Cochrane South Africa invites you to a webinar on *Issue Brief: A tool for enhancing research uptake and evidence-use in policy and practice*.

This webinar is aimed at sharing the complexities and nuances of engaging with decision-makers and focusing on using an issue brief as a tool for sharing research results and their implications for policy and practice change. The webinar will include reflections from researchers who have put the tool into practice with decision-makers in South Africa.

**Date:** Tuesday, 18 August 2020  
**Time:** 14h00 (GMT+2)  
**Venue:** Online webinar – *log-in details will be emailed to those who RSVP to cochranesa@mrc.ac.za on Monday, 17 August 2020*  
**Presenter:** Dr Nasreen Jessani  
Senior Researcher: Centre for Evidence-Based Health Care, Stellenbosch University  
Head of Strategy: Africa Evidence Network, Africa Centre for Evidence  
**Reflections:** Mr Michael McCaul  
Senior Lecturer: Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Stellenbosch University  
Ms Lynn Hendricks  
Researcher: Centre for Evidence-Based Health Care, Stellenbosch University; Social, Methodological & Theoretical Innovation /Kreative research group, KU Leuven

**Learning objectives:**

- Understand the complex environments in which decision-makers operate.
- Appreciate the various influences on decision-makers and decision-making processes.
- Learn about the Issue Brief as a research communication tool for decision-makers.
- Hear from researchers who have used Issue Briefs to influence change.
Speaker biographies:

**Nasreen Jessani** engages with health policy and systems research (HPSR) endeavours that include evidence to policy and practice activities across the continent. She focuses on the nexus between HPSR; innovations in evidence-informed policy and practice; and the relationship between academia and public policy. She is also responsible for capacity strengthening in evidence-informed decision-making (EiDM) and knowledge translation (KT) at the Centre for Evidence Based Health Care at Stellenbosch University and is the Head of Strategy for the Africa Evidence Network.

**Michael McCaul** is a senior lecturer in Epidemiology at Stellenbosch University and qualified Emergency Care Practitioner. His research interest includes evidence synthesis, biostatistics, guideline development and emergency care. Much of his works involves postgraduate teaching, research synthesis, knowledge translation and biostats consultations. Michael holds a BTech in Emergency Medical Care (DUT) and a MSc in Clinical Epidemiology at Stellenbosch University and is currently completing his PhD in Public Health.

**Lynn Hendricks** is a practicing Research Psychologist and Epidemiologist at the Centre for Evidence Based Health Care, Stellenbosch University. She is a Global Minds PhD scholar in Social Science at KU Leuven, and in Public Health at Stellenbosch University. She is part of the Social, Methodological & Theoretical Innovation /Kreative research group (SoMeTHin’K) at KU Leuven and contributes to the Global Arts Based Research Consortium. Her research interests include qualitative evidence synthesis, participatory research and visual research methods.

*Please RSVP by 12h00 on Friday, 14 August 2020 to cochrana@mrc.ac.za*

**Please note:** We will send the webinar link to all those who RSVP and the first 150 participants who log in will be able to join the webinar. The webinars are recorded and are made available on our website, for those who are not able to log in or attend.

We have obtained Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accreditation for the webinars. To qualify for CPD points you need to:

- be a member of the Health Professional Council of South Africa and;
- attend the entire webinar.

Each webinar is equivalent to one CPD point. All webinar participants who qualify must provide us with their name, surname and HPCSA number immediately after attending the webinar to receive the CPD points.