
8. coordinating inter-institutional research collaboration both nationally and internally; and
9. facilitating faculty and student exchanges for research purposes.

Currently CHPD is engaged in research collaborations with Harvard University, Brown University, the University of Colorado at Boulder, RAND, and the ICDDRb-the Centre for Health and Population. CHPD is also currently involved in co-coordinating training workshops with the Planning Commission, The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and UNFPA



M. Omar Rahman, MD, MPH, DSc

Professor of Demography Executive Director, Centre for Health, Population and Development Independent University, Bangladesh

Adjunct Associate Professor of Demography, Harvard University Research Fellow, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School

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Bangladesh

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[orahman@iub.edu.bd](mailto:orahman@iub.edu.bd)

**The Centre for Health, Population and Development at the Independent University,, Bangladesh and the South Asian Cochrane Network:**

The University has just started an MPH program with 20 students, (Sept 1, 2005); in addition the CHPD has both national and international centre associates affiliated with it, runs a regular seminar series, publishes working papers, supports student internships, and oversees the MPH program. A Research Fellow is expected to join by Jan 2005. A subscription to the Cochrane Library is being sought. These developments portend a long term potentially sustainable structure in place which will allow for generating Cochrane reviews and sponsoring training activities.

# Goals of the SACN

- Goal 1: To raise awareness about the Cochrane Collaboration and evidence based practice in South Asia
- Goal 2: To train and support contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration in South Asia
- Goal 3: To promote access to *The Cochrane Library* for South Asia
- Goal 4: To ensure a sustainable structure for the South Asian Cochrane Network
- Goal 5: To represent and advocate for high quality research in South Asia

# Goal 1: To raise awareness about the Cochrane Collaboration and evidence based practice in South Asia

- 25 presentations around the region at professional meetings, national and regional conferences
- Articles in professional journals and the lay press
- Workshops on critical appraisal skills for health care professionals and students
- Modules on systematic reviews and evidence based practice in curricula of students in health care
- Piloting Evidence Aid
- Journal editors to promote the Cochrane Collaboration
- Attempts to get the National Board to recognise systematic reviews as an accredited academic activity

# Goal 2: To train and support contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration in South Asia



Protocol Development Workshop CMC Vellore, July 2004

## Goal 2: To train and support contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration in South Asia



Protocol Development Workshop CMC Vellore, July 2004

## Goal 2: To train and support contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration in South Asia



Protocol Development Workshop MAHE, Manipal December 2004

# Goal 2: To train and support contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration in South Asia



Protocol Development Workshop MAHE, Manipal December 2004



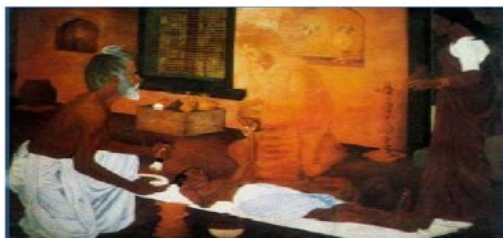
**SOUTH ASIAN  
COCHRANE NETWORK**

**WORKSHOP ON DEVELOPING A  
PROTOCOL FOR A COCHRANE  
SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**

**Centre for Clinical Trials & Evidence  
Based Medicine**



**June 27-29**



**2005**





# Other workshops

- Protocol Development Workshop at Post Graduate Institute of Medicine, Colombo July 28-29, 2005
- Review Completion Workshop, CMC Vellore, 14-16 November 2005

# Mentoring review authors

- Effective Health Care Alliance Programme (EHCAP)
- MAHE-Cochrane HIV/AIDS review group Mentoring programme

# SACN participation in systematic reviews (Issue 3, 2005)

| Country         | Reviews   | Protocols | Titles    | Total     |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| India           | 11        | 19        | 33        | 63        |
| Pakistan        | 1         | 3         | 9         | 13        |
| Sri Lanka       | 2         | 1         |           | 3         |
| Nepal           | 2         |           |           | 2         |
| <b>Combined</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>42</b> | <b>81</b> |

# Goal 3: Promoting access to the Cochrane Library

CMC Vellore - Cochrane Library - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address <http://dodd.cmcvellore.ac.in/cochrane.html>

Department of Library Services, Christian Medical College - Vellore

E-Resources Services New Arrivals Publications Search Holdings Home

Hospital Home | CMC Home | CHIPS Home

Hospital / CMC Home Page / Patient Result / X-ray / Paging

## Dodd Memorial Library



- E-Journals >
- E-Resources >
- Search
- CMC Publication
- New Arrivals >
- User Information
- Digital Library
- History of Medicine
- Holding >
- PubMed
- Services >
- Inst. for Authors >
- Cochrane Library
- OVID Journals
- Alumni Academic

### COCHRANE LIBRARY



The Cochrane Library is a unique source of reliable and up-to-date information on the effects of interventions in health care. Published on a quarterly basis, it is designed to provide information and evidence to support decisions taken in health care and to inform those receiving care.



**THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®**

The Cochrane Library consists of a regularly updated collection of evidence-based medicine databases. One of these is the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Cochrane Reviews) prepared by the [Cochrane Collaboration](#). The Cochrane Collaboration is an international non-profit and independent organisation, dedicated to making up-to-date, accurate information about the effects of healthcare readily available worldwide. It produces and disseminates systematic reviews of healthcare interventions and promotes the search for evidence in the form of clinical trials and other studies of interventions. The Cochrane Collaboration was founded in 1993 and named for the British epidemiologist, Archie Cochrane.

