



# CHBG NEWSLETTER

## The Cochrane Hepato-Biliary Group (CHBG)

Volume 9, Issue 2

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### CHBG REVIEWS AND PROTOCOLS IN THE CLIB ISSUE 3 AND 4, 2005

#### NEW REVIEWS

45. Bile acids for liver-transplanted patients. Chen W, Gluud C.
46. Methotrexate for primary biliary cirrhosis. Gong Y, Gluud C.
47. Ribavirin plus interferon versus interferon for chronic hepatitis C. Brok J, Gluud LL, Gluud C.
48. Vitamin K for upper gastrointestinal bleeding in patients with liver diseases. Martí-Carvajal AJ, Martí-Peña AJ.
49. Ribavirin monotherapy for chronic hepatitis C. Brok J, Gluud LL, Gluud C.

#### UPDATED REVIEWS

10. Sequential combination of glucocorticosteroids and alfa interferon versus alfa interferon alone for HBeAg-positive chronic hepatitis B. Møllerup MT, Krosgaard K, Mathurin P, Gluud C, Poynard T.
11. Propylthiouracil for alcoholic liver disease. Rambaldi A, Gluud C.
12. Vaccines for preventing hepatitis B in health-care workers. Chen W, Gluud C.
13. Ribavirin monotherapy for chronic hepatitis C by Brok J, Gluud LL, Gluud C, is an update of a split review published with the title 'Ribavirin with or without alpha interferon for chronic hepatitis C'.

#### NEW PROTOCOLS

108. Antacids for preventing oesophago-gastric variceal bleeding and rebleeding in cirrhotic patients. Yang J, Zhen G, Zongying W, Wang Y.
109. Early versus delayed laparoscopic cholecystectomy for acute cholecystitis. Gurusamy KS, Samraj K.
110. Pegylated interferon plus ribavirin versus non-



pegylated interferon plus ribavirin for chronic hepatitis C. Simin M, Brok J, Stimac D, Gluud C, Gluud LL.

111. Preoperative biliary drainage for malignant obstructive jaundice. Gurusamy KS, Wang C.

112. Cyclosporin A for primary biliary cirrhosis. Gong Y, Christensen E, Gluud C.

#### UPDATED PROTOCOLS

6. Cyclosporin versus tacrolimus for liver transplanted patients. Haddad EM, McAlister VC, Renouf E, Malthaner R, Kjaer MS, Gluud LL.

#### NEW REGISTERED TITLES

205. Pegylated interferon alpha 2a versus pegylated interferon alpha 2b for hepatitis C. Simin M et al.

206. DNA testing for identification of haemochromatosis. Adrian Edwards et al.

207. Peginterferon for chronic hepatitis C in immunocompromised cancer survivors. El-Sayed M et al.

208. Anti-IL2R monoclonal antibodies for liver transplantation. De Simone P et al.

209. Laparoscopic cholecystectomy versus open cholecystectomy for patients with acute cholecystitis. Ansaloni L et al.

210. ERCP with or without stenting in patients with malignant stricture of the common bile duct awaiting surgery. Mumtaz K et al.

211. Imidazole derivatives for uncomplicated amoebic liver abscess. Mumtaz K et al.

212. Non-steroid anti-inflammatory drugs for biliary colics. Fraquelli M et al.

213. Bile acids for prevention of parenteral nutrition associated cholestasis. Thomas A et al.

214. Bile acids for parenteral nutrition associated cholestasis. Thomas A et al.

215. Pegylated interferon for acute hepatitis C. Simin M et al.

216. Octreotide for hepatocellular carcinoma. Notas G et al.

#### CHBG REVIEWS AND PROTOCOLS TO BE PUBLISHED OR EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE CLIB ISSUE 1 AND 2, 2006

##### REVIEWS IN EDITORIAL PROCESS

Presently thirteen reviews are undergoing editorial evaluation.

Ø Antibiotics for cholangitis and/or cholecystitis. Kukuruzovic RH, Elliott EJ.

Ø D-penicillamine for primary sclerosing cholangitis. Klingenberg SL, Chen W.

