

Searching for the Right Evidence: India's Contribution to the Cochrane Pain, Palliative and Supportive Care Group

Sir,

The Cochrane Collaboration (CC) is spread over 120 countries and is in existence since 1992. The Cochrane Pain, Palliative, and Supportive (PaPaS) Group is one of the 53 Review Groups of the CC. The group publishes reviews of interventions for acute pain arising accidentally or through deliberate injury, chronic pain (lasting 3 months or longer), headache, and migraine, palliative care for those with life-limiting disease or illness and supportive care of patients, and significant others living with serious illness.

We wanted to identify the nationality of review authors in the PaPaS group and highlight the

contribution of India in the published work. We collected relevant information from the website of the PaPaS group (www.papas.cochrane.org)*. The retrieved data was entered in to the Excel sheet and analyzed. Data are presented as number (%). A total of 148 review authors were identified for 190 published reviews. The authorship was mainly from the UK [$n = 77$ (52%)]. This was followed by authorship from the US [$n = 13$ (9%)] and Australia [$n = 10$ (7%)] [Figure 1 and Table 1]. India contributed to only 1% authorship. It is evident that most authorship in the PaPaS group is from the UK. There is a need to spread awareness and information regarding the PapaS group in India. There is also a need to encourage authors to contribute to the CC by searching for the right evidence.

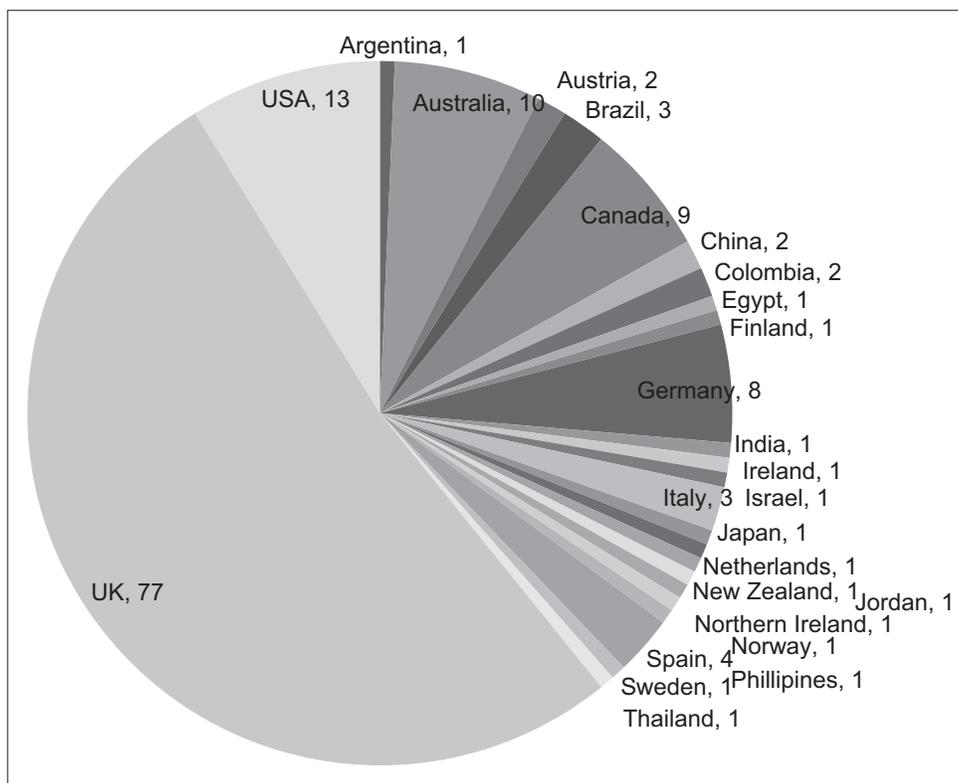


Figure 1: Representation of review authors from around the world

Table 1: Review authors from various countries	
Country	Review authors (n)
Argentina	1
Australia	10
Austria	2
Brazil	3
Canada	9
China	2
Colombia	2
Egypt	1
Finland	1
Germany	8
India	1
Ireland	1
Israel	1
Italy	3
Japan	1
Jordan	1
Netherlands	1
New Zealand	1
Northern Ireland	1
Norway	1
Phillipines	1
Spain	4

Contd...

Table 1: Contd...	
Country	Review authors (n)
Sweden	1
Thailand	1
UK	77
USA	13
Total	148

n: Number

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