



THE NORDIC  
COCHRANE CENTRE

# Annual report

## 2003



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## Introduction

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We report here the achievements of The Nordic Cochrane Centre and its branches for 2003 in relation to the Strategic Plan 2003-2005 and include a brief section about the review groups in the Nordic region. General information about The Cochrane Collaboration, The Nordic Cochrane Centre and its branches, and the Strategic Plan can be found on the Centre's home page [www.cochrane.dk](http://www.cochrane.dk).

The Nordic Cochrane Centre opened on 13 October 1993. It is the reference Centre for Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden in the Nordic region, and for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Mongolia, Poland, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. There are national branches of the Centre in Finland, Norway and Russia and national contact persons in Iceland, Poland and Sweden. The branches perform similar work as the Centre but have less formal obligations. The Centre is responsible for evaluating the work in its branches. The work of the Centre and branches is described in annual reports (available from [www.cochrane.dk](http://www.cochrane.dk)) and is evaluated annually by the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group. The Centre and branches are guided by an advisory board that meets once a year.

The Nordic Cochrane Centre and branches contribute substantially to The Cochrane Collaboration, for example by convening The Methodology Review Group; by editing The Reviewers' Handbook till 2003 in collaboration with the UK Cochrane Centre; by producing Cochrane Reviews and methodological research; by contributing to the Publishing Policy Group (which is responsible for providing advice on the contents of the Collaboration's products and overseeing pricing, distribution and marketing arrangements); by managing the development of Review Manager, Module Manager, the Information Management System and other essential software (see [www.cc-ims.net](http://www.cc-ims.net)).

## Summary of selected achievements in 2003

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### The Nordic Cochrane Centre

Cochrane Reviews became freely available for all Danish citizens in Dec. 2003, with financial support from the Danish Regions, the Electronic Research Library, and the Knowledge and Research Centre for Alternative Medicine.

Since 1996, The Nordic Cochrane Centre has overseen the development of the entire Information Management System in the Cochrane Collaboration as one of its core contributions to the Collaboration, as well as producing key elements of the system, such as the Review Manager software. The Centre has developed the Cochrane Contact Database which will be the basis for the future central management of contact details and other information in the Collaboration.

Since 1996, The Nordic Cochrane Centre has selected reviews from each new issue of the Cochrane Library for possible comments in general medical journals written by content area specialists. This collaboration started with *Ugeskrift for Læger* and was subsequently extended to the other Nordic medical associations' journals and to the British Medical Journal. These commentaries are very popular. The dissemination process has been expanded to also involve major Danish newspapers. This work continues to be coordinated by the Nordic Cochrane Centre.

The Nordic Cochrane Centre held the third international workshop on Cochrane editing in Copenhagen, targeted at editors in the review groups based in the Nordic area; there were 18

participants . The initiative is expected to lead to improvements in the quality of Cochrane Reviews. Workshops were also held to train members of registered Review Groups to develop protocols and use the Review Manager software, and we organised a workshop at the 2003 Colloquium in Barcelona on quality of allocation concealment. Staff members have published two Cochrane Reviews.

Through collaboration with the Knowledge and Research Centre for Alternative Medicine in Denmark 11 stipends have been made available for production of Cochrane Reviews in alternative medicine. The Knowledge Centre has provided some of its own funds and funds received from the Danish Cancer Society.

## **Norwegian Branch of The Nordic Cochrane Centre**

The Norwegian branch of the Nordic Cochrane Centre continued to support users of the Cochrane Library, which is available to everyone in Norway through a national subscription. We have continued to provide input into development of the next generation of the Information Management System, we maintain the Colloquium Management System and Title Management System, host the editorial base for the Methodology Review Group, and maintain the Consumer Network's web pages. We have submitted four updates of the module of the Methodology Review Group so that it included 9 completed methodology reviews and 7 protocols as of Issue 4, 2003.

