







RESEARCH FOR HEALTH NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 2013

A periodic, informative bulletin reporting on the activities of research for health. Its purpose is to inform countries, partners, and PAHO managers and staff on the advances in the execution of PAHO's Policy on Research for Health. Please send questions and comments to villanue@paho.org.

<p>Special issue featuring relevant research tools made available to Member States</p> <p><u>Hot Spot</u></p>	
	<p>PAHO—Cochrane Award: Health Agenda for the Americas 2013</p> <p>The PAHO-Cochrane Award 2013 is accepting submissions of protocols and systematic reviews for this year's award. The 2013 award's theme is "Prevention of non communicable chronic diseases through healthy life styles." See full details here. The winner of the best systematic review will be invited to attend the XXI Colloquium in Quebec and recognized publicly during the Colloquium.</p> <p>Deadline for submissions: There are two ways to submit entries for this award: submit works to Cochrane in order to be included in the May issue of the Cochrane Library. Or submit works directly to PAHO by email by 31 May 2013. Please send email to RP@paho.org, indicating PAHO-Cochrane award in the subject line.</p> <p>Previous winners: 2011 Barcelona and 2010 Keystone.</p>
	<p>Recognition to Ludovic Reveiz on his recent degree</p> <p>Ludovic Reveiz, member of PAHO's Research Promotion & Development team (Area of Health Systems Strengthening), received his PhD in Public Health from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, in Spain. PAHO congratulates him on his achievement, felicitaciones!</p>
<p><u>Meetings and Presentations</u></p>	
	<p>RIMAIS, Third Meeting of Focal Points: Cartagena 10-13 December 2012</p> <p>Focal points for the Red Iberoamericana Ministerial de Aprendizaje e Investigación en Salud [Ministerial Iberoamerican Network on Learning and Health Research] met to evaluate the RIMAIS 2011-2014 Plan of Action and to discuss the operational action plan of 2013.</p> <p>PAHO was invited as a member of the Advisory Technical Committee of RIMAIS and represented by Eleana C Villanueva. She presented (1) the implementation of the PAHO's Policy on Research for Health and (2) EVIPNet Americas and how it is promoting the development of evidence-informed policies.</p>

 <p>Cuba Salud 2012 CONVENCIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE SALUD PÚBLICA</p>	<p>International Health Convention, Cuba 3-7 December 2012</p> <p>Ludovic Reveiz participated in Cuba Health 2012, an International Health Convention aimed at creating a forum to discuss various topics related to the international health agenda. The convention was organized by the Ministry of Health of Cuba and focused on evaluating public health effectiveness in the 21st century, based on policies, strategies, and organization, and to evaluate the processes of the renovated Primary Health Care and its implications on health systems.</p> <p>Dr. Reveiz assessed contributions from scientific research and innovation towards the development of national health systems. He presented the findings of a comparative analysis of the national health research priorities in Latin American and Caribbean countries. He also moderated a round table on national health research systems.</p>
 <p>OTCA Organização do Tratado de Cooperação Amazônica</p>	<p>Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), 5 December 2012</p> <p>Luis Gabriel Cuervo was invited to present, at a meeting organized by ACTO (OCTA in Spanish), the Policy on Research for Health and its implementation tools, and to suggest specific ways in which ACTO could advance its implementation.</p> <p>The session was part of the joint <i>7th Meeting of the Pan Amazon Network for Science, Technology and Innovation for Health</i>, and <i>7th Intergovernmental Committee of Science and Technology in Health</i>. The recorded presentation (in Spanish) can be accessed here. ACTO Member States include: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela. ACTO is an international Organization that coordinates through its Secretariat the implementation of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.</p>
 <p>Ministry of Health 3rd Annual National Health Research Conference</p>	<p>Jamaica: Minister of Health Research Conference—22-23 November 2012</p> <p>The Jamaican MOH held its 3rd National Health Research Conference themed “Health Systems Strengthening and HIV/AIDS.” This very productive conference allowed participants to attend several informative presentations on subjects ranging from health systems research to Jamaica’s response to HIV/AIDS.</p>



Center for Global Health Seminar Series, NCI—20 November 2012

Luis Gabriel Cuervo was invited to present the lecture [“Making Research Integral in Policies for Health: the Implementation of the Regional Policy on Research for Health.”](#) at the [National Cancer Institute’s Center for Global Health](#) seminar series.

The lecture focused on how the landscape for health research has recently been transformed in Latin America and the Caribbean with the emergence of tools that: enhance the management and governance of research, facilitate collaborative research, and enable the integration of scientific research findings into health policy and health care delivery. The recording will be made available in the event’s link, above.

EVIPNet



Brazil, 9-14 December 2012

Evelina Chapman headed a capacity building workshop in Brasilia, Brazil focusing on policies to address four issues: perinatal mortality; maternal mortality; prevention of crack use; and nutrition. Thirty-five participants were in attendance and they discussed the benefits of methodology and its specificity for health policy issues. For more information on EVIPNet programs in different countries, click [here](#).



Ciudad Juarez and El Paso, 3-5 December 2012

Evelina Chapman attended a Violence and Injury Prevention Project workshop coordinated by the PAHO Field Office in El Paso in collaboration with USAID and the National Council for the Prevention of Accidents of the Secretariat of Health in Mexico. The workshop lasted three days and focused on creating a Technical Advisory Group to address violence and injury prevention by looking at several social aspects of violence.

The follow-up meeting determined the progress in developing evidence summaries (policy briefs) and defined a schedule for the deliberative dialogues with decision makers. For more information on EVIPNet programs in different countries, click [here](#).

