

Appendix 1 - What guidance, training and tools are available for authors using RoB 2?

Resources available from the developers of the RoB 2 tool and Cochrane, including access rights and additional information on each. All links accessed in March 2022.

Resource	Available	Access	Additional information
From the RoB 2 developers			
Full guidance document	https://www.riskofbias.info/welcome/rob-2-0-tool/current-version-of-rob-2	Free to use, must be cited	Comprehensive with everything a user needs to know. Review teams can use this to help answer any question they have about the tool.
Cribsheet summarising the tool	https://www.riskofbias.info/welcome/rob-2-0-tool/current-version-of-rob-2	Free to use	Useful for guidance on how to answer the signalling questions and understand the algorithms
Excel tool to complete and manage RoB 2 assessments	https://www.riskofbias.info/welcome/rob-2-0-tool/current-version-of-rob-2	Free to use	Highly recommended for review authors. Has a manual embedded within it, short videos on how to use it, guidance on responding to signalling questions and can create figures with the data. The data from the Excel tool can be

			exported as csv format with potential to import into other software such as robvis and R.
RoB 2 guidance for cluster randomised trials	https://www.riskofbias.info/welcome/rob-2-0-tool/rob-2-for-cluster-randomized-trials	Free to use, must be cited	
RoB 2 guidance for crossover randomised trials	https://www.riskofbias.info/welcome/rob-2-0-tool/rob-2-for-crossover-trials	Free to use, must be cited	
Robvis (risk of bias data visualisation tool)	https://www.riskofbias.info/welcome/robvis-visualization-tool	Free to use, must be cited	Figures displaying risk of bias are useful for publication. The <i>robvis</i> software can be used to generate figures See Fig 2 above (McGuinness and Higgins 2020).
From Cochrane			
Risk of Bias 2 Cochrane Review Starter Pack	https://methods.cochrane.org/risk-bias-2	Free to use	Covers most of what is in this paper. Includes all the key resources likely to be needed, including guidance, training, tools, RoB 2 protocol considerations, RoB 2 considerations for reporting

			the full review, and support.
An introduction to RoB 2	https://methods.cochrane.org/risk-bias-2	Free to use	A one-page leaflet with links to short videos that may usefully be watched at different stages of conducting a review, 1) before starting, 2) when writing a protocol, 3) managing RoB 2 assessments, and 4) when writing the full Review.
RoB 2 FAQs	https://methods.cochrane.org/risk-bias-2	Free to use	Frequently Asked Questions from authors and editors.
Data collection form	https://methods.cochrane.org/sites/default/files/public/uploads/cochrane-data-collection-form-rob-2-pilot	Free to use	A sample data collection form is available that can be seen as a starting point for developing bespoke data collection forms for reviews. It will need to be modified accordingly.
Chapter 8 (Assessing risk of bias in a randomized trial) of the Cochrane Handbook	https://training.cochrane.org/handbook/current/chapter-08	Free to use, must be cited	Review teams should ensure they are familiar with contents of this chapter.

for Systematic Reviews of Interventions			
Methodological Expectations for Cochrane Intervention Reviews (MECIR) includes nine standards for assessing risk of bias in included studies here (C52-60)	https://community.cochrane.org/mecir-manual/standards-conduct-new-cochrane-intervention-reviews-c1-c75/performing-review-c24-75/assessing-risk-bias-included-studies-c52-60	Free to use	Cochrane Review teams are expected to follow the MECIR standards, though other journals may have different standards.
RoB 2 Learning Live webinar series	https://training.cochrane.org/rob-2-learning-live-webinar-series	Free to use	Nine-part webinar series that covers an introduction of RoB 2, detailed sessions on the five RoB 2 domains, reaching overall RoB judgements, RoB 2 bias in other types of studies (crossover and cluster trials) and editorial considerations. All webinars are broken into short YouTube videos.
Cochrane Interactive Learning Module 5 on 'Introduction to study	https://training.cochrane.org/interactivelearning	Paid-for access	

quality and risk of bias'			
Other guidance, training and tools			
R (creating forest plots with Risk of Bias 2 traffic lights)	https://github.com/mcguinlu/robvis/issues/102#issuecomment-722316062 https://github.com/rdboyes/forester (Also guidance on adding the overall risk of bias only ; see section 6.2 https://bookdown.org/MathiasHarrer/Doing_Meta_Analysis_in_R/forest.html)	Free to use	For experienced R users.