

Cochrane Kompakt – Evidence of Cochrane Reviews in German

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Background

Many stakeholders in healthcare and patients need health information in short formats and their first language. Most evidence-based resources, e.g. systematic reviews, are in English. Therefore relevant contents which could improve decision-making in health might not be used at all or not in time. To improve access to Cochrane Reviews (CRs), Cochrane (formerly the Cochrane Collaboration) one focus of Cochrane's organisational strategy "Strategy to 2020" is to translate content into multiple languages. Cochrane Switzerland, Cochrane Austria and Cochrane Germany coordinate joint efforts to translate PLSs of CRs into German and publish them under the label Cochrane Kompakt (www.cochrane.org/de).

Aim

Making evidence-based, transparent and user-friendly health information widely available and accessible for informed decision-making and better health.

Methods

Besides translation resources from the Cochrane entities, there are translation-teams from various professional fields, e.g. public health or physiotherapy. Cochrane provides central support and an online translation platform (Smartling[®]) including a glossary and a translation memory for management and publication of the translations. Translations and double editing by health specialists and native speakers guarantee high quality and standardisation.

Translations are published in the Cochrane Library, in Cochrane Kompakt (<http://www.cochrane.org/de/evidence>) and partly co-published in German-language discipline-specific journals. This increases the dissemination and impact of translated Cochrane summaries.

Results

Currently 239 translated PLSs with content from various health specialties are available on Cochrane Kompakt (April 2015), several with a focus on public health. Co-operation with seven professional fields have been successfully established with more co-operations to follow. The aim is to further increase the content of Cochrane Kompakt and establish it as a recognized information resource.

Key messages

- Access for stakeholders to relevant evidence-based information in multiple languages -necessary for prompt and informed decision-making in public health- is improved by the Cochrane "Strategy to 2020"
- Cochrane Kompakt, a co-operation between three German-speaking Cochrane entities, provides evidence-based health information through short summaries of Cochrane reviews in plain language German