

Cochrane Back Review Group



COCHRANE BACK REVIEW GROUP
The best evidence in back and neck pain care



**Institute
for Work &
Health**

Research Excellence
Advancing Employee
Health

Cochrane Back Review Group (CBRG)

- The CBRG, hosted by the Institute for Work & Health (IWH) in Toronto, Canada, coordinates the publication of literature reviews of primary and secondary prevention and treatment of neck and back pain and other spinal disorders, excluding inflammatory diseases and fractures.
- Currently we have 63 published reviews (including three reviews of diagnostic test accuracy and seven withdrawn reviews) and 24 published protocols (including one protocol for a review of diagnostic test accuracy).

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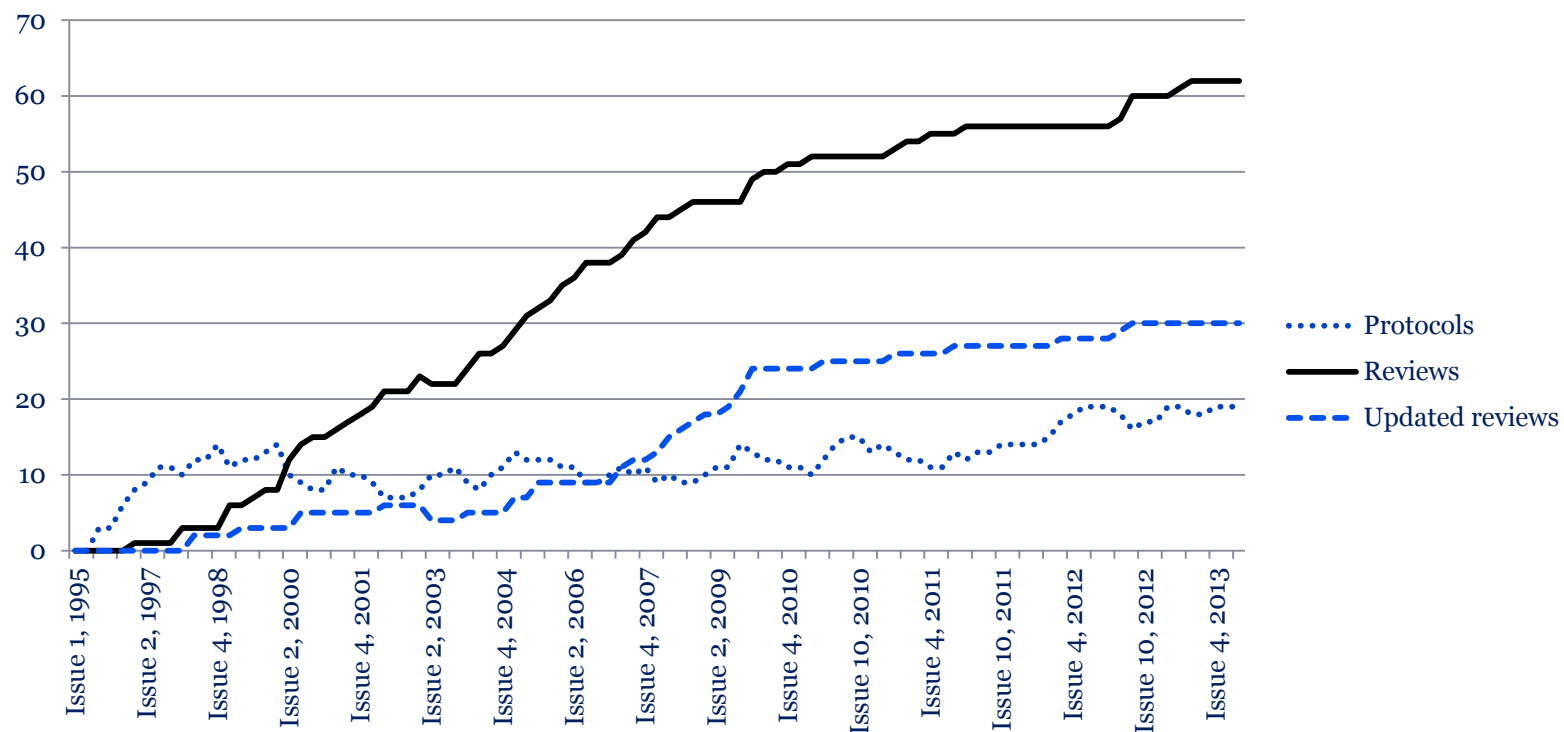
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Types of reviews

- **Intervention**
 - Original intent; most developed methodology
- **Diagnostic**
 - Started in 2003; handbook still in draft form; methods evolving
 - Pilot reviews (n = 11); first protocols published in *The Cochrane Library* 2008, issue 4
 - CBRG review Physical examination for the diagnosis of lumbar radiculopathy due to disc herniation in patients with low-back pain published in *The Cochrane Library* 2010, issue 2
- **Umbrella**
 - Started early 2000s by Fields; Chapter 22 in Handbook
 - Summarize results of existing reviews in *The Cochrane Library*
- **Prognostic**
 - Became a Methods Group in November 2008
 - Collaboration of researchers interested in systematic reviews of prognosis to advance methodologies

Number of CBRG reviews published over time



Note. Protocols are withdrawn following publication of the full review. Number of updates before 2009 may be inaccurate due to changing definitions.

Number of CBRG intervention reviews by topic area

