Deceased authors

As a general guideline, where an author made a substantial contribution to a Cochrane Review or protocol for a Cochrane Review (sufficient to warrant authorship) but died before publication, and the co-authors feel it is appropriate to include the deceased author on the byline, then editorial teams could permit inclusion of the author on the byline until the review is updated.

The living authors alternatively may choose to provide an acknowledgment or dedication to their colleague’s contribution.

If the deceased author was also the contact person for protocol or review, a new Contact Person (corresponding author) must be identified from the author team.

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Contributorship statement: This should inform readers that the author is deceased, when the author died (e.g. month and year), the author’s contribution to the protocol or review, and whether the living authors made substantive changes to the review beyond the deceased author’s contribution.

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For Editors: see Deceased authors: RevMan and Archie guidance