

Systematic Review Production Tools – Have-A-Go Session with Rayyan and Covidence

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Short description of the CEC

To conquer the challenges of the systematic review production process, various special purpose software tools have been developed. These software tools aim to provide tailored support for particular parts of the review process, or in some cases for the entire review production process. This interactive session is designed to provide hands-on experience of the screening process for study selection using two different tools: Rayyan and Covidence. The aim of the course is for information specialists to gain confidence in the use of these tools, with the goal to accompany researchers further in the systematic review screening process.

We will use Rayyan and Covidence to simulate the entire screening process, from the import of the references, to the export of the selected references after title/abstract screening. We will also demonstrate in Covidence the bulk-import of articles for the full-text screening process.

Description for participants

The course will consist of presentations, demonstrations, and hands-on activities. The course leaders will share the tips and ideas they have put in place for using the tools, and the participants will be able to share their own experiences. A handout describing the use of the tools will be provided.

In this session, we will present and compare some of the tools available in the broad landscape of screening tools for systematic researches. Participants will be given the opportunity to discover in a step-by-step manner two of those study selection tools: Rayyan and Covidence.

Participants will be paired into groups to simulate a systematic review project team, and will be guided along the different processes in a step-by-step way using hand-outs and a set of data provided during the session.

In order for the participants to receive a view of the full potential of those study selection tools, the parts which cannot be tested in a live situation or require other software, will be explored through demonstrations.

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Learning outcomes

Participants will be able to:

1. Discover the range of tools which can be used for study selection in the systematic review process and identify the significant differences between a selection of those tools;
2. Use and configure Rayyan and Covidence for Title/abstract screening;
3. Import one full-text article at the time in Rayyan and (bulk-import full-text articles into Covidence);
4. Compare the two tools and reflect on the advantages and inconveniences in the use of them;
5. Assist researchers in the deployment of these tools.

Types of activities: Presentation, demonstration, hands-on exercises to explore the tools, discussion

Technical and logistics requirements: Computer equipped for online sessions, with video camera and microphone

Keywords: Systematic searching, systematic reviews, software tools

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About the trainers

Jolanda Elmers has been part of the research support, teaching and learning team of the University Medical Library at the University Hospital in Lausanne, as an information specialist in the role of training coordinator since 2015. She is involved in research projects for members of the hospital staff of the university hospital, as well as for the members of the medical and nursing science faculties of the University of Lausanne. She has a particular interest in teaching methods and program delivery to develop information literacy among students of the faculty.

Cécile Jaques is an information specialist who works at the University Medical Library at the University Hospital in Lausanne. For the past six years she has been heading up the team for research support, teaching and learning. She is involved in research projects for members of the hospital staff of the university hospital, as well as for the members of the medical and nursing science faculties of the University of Lausanne. She has a particular interest in teaching and supporting research in the field of evidence based practice for nursing care. She is an affiliate member of the Swiss Centre of Excellence of the Joanna Briggs Institute.

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