For further information on the Collaborations' activities in this region, contact the [South Asian Cochrane Network](#) office at the [Prof Bhooshanam V Moses Centre for Clinical Trials](#)

Internet

start Microsoft PowerPoint ... SACN My Pictures Mumbai CMC Vellore - Cochra... 4:25 AM

# Promoting access to the Cochrane Library

- Proposal to purchase a national subscription for the Cochrane Library
- Forwarded by the SACN and John Wiley & Sons
  - Department of Biotechnology
  - Indian Council of Medical Research
  - ? HINARI/ INASP initiatives to co-fund

## **Goal 5: To represent and advocate for South Asia within the international Cochrane Collaboration**

- To identify controlled clinical trials published in South Asian Journals
- To identify unpublished controlled clinical trials conducted in South Asia
- To advocate for and facilitate the setting up of a central register of dissertations in health care interventions from the region
- To explore options for prospective registration of controlled clinical trials from the region



# Pragmatic Randomised trials

- Management of violent behaviour
- Two completed trials
- Three ongoing trials



# Rapid tranquillisation for agitated patients in emergency psychiatric rooms: a randomised trial of midazolam versus haloperidol plus promethazine

*TREC Collaborative Group.*

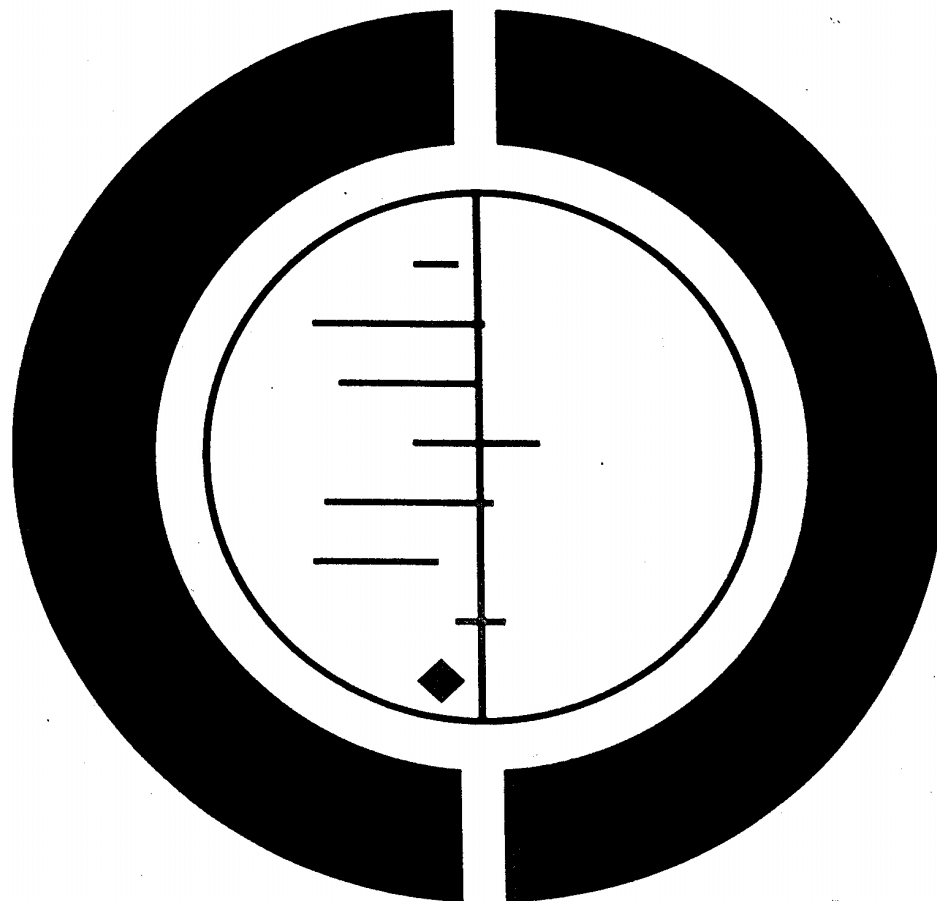
*British Medical Journal, 2003*

**TREC-INDIA: Rapid tranquilisation of violent or agitated patients in a psychiatric emergency setting: a pragmatic randomised trial of intramuscular lorazepam versus haloperidol plus promethazine.**

*Jacob Alexander, Prathap Tharyan, Clive Adams, Thomas John, Carina Mol, Joncy Philip*

*British Journal of Psychiatry 2004; 185: 63-69.*





# THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION

Preparing, maintaining and disseminating  
systematic reviews of the effects of health care



# The South Asian Cochrane Network

**Web-site:** <http://www.cochrane.org.au/sacn/index.htm>

For details of activities, training programmes, publications

[www.cochrane-sacn.org](http://www.cochrane-sacn.org)

## **email list**

Keep up to date with what's happening in the Network by subscribing to the Cochrane - India and South Asia mailing list.

<http://sun21.imbi.uni-freiburg.de/mailman/listinfo/south-asian-subscrib>

# Acknowledgements

- Sally, Steve and the ACC
- Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group
- John Wiley & Sons
- Clive Adams & the Cochrane Schizophrenia Group
- Lelia Duley & PRACTIHC
- George Rutherford & the HIV/AIDS review Group
- Paul Garner & EHCAP
- World Council of Churches
- Cochrane Cancer Network
- Host institutions