

8th META-ANALYSIS ROUND

organized by



8-1 INTRODUCTORY COURSE

27-28 February, 2019, Pécs

8-2 INTRODUCTION OF NEW PROJECTS

Date and place to be decided.

8-3 DECISION

Meta-analysis or systematic review?

Date and place to be decided.

8-4 DISCUSSION

Interpretation, conclusions, publication strategy.

Date and place to be decided.

PARTICIPATION IS FREE OF CHARGE!



Question 1: What is a systematic review and a meta-analysis?

Answer 1: A **systematic review** aims to collect all available evidence on a specific scientific question by providing a narrative summary of findings. A **meta-analysis** applies a similar approach but attempts to synthesize new evidence from collected data with statistical methods.

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW



qualitative summary

META-ANALYSIS



quantitative summary

Question 2: Why is it worth carrying out meta-analyses?

Answer 2: A meta-analysis is to summarize all available topic-specific high-quality evidence (i.e., data from scientific reports) with a critical attitude.

Its role in science includes:

- to provide a **statistical summary** of all evidence weighted by quality and quantity
- to help **guideline developers** and provide grade of evidence for each statement
- to inspire new research
- and to **ease readers catching the articles** of interest without performing a time-consuming systematic search every time when a question arises

Question 3: How can I do a meta-analysis?

Answer 3: **Centre for Translational Medicine** is dedicated to providing assistance in research including meta-analysis. In the previous two years, **28 meta-analyses and/or systematic reviews** have been published with our assistance (publications are available at <https://tm-centre.org/en/>).

	ROUND I.	ROUND II.	ROUND III.	ROUND V.	SUMMARY
PUBLISHED	13	13	3	4	33
ACCEPTED	0	2	0	0	2
SUBMITTED	2	3	3	6	14
IN PREPARATION	0	8	6	30	44
	15	26	12	40	93

8th META-ANALYSIS ROUND

8-1 INTRODUCTORY COURSE

/PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME/

27-28 February, 2019, Pécs

Day 1.

Date: Wednesday, 27 February, 2019, 14:30-18:00

Place: University of Pécs Medical School (12 Szigeti út, Pécs)

Room: Lecture Room Nr. 4

Objective and brief summary

Lectures aim to guide participants through the main steps of preparing a meta-analysis with systematic review along the PRISMA guideline. The course starts with a brief introductory lecture summarizing the pros and cons of various scientific genres, including meta-analyses. The next lecture will focus on how to raise scientific questions, followed by others introducing various approaches to answering them. After going into the details of systematic search in and selection from the material of electronic databases, we will turn to data collection; first from a statistical aspect, then from a practical aspect. In addition, basic statistical methods for pooling data will be introduced. Since knowing numerical results should always be complemented with risk of bias assessment and all statements should be supported by the grade of evidence expressing how confident we are in the findings, we will pay close attention to these issues. Finally, practical hints will be given on how to write and publish the results of a meta-analysis.

1. Bálint Erőss	Introduction
2. Zsolt Szakács	Scientific questions - the PICO framework
3. Zsolt Szakács	Search & selection in scientific databases
4. Lilla Hanák	Statistics in meta-analysis I. Data collection and variables
5. Bálint Erőss	Data collection Practical issues and common mistakes
6. Alexandra Soós	Statistics in meta-analysis II. Synthesis and interpretation
COFFEE BREAK	
7. Zsolt Szakács	Risk of bias assessment and grade of evidence
8. Margit Solymár	PROSPERO registration
9. Katalin Márta	PRISMA guideline
10. Bálint Erőss	Writing-up research - publication strategies

Day 2.

Date:	Thursday, 28 February, 2019, 14:30-18:30
Place:	University of Pécs Medical School (12 Szigeti út, Pécs)
Room:	Dean's Conference Room
14:30-15:15	Practice I. Systematic search and the process of study selection
15:15-15:55	Practice II. Characteristics of the included studies
COFFEE BREAK	
16:15-17:10	Practice III. Interpretation of meta-analytical calculations and heterogeneity
COFFEE BREAK	
17:25-18:25	Practice IV. Risk of bias and grade of evidence
18:25-18:30	Closing remarks

Objective and brief summary

The aim of the day is to learn how to read, understand, and start systematic reviews and meta-analyses, and how to draw conclusions from the results. Work will be carried out in small groups and guided by facilitators experienced in the steps leading to a meta-analysis. Each practice will start with a 5-minute talk summarizing the theoretical cornerstones of the subsequent tasks, and finish with a 2-minute presentation from each group followed by an interactive discussion. **Please, bring your own laptop with.**

Please register for the event [here](#) until Monday, 25 February.

To prepare for the course, we advise you to watch our [freely accessible educational materials](#) in advance.



Péter Hegyi
TMC Director



Zsolt Szakács
TMC meta-analysis coordinator