Andy Oxman, who developed the first version of the Cochrane Reviewers' Handbook in 1993-94, stepped aside as an editor. We continue to contribute to updating and editing Effective Practice and Organisation of Care reviews, the Funders' Forum, the Colloquium Advisory Group, the Consumers' Network, and the Quality Advisory Group.

At the 2003 Colloquium in Barcelona, we organised a session on the inclusion of balance sheets in Cochrane Reviews. We have followed this up by organising pilots and putting forward a proposal to include balance sheets in the next version of Review Manager. We also organised an all day meeting and a workshop at the Colloquium on grading evidence and we have continued to convene the GRADE Working Group in collaboration with the Applicability and Recommendations Methods Group. A manuscript describing this work has been submitted to the BMJ and is under revision. We also organised a series of meetings on drug class reviews at the Colloquium and have taken a lead in following-up on this.

In 2003 we conducted a course on systematic reviews for contributors to Cochrane and Campbell reviews with 17 participants who prepared nine protocols and completed one review.

## **Finnish Branch of The Nordic Cochrane Centre**

The Finnish Branch of the Nordic Cochrane Centre has actively supported the establishment of the Occupational Health Field, which is expected to become formally registered as a Cochrane entity soon. The formal exploratory meeting was held at the Barcelona Colloquium and the work started in late 2003 at the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health. The main activities during the first year will include searching for relevant trials in the field, linking to collaborators and setting up the structure for the Field.

We have continued to act as a link between the Cochrane Collaboration and Finnish-speaking individuals interested in, or participating in its work. We have provided training at request and held network sessions with scientific content. We also participate in training in evidence-based medicine in Finland and report about new Cochrane reviews through both the professional and lay press. The Finnish Branch is responsible for continuing hand searching of Finnish-language trials as well as the provision of these articles with translations for Cochrane reviewers.

## Russian Branch of The Nordic Cochrane Centre

Kirgiz MoH and Uzbek Institute for Postgraduate Medical Education received help in development of their EBM centres.

## Iceland

Cochrane Reviews are freely available for all Icelandic citizens as part of a national open access funded by various health organizations.

The teaching of the value and use of the Cochrane Library to medical students started in 2002 and was intensified in 2003; there is also increased emphasis on promoting the Cochrane Collaboration and on teaching of the use of the Cochrane Library to physicians (small group learning).

There is still no funding for Cochrane activities in Iceland but the value of Cochrane Reviews in decision making is becoming increasingly clear to politicians and decision makers.

## Results in relation to targets for 2003-2005

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### Theme 1. Methodology

*Target 1.1: Conduct methodological research, for example on bias related to randomisation method, lack of blinding or exclusion of patients or outcomes; reporting of harms; patients' views on the balance between benefits and harms; bias in non-randomised studies; bias related to source of funding; informed consent; philosophical and empirical analysis of the concept of evidence-based healthcare; placebo effects.*

Paper accepted in BMJ on bias related to source of funding of web sites; paper submitted with the CONSORT group on reporting of harms; paper submitted on outcome reporting bias; research ongoing on bias related to randomisation method, lack of blinding and use of disease specific mortality, and on industry-sponsored reviews compared with Cochrane reviews.

*Target 1.2: Prepare and update Cochrane reviews performed by staff members.*

One new Cochrane review published, others submitted or in preparation.

*Target 1.3: Recruit medical students for research at the centre.*

By December 2003, five students were involved with research at the centre.

*Target 1.4: Co-ordinate the editorial process for protocols and reviews in the Cochrane Methodology Review Group.*

Achieved, 1 new review was published in 2003 and there are now 9 published reviews and 7 protocols (The Norwegian Branch).

*Target 1.5: Update the Cochrane Methodology Register (register of articles on research methodology) four times a year in time to be submitted for the quarterly issues of The Cochrane Library.*

Achieved (The Norwegian Branch).

*Target 1.6: Improve the indexing of articles in the Cochrane Methodology Register.*

Under continuing development (The Norwegian Branch).

*Target 1.7: Update Cochrane Reviewers' Handbook in collaboration with the UK Cochrane Centre, Methods Groups and others.*

Achieved (The Norwegian Branch). Editorial responsibility was handed over to the UK and Australian Cochrane Centres in July.

