Title: Major health topics in females adolescents addressed by Cochrane SRs: how big is the gap?

Background: The attainment of the highest possible level of sexual and reproductive health is more likely to be achieved when sexual and reproductive health are early promoted and protected, including those who are underserved and marginalized or have no access to sexual and reproductive health information and services. In this regard, to identify and address priorities for research to improve sexual and reproductive health in female adolescents is a crucial step towards the successful implementation of goals established by the WHO Human Reproductive Program and its partners worldwide, particularly in low- and lower-middle income countries. Cochrane Reviews (CRs) are acknowledged to be methodological rigorous and of high quality.

Objectives: 1) To identify CRs including adolescent female population ≈ WHO definition. 2) To determine the spectrum of interventions according to the following list of priority topics: PREVENTION OF ADOLESCENT /GENDER-BASED/SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE, PREVENTION OF CHILD MALTREATMENT AND SEXUAL ABUSE, FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION, CONTRACEPTION AND PREVENTION OF UNINTENDED PREGNANCY, ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY, UNSAFE ABORTION, PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF STIs, PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS. 3) To describe the baseline characteristics of the identified CRs focusing on the above list. 4) To explore barriers and facilitators to address these topics with the best Cochrane coverage, if feasible.

Methods: All CRs and protocols including females adolescents published before October 2019 will be retrieved. The following search strategy will be applied: Adolescents OR Adolescents, Female OR Teenagers OR Teens OR Youths OR Adolescence. Contact details of Cochrane review authors working on the topics prioritized by WHO will be obtained. A short online survey focusing on the limitations and insights of conducting/publishing a Cochrane SR on a sensitive health topic for the adolescent population will be sent.

Results: Our preliminary search identified 643 CRs (629 intervention, eight diagnostic, five overviews and one prognostic). We will screen and classify them to determine which topics are addressed, to retrieve data about the review team, source of support, CRG, last search, databases explored, sources of support, etc. Information about any potential inconvenient related to the systematic review process will be obtained after the completion and screening of CRs.
Conclusions: This study may highlight the real commitment to work on pressing WHO sexual and reproductive health topics in female adolescents made by Cochrane authors so far. Additionally, the findings may allow thinking carefully about the support review authors working in this area need.

Patient or healthcare consumer involvement: The importance of this study is indirect to adolescent patients and health consumers because they are at the end of the road of application of evidence. By producing high-quality systematic reviews focused on health priorities and implementation strategies, we could help to bridge the gap between health care needs and informed health decision making.