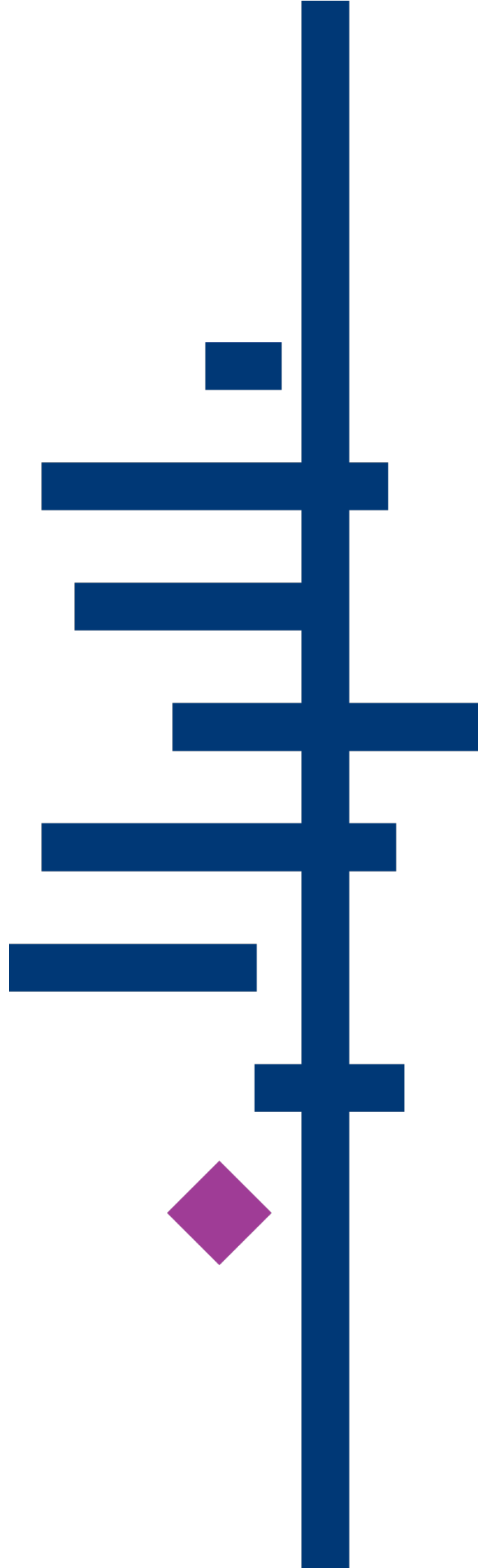




**Cochrane**  
**Library**

# Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

2017 Journal Impact Factor and Usage report



Trusted evidence.  
Informed decisions.  
**Better health.**

## 1. The Journal Impact Factor of the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)

Each year in June, Clarivate Analytics publish the Journal Impact Factors of all journals indexed in the Journal Citation Report.

The 2017 Journal Impact Factor for CDSR is **6.754**, which describes the ratio of the number of reviews published during 2015 and 2016 (1,764) to the number of citations these reviews received in 2017 (11,914).

A review published in the CDSR in 2015 or 2016 was cited, on average, 6.754 times in 2017.

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

- The data used to generate Impact Factors for individual Cochrane Review Groups (CRG) was extracted from Clarivate Analytics Web of Science. This is slightly different from the data used to calculate the Journal Impact Factor of the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)*. All Journal Impact Factors (including the Journal Impact Factor of the CDSR) are published in the Journal Citation Reports (JCR). The data used to calculate Journal Impact Factors are not made publicly available. Individual CRG Impact Factor data, therefore, should not be quoted as 'official', but can be used within the organisation.
- Cites for individual Cochrane Reviews and individual CRG Impact Factors are allocated by a process of hand-matching. Each year a proportion of cites cannot be matched to citable items because the cited work is not cited correctly. For example, a common error when citing Cochrane Reviews is to omit the version number or suffix from the DOI. The accuracy of the source data provided by Clarivate Analytics also has an impact on the success rate of the citation matching. The table below shows the percentage of cites that were successfully hand-matched for the past seven Impact Factor reports. This report has an 94% success rate which means the majority of Groups will receive a higher CRG Impact Factor than last year.