*Target 1.8: Conduct a two to three-day editing workshop for editors and Review Group Coordinators from the three Review Groups based in the Nordic area.*

Held in Sept 2003 with 18 participants.

*Target 1.9: Conduct a three-day workshop on editing of Cochrane reviews for all Cochrane Review Groups.*

Postponed.

*Target 1.10: Contribute to obtain greater standardisation of Cochrane reviews to ensure that their quality becomes more homogeneous.*

Achieved by a workshop and by contribution to methodological research.

*Target 1.11: Peer review Cochrane protocols and reviews on demand.*

Achieved.

*Target 1.12: Write comments and criticisms to Review Groups on published Cochrane protocols and reviews; if necessary, also submit them via the Comments and Criticism system.*

Achieved, several comments sent to authors and Review Groups.

*Target 1.13: Contribute to finalising the draft guidelines on the use of non-randomised studies in Cochrane reviews.*

Some progress made in 2003; final guidelines expected in 2004.

## **Theme 2. Software development**

*Target 2.1: Develop the next generation of the Information Management System, which includes further development and integration of the existing tools in the IMS and development of new ones. The new IMS will be partly internet-based and will include an enhanced version of the Cochrane Contact Database, a central review database, RevMan 5, workflow management tool, systems for preparing modules of information from Cochrane entities and tools for providing Cochrane material to the publisher for publication. The project is estimated to run throughout the period of the strategic plan. In 2003, emphasis will be put on designing the system and implementing the structure for all elements in the IMS. Actual software releases will follow in 2004 and 2005. The development is on schedule (see [www.cc-ims.net/projects](http://www.cc-ims.net/projects)).*

*Targets 2.2: In 2003, develop a new and more dynamic interface to the Information Management System web site and expand it to include more information about the software developed by The Nordic Cochrane Centre under the aegis of the IMSG.*

Achieved (see [www.cc-ims.net](http://www.cc-ims.net)).

*Target 2.3: Release RevMan 4.2 in spring 2003. Initially the software will be released via the Internet, but later CD-ROMs will be produced and circulated to Cochrane entities for further distribution.*

Partly achieved. RevMan 4.2 was released in March 2003 on the Internet; it has been decided not to produce CD-ROM versions centrally.

*Target 2.4: In 2003, together with The Cochrane Collaboration Secretariat, make the Cochrane Contact Database the official contact database in the Collaboration (thereby replacing the existing system, HIREx) and have all entities registered as users of the system.*

Ongoing. The Cochrane Contact Database has replaced Hirex and will become mandatory for all registered entities from mid-2004.

*Target 2.5: Continue to maintain RevMan 4 and ModMan 4 until RevMan 5 and the new IMS are available.*

Achieved and ongoing.

*Target 2.6: Continue to provide and seek input on software issues at various Cochrane meetings. Communicate actively on the progress of development projects through the IMS web site and other channels in The Cochrane Collaboration.*

Achieved and ongoing.

*Target 2.7: Coordinate meetings of the IMSG, its advisory groups and other relevant groups to ensure that the development of software reflects the needs of members of The Cochrane Collaboration.*

Achieved. The convenorship changed in 2003 since the previous convenor is also director of the IMSG; the director will work with the new convenor to coordinate meetings.

### **Theme 3. Core functions of Cochrane Centres**

*Target 3.1: Continue to provide support to the Collaborative review groups based in the Nordic area: Cochrane Hepato-Biliary Group, Cochrane Colorectal Cancer Group, and Cochrane Anaesthesia Group (all based in Copenhagen) and to Cochrane reviewers and other researchers wishing to do systematic reviews.*

Achieved.