Ø Surgical versus endoscopic treatment of bile duct stones. Martin D, Vernon DR, Jobling J, Toouli J.

Ø Vaccines for preventing hepatitis A. Tiberti D, Demicheli V.

Ø Bicyclol for chronic hepatitis B. Wu T, Hao B, Liu G.

Ø Immunoglobulin for preventing hepatitis A. Liu JP, Yang M, Du XM.

Ø Beta-interferon for chronic hepatitis B. Saconato H, Albuquerque ABM L, Gabriel FGS, Atallah AN.

Ø Percutaneous needle aspiration with or without albendazole for uncomplicated hepatic hydatid cyst. Nasser-Moghaddam S, Abrishami A, Malekzadeh R.

Ø Hepatitis B prophylaxis for newborns of hepatitis B surface antigen-positive mothers. Lee C, Gong Y, Brok J, Boxall EH, Gluud C.

Ø Metronidazole with or without image-guided percutaneous procedure for uncomplicated amoebic liver abscess. Labio E, Destura R, Alejandria MM, Daez MLO.

Ø Pegylated interferon plus ribavirin versus non-pegylated interferon plus ribavirin for chronic hepatitis C. Simin M, Brok J, Stimac D, Gluud C, Gluud LL.

Ø Portosystemic shunts versus endoscopic therapy for variceal rebleeding in patients with cirrhosis. Khan S, Tudur Smith C, Williamson P, Sutton R.

Ø Laparoscopic, small-incision, or open cholecystectomy for patients with symptomatic cholelithiasis. Keus E, de Jong J, Gooszen HG, Tweel I, van Laarhoven CJHM.

##### PROTOCOLS IN EDITORIAL PROCESS

Presently eight protocols for reviews are undergoing editorial evaluation.

Ø Routine drainage in laparoscopic cholecystectomy. Gurusamy KS, Yu Z.

Ø Routine drainage in open cholecystectomy. Gurusamy KS, Yu Z.

Ø T-tube drain in laparoscopic common bile duct stone exploration. Gurusamy KS, Yu Z.

Ø T-tube drain in open common bile duct exploration. Gurusamy KS, Yu Z.

Ø Antifibrinolytic amino acids for acquired coagulation disorders in patients with liver disease. Marti-Carvajal AJ, Pérez-Requejo JL.

Ø Vasopressin analogues for acquired coagulation



disorders in patients with liver disease. Marti-Carvajal AJ, Pérez-Requejo JL.

- Ø Pegylated interferon for acute hepatitis C. Simin M, Myers RP, Stimac D, Gluud C.
- Ø Pegylated interferon alpha 2a versus pegylated interferon alpha 2b for acute and chronic hepatitis C. Simin M, Stimac D, Gluud C.

*REVIEWS IN NEED TO BE UPDATED IN THE CLIB ISSUE 1 OR 2, 2006*

- Ø Neoadjuvant and adjuvant therapy for operable hepatocellular carcinoma. Chan ES-Y, Chow PK-H, Machin D, Soo K-C, Samuel M.
- Ø Emergency sclerotherapy versus medical interventions for bleeding oesophageal varices in cirrhotic patients. D'Amico G, Pagliaro LLP, Pietrosi GGPI, Tarantino IITA.
- Ø Interventions for paracetamol (acetaminophen) overdoses. Brok J, Buckley N, and Gluud C.
- Ø Bile acids for primary sclerosing cholangitis. Chen W, Gluud C.
- Ø Bile acids for viral hepatitis. Chen W, Liu J, Gluud C.
- Ø Sphincterotomy for biliary sphincter of Oddi dysfunction. Craig AG, Toouli J.
- Ø Ursodeoxycholic acid for primary biliary cirrhosis. Gluud C, Christensen E.
- Ø Antibiotics for preventing leptospirosis. Guidugli F, Castro AA, Atallah AN.
- Ø Antibiotics for leptospirosis. Guidugli F, Castro AA, Atallah AN.
- Ø Terlipressin for acute esophageal variceal hemorrhage. Ioannou G, Doust J, Rockey DC.
- Ø Chinese medicinal herbs for asymptomatic carriers of hepatitis B virus infection. Liu JP, McIntosh H, Lin H.
- Ø Chinese medicinal herbs for chronic hepatitis B. Liu JP, McIntosh H, Lin H.
- Ø Medicinal herbs for hepatitis C virus infection. Liu JP, Manheimer E, Tsutani K, Gluud C.
- Ø Interferon for interferon naive patients with chronic hepatitis C. Myers RP, Regimbeau C, Thevenot T, Leroy V, Mathurin P, Opolon P, Zarski JP, Poynard T.
- Ø Interferon for acute hepatitis C. Myers RP, Regimbeau C, Thevenot T, Leroy V, Mathurin P, Opolon P, Zarski JP, Poynard T.
- Ø S-adenosyl-L-methionine for alcoholic liver diseases. Rambaldi A, Gluud C.
- Ø Anabolic-androgenic steroids for alcoholic liver disease. Rambaldi A, Iaquinto G, Gluud C.