Impact Factor Year	Cites received*	Cites successfully matched	% of successfully matched cites
2017	11,914	11,249	94%
2016	11,520	9,885	86%
2015	11,522	9,397	82%
2014	11,932	11,720	98%
2013	9,859	8,515	86%
2012	8,087	6,411	79%
2011	7,721	6,685	87%

\*Source – Journal Citation Reports

- All reviews that have a new citation record (excluding withdrawn reviews) are included in the CDSR Impact Factor calculation.

The ten most cited reviews published in the CDSR (all CRGs), that contributed to the 2017 Journal Impact Factor were:

Times Cited	Title	Authors	CD Number	Review Group
104	Pulmonary rehabilitation for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	McCarthy B, Casey D, Devane D, Murphy K, Murphy E, Lacasse Y	CD003793.pub3	Airways Group
67	Surgical approach to hysterectomy for benign gynaecological disease	Aarts JWM, Nieboer TE, Johnson N, Tavender E, Garry R, Mol BWJ, Kluivers KB	CD003677.pub5	Gynaecology and Fertility Group
62	Exercise for osteoarthritis of the knee	Fransen M, McConnell S, Harmer AR, Van der Esch M, Simic M, Bennell KL	CD004376.pub3	Musculoskeletal Group
55	Electronic cigarettes for smoking cessation	Hartmann-Boyce J, McRobbie H, Bullen C, Begh R, Stead LF, Hajek P	CD010216.pub3	Tobacco Addiction Group
53	Diet or exercise, or both, for preventing excessive weight gain in pregnancy	Muktabhant B, Lawrie TA, Lumbiganon P, Laopaiboon M	CD007145.pub3	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
48	Interventions for preventing delirium in hospitalised non-ICU patients	Siddiqi N, Harrison JK, Clegg A, Teale EA, Young J, Taylor J, Simpkins SA	CD005563.pub3	Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group
48	Mid-urethral sling operations for stress urinary incontinence in women	Ford AA, Rogerson L, Cody JD, Ogah J	CD006375.pub3	Incontinence Group
45	Aerobic exercise to improve cognitive function in older people without known cognitive impairment	Young J, Angevaren M, Rusted J, Tabet N	CD005381.pub4	Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group
43	Vitamin D supplementation for women during pregnancy	De-Regil LM, Palacios C, Lombardo LK, Peña-Rosas JP	CD008873.pub3	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
42	Mobile phone-based interventions for smoking cessation	Whittaker R, McRobbie H, Bullen C, Rodgers A, Gu Y	CD006611.pub4	Tobacco Addiction Group

CDSR is ranked 12 of 154 journals in the 'Medicine, General and Internal' category, placing it in the top five percent of all titles listed in the Journal Citation Report:

2017 Rank	Journal name	Journal Impact Factor	No. of citable items	No. of Reviews published	5-Year Impact Factor	% Reviews uncited*	Self-citation rate	IF w/o self-citations
1	NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE	79.258	326	89	67.512	0%	0.6%	78.537
2	LANCET	53.254	302	96	52.665	0%	1.1%	51.896
3	JAMA-JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION	47.661	208	76	42.464	0%	1%	46.641
4	BMJ-British Medical Journal	23.259	169	125	20.375	2%	2.1%	21.852
5	JAMA Internal Medicine	19.989	140	26	17.84	0%	5%	19.229
6	ANNALS OF INTERNAL MEDICINE	19.384	137	86	18.726	0%	1.4%	18.751
7	Nature Reviews Disease Primers	16.071	47	0	16.155	0%	1.3%	16
8	Journal of Cachexia Sarcopenia and Muscle	12.511	82	13	9.872	0%	19.8%	9
9	PLOS MEDICINE	11.675	204	20	14.799	0%	1.6%	11.349
10	BMC Medicine	9.088	190	67	9.41	0%	1%	8.952
11	MAYO CLINIC PROCEEDINGS	7.199	148	39	7.198	0%	2.4%	6.865
<b>12</b>	<b>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</b>	<b>6.754</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>1,562</b>	<b>7.669</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>6.311</b>

