

Welcome to this October edition of the Evidence Aid news bulletin. Please share it with your friends and colleagues and ask them to let us know, should they like to receive it directly.

1. Publications

Following the Evidence Aid priority setting meeting in June 2013, an article has been published in PLOS Currents: Disasters – <http://currents.plos.org/disasters/article/dis-13-0023-prioritization-of-themes-and-research-questions-for-health-outcomes-in-natural-disasters-humanitarian-crises-or-other-major-healthcare-emergencies/>. This details the methodology for the process, and most importantly lists the 30 priority questions that were identified. Please share this paper with anyone in your organisation who is interested in priority setting.

We have also submitted a separate paper to PLoS Medicine and will tell you about the status of that in our next bulletin.

2. Evidence Aid Cochrane Reviews arising from the Priority Setting Meeting

Our volunteers have started work on some of the questions that were identified during the priority setting meeting in June, and are in contact with the following Cochrane Review Groups about providing the editorial oversight for these:

- Public Health: What is the most effective way to identify the needs of the population affected by a disaster?
- Effective Practice and Organisation of Care: What is the most effective way of ensuring continuum of care between the response and recovery phases after a disaster or in other humanitarian emergencies?
- Pregnancy and Childbirth: What are the effects of breastfeeding promotion interventions, including integrated breastfeeding, on breastfeeding rates and duration after a disaster or in other humanitarian emergencies?
- Pregnancy and Childbirth: What are the most effective interventions to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality, and improve well-being after a disaster or in other humanitarian emergencies?

If you would be willing to provide advice or other input to any of these titles, or would like to contact the author teams, please don't hesitate to let me know.

3. New PhD student, Dominic Mellon, working on Evidence Aid

We're pleased to welcome Dominic Mellon to the Evidence Aid team. Dominic has taken up a PhD studentship at the Centre of Excellence for Public Health at Queen's University, Belfast to evaluate the effectiveness of the Evidence Aid programme in achieving its objectives of improving population health outcomes in post-disaster situations.

Dominic studied for a BSc in Development and Health in Disaster Management and was recently awarded an MSc in Public Health. He worked in a number of emergency preparedness and response roles in the UK before commencing public health specialty training in 2010. He is currently attached to Public Health England where he is working on a number of health protection projects.

Dominic will be reviewing the literature and planning his research project over the coming months. Look out for further details of this work and opportunities to participate in the evaluation process in this newsletter.

4. Conference participation

In September, Claire and Bonnix represented Evidence Aid at the Cochrane Colloquium in Québec City, Canada with two posters (prioritisation and Evidence Aid's 10-year vision), a 'Meet the Entities' session, and an oral presentation (for more details, see: <http://capsmg.cochrane.org/blog/special-session-developing-evidence-responsive-approach>). Evidence Aid was received enthusiastically and we made more contacts in North America, some of whom we should like to welcome as first-time recipients of this bulletin. We also met with Hilda Bastian who wrote a blog following our conversations. You can read it here: <http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/absolutely-maybe/2013/09/30/emotional-donating-the-science-and-un-science-of-disaster-response/>.

Claire will attend the 40th ICMM World Congress on Military Medicine in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in December, to give an invited presentation about Evidence Aid at the General Assembly. On the same day as Claire's presentation, Mike will attend the launch of the Useful Science Initiative in Oxford, UK whose aim is to take information in the scientific literature and rewrite it in a format that non-expert stakeholders can understand and make full use of.

5. Unorthodox Prize

For those of you who didn't see our first announcement, in August, Evidence Aid was awarded the 2013 Unorthodox Prize. We were one of 250 submissions from around the world. In addition to the prize of \$10,000 we are discussing the potential for follow-on funding and the family foundation are also providing non-financial support to help Evidence Aid to reach its full potential. You can read more at Unorthodox Prize website (<http://www.unorthodoxprize.org/index.html>).

6. Communications

You can follow us on Twitter (@EvidenceAid), on our Facebook page (Evidence Aid), via the new website (www.evidenceaid.org) and you can also contact Claire using LinkedIn (Claire Allen).

We hope you've found this bulletin to be informative and helpful. If you would prefer not receive any further bulletins, please let us know.

With best wishes,

Claire Allen
Knowledge Manager
Evidence Aid: Winner of the Unorthodox Prize 2013 (\$10,000)

Tel. +44 1865 310138
Fax. +44 1865 316023
Email: callen@evidenceaid.org
Skype: claireallencochrane
Website: www.evidenceaid.org
Twitter: @evidenceaid
Facebook: Evidence Aid