*Target 3.2: Contribute to recruitment of new reviewers, filling the gaps in the current coverage of Cochrane reviews, and increasing Nordic participation in The Cochrane Collaboration.*

Achieved. In Denmark, 11 stipends for Cochrane reviews in alternative medicine were awarded in 2003 by collaboration with the Knowledge and Research Centre for Alternative Medicine. In Finland, 4 stipends to produce or update Cochrane reviews were awarded in 2003, and the finalisation of the database of trials in psychiatry (PSI-TRI) was cofunded.

*Target 3.3: Offer at least two workshops a year and other forms of training to support members of registered review groups to develop protocols, and offer training workshops for handsearchers on demand.*

Two protocol workshops held in 2003.

*Target 3.4: Continue to get recognition from relevant institutions that Cochrane reviews are research and a merit in themselves, and that a Ph.D. can therefore be based entirely on Cochrane reviews; continue to contribute to the propagation of the principles of problem-based learning and evidence-based medicine.*

Many lectures held. All newly employed physicians at Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen are introduced to the Cochrane Collaboration, systematic reviews and the Cochrane Library. Several courses of evidence-based medicine and systematic review methodology held in Finland and training arranged for topic specialists working at FinOHTA.

*Target 3.5: Continue to collaborate with the Danish Knowledge and Research Centre for Alternative Medicine (ViFAB) to promote the production of Cochrane reviews in alternative medicine.*

See target 3.2 above.

*Target 3.6: Continue to provide support to consumers, primarily by continued liaisons with consumer organisations; obtain funding for making The Cochrane Library freely available for all Danish citizens; produce, evaluate and update a homepage that helps Danish citizens use The Cochrane Library.*

We have had collaboration with consumer organisations in Denmark, Norway and internationally; the Cochrane Library became freely available for all Danish citizens in 2003; a draft homepage for consumers has been produced.

*Target 3.7: Continue to provide support to the Norwegian, Finnish, and Russian branches of the Centre; to the Cochrane Methodology Review Group (based in Oslo) and to the Cochrane Non-randomised Studies Methods Group (originally based in Copenhagen, future location to be decided).*

Achieved.

*Target 3.8: Conduct and participate in workshops on evidence-based healthcare and offer or contribute to shorter courses on demand which are open to researchers who are not Cochrane reviewers.*

The Norwegian branch offered a course on systematic reviews in 2003.

*Target 3.9: Continue co-ordination of the dissemination project; continue to collaborate with journals of the Nordic national medical associations and British Medical Journal in getting articles published on evidence-based medicine which summarise important Cochrane reviews.*

Achieved.

*Target 3.10: Continue to promote Cochrane reviews as an important basis for health technology assessment and for practice guidelines; continue to collaborate with the media to promote awareness and use of Cochrane reviews.*

In 2003, there was increased collaboration with the media that now regularly refer to Cochrane reviews and the Nordic Cochrane Centre as providers of independent information on health care interventions. The Cochrane Library is used as a basic source of data for all new HTA reports in Finland.

*Target 3.11: Enhance the design of the Centre's homepage while maintaining ease-of-use and simplicity and update and add useful content while avoiding duplication of material on The Cochrane Collaboration's home page.*

Achieved, ongoing process.

*Target 3.12: Update the translated information brochure on The Cochrane Collaboration in Danish, Finnish, Norwegian, Polish, Russian and Swedish.*

Not yet achieved.

*Target 3.13: Continue to handsearch general medical journals in the Nordic area for randomised trials; contribute to ensuring that results of all unpublished trials become publicly accessible.*

Handsearching continues but is no longer a high priority; translations are provided for reviewers. We continue to advocate at meetings and elsewhere that it is unethical not to make results of all trials publicly available.

*Target 3.14: Translate into English titles of all trials identified by handsearching that are not on MEDLINE; provide translations of relevant text in trial reports published in Nordic languages or Russian for reviewers on request.*

Achieved, ongoing process.



*Target 3.15: Update prospective and retrospective handsearches at least annually and send citations for all new trials to the New England Cochrane Center for inclusion in CENTRAL; contribute to the establishment of national registers of ongoing trials by collaboration with research ethics committee systems and medical research councils.*

Achieved, ongoing process.

