



## The Cochrane Library 2012 Impact Factor and usage report

When considering the data presented below, please be aware of the following:

- An error in the 2012 Impact Factor calculation was detected and reported to Thomson ISI. The corrected Impact Factor was published on the 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2013.
- **The dataset we have used to generate impact factors for individual review groups (ISI Web of Science) is slightly different to the dataset that ISI use to calculate the impact factors of journals (the Journal Citation Report). Individual Cochrane Review Group (CRG) impact factor data, therefore, should not be quoted as “official” impact factors, but can be used within the Collaboration.**
- Both ISI databases (Web of Science and Journal Citation Report) report upon the number of articles published in a year. For The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) this means all new reviews plus all updated Reviews that have a new citation record.
- Each individual review group faces a variety of challenges in the publication of Cochrane Reviews, and some of these may impact upon the data presented below. For example, if a CRG publishes a large number of updated Reviews with new citation records these may increase the ratio of publications to citations, thereby lowering the impact factor.

### 1. The impact factor of the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* (CDSR):

- a) Each year in June, Thomson Reuters publish the impact factors of all journals indexed in the ISI Journal Citation Report.
- b) The 2012 impact factor for CDSR is **5.785**, which describes the ratio of the number of reviews published during 2010 and 2011 (1398) to the number of citations these reviews received in 2012 (8087).

A review published in the CDSR in 2010 or 2011 was cited, on average, 5.785 times in 2012.

- c) The top 10 cited reviews (2012) published in the CDSR (all CRGs) contributing to the 2012 impact factor are:



CD Number	Title	Authors	Review Group	Times Cited
CD004014	Surgical management of pelvic organ prolapse in women	Maher, C; Feiner, B; Baessler, K; Adams, EJ; Hagen, S; Glazener, CMA	Incontinence Group	49
CD004816	Statins for the primary prevention of cardiovascular disease	Taylor, F; Ward, K; Moore, THM; Burke, M; Smith, GD; Casas, JP et al	Heart Group	48
CD007228	Structured telephone support or telemonitoring programmes for patients with chronic heart failure	Inglis, SC; Clark, RA; McAlister, FA; Ball, J; Lewinter, C; Cullington, D et al	Heart Group	46
CD005465	Interventions for preventing falls in older people in nursing care facilities and hospitals	Cameron, ID; Murray, GR; Gillespie, LD; Robertson, MC; Hill, KD; Cumming, RG et al	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group	45
CD001431	Decision aids for people facing health treatment or screening decisions	Stacey, D; Bennett, CL; Barry, MJ; Col, NF; Eden, KB; Holmes-Rovner, M et al	Consumers and Communication Group	45
CD008794	Adverse effects of biologics: a network meta-analysis and Cochrane overview	Singh, JA; Wells, GA; Christensen, R; Ghogomu, ET; Maxwell, L; MacDonald, JK et al	Musculoskeletal Group	43
CD001800	Exercise-based cardiac rehabilitation for coronary heart disease	Heran, BS; Chen, JMH; Ebrahim, S; Moxham, T; Oldridge, N; Rees, K et al	Heart Group	40
CD001877	Screening for breast cancer with mammography	Gotzsche, PC; Nielsen, M	Breast Cancer Group	37
CD000171	Treatment of latent tuberculosis infection in HIV infected persons	Akolo, C; Adetifa, I; Shepperd, S; Volmink, J	HIV/AIDS Group	36
CD006103	Nicotine receptor partial agonists for smoking cessation	Cahill, K; Stead, LF; Lancaster, T	Tobacco Addiction Group	36



d) CDSR is ranked 12th of 155 journals in the “Medicine, General and Internal” category, placing it in the top five percent of all titles listed in the ISI Journal Citation Report:

Journal	2012 Rank	2012 IF	No. of citable items	No. of Reviews published	% Reviews uncited as of July 2013	Self-citation rate	IF w/o self-citations
NEJM	1	51.658	694	74	0	1%	50.955
LANCET	2	39.060	547	42	0	3%	37.888
JAMA-J AM MED ASSOC	3	29.978	453	40	0	2%	29.358
BRIT MED J	4	17.215	573	129	6.2%	9%	15.644
PLOS MED	5	15.253	225	42	2.4%	4%	14.631
ANN INTERN MED	6	13.976	338	73	0	3%	13.482
ARCH INTERN MED	7	10.579	375	26	3.8%	3%	10.211
BMC MED	8	6.679	193	50	0	1%	6.601
CAN MED ASSOC J	9	6.465	256	42	2.4%	3%	6.215
J INTERN MED	10	6.455	209	39	0	2%	6.316
MAYO CLIN PROC	11	5.790	205	56	5.4%	3%	5.566
<b>CDSR</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5.785</b>	<b>1398</b>	<b>1398</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>5.288</b>

e) Although the Impact Factor of the CDSR fell in 2012, for the second consecutive year, the total number of citations received is the 7<sup>th</sup> highest in the Medicine, General & Internal category.

The 5-Year Impact Factor increased to 6.553. This is calculated by taking the number of cites in 2012 to items published between 2007 and 2011 (20,727) and dividing this by the number of items published between 2007 and 2011 (3,163).

Year	Ranking	Impact Factor	In-Window Cites	Citable items	Total Cites	Self-citation rate	IF w/o self-citations	5-Year Impact Factor
2012	12	5.785	8087	1398	34,230	8%	5.288	6.553
2011	10	5.912	7721	1306	29,593	5%	5.630	6.309
2010	10	6.186	6978	1128	27,366	7%	5.784	6.346
2009	11	5.653	6574	1163	23,102	6%	5.305	-
2008	12	5.182	6281	1212	19,444	5%	4.950	-
2007	14	4.654	5240	1126	14,622	7%	4.370	-



- f) A look at the breakdown of the CDSR impact factor by year from 2009-2012 shows that the reviews published in 2010 were not as highly cited in the 2012 and 2011 Impact Factor windows as the equivalent set of reviews published in previous years.

CDSR Impact Factor Year	Cites in IF window to items published in:	No. of items published in:	Average number of citations per year:
2012	2011 = 3355	2011 = 694	4.834
	2010 = 4732	2010 = 704	6.722
2011	2010 = 3179	2010 = 704	4.516
	2009 = 4542	2009 = 602	7.545
2010	2009 = 3269	2009 = 602	5.430
	2008 = 3709	2008 = 526	7.051
2009	2008 = 2592	2008 = 526	4.928
	2007 = 3982	2007 = 637	6.251

The number of reviews published in the CDSR in 2011 was 1.4% lower than in 2010. The CDSR published the second highest number of citable items of the journals in the Medicine, General & Internal category in 2011. The top 5 journals in terms of number of citable items published in 2011 are:

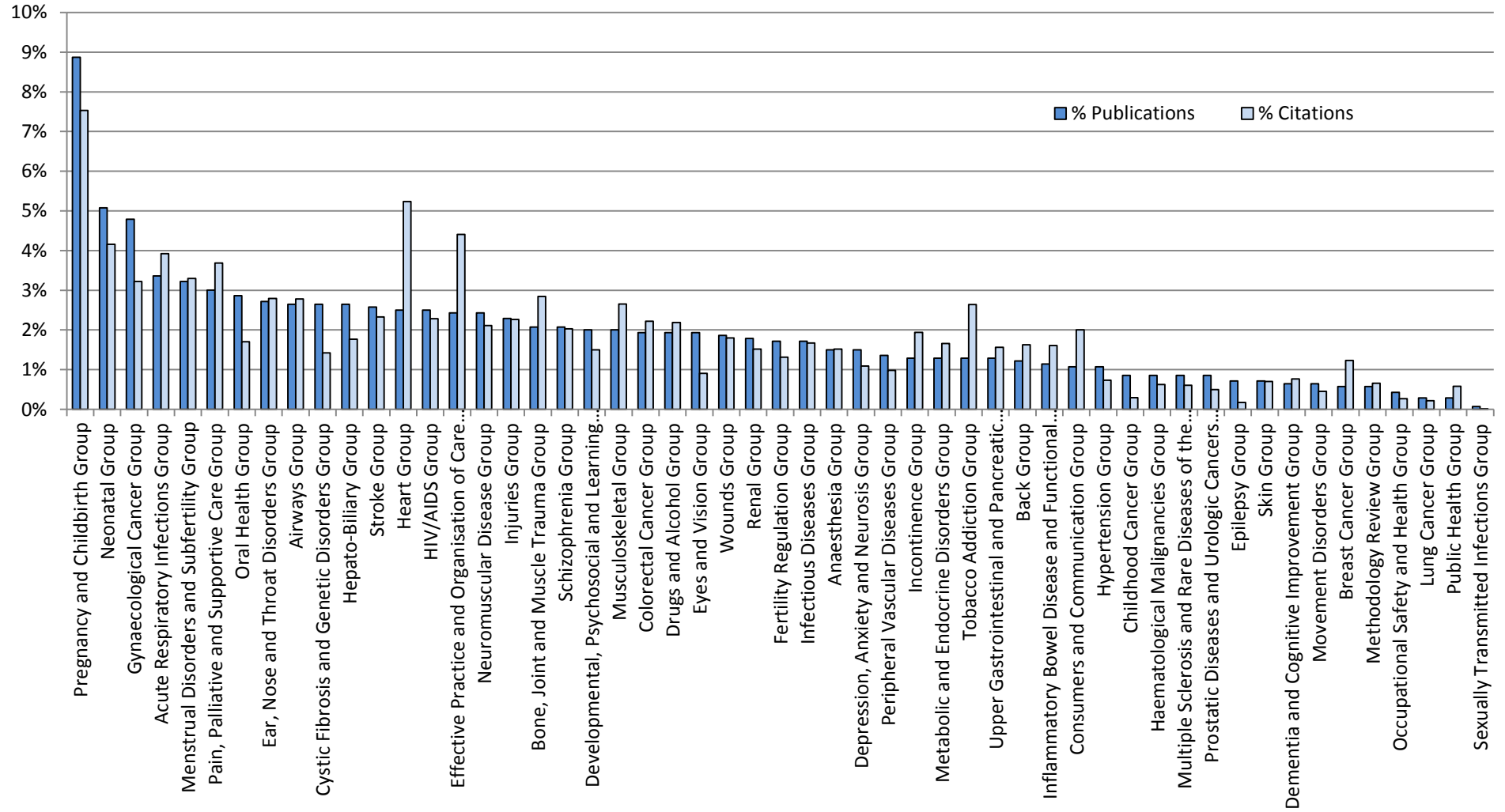
Journal Title	No. of items published in 2011	Impact Factor 2012	Impact Factor rank in category
Chinese Medical Journal-Peking	779	0.901	89
CDSR	694	5.785	12
Internal Medicine	476	0.973	81
NEJM	349	51.658	1
Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences	297	0.101	142

21% of reviews published in 2011 were not cited in the 2012 impact factor window compared with 18% published in 2010 that were not cited in the 2011 impact factor window.