\*Retrieved August 24<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Ranking:** The 2017 CDSR Journal Impact Factor of 6.754 is an improvement on the previous year's Journal Impact Factor of 6.264. CDSR has jumped two places in the ranking from 14<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Citable Items:** The table above shows that the CDSR published a much higher number of citable items in this Impact Factor year compared to the other high-ranking journals in the category. On average, 177 citable items were published by the other journals ranked higher than the CDSR, compared with 747 citable items published within the CDSR.

**Uncited items:** 30% of Cochrane Reviews were not cited in this Journal Impact Factor window compared with 15% in the previous window.

The 5-Year Impact Factor was 7.669. This is calculated by taking the number of cites in 2017 to items published between 2012 and 2016 (35,515) and dividing this by the number of items published between 2012 and 2016 (4,631).

In the 2017 Journal Impact Factor window, only the top 4 ranked titles (*NEJM, Lancet, JAMA, BMJ*) received more cites than the *CDSR*.

Year	Ranking	Impact Factor	In-Window Cites	Citable items	Total Cites	Self-citation rate	IF w/o self-citations	5-Year Impact Factor
<b>2017</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6.754</b>	<b>11,914</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>62,332</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>6.311</b>	<b>7.669</b>
2016	14	6.264	11,520	1,839	57,740	5%	5.931	7.084
2015	12	6.103	11,522	1,888	47,899	5%	5.748	6.665
2014	13	6.035	11,932	1,977	43,592	5%	5.693	6.539
2013	10	5.939	9,859	1,660	39,856	8%	5.433	6.706
2012	12	5.785	8,087	1,398	34,230	8%	5.288	6.553
2011	10	5.912	7,721	1,306	29,593	5%	5.630	6.309
2010	10	6.186	6,978	1,128	27,366	7%	5.784	6.346
2009	11	5.653	6,574	1,163	23,102	6%	5.305	-

The number of reviews published in the *CDSR* in 2016 was 14% lower than in 2015 (815 v 949). The *CDSR* published the third highest number of citable items of the journals in the Medicine, General & Internal category. The top 5 journals in terms of number of citable items were:

Journal Title	Citable items 2017	Impact Factor 2017	Impact Factor rank in category
MEDICINE	3593	2.028	56
BMJ Open	2555	2.413	43
<b>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>6.754</b>	<b>12</b>
INTERNAL MEDICINE	529	0.817	114
CHINESE MEDICAL JOURNAL	405	1.596	74

The *CDSR* has a comparatively high Journal Impact Factor compared with journals with a high number of citable items.

## 2. The Impact Factors of individual Cochrane Review Groups (CRGs):

Figure 1 shows the 2017 CRG Impact Factors for each CRG. Figure 2 shows the number of publications and citations contributing to the 2017 Impact Factors for each CRG as a percentage of the *CDSR*. It is important to remember that these figures have been calculated using hand-matched data from Web of Science and are not 'official' Impact Factors.

Figure 1: ‘Impact Factor’ for each CRG (i.e. number of cites in 2017 to reviews published in 2015–2016, divided by the number of reviews published in 2015–2016)

