



Introduction to Cochrane Systematic Reviews Workshop

Venue: Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University Teaching Hospital, Amaku Awka, Anambra state

Date: Thursday 13th August to Saturday 15th August 2026

Brief Description of Course - Scope

This course introduces participants to basic concepts for conducting systematic reviews of the effectiveness of interventions. The course will provide step-by-step guidance on how to develop and register a systematic review protocol. Participants will also be introduced to the principles of developing a search strategy for their planned systematic reviews. Participants are expected to independently develop a systematic review protocol on a topic of their choice. Parts of the protocol will be completed through homework assignments, in-class presentations and group reviews and feedback.

Brief description of the content

This course presents an overview of the concepts necessary for conducting systematic reviews of the effectiveness of interventions and meta-analyses. The course content provides a step-by-step guidance on how to conduct systematic reviews and meta-analysis in 9 modules, including

1. basic concepts of evidence-based healthcare and systematic reviewing
2. developing a focused/answerable research question
3. defining inclusion/exclusion criteria
4. developing a search strategy and perform an essential electronic database search
5. data abstraction and management
6. planning the meta-analysis and basic statistical methods for meta-analysis
7. planning the critical appraisal of a clinical trial or review article
8. navigating the Cochrane library
9. developing and registering a protocol for a systematic review

Target audience

Academics, Researchers, Persons who are considering authoring a systematic review or who already have a registered systematic review title for which they wish to develop a protocol.

Proposed dates

Thursday 2nd July to Saturday 4th July 2026

Course duration

3 days (In-person)

Time: 9AM -5PM daily

Proposed Class Size

30 participants

Course requirements

Participants are expected to independently conduct a mini systematic review on a topic of their choice. Parts of the mini systematic review will be completed through

- homework assignments
- in-class presentations
- group reviews and feedback

Workshop Facilitator(s):

Ifeanyichukwu Ezebialu, George Eleje

Certificate:

Certificates will be awarded to all participants who attend all the sessions of the training and complete all their assignments/assessments successfully.

Course Fees Per Participant

NGN 60,000

Reading Text (available online)

Higgins JP, Green S. Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews (<http://www.cochrane-handbook.org/>)

For more information about the training programmes, please contact:

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