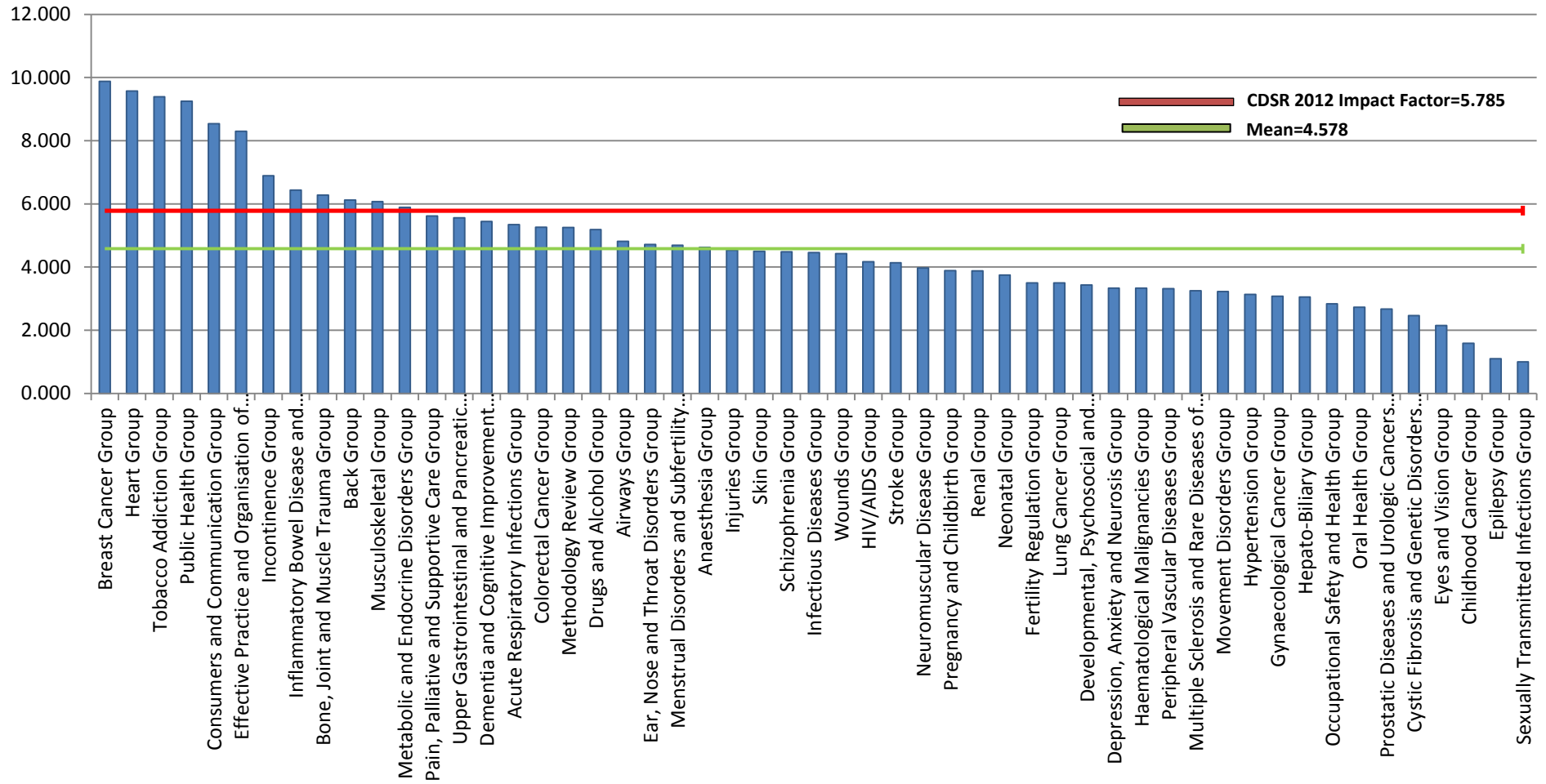
## 2. The impact factors of individual Cochrane Review Groups (CRGs):

- a) **Figure 1**, details the number of publications and citations contributing to the 2012 impact factor for each CRG as a percentage of the CDSR. **Figure 2** shows the 2012 CRG impact factor for each CRG. It is important to remember that these figures have been calculated using datasets from ISI Web of Science and are not 'official' impact factors.

**Figure 1: % Publications (dark blue) and % Citations (light blue) of CDSR for each CRG (in order of percentage of publications)**



**Figure 2: “Impact Factor” for each CRG (i.e. number of cites in 2012 to reviews published in 2010–2011, divided by the number of reviews published in 2010–2011)**





