

Typhoon Haiyan: the impact of free access to systematic reviews through The Cochrane Library and Evidence Aid

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Outline of presentation

- Background.
- Objectives.
- Methods.
- Results.
- Usage, demand & types of reviews accessed.
- Conclusions.

Resources freely available

- Special Collections (free access continuously from www.thecochranelibrary.com).
- All Cochrane Reviews (during free access period *only* from www.thecochranelibrary.com).
- Evidence Aid website (free access continuously from www.evidenceaid.org)

Free access history

Established post Indian Ocean tsunami: 26 Dec 2004,
then after the following events

- Haiti earthquake – 12th Jan 2010
- Chile earthquake – 27 Feb, 2010
- Pakistan (Flooding) – late July, 2010
- Japan earthquake and tsunami – 11th Mar, 2011
- Turkey earthquake – 23rd Oct, 2011
- Iran earthquake – 11th Aug, 2012

Background

- The Philippines experienced widespread destruction resulting in thousands of deaths and major casualties from Typhoon Haiyan in October and November of 2013. The Cochrane Collaboration and Wiley Publishing, working in consultation with the Evidence Aid initiative, made The Cochrane Library freely available via one-click access to all residents of the Philippines from October 2013 until March 2014. Free access was promoted using social media channels by Wiley, The Cochrane Collaboration, and Evidence Aid.

Timeline for free access in the Philippines

- 15th October 2013 - A magnitude 7.2 earthquake strikes the Philippines.
- 17th October – Wiley, Cochrane and Evidence Aid agree to make the Cochrane Library freely available.
- 21st October – Wiley activate national access.
- 7th November – Typhoon Haiyan hits Philippines.
- 18th November – Wiley extend national access to 30th March, 2014.

Objectives

- To analyse usage data from the Philippines in order to determine the impact of complimentary access on usage during the time period.
- To determine whether efforts in promoting the one-click access effectively reached those working in the target area who were treating casualties, or those who were advising aid workers, such as policy-makers.

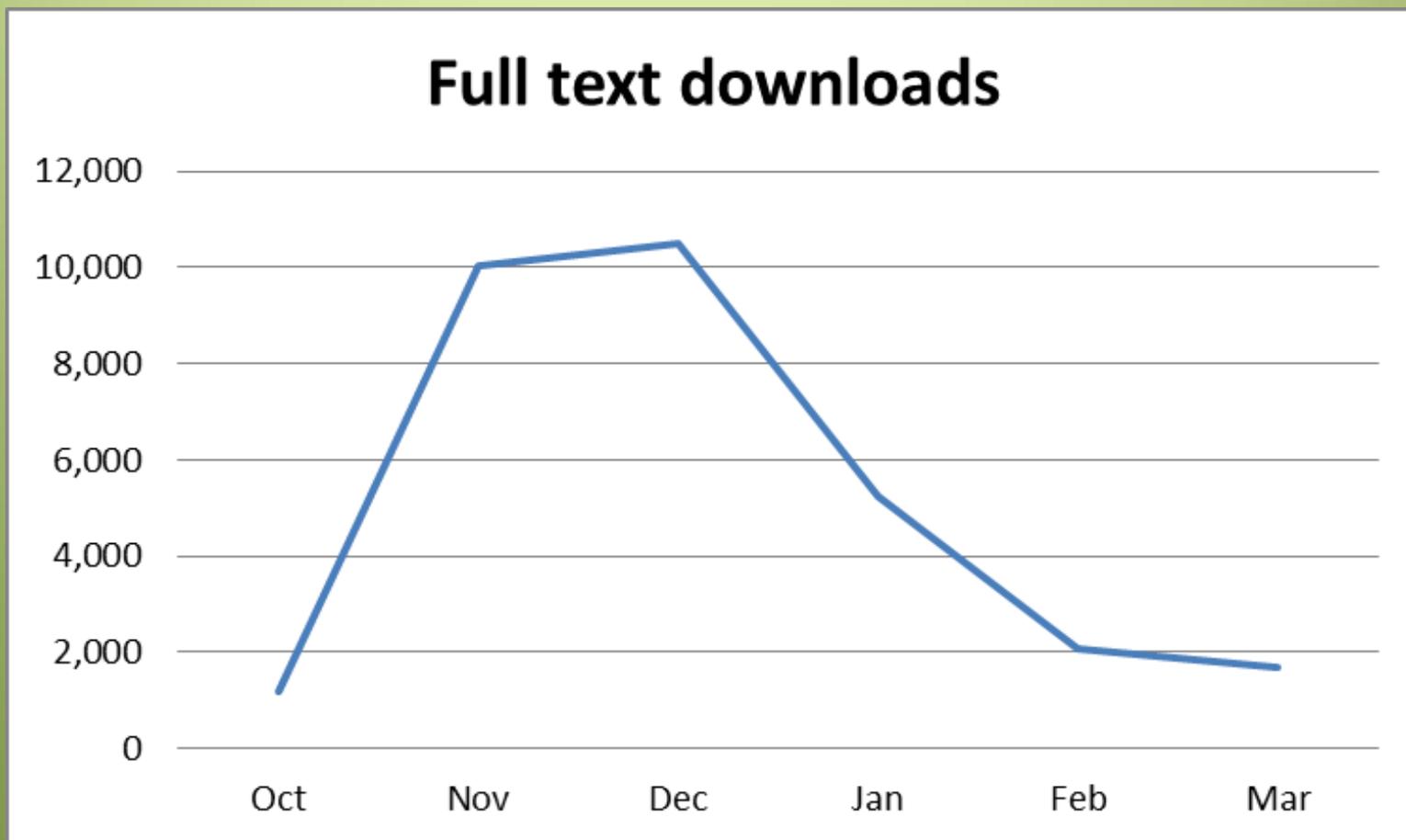
Methods

- Geographically targeted data taken from the Wiley Usage Data Warehouse (an in-house system) covering the period from October 2013 until March 2014 was analysed.
- Usage in the Philippines over this time period was compared to prior years to determine the impact of one-click access.
- We analysed whether topics relevant to a disaster situation were among the most-accessed content in the period following Typhoon Haiyan.

Results

- The number of full text downloads of Cochrane reviews has increased in the Philippines since 2011; by 18% in 2012, by 8% in 2013 and the projected increase for 2014 was 9%.
- The next slide shows how the number of full text downloads.

Usage



Top 15 reviews accessed

Honey as a topical treatment for wounds

Pin site care for preventing infections associated with external bone fixators and pins

Exercise for pregnant women for preventing gestational diabetes mellitus

Community-based rehabilitation for people with physical and mental disabilities in low- and middle-income countries

Braces for idiopathic scoliosis in adolescents

Interventions for increasing ankle range of motion in patients with neuromuscular disease

Artificial and bioartificial support systems for liver failure

Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community

Rehabilitation interventions for foot drop in neuromuscular disease

Physical therapy for Bell's palsy (idiopathic facial paralysis)

Exercise for preventing and treating osteoporosis in postmenopausal women

Hip protectors for preventing hip fractures in older people

Treatment of urinary incontinence after stroke in adults

Psychological therapies for sickle cell disease and pain

Psychological debriefing for preventing post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

Conclusion

- Free access is a valuable tool to make available to communities dealing with disasters and has an impact on usage.
- Data supports continued initiatives by Wiley and Evidence Aid to make access freely available in times of disasters.
- Evidence Aid is a valuable resource making Cochrane reviews relevant to the disaster management field continuously freely available.

Thank you for listening!

Contact Evidence Aid:

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