

## Criteria for registering a qualitative evidence synthesis with EPOC

EPOC has limited resources to support review authors undertaking Cochrane qualitative evidence syntheses. In addition, methodological and editorial guidance for these syntheses is still under development within the Cochrane Collaboration and elsewhere. EPOC will therefore only register a very limited number of qualitative evidence syntheses.

This document complements the existing EPOC guidance on [minimum requirements for registration of a review with EPOC](#).

Criteria for registering a qualitative evidence synthesis with EPOC:

- The proposed synthesis needs to link to an existing EPOC effectiveness review. For an example of this, please see the review on [barriers and facilitators to the implementation of lay health worker programmes](#).
- The review author team for the synthesis must include:
  - At least two people with primary qualitative research experience. One of these should also have substantial experience in conducting qualitative evidence syntheses.
  - At least one person with effectiveness review experience (ideally one of the authors of the partner effectiveness review), who can help to bridge the two reviews and bring together the findings of both.
- The review team must demonstrate in their Review Proposal Form that they have a grasp of relevant content and methodological issues, and sufficient funding and time to conduct the review.
- EPOC is able to identify a contact and a referee editor who is able to support the review.

Review authors considering submitting a review proposal to EPOC for a qualitative evidence synthesis are strongly encouraged to look at the following resources:

- EPOC review proposal form for qualitative evidence syntheses. This is available from the Oslo satellite Managing Editor, Liz Paulsen ([Elizabethj.paulsen@fhi.no](mailto:Elizabethj.paulsen@fhi.no)).
- The Cochrane Qualitative and Implementation Methods Group's [resources for conducting qualitative evidence syntheses](#).

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*Available at: <http://epoc.cochrane.org/resources/epoc-resources-review-authors>*