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What's New events (publishing events) in Cochrane Reviews: new publication, new citation, or change in publication status

When a Cochrane Review (or a protocol) is published for the first time a new citation version is automatically generated. Cochrane Review citation versions are recorded in reference databases such as MEDLINE and Science Citation Index (SCI). Protocols do not have citations in MEDLINE or SCI, but are included in other databases such as PROSPERO.

The following tables describe the events that lead to a new publication, new citation, or a change in the publication status for protocols ([Table 1](#)) and reviews ([Table 2](#)). These events are called 'What's New events' in Review Manager.

Occasionally, it may be necessary to split a protocol or review into two or more protocols or reviews, or merge two or more protocols or reviews to create a new protocol or review. Each of the new versions will have a new citation.

Note: While it is technically possible to enter several 'What's New' events in an updated review, only information about the changes since the last published version should be in the 'What's New' table. 'What's New' events from previously published versions should be moved to the History table.

Table 1. Protocols for Cochrane Reviews: events that lead to a new publication or change in publication status ('What's New' events)

Change	New citation version?	'What's New' events to select	Examples
Major change	Y	(1) New citation: major change	An important change to the objectives or scope of the proposed review, usually through a change to the criteria for including studies
Amended	N	(1) Amended	Any change to the protocol content that does not change the objectives, scope or criteria for including studies
	Y	(1) New citation: no major change	Changes in authorship (also see ' Authorship and contributorship '), or the title of the protocol
Withdrawn	Y	(1) <i>Change status to 'withdrawn' on the Advanced tab of the Properties sheet in Archie</i> AND	See further information

Table 2. Cochrane Reviews: events that lead to a new publication, new citation, or change in publication status ('What's New' events)

Change	Conclusions changed?	New citation version?	'What's New' events to select	Examples
First publication	n/a	Y	None	Review published for the first time
Update (New search and any studies fully incorporated*)	Y	Y	(1) New citation: conclusions changed AND (2) Updated	Must include a new search and studies fully incorporated*, or no new studies identified. May also include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Addition (or removal) of studies• Changes in results of analyses, methodology, or review scope• Correction of a serious error
	N	Y	(1) New citation: conclusions not changed AND (2) Updated	Must include a new search and studies fully incorporated*, or no new studies identified. May also include any changes that do not change conclusions, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change to the Background section• Addition (or removal) of new studies• Changes in results of analyses (e.g. in effect)

				<p>estimates or confidence intervals), methodology, or review scope (e.g. new outcomes, comparisons, types of participants or developments in the intervention or its delivery)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Changes in authorship</u>
Amendment (No new search, or new search and studies not fully incorporated*)	Y	Y	(1) Amended AND (2) New citation: conclusions changed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition (or removal) of studies (e.g. the full inclusion of a study previously awaiting classification) • Changes in results of analyses, methodology, or review scope
	N	N	(1) Amended	<p>Any changes that do not change conclusions, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the Background section. • Addition (or removal) of new studies (e.g. the full inclusion of a study previously awaiting classification) • New search performed,

				<p>but studies not fully incorporated into the results of the review (i.e. added to 'Studies awaiting classification')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in results of analyses (e.g. in effect estimates or confidence intervals), methodology, review scope of the review (e.g. new outcomes, comparisons, types of participants or developments in the intervention or its delivery)
N	Y	(1) Amended AND (2) New citation: conclusions not changed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Changes in authorship</u>
No longer updated (stable)	N	N	(1) No longer updated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intervention is superseded (bearing in mind that Cochrane reviews should be internationally relevant) • Conclusion is so certain that the

				addition of new information will not change it, and there are no foreseeable adverse effects of the intervention
Withdrawn	n/a	Y	(1) Change status to 'withdrawn' on the Advanced tab of the Properties sheet in Archie AND (2) Amended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See further information

*Studies are fully incorporated into the Cochrane Review if added to the included studies, excluded studies, ongoing studies, or studies awaiting classification (only if all reasonable efforts to integrate it into included, excluded, or ongoing have failed), or no new studies identified in search. Studies are not fully incorporated if studies identified by the search are added to studies awaiting classification only (see exception above). See '[Reporting search dates](#)' for further information.