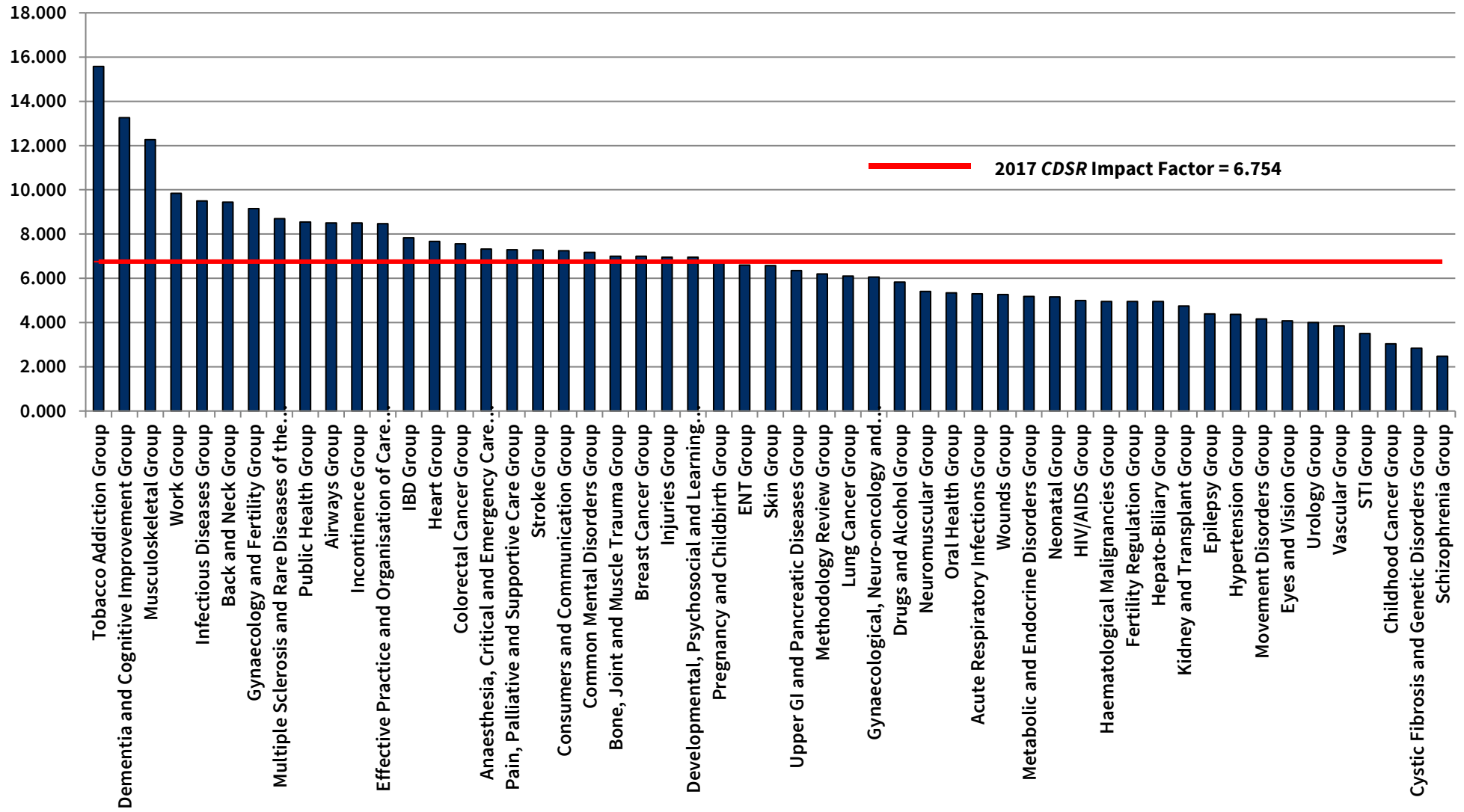