## Review Groups in the Nordic region

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### The Cochrane Hepato-Biliary Group

with Christian Gluud, Denmark, as Co-ordinating Editor, was registered with the Collaboration on 29 March 1996. Thirty-one systematic reviews and 57 protocols from the Group appeared in the 1th issue of The Cochrane Library 2004. Out of 37 registered specialist journals and conference proceedings, 36 have been actively searched for the period of registration. The Group's specialised register contains 16,221 citations, 8,670 of which report on randomised or controlled clinical trials. An additional 1,500 copies of articles of possible interest are in the process of being evaluated. For further information, see the latest issue of The Cochrane Library as well as the Group's Annual Report, incorporated in the Annual Report of the Copenhagen Trial Unit, available from:

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### The Cochrane Colorectal Cancer Group

with Peer Wille-Jørgensen, Denmark, as Co-ordinating Editor was registered on 27 January 1998. The Group has 17 reviews and 34 protocols published in the 1th issue of The Cochrane Library 2004. The specialised register of topic related literature is established and contains more than 11,000 trials, of which 10,600 are tagged and included in the Cochrane Library. A list of relevant journals to handsearch has been prioritised, of which 10 are finished. For further information, see The Cochrane Library or get the Group's Annual Report from:

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### The Cochrane Anaesthesia Group

with Tom Pedersen and Ann Møller, Denmark, as Co-ordinating Editors was officially registered with the Collaboration in February 2000. The Group has 10 systematic reviews and 36 protocols

for systematic reviews published in the 4th issue of The Cochrane Library 2003. The group's specialised register of topic related literature is now established and contains more than 26,000 trials. The Anaesthesia Group will be moving to Rigshospitalet in January 2004. For further information, contact:

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Cochrane Anaesthesia Review Group  
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## The Cochrane Methodology Review Group

with Andy Oxman (Norway) and Mike Clarke (UK) as co-ordinating editors was re-registered from a Methods Group to a Review Group in February 2003. Beginning with issue 4, 2003 the group's module was published together with other Review Group modules in The Cochrane Library. The group continues to prepare, maintain and make available Cochrane Methodology Reviews: systematic reviews of empirical studies of methods used in systematic reviews and evaluations of health care. These will continue to be published in the Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews in The Cochrane Library. The group's register of studies will also continue to be published in The Cochrane Library as the Cochrane Methodology Register. Nine methodology reviews and seven protocols appeared in the Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews in the 4th issue of The Cochrane Library 2003. The Cochrane Methodology Register contains 4,626 records. For further information, see The Cochrane Library.

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In addition to the names mentioned above, there are Nordic editors in 13 of the 50 Review Groups:

- Back Review Group (Alf Nachemson, Sweden)
- Colorectal Cancer Group (Ole Kronborg and Anders Tøttrup, Denmark)
- Ear, Nose and Throat Disorders Group (Jørgen Lous, Denmark)
- Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group (Andy Oxman, Norway)
- Haematological Malignancies Group (Lena Specht, Denmark)
- Hepato-Biliary Group (Torben Jørgensen, Denmark; Lise Lotte Kjærgård, Denmark - Associate Editor)
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease Group (Jørgen Rask Madsen, Denmark)
- Methodology Review Group (Peter C Gøtzsche, Denmark)
- Multiple Sclerosis Group (Sten Fredrikson, Sweden)
- Oral Health Group (Marco Esposito, Sweden)
- Pain, Palliative Care and Supportive Care Group (Peer Tfelt-Hansen, Denmark)
- Peripheral Vascular Diseases Group (Lars Janzon, Sweden)

- Prostatic Diseases and Urologic Cancers Group (Gunnar Steineck, Sweden)

## Methods Groups in the Nordic region

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In 2002, there were two methods groups based in the Nordic region, The Cochrane Methodology Review Group and The Cochrane Non-Randomised Studies Methods Group. The former group has been transformed into a Review Group (see above) and the latter group currently has only one convenor who is located in the UK.