- Ø Antibiotic prophylaxis for cirrhotic patients with gastrointestinal bleeding. Soares-Weiser K, Brezis M, Tur-Kaspa R, Leibovici L.
- Ø Antibiotics for spontaneous bacterial peritonitis in cirrhotics. Soares-Weiser K, Brezis M, Leibovici L.
- Ø Alpha-fetoprotein and/or liver ultrasonography for liver cancer screening in patients with chronic hepatitis B. Wun YT, Dickinson JA.
- Ø Artificial and bioartificial support systems for liver failure. Liu JP, Gluud LL, Als-Nielsen B, Gluud C.
- Ø Branched-chain amino acids for hepatic encephalopathy. Als-Nielsen B, Koretz RL, Kjaergard LL, Gluud C.
- Ø Nonabsorbable disaccharides for hepatic encephalopathy. Als-Nielsen B, Gluud LL, Gluud C.
- Ø Glucocorticosteroids for primary biliary cirrhosis. Prince M, Christensen E, Gluud C.
- Ø Sphincterotomy for biliary sphincter of Oddi dysfunction. Craig AG, Toouli J.
- Ø Ursodeoxycholic acid and/or antibiotics for prevention of biliary stent occlusion. Galandi D, Schwarzer G, Bassler D, Allgaier HP.
- Ø Benzodiazepine receptor antagonists for hepatic encephalopathy. Als-Nielsen B, Gluud LL, Gluud C.
- Ø Interferon for interferon nonresponding and relapsing patients with chronic hepatitis C. Myers RP, Poynard T.

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**PAST EVENTS**

*THE 19TH CHBG MEETING AND EXHIBITION STAND* during the 40<sup>th</sup> annual EASL meeting in Paris, France

The meeting was held on April 13 and was well attended. People were made familiar with what Cochrane systematic reviews are about and were led through their structure. Three Cochrane Hepato-Biliary reviews were presented by their authors.

During the EASL exhibition new members were recruited. We welcome them most warmly and thank those who have already registered a title. Again this year the meeting and the stand were sponsored by EASL.

*COCHRANE SYMPOSIUM* during DIGESTIVE DISEASE WEEK (DDW) in Chicago, May 16, USA



The symposium was run by The Colorectal Cancer Group. The attendants varied between 500 and 600 people. At a meeting on May 18 it was agreed that The CHBG would take the challenge of organizing it during the DDW in May 2006. Presently we are selecting speakers and contents. We also plan a stand during the DDW.

#### **9TH DANISH GASTROENTEROLOGY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING**

*September 2, Copenhagen, Denmark*

Yan Gong presented the unpublished systematic review 'Hepatitis B prophylaxis for newborns of hepatitis B surface antigen-positive mothers'.

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#### **FUTURE EVENTS**

#### **7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CYTOKINES & CHEMOKINES**

*September 8 to 9, Montréal, Canada.*

Christian Gluud will present the 'Pegylated interferon plus ribavirin versus non-pegylated interferon plus ribavirin for chronic hepatitis C' review on September 9 between 2:30 pm and 6:00 pm.

