Introductory Workshop on Systematic reviews of Diagnostic Test Accuracy

Brief Description of Workshop - Scope

Systematic reviews of diagnostic test accuracy (DTA) summarize the evidence from primary studies that evaluate the accuracy of diagnostic tests. As with other systematic reviews, DTA reviews are important for making recommendations and guidelines about which diagnostic tests to use for specific conditions.

This workshop will introduce participants to systematic reviews of DTA. It will provide an overview of the steps in conducting a high-quality DTA systematic review including statistical analyses, and reporting. The workshop format will be a combination of lectures and group work (virtual break-out sessions)

Objectives

By the end of this session, participants should be able to:

1. Understand the concept of test accuracy, and the different designs of DTA studies.
2. Understand what a DTA review is, and how it differs from other types of systematic reviews
3. Know the steps in conducting a systematic review of DTA studies.
4. Know the tools for conducting risk of bias and applicability assessments.
5. Know the approaches for meta-analysis of DTA studies and the basic principles underlying the approaches.

Target Audience

This workshop is targeted at healthcare practitioners, medical laboratory scientists and other biomedical researchers who desire to conduct systematic reviews of DTA studies; or use DTA reviews in making decisions about which diagnostic tests to use.

Venue: This workshop will be held online (via Zoom)

Proposed Class Size: 20 participants

Dates: 21-23 August 2024

Duration: The workshop will hold over 3 consecutive days from 11:00-13:00 BST & WAT each day

Certificates: Certificate of completion will be awarded to participants at the end of the workshop

Course Fees Per Participant

- Regular Rate: NGN 60,000 / USD 130
- Student Rate: NGN 30000 / USD 65

Facilitators: Yemisi Takwoingi & Eleanor Ochodo

Yemisi Takwoingi is Professor of Test Evaluation and Evidence Synthesis and Head of Department of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Birmingham, UK. She collaborates as a biostatistician/ methodologist on research awards spanning early phase evaluation of diagnostics through to clinical studies and evidence synthesis to inform guideline development across a range of clinical fields. Yemisi co-convenes the Cochrane Screening and Diagnostic Tests Methods Group and is a member of the Cochrane Editorial Board. She is also the Birmingham Lead for the National Institute for Health and Care Research West Midlands Evidence Synthesis Group.

Associate Prof. Eleanor Ochodo leads the Evidence for Health Research Group at the Centre for Global Health Research at the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and is an Associate Professor Extraordinary of Clinical Epidemiology at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Her research in evidence-informed health care mainly revolves around diagnostic tests (accuracy, impact, qualitative research and guidelines) and has published Cochrane diagnostic reviews on test accuracy and qualitative synthesis. She has multiple roles in Cochrane including an academic editor with the Cochrane infectious disease group, a scientific co-lead for the Cochrane Infectious Diseases strategy advisory group, an advisory board member of Campbell & Cochrane Health Equity Thematic Group and as a steering committee member of Cochrane Africa. In 2022 she was awarded the prestigious Cochrane Kenneth Warren prize for publishing a high-quality Cochrane diagnostic test accuracy review. She is also a systematic reviewer and guideline methodologist for World Health Organization (WHO) and methodologist for the Kenya Essential Diagnostic List guideline. She mentors many African scientists on conducting systematic reviews and other forms of evidence synthesis on diagnostic tests.