

## **AGREEMENT**

Umbria Region – Cochrane Collaboration

2014

### **BETWEEN**

the Umbria Region [hereinafter Region], registered office: Umbria Region, Piazza, 3, Perugia, Italy, CF 80000130544, represented by Dr. Gianni Giovannini, born in Terni (TR) on 20/09/1954, in his capacity as Head of the Social-health care and hospital services planning Department, Health and Social Services Authority, situated in via Mario Angeloni, 61, Perugia, as delegated by Resolution no. 1495 on 16.12.2013 “Health and Social Services Authority, conferment of managerial position from 01.02.2014”;

### **AND**

The Cochrane Collaboration [hereinafter Cochrane], registered office: The Cochrane Collaboration, Summertown Pavilion, 18-24 Middle Way – Oxford OX2 7LG, UK; Registered Charity n. 1045921, Registered in England n. 3044323, represented by Mr. Mark Wilson, in his capacity as Chief Executive Officer, born in Ripley, United Kingdom on 9<sