



**THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION
COLLEGE FOR POLICY
AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

The Cochrane Collaboration College for Policy at GMU

Mission: Ensuring that independent evidence informs health and social policy decisions to increase the benefits and reduce the costs to the public

Best considered: A resource center for public officials at all levels of government and private decision makers who are weighing health and social policy options and related spending

Analogy: Consumer reports for healthcare and social policy evidence: summarizes effectiveness, costs, benefits and harms.

Goal: Become a self-funded, go-to group for trusted evidence that makes a difference at a low and fair cost, that increases safety, reduces costs, improves public health and well-being.

About The Cochrane Collaboration <http://www.cochrane.org>

- First-ever institutional partnership with world leader in healthcare evidence, the Cochrane Collaboration
 - Most trusted, authoritative word on healthcare and social intervention effectiveness
 - Benefits, harms, costs, accuracy, number needed to treat
 - Unites world leaders in healthcare research across 113 countries
 - Patient-centered care
 - Independent: low bias, rigid control of conflict of interest
 - Findings permeate daily life, with a number of game-changing results
 - Many countries have direct government support for Cochrane infrastructure
- Game changing evidence
 - Salt
 - Mammograms
 - Scared straight, drug courts
 - “Back to sleep”, oxygen for neonatal care
 - Vitamin C, Zinc, Antibiotics for sinus infection
- Delivery changing evidence
 - Immunization reminder systems
 - Substitution of doctors by nurses in primary care
 - Interventions for increasing the proportion of health professionals practicing in rural and other underserved areas

About Cochrane at Mason <http://cochrane.gmu.edu/>

- Brings Cochrane brand to US healthcare and social policy debates
- Provides

- Multidisciplinary analyses of health and social policy issues as they unfold
- Center-initiated evidence summaries and trend analyses
- Evidence packages by request
- Staff
 - Multidisciplinary faculty from across the university (10 commitments)
 - Core staff (Director, Asst. Director, Manager, Public Affairs, doctoral support)
- Primary products
 - Evidence packages and briefings
 - Systematic review of policy/intervention effectiveness(exhaustive, authoritative)
 - Comparative effectiveness (head-to-head comparison of intervention options)
 - Benefit-cost analyses/cost-effectiveness
 - Rapid review (fast turnaround, evidence scoping)
 - Training on evidence access and evidence for decision makers
 - Policy triage
 - Scope of problem
 - Related laws/regulatory guidelines
 - Professional best practices
 - Current operational systems
 - Evidence on interventions
 - CONCLUSION on fits and gaps among policy proposal and evidence
 - Publicly available, open access resources
 - Current themes and debates in healthcare and social policy
 - Mapping and graphing of constituent data and representative voting