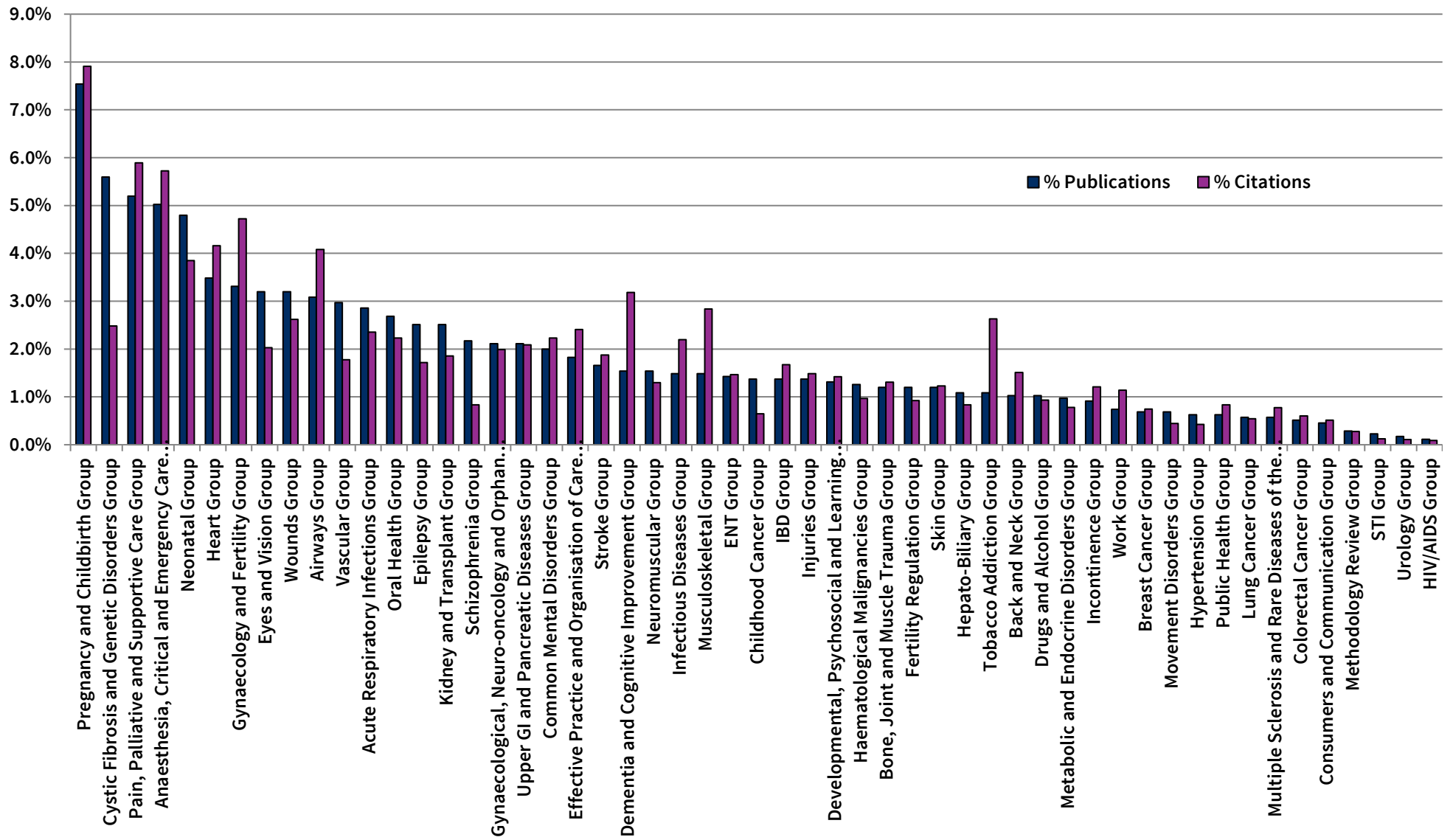