### 3. How the citation data compare to Wiley Online Library usage data:

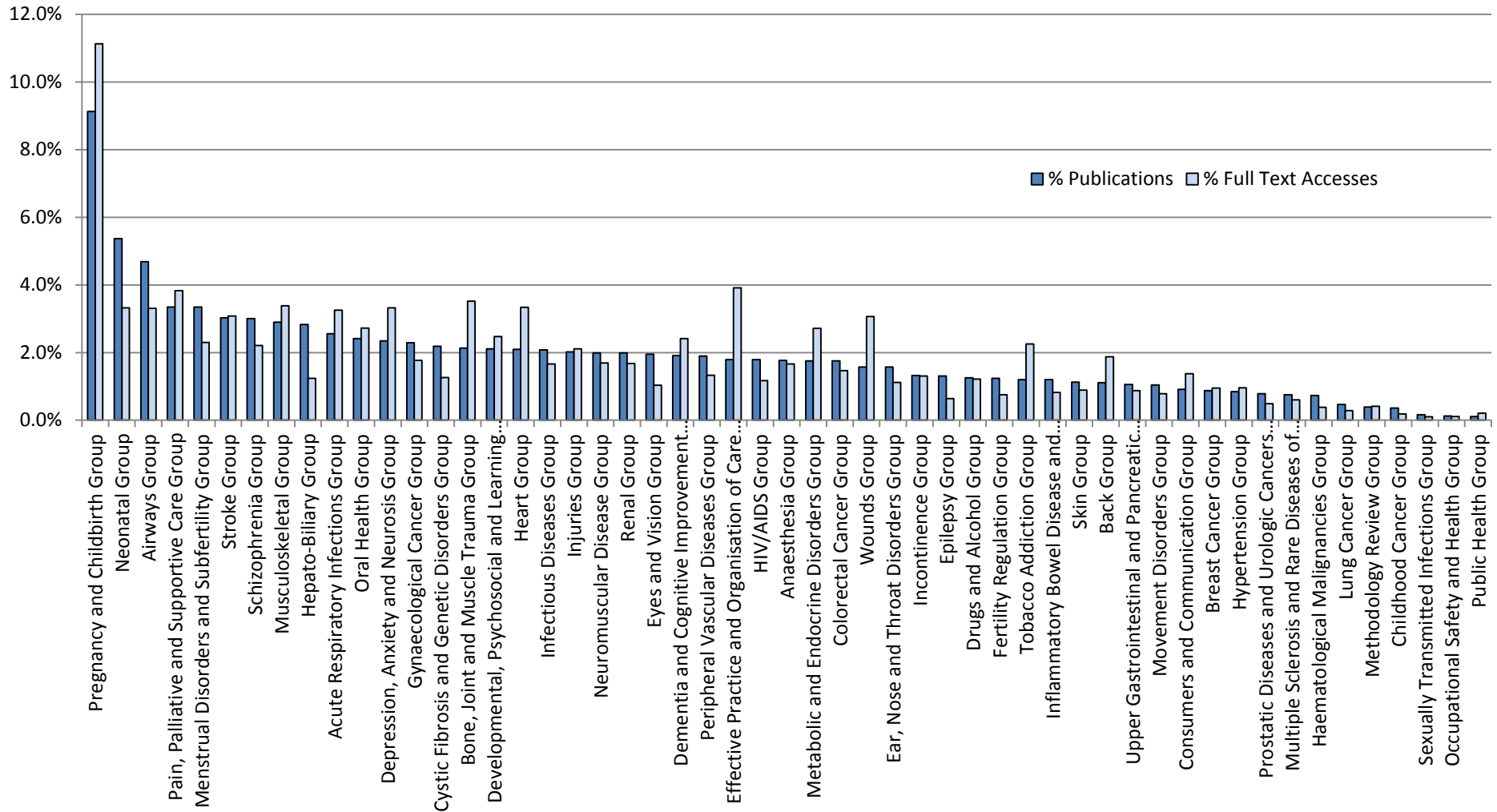
- a) Each Review in CDSR, regardless of publication date, was accessed in full-text format on average 715.34 times during 2012 (5,586 articles accessed 3,995,874 times). This is an increase of 20.6% on the 2011 figure of 567.89 (5,134 articles accessed 2,915,558 times).
- b) The top ten **most accessed** reviews in 2012 were:

Review Title	Full Text Accesses	Abstract accesses	Most Recent Publication Date	CRG
Interventions for preventing obesity in children	21,594	53,933	12/2011	Heart Group
Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community	16,673	42,289	9/2012	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group
Early skin-to-skin contact for mothers and their healthy newborn infants	12,134	19,279	5/2012	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
Exercise for depression	10,789	21,265	7/2012	Depression, Anxiety and Neurosis Group
Support for healthy breastfeeding mothers with healthy term babies	10,648	11,515	5/2012	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients	10,460	16,554	6/2012	Injuries Group
Interventions for preventing falls in elderly people	9,977	16,903	4/2009	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group
Interprofessional collaboration: effects of practice-based interventions on professional practice and healthcare outcomes	9,541	16,273	7/2009	Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group
Discharge planning from hospital to home	9,486	19,334	1/2010	Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group
Support surfaces for pressure ulcer prevention	9,379	19,110	4/2011	Wounds Group

### 4. The usage of individual *Cochrane Review Groups*:

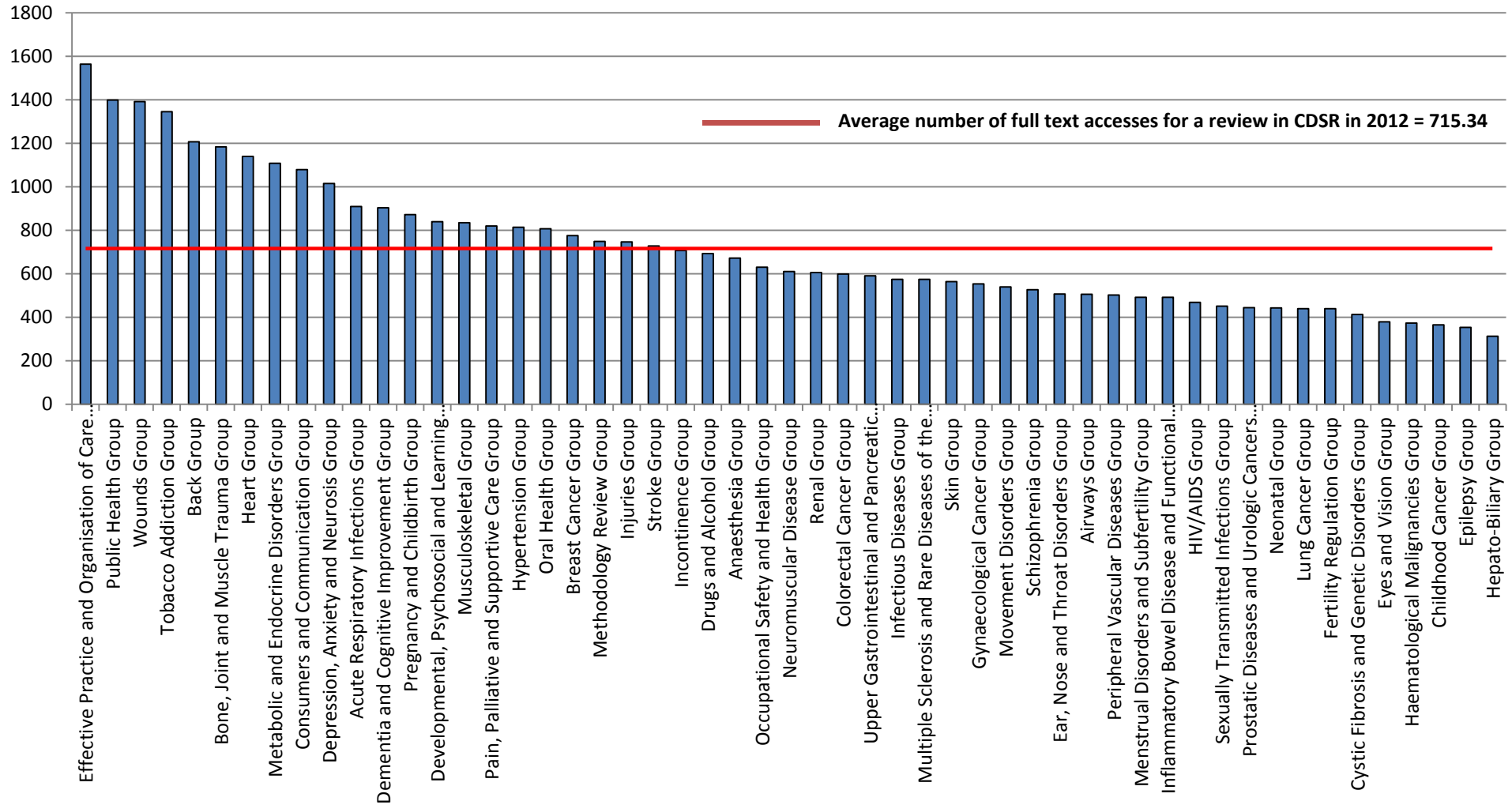
- a) **Figure 3**, details the number of publications and full text accesses contributing to the usage figure of 715.34 for each CRG as a percentage of the CDSR. **Figure 4** shows the average usage per review as accessed via Wiley Online Library during 2012 (regardless of publication date).