## Nordic Cochrane reviews

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Nordic researchers participate in many Review Groups, Methods Groups and Fields (see The Cochrane Library). In the 4<sup>th</sup> issue of 2003 of The Cochrane Library, 66 reviews and 47 protocols were listed with a Nordic contact address:

Country	Reviews	Protocols
DENMARK	35	28
FINLAND	12	5
NORWAY	10	8
RUSSIA	1	3
SWEDEN	8	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>47</b>

## Acknowledgements

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The Cochrane Collaboration is registered as a charity and it is the responsibility of all contributors to the organisation to secure their own funding. The staff at the Nordic Cochrane Centre and branches are grateful for the financial support received from our funders and the voluntary help received from many people and institutions since the Centre was founded in 1993 (see annual reports and previous strategic plans). Currently, our funders are:

- Central Library for Medical Sciences, Finland
- Cochrane Collaboration, UK
- Copenhagen Hospital Corporation
- Duodecim, Finland
- Finnish Medical Association
- FinOHTA
- Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH)
- Media Sphera Publishing Group, Moscow
- Medical Enlightenment Charity Foundation, Moscow
- Norwegian Directorate for Health and Social Welfare
- Nordic Council of Ministers
- Open Society Institute, Moscow (Soros Foundation)
- Rigshospitalet, Denmark
- Stakes (National R &D Centre for Welfare and Health), Finland

Currently, we owe special thanks to Arild Bjørndal (chair 1998-2004) and other members of the Advisory Board of the Centre; Managing Director Helle Ulrichsen, Copenhagen Hospital Corporation; Director Finn Børlum Kristensen, Danish Institute for Health Technology Assessment; General Secretary Ilkka Rauramo, Finnish Medical Society Duodecim; Chief Librarian Liisa Salmi, Kuopio University Hospital; Librarian Leena Lodenius, Medical Society Duodecim; Taito Pekkarinen, Finnish Medical Journal.

## Publications in 2003

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### Publications by staff at The Nordic Cochrane Centre

#### *New or updated Cochrane reviews and protocols*

Clarke M, Fischer M, Hopewell S, Juszczak E, Eisinga A. Compression stockings for preventing deep vein thrombosis in airline passengers (Protocol for a Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Hróbjartsson A, Gøtzsche PC. Placebo treatment versus no treatment (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 1, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

Kösters JP, Gøtzsche PC. Regular self-examination or clinical examination for early detection of breast cancer (Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 2, 2003. Oxford: Update Software.

#### *Other publications*

Gøtzsche PC. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. London: BMJ Publications, Clinical Evidence, 2003;9:1292-300.

Gøtzsche PC. Kræftens Bekæmpelse, screening og troværdigheden. Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:611-2.

Gøtzsche PC. Screening mammography and mortality. Med J Aust 2003;178:189-90.

Gøtzsche PC, Hartling O. Er oplysninger om brystkræftscreening troværdige? Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:1068-70.

Gøtzsche PC. Uærlighed i lægemiddelafprøvninger koster samfundet dyrt. Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:1691.

Gøtzsche PC. Screening for breast cancer (letter). Ann Intern Med 2003;138:769-70.

Gøtzsche PC, Hartling O. Svar på debatindlæg "Mister kvinder unødigt brystet, hvor der screenes for brystkræft?". Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:2586-7.

Gøtzsche PC. Uærlighed i lægemiddelafprøvninger koster samfundet dyrt (svar). Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:2673-4.

Gøtzsche PC. Svar på "Ingen evidens for at mammografiscreening fører til overbehandling". Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:3026-7.

Gøtzsche PC. Uærlighed i lægemiddelforskning og Cochrane Centeret (svar). Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:3098-9.

Gøtzsche PC. Skadelig screening for kræft. Politiken 2003; 1. juni, 3. sektion, s. 9.

Gøtzsche PC. Mammographic screening for breast cancer. N Engl J Med 2003;349:611.

Gøtzsche PC. Mammographic service screening and mortality. Lancet 2003;362:329-30.

Gøtzsche PC. Mortality reduction by breast-cancer screening. Lancet 2003;362:246.

