



**The Clinical Research Institute (CRI)  
at the American University of Beirut (AUB)**

## **How to Conduct Systematic Reviews**

**CRI WORKSHOP**

November 13-16, 2023

Offered in hybrid format

Beirut, Lebanon

## Workshop Information

### Aim

To gain understanding and experience in conducting systematic reviews following the Cochrane Collaboration's methodology

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this workshop, the participants will be able to:

1. Recognize how systematic reviews are developed
2. Identify that a systematic review process demands systematic and transparent approaches
3. Develop systematic review questions
4. Identify critical steps in conducting systematic reviews

### Target audience

This activity is designed for physicians in all specialties, faculty members, students, research staff, and other researchers who are or will be actively engaged in conducting systematic reviews in the health field.

### Venue and Date

November 13-16, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Beirut Local Time.

Offered in hybrid form:

- Online via zoom
- In-person at the ACC multipurpose rooms 1 & 2

### Registration Information

<b>Registration fees</b>	250 USD
<b>For registrants from the following Lebanese medical institutions</b>	125 USD
Balamand University	
Beirut Arab University (BAU)	
Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK)	
Lebanese American University (LAU)	
Lebanese University (LU)	
Saint George University of Beirut (SGUB)	
Université Saint-Joseph (USJ)	
<b>For registrants with an active AUB ID (faculty, students, trainees, and staff)</b>	60 USD

## **Speakers**

Elie Akl, MD, MPH, PhD

Associate Dean for Clinical Research, Department of Internal Medicine

Professor of Medicine

Faculty of Medicine

American University of Beirut (AUB)

Beirut, Lebanon

Reem Hoteit, BS, TD, MS

Senior Research Assistant

Clinical Research Institute (CRI)

American University of Beirut (AUB)

Beirut, Lebanon

## **About the Speakers**

Dr. Elie Akl is a tenured Professor of Medicine at the American university of Beirut (AUB). He serves as the Associate Dean for Clinical Research, leads the division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics (GIMG), directs the AUB GRADE Center, and co-directs the Center for systematic reviews of health policy and systems research (SPARK). He has a part time appointment in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact (HE&I) at McMaster University. His research expertise is in systematic reviews, practice guidelines, and conflicts of interest. He published more than 500 peer-reviewed papers and was listed by Thomson Reuters as one of the 2015 "world's most influential scientific minds" and as one of the "Highly Cited Researchers" yearly since 2015.

Ms. Reem Hoteit is a senior research assistant at the Clinical Research Institute (CRI). She has a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from Concordia University, as well as a teaching diploma and a Master of Science in Epidemiology from AUB. Her research interests include quantitative and qualitative public health research, as well as scoping, systematic, and overview reviews. She has been involved in international collaborations including those with the World Health Organization. She has several scientific papers published in international journals.

## Agenda

Day	Topic	Presenter	Format
<b>Day 1 – Nov 13, 2023</b>			
1:00 pm-1:30 pm	Opening and review of agenda	Elie Akl, MD, MPH, PhD	Main room
1:30 pm-2:00 pm	Introducing systematic reviews		
2:00 pm-2:40 pm	Formulating PICO questions		
2:40 pm-2:50 pm	<i>Break</i>		
2:50 pm-3:15 pm	Developing eligibility criteria		
3:15 pm-4:00 pm	PICO question exercise	CRI team	Breakout room
<b>Day 2 – Nov 14, 2023</b>			
1:00 pm-1:45 pm	Designing a search strategy	Elie Akl, MD, MPH, PhD	Main room
1:45 pm-2:30 pm	Selecting eligible studies	Reem Hoteit, BSc, T.D, MSc	
2:30 pm-2:40 pm	<i>Break</i>		
2:40 pm-3:15 pm	Using software for screening (Demo)	Reem Hoteit, BSc, T.D, MSc	
3:15 pm-4:00 pm	Full text screening exercise	CRI team	Breakout room
<b>Day 3 – Nov 15, 2023</b>			
1:00 pm-2:30 pm	Abstracting data	Reem Hoteit, BSc, T.D, MSc	Main room
2:30 pm-2:40 pm	<i>Break</i>		
2:40 pm-3:15 pm	Assessing risk of bias	Elie Akl, MD, MPH, PhD	
3:15 pm-4:00 pm	Abstracting data and risk of bias exercise	CRI team	Breakout room
<b>Day 4 – Nov 16, 2023</b>			
1:00 pm-1:30 pm	Meta-analysis	Elie Akl, MD, MPH, PhD	Main room
1:30 pm-2:00 pm	Using RevMan software (Demo)	Reem Hoteit, BSc, T.D, MSc	
2:00 pm-2:35 pm	Assessing heterogeneity	Elie Akl, MD, MPH, PhD	
2:35 pm-2:45 pm	<i>Break</i>		
2:45 pm-3:30 pm	Using RevMan for heterogeneity (Demo)	Reem Hoteit, BSc, T.D, MSc	
3:30 pm-4:00 pm	Wrap-up and feedback	Elie Akl, MD, MPH, PhD	