#### **WORLD CONGRESS OF GASTROENTEROLOGY**

*September 12 to 14, Montréal, Canada.*

At the Cochrane Collaboration session 'How Cochrane reviews can provide important evidence for practising gastroenterologists' on September 14, Christian Gluud will talk on ribavirin plus interferon versus interferon for chronic hepatitis C – making sense of 72 trials with 9991 patients.

#### **TRAIN THE TRAINERS SESSION**

*September 14, Montréal, Canada*

A satellite Train the Trainers (TTT) symposium will be run on Wednesday, September 14, 2005. It is organised by Organisation Mondiale de Gastro-Entérologie (OMGE) and Organisation Mondiale D'Endoscopie Digestive (OMED) Education and Training Committee, under the guidance of James Toouli, Australia.

#### **13<sup>TH</sup> UNITED EUROPEAN GASTROENTEROLOGY WEEK (UEGW)**

*October 15 to 19, Copenhagen, Denmark*

October 16, 2005 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, there will be a collaborative meeting of the four Cochrane gastrointestinal groups. Out of the six items on the programme, five are reviews from the Hepato-Biliary

Group. Everyone is welcome to attend (*see* programme with this Newsletter). We will also man an exhibition stand.

#### **13<sup>TH</sup> COCHRANE COLLOQUIUM**

*October 22 to 26, Melbourne, Australia*

For information, please *see* <http://colloquium.info> October 23 there will be the yearly 'Meet the Entities session'. At this session collaborators meet and have a chance to meet people from editorial offices in person.

#### **20<sup>TH</sup> CHBG BI-ANNUAL MEETING DURING THE AASLD MEETING**

*November 11 to 15, San Francisco, USA*

For programme overview and registration information for AASLD, please see <https://www.aasld.org>

The CHBG has scheduled a meeting November 13 from 6:15 pm to 9:15 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend (*see* programme with this Newsletter).

#### **THE 41<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL EASL 2006 MEETING - VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

There is not much information given yet, but the important dates are at

<http://www.easl.ch/easl2006/tt.asp>

November 28 is the deadline for receipt of abstracts.

The CHBG will held its 21<sup>st</sup> biannual meeting. Date, time, and programme will be announced in the 2006 CHBG Newsletter.

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#### **STAFF CHANGES**

Professor *James Toouli, Australia*, resigned from his position of an editor of The CHBG in February 2005. He is thanked for his support to The CHBG during the years 1998 to 2005.

The CHBG is now on the look to involve other surgeons for this job. We will gladly consider any suggestions.

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#### **VISITS**

*Andrea Rambaldi, Italy*, stayed at the Editorial Team office for a week in June and worked on an update of 'Propylthiouracil for alcoholic liver disease' review.

*Tawhida Y Abdelghaffar, Egypt*, visited the Editorial Team office in May for half a day in order to learn about preparation of Cochrane reviews.



*George Notas, Greece*, visited the Editorial Team office in June for half a day to be introduced into the process of preparation of systematic reviews. His registered title is 'Octreotide for hepatocellular carcinoma'.

*Marija Simin, Croatia*, will be leaving for Croatia September 15. In six months she managed to finish three protocols and four reviews. She presented the results of the review 'Pegylated interferon plus ribavirin versus non-pegylated interferon plus ribavirin for chronic hepatitis C' that she prepared with co-authors.

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## ON REPORTING SEARCH STRATEGIES AND FORMAT OF REFERENCES

Due to an increasing number of protocols and reviews submitted to The CHBG Editorial Team office and the few people involved in processing the received materials, we cannot provide the same high level of service regarding technical copy editing as before. To optimise our efforts and to speed up the editorial process, we therefore kindly request our authors to follow the guidelines in The Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions, The Cochrane Style Guide at <http://www.liv.ac.uk/lstm/ehcap/CSR/CSG.html>, and The CHBG Module in The Cochrane Library before submitting their materials. Below we summarise instructions regarding search strategy report and format of references. We are always here to answer your questions.