**Figure 3: % Publications (dark blue) and % Full Text Accesses (light blue) of CDSR for each CRG (in order of percentage of publications)**





**Figure 4: Average number of full-text accesses during 2012 by Cochrane Review Group**





## 5. Increasing the reach of Cochrane Reviews

- a) Podcasts are recorded, a Cochrane Journal Club is produced and Cochrane Reviews were press released on a monthly basis in 2012. These three initiatives undoubtedly boost the usage of Cochrane Reviews and enable a global audience to access Cochrane Reviews in different formats. In December 2012 *The Cochrane Library iPad edition* was launched.
- b) The top ten **most accessed** podcasts in 2012 were:

Title	Release date	Unique Page Views	CRG
Cold-water immersion (cryotherapy) for preventing and treating muscle soreness after exercise	Feb 2012	626	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group
Interventions for preventing obesity in children	Dec 2011	624	Heart Group
Interactive computer-based interventions for sexual health promotion	Sep 2010	442	Consumers and Communication Group
Oxygen therapy for acute myocardial infarction	Jun 2010	438	Heart Group
Disposable surgical face masks for preventing surgical wound infection in clean surgery	Jan 2012	431	Wounds Group
Reduced or modified dietary fat for preventing cardiovascular disease	May 2012	396	Heart Group
Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community	Sep 2012	321	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group
Effect of restricted pacifier use in breastfeeding term infants for increasing duration of breastfeeding	Jul 2012	317	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
Early skin-to-skin contact for mothers and their healthy newborn infants	Mar 2010	316	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
Cognitive stimulation to improve cognitive functioning in people with dementia	Feb 2012	304	Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group

There were 20,359 views of the 'landing' page for Cochrane podcasts [www.cochrane.org/podcasts](http://www.cochrane.org/podcasts) in 2012.

The RSS feed for Cochrane podcasts had 853 subscribers at the end of 2012, a 21% increase on the total number of subscribers at the end of 2011 (672).



- c) 11 Cochrane Journal Club's were produced in 2012. The most popular was 'Cranberries for preventing urinary tract infections'

Title	Release date	Unique Page Views*	CRG
Cranberries for preventing urinary tract infections	Dec	3,728	Renal Group
Cold-water immersion (cryotherapy) for preventing and treating muscle soreness after exercise	Apr	3,633	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group
Omega 3 fatty acid for the prevention of cognitive decline and dementia	Jul	2,775	Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group
Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community	Oct	2,670	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group
Disposable surgical face masks for preventing surgical wound infection in clean surgery	Mar	2,386	Wounds Group
Effect of restricted pacifier use in breastfeeding term infants for increasing duration of breastfeeding	Aug	2,244	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
Interventions for preventing obesity in children	Feb	1,699	Heart Group
Maintenance treatment with antipsychotic drugs for schizophrenia	Jun	1,457	Schizophrenia Group
Nicotine receptor partial agonists for smoking cessation	May	1,410	Tobacco Addiction Group
Exercise interventions on health-related quality of life for cancer survivors	Sep	1,286	Gynaecological Cancer Group
Low versus high haemoglobin concentration threshold for blood transfusion for preventing morbidity and mortality in very low birth weight infants	Jan	1,113	Neonatal Group

\* Data is taken from the first three months after release

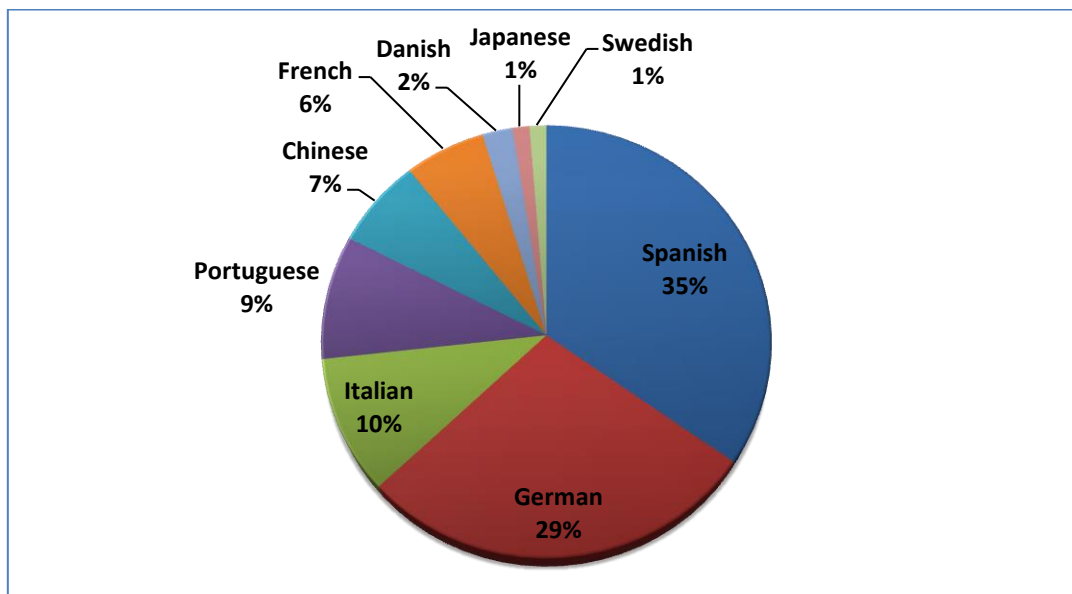


d) The five Cochrane press releases that received the most media attention in 2012 were:

Issue	Title	CRG	Number of clips
Issue 10	<i>Cochrane Review Finds No Benefit from Routine Health Checks</i> Cochrane Review: <b>General health checks in adults for reducing morbidity and mortality from disease</b>	Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group	512
Issue 10	<i>Cranberry Juice Now Unlikely to Prevent Cystitis</i> Cochrane Review: <b>Cranberries for preventing urinary tract infections</b>	Renal Group	479
Issue 1	<i>Continuing Uncertainties Surround Anti-Influenza Drug</i> Cochrane Review: <b>Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children</b>	Acute Respiratory Infections Group	467
Issue 8	<i>Cocoa Compounds May Reduce Blood Pressure</i> Cochrane Review: <b>Effect of cocoa on blood pressure</b>	Hypertension Group	372
Issue 6	<i>Role of Omega-3 in Preventing Cognitive Decline in Older People Questioned</i> Cochrane Review: <b>Omega 3 fatty acid for the prevention of cognitive decline and dementia</b>	Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group	337

Figure 5 shows the spread of non-English language coverage in 2012. The countries represented are those that translated 5 or more Cochrane Reviews.

Figure 5: Non-English language coverage of Cochrane Press Releases in 2012





- e) A select number of Cochrane reviews are now chosen each month to appear in *The Cochrane Library iPad edition*. The app was launched and made available via the Apple iTunes store on December 12<sup>th</sup> 2012. The app was downloaded and installed 3,235 times from the day of launch to the end of December. In the same period, 570 users set up a subscription in order to receive an alert via the Apple Newsstand when a new issue is published. Usage statistics for the app were only made available from January 2013 onwards.

### **Additional resources:**

- A Frequently Asked Questions document (FAQ) is available from The Cochrane Library homepage, which describes the CDSR impact factor and contains additional information about the citation index. You can access this document [here](#).
- If you have any further queries regarding the data presented in this report, please contact Gavin Stewart (gstewart@wiley.com).