Cuba, 11-13 November 2012

Evelina Chapman participated in a WHO symposium on global guidelines for nutrition interventions. Attendants discussed WHO recommendations for effective

nutrition interventions in the context of maternal and child health and mechanisms for adaptation and adoption of guidelines on public health policies.

Amongst the various speakers were Dr. Chessa Lutter, who focused on the use of evidence to inform WHO global nutrition guidelines in Latin America, and Dr. Lynette Neufeld who discussed the role of NGOs in adapting nutritional guidelines. Dr. Chapman presented tools to adapt and contextualize national policy guidelines, as well as the EVIPNet experience. For more information on EVIPNet programs in different countries, click [here](#).

Resources

Research Video Playlist

To enhance access to technical information, the research team has organized a playlist of videos that can be accessed from this [link](#). The playlist includes the recent videos shot during PAHO’s Advisory Committee touching on change in the landscape in Health Research and also a [video](#) on the Art for Research project with remarks by Dr. Roses (PAHO Director until 31 January 2013) and Mary Paul Kieny (Assistant Director General at WHO for Information Evidence and Research, and Health Systems Strengthening) elaborating on the value of research.



Webinars on Research Topics in Spanish

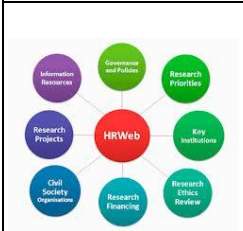
PAHO and the [Iberoamerican Cochrane](#) network are about to conclude the second series of live webinars of research topics. The sixth and last will be offered on 13 February 2013 on “[Bias in interventions studies](#)”. For the complete list of this series of recorded webinars, click on this [link](#).



Webinar series on Using Evidence, Cochrane Canada (English, one in French).




This series covers the use of research evidence in policies for health, and the reporting of health issues. The series ends in February.

The archive of recorded webinars can be found at the [Cochrane Canada Webinars webpage](#).



Health Research Web-(HRWeb)

[HRWEB](#) is an aid for the governance of research for health, a tool to facilitate participation and management of national health research systems. The HRWeb provides information at the regional and country levels on health research policies and priorities, regulation, ethics review committees, and research institutions, and

	<p>offers links to additional resources and grant opportunities. It is a database that functions like a wiki; any national official can post and update official information through designated officers.</p> <p>HRWeb Americas is a sub portal within the HRWeb. A published article linked here describes the HRWeb.</p>
	<p>Health Systems Evidence</p> <p>Health Systems Evidence is a continuously updated repository of research evidence about governance, financial and delivery arrangements within health systems, and implementation strategies that can support change in health systems. Health Systems Evidence also contains a continuously updated repository of economic evaluations in these same domains, descriptions of health system reforms, and descriptions of health systems.</p> <p>Click here for more information on Health Systems Evidence (HSE) a product of the McMaster Health Forum and hosted in the McMaster University webpage. HSE will soon be integrated into BIREME's Evidence Portal.</p>
	<p>SUPPORT Tools for Evidence-Informed Policy Making (STP): accessible in four languages</p> <p>Knowing how to find and use research evidence can help policymakers and those who support them efficiently do their job. The SUPPORT tools is a collection of 18 articles, each presenting a proposed tool that can be used by those involved in finding and using research evidence, to support evidence informed health policymaking. Click here to access the collection in four languages.</p>
	<p>EQUATOR Network: Reporting guidelines</p> <p>In 2010, PAHO initiated a partnership with the EQUATOR Network to improve research reporting in Latin America and the Caribbean. As a first step of this partnership the Equator website was translated into Spanish. In 2013, the collaboration will offer 4 webinars on research reporting, the first one titled “Transparent reporting of health research is essential” is On 11 February at 10 am EST (15:00 UTC/GMT). To register, please email shona.kirtley@csm.ox.ac.uk.</p> <p>The main objective of reporting guidelines is to improve reliability and value of medical research literature by promoting transparent and accurate reporting of research studies. The EQUATOR site holds more than 200 reporting guidelines and checklists with many of them including CONSORT, STROBE, PRISMA, and SPIRIT already available in Spanish. Click here for a link to reporting guidelines.</p>



Testing Treatments, second edition and interactive site

The [James Lind Library](#) collects historic cases related to clinical trials and provides fantastic resources illustrating the importance and elements of good research, such as essays on the fair test of treatments in health care. In 2011, the James Lind Library published the second edition of *Testing Treatments: better research for better healthcare* and more recently the Library launched an interactive site for this new edition and included a [Spanish version](#).

Testing Treatment, 2nd Edition, is appropriate for anyone interested in health or health policies. See the book [here](#) and the interactive site [here](#)



PIE Newsletter

The [PIE Newsletter](#) is a tool for the region of the Americas to ensure that public health policies are evidence-informed and was launched as a complement to the EVIPNet Americas initiative.

Watch the interviews posted on this [link](#). Note: The website is in Spanish.



Cochrane Library

The [Cochrane library](#) is a consistent and exceptional resource about evidence-based health care. It is comprised of seven databases; among these are a collection of systematic reviews, summaries of systematic reviews, and a registry of hand searched clinical trials. This is a unique source of reliable and up-to-date information on the effects of interventions in health care.

This year, the Cochrane Collaboration is commemorating its 20th anniversary with a collection of videos available from <http://anniversary.cochrane.org/>, including one on the Collaboration in low and middle income countries ([here](#)).

The [Cochrane Library](#) is freely available in Latin America and the Caribbean through BIREME's [Evidence Portal](#)).