Figure 2: % Publications (blue) and % Citations (purple) of CDSR for each CRG (in order of percentage of publications)



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

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

- A proportion of full text accesses (HTML + PDF) cannot be associated with an individual Cochrane Review so the usage data included in this report is an underestimate of overall usage activity.
- Only usage activity related to Cochrane Systematic Reviews hosted on the Wiley platform is included in this report. The report does not include usage activity related to Cochrane Systematic Reviews hosted on third-party platforms.

The ten most accessed Cochrane Systematic Reviews in 2017 were:

Review Title	Full text accesses	CD Number	Publication date	CRG
Early skin-to-skin contact for mothers and their healthy newborn infants	20,743	CD003519.pub4	Nov-16	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
De-escalation techniques for managing non-psychosis induced aggression in adults	18,196	CD012034	Jan-16	Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems Group
Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community	17,746	CD007146.pub3	Sep-12	Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group
Exercise for depression	17,114	CD004366.pub6	Sep-13	Common Mental Disorders Group
Interventions for preventing obesity in children	16,993	CD001871.pub3	Dec-11	Public Health Group
Speech and language therapy interventions for children with primary speech and/or language disorders	16,560	CD012490	Jan-17	Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems Group
Midwife-led continuity models versus other models of care for childbearing women	15,686	CD004667.pub5	Apr-16	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
Effectiveness of different nursing handover styles for ensuring continuity of information in hospitalised patients	14,610	CD009979.pub2	Jun-14	Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group
Support for healthy breastfeeding mothers with healthy term babies	13,734	CD001141.pub5	Feb-17	Pregnancy and Childbirth Group
Repositioning for pressure injury prevention in adults	13,535	CD009958.pub2	Apr-14	Wounds Group



#### 4. Usage of individual Cochrane Review Groups (CRGs):

Figure 3 shows the average number of full text accesses per review as accessed via Wiley Online Library during 2017 (regardless of publication date).  
Figure 4 shows the number of publications and full text accesses for each CRG as a percentage of the *CDSR*.

Figure 3: Average number of Full Text Accesses received by Cochrane Review Groups in 2017