### SEARCH STRATEGIES

#### - in the text

Please for the abstract of the review and the text in the protocol and review under 'Search Strategies for Identification of Studies', stick to the example given below. The way of reporting and order of listing the databases are as follows:

We searched *The Cochrane Hepato-Biliary Group Controlled Trials Register* (September 2005), *The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials* in *The Cochrane Library* (Issue 3, 2005), *MEDLINE* (1950 to September 2005), *EMBASE* (1980 to September 2005), *Science Citation Index Expanded* (1945 to September 2005), etc.

Please note that you should give the time the search

covers for each of the databases in the abstract as well as in the text. Please use active voice, ie, 'We ...' etc. The databases are written in italic all places where they are cited.

In the text of the protocol or review to the cited already paragraph you should add a sentence (see below) referring to the table where your search strategies are given in detail.

*See 'Table 01'* for the search strategies applied to the individual electronic databases.

The remaining text referring to the search of journals (journal names are written out in italic), contact with pharmaceutical companies, etc should also be in active voice.

#### - in Additional table

The exact and complete search strategies should be put in 'Additional table' as early as the protocol stage. Changes to the search strategy are allowed at the review stage. We suggest that as a minimum the table include three columns: one with the name of the database searched, one with the time span of the search (adding all new dates each time the review is updated), and one with the search strategy (preferably cut and pasted rather than retyped). More columns can be added if necessary. Resizing the table is important, ie, the text in all columns should be displayed in full. Please do not forget to save your changes.

### REFERENCES

#### - in the text

References in the text should be described using a reference (or study) identifier. The preferred Cochrane format on identifiers should be the last name of the first author and the year of publication. Multiple identifiers should be separated with a semicolon and without 'and' before the final author.

The latest guidelines say: 'List several references first in alphabetical order and then in order of year of publication'. Do not forget to link the references as well as to check whether all the references from the lists are used in the text. The link is in blue.

*See eg,*  
(Davis 2001; Omari 1988; Preston 1988; Slinn 2001)



## - in the reference lists

Please follow the guidelines given in the RevMan User Guide

[http://www.cochrane.org/software/revman42/User\\_guide.pdf](http://www.cochrane.org/software/revman42/User_guide.pdf) or in RevMan under 'Help'.

When entering authors for a reference, six authors must be listed followed by a 'comma' and 'et al'. No full stops should be used at the end of lines in RevMan. To check that you do not have double full stops, choose 'View', check, and close by saving your entry. Journal titles must be spelled out in full. Page numbers are separated with a hyphen, and the style is: eg, 458-9 and not 458-459; 110-27 and not 110-127, etc.

If author is missing, then use 'Anonymous' followed by the year of publication.

See eg,

- Journal article:  
You CH, Lee KY, Chey RY, Menguy R.  
Electrogastrographic study of patients with unexplained nausea, bloating and vomiting.  
American Journal of Gastroenterology  
1980;79(2):311-4.
- Book chapter:  
Weinstein L, Swartz MN. Pathologic properties of invading microorganisms. In: Sodeman WA Jr, Sodeman WA, editor(s). Pathologic physiology:

Sodeman WA, editor(s). Pathologic physiology: mechanisms of disease. Philadelphia: Saunders, 1974:457-72.

- Cochrane Systematic Review:  
Copy directly from *The Cochrane Library*.
- The Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions  
Higgins JPT, Green S, editors. Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions 4.2.5 [updated May 2005]. In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 3, 2005. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

We do hope that authors would consider the above general requirements and before submitting the protocol or review would ensure that it follows the Cochrane Style Guide.

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## COLLABORATION NEWS

Due to the limited space we cannot inform our readers in details about new reports or policies of The Cochrane Collaboration or the working activities within entities. That is why we can only recommend that you visit regularly The Cochrane Collaboration web site to follow the news connected with policy decisions, updates of materials for authors and software programmes.

See <http://www.cochrane.org>

The Cochrane Hepato-Biliary Group (CHBG) Newsletter is written, edited, and published in electronic and paper format by staff at the CHBG Editorial Base in Copenhagen, Denmark. It is issued twice a year and distributed for free world-wide to all people on The CHBG member list who either have contributed, are contributing, or show interest in the work of The CHBG. The purpose is to inform the readers about activities within The CHBG.

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