Gøtzsche PC. Hvornår er noget skadeligt? Politiken 2003; 31. august, 3. sektion, s. 9.

Gøtzsche PC. "Behandlingen er veldokumenteret". Politiken 2003; 5. oktober, 3. sektion, s. 9.

Gøtzsche PC. Medicinalindustrien har alt for let spil. Politiken 2003; 23. november, 3. sektion, s. 9.

Gøtzsche PC. Ikke-evidensbaseret kommentar om nytten af madrasbetræk ved astma med husstøvmideallergi. Ugeskr Læger 2003;165:4234-5.

Hróbjartsson A, Norup M. The use of placebo interventions in medical practice - a national questionnaire survey of Danish clinicians. Eval Health Prof 2003;26:153-65.

Hróbjartsson A, Gøtzsche PC. Unreliable analysis of placebo analgesia in trials of placebo pain mechanisms. Pain 2003;104:714-5.

## **Publications by staff at The Finnish Branch of The Nordic Cochrane Centre**

### *Other publications*

Burgers JS, Grol R, Klazinga NS, Mäkelä M, Zaat J. Towards evidence-based clinical practice: an international survey of 18 clinical guideline programs. Int J Qual Health Care 2003;15:31-45.

Erhola M, Mäkinen R, Koskela K, Bergman V, Klaukka T, Mäkelä M, Tirkkonen L, Kaila M. Asthma Programme in Finland: an evaluation survey in primary health care. Int J Tuberc Lung Dis 2003;7:1-7.

Karjalainen K, Malmivaara A, Pohjolainen T, Hurri H, Mutanen P, Rissanen P, Pakkajärvi H, Levon H, Karpoff H, Roine R. Mini-intervention for subacute low back pain. A randomized controlled trial. Spine 2003;28:533-41.

Karppinen J, Korhonen T, Malmivaara A, et al. Tumor necrosis factor-alpha monoclonal antibody, infliximab, used to manage severe sciatica. Spine 2003;28:750-3.

Mäkelä M. Punnittu ja köykäiseksi havaittu? Impakti: tietoa terveydenhuollon menetelmien arvioinnista. Helsinki: Stakes, FinOHTA 2003;6(4):3-4.

Mäkelä M. What is evidence-based medicine - and what it isn't. Acta Anaesthesiol Scand Suppl 2003:1.

Mäkelä M. Muuttaako tieto hoitokäytäntöjä? SBU:n seitsemän raportin vaikutukset selvitetty. Impakti: tietoa terveydenhuollon menetelmien arvioinnista. Helsinki: Stakes, FinOHTA 2003;6(2):5-7.

Mäkelä M. Letrotsolitutkimus - mitä numerot tarkoittavat? Suomen Lääkäril 2003;58:4617.

Malmivaara A. Voidaanko arviointitutkimuksen relevanssia mitata? Impakti: tietoa terveydenhuollon menetelmien arvioinnista. Helsinki: Stakes, FinOHTA 2003;6(4):8-9.  
Pasternack I, Malmivaara A, Tervahartiala P, Forsberg H, Vehmas T. Magnetic resonance imaging findings in respect to carpal tunnel syndrome. Scand J Work Environ Health 2003;29:189-96.

Pasternack I. Cochrane-katsauksia: Antikolinergiset lääkeaineet yliaktiivisen rakon hoidossa. Impakti: tietoa terveydenhuollon menetelmien arvioinnista. Helsinki: Stakes, FinOHTA 2003;6(1):11.

Malmivaara A. Laatu tutkimushankkeisiin. Impakti: tietoa terveydenhuollon menetelmien arvioinnista. Helsinki: Stakes, FinOHTA 2003;6(4):2.

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## Awards received

Peter C Gøtzsche: Queen Ingrid's celebration lecture, Åbenrå Hospital.

Helle Krogh Johansen: The Wyeth price in microbiology.

Marjukka Mäkelä: Nidaros lecture, Trondheim, Norway.

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