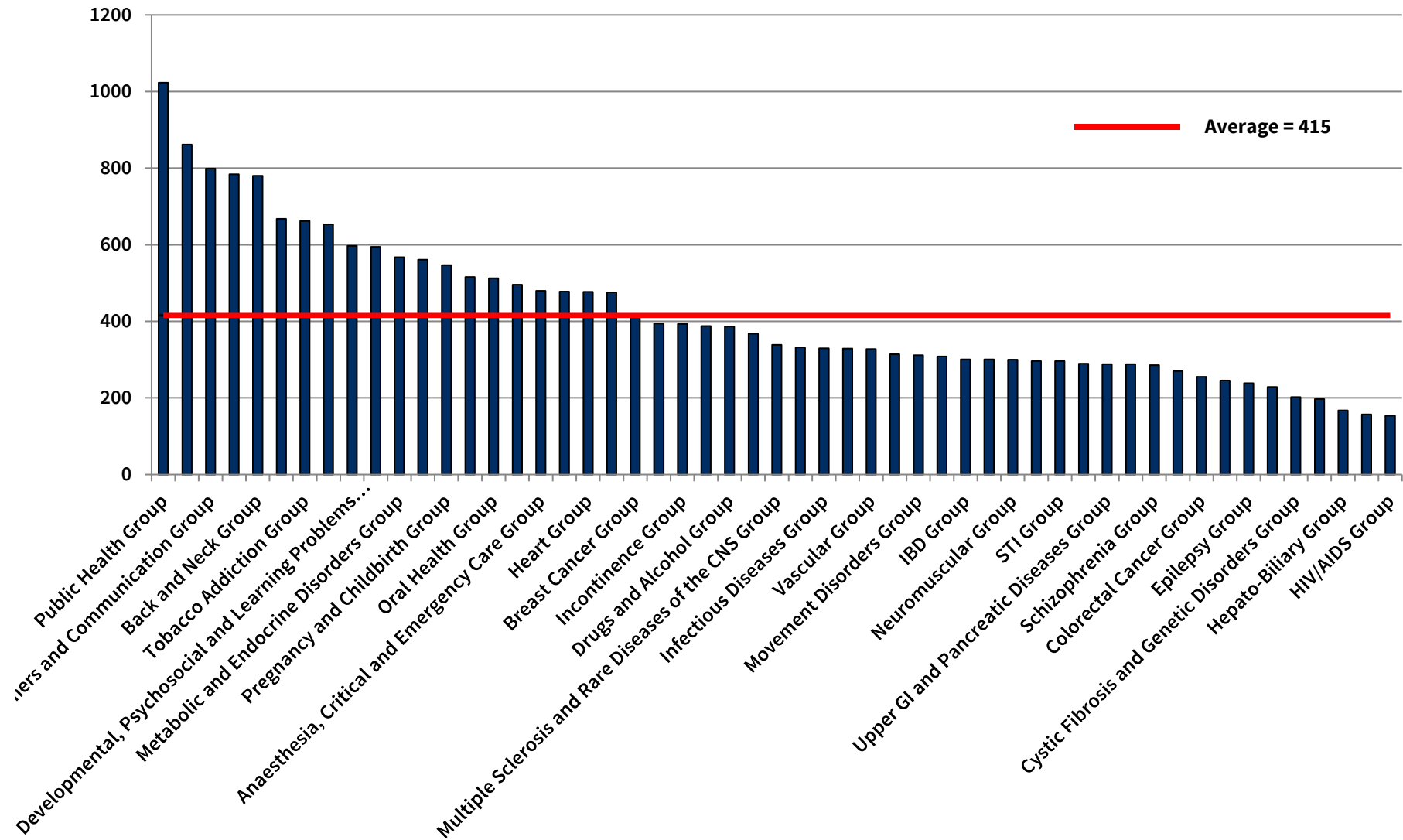
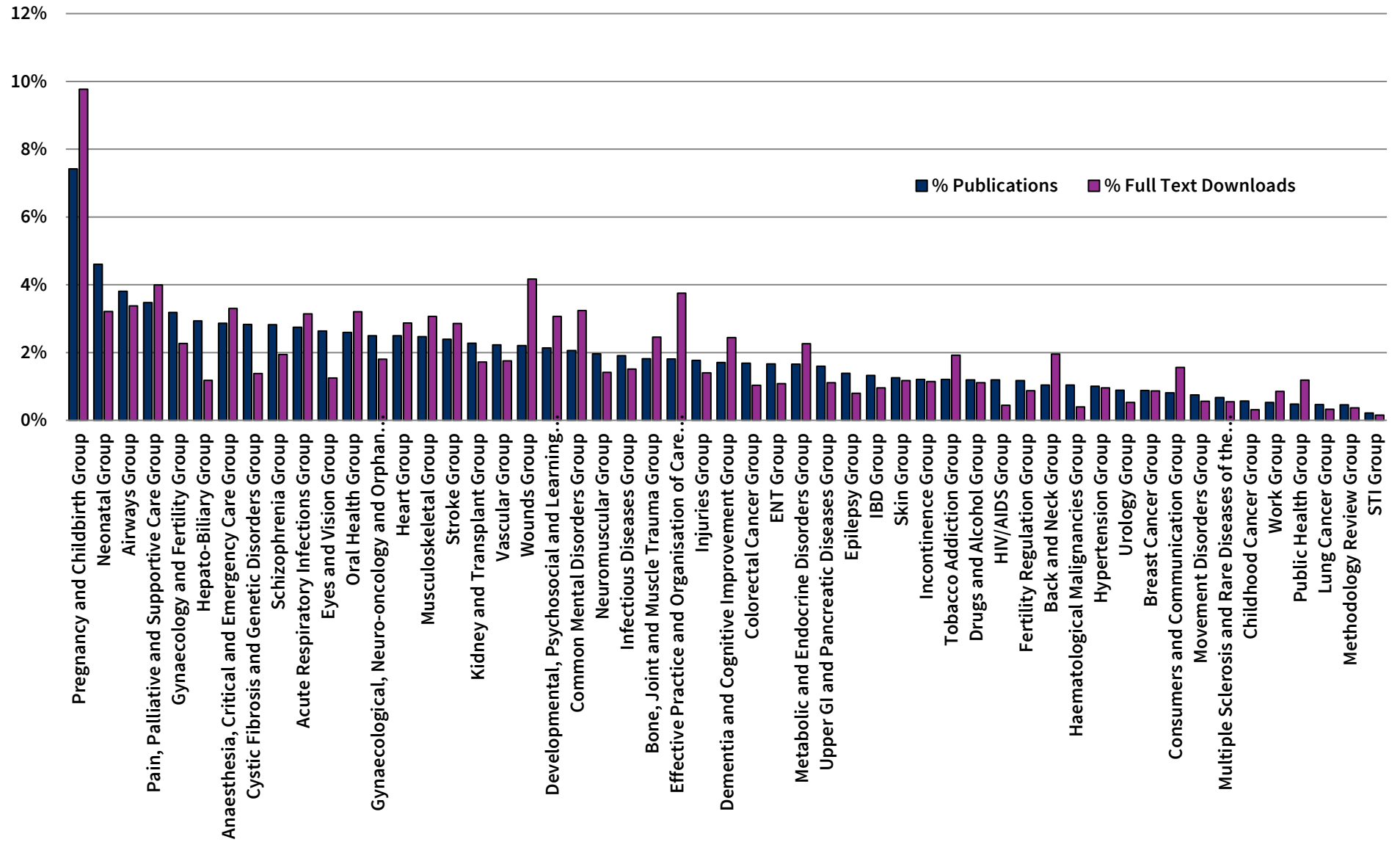


