

## **Conversation between Dr. Sally Green (Co-director of the Australasian Cochrane Center) and Stephanie Wykstra (GiveWell) on August 23, 2012**

*These notes reflect answers that Dr. Green gave during our conversation.*

### **Activities:**

- The Australasian Cochrane Center has responsibility for Southeast Asia and the Pacific in addition to Australia. We have branches in Thailand, Singapore, New Zealand and South Korea. We also support activities in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.
- The Australasian Cochrane Center supports a number of authors in our country and in the region. Our activities include:
  - Training and support: conducting training throughout Australia and supporting branches in their training.
  - Supporting the use of the Cochrane Library by consumers (users, clinicians and policymakers)
  - Regional support: working with branches and networks to advocate for Cochrane within the region. Examples of the support provided: developing training materials, co-training with branches and fellowships (for members to receive support and training in Australia.)
  - Research-based work: we conduct research projects on facilitating implementation of evidence (primarily Cochrane reviews) into practice, as well as projects on methodology for Cochrane reviews. There is a current research project on various mechanisms for training clinicians in evidence-production and use. A past example project was on developing targeted messages within primary health, using evidence-based research. These projects are funded independently from regular Cochrane funding, through nationally competitive grant programs.

### **Funding:**

- The Center is funded by the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council. This funding has been consistent over a number of years. The Australasian Cochrane Center has six paid staff, as listed on our website: <http://acc.cochrane.org/staff>. Branches are funded within their own countries.
- There is a national license in Australia for the Cochrane Library, funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.
- Further funding needs of the Australasian Cochrane center and others in the region: more funding for fellowships and training in order to develop capacity, funding for review groups to sustainably fund their editorial processes, and funding to support the production of specific

prioritized reviews. These activities would be likely to increase the number of reviews by increasing capacity to reach out to authors and support them in review production.