Figure 4: % Publications (blue) and % Full Text Accesses (purple) of CDSR for each CRG (in order of percentage of publications)



## 5. Alternative metrics

Using the Altmetric system (<http://www.altmetric.com/>), we are able to report on further measures of the impact of Cochrane Reviews beyond cites and usage. Altmetric have created a cluster of servers that watch social media sites, newspapers, government policy documents and other sources for mentions of scholarly articles.

The Altmetric Attention Score is a quantitative measure of the attention that a scholarly article has received. It is derived from three main Factors:

**Volume** - The score for an article rises as more people mention it.

**Sources** - Each category of mention contributes a different base amount to the final score. Further information including a breakdown of sources can be found at [www.altmetric.com/about-our-data/the-donut-and-score/](http://www.altmetric.com/about-our-data/the-donut-and-score/).

**Authors** - How often the author of each mention talks about scholarly articles influences the contribution of the mention.

The unique Altmetric Attention Score is available on the abstract page of every Cochrane Review that has achieved a score of one or above.

Altmetric has tracked mentions of 9,179 articles from the *CDSR* up to August 2018.

The highest Altmetric Attention Scores from Cochrane Reviews published in 2017 (scores retrieved 20<sup>th</sup> August 2018) were:

Altmetric Score	Review Title	B	T	N	F	W	M
644	Yoga treatment for chronic non-specific low back pain	7	311	63	49	0	118
609	Whole grain cereals for the primary or secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease	1	1079	4	61	0	46
477	Direct-acting antivirals for chronic hepatitis C	4	131	49	8	0	84
463	CSF tau and the CSF tau/ABeta ratio for the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease dementia and other dementias in people with mild cognitive impairment (MCI)	0	14	57	0	0	77
363	Industry sponsorship and research outcome	4	402	13	11	3	353
347	Interventions to improve antibiotic prescribing practices for hospital inpatients	5	418	14	6	1	123
308	Music therapy for depression	2	348	9	16	1	34
283	Continuous support for women during childbirth	3	271	8	77	2	93
250	Tobacco packaging design for reducing tobacco use	7	216	13	14	3	100
219	Music-based therapeutic interventions for people with dementia	2	312	3	11	2	52

B=Bloggers T=Tweeters G+=Google+ Authors N=News outlets F=Facebook walls W=Wikipedia pages M=Mendeley readers

Altmetric track 'mentions' from 17 different sources including references in policy documents, citations in Wikipedia pages and discussions on Peer Review sites. Only sources that contributed substantially to the scores of the Cochrane Reviews in the table above have been included.

The Cochrane Review ranked first in the table above; 'Yoga treatment for chronic non-specific low back pain has the eighth-highest Altmetric Attention Score of all Cochrane Reviews.

How different sources contribute to the Altmetric Attention Score can be observed in the table above. The Cochrane Review ranked second, 'Whole grain cereals for the primary or secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease' received fewer mentions in news outlets (4) compared with the average for the top 10 (23) but was mentioned 1,079 times on Twitter (average for the top 10 was 350 mentions) which boosted its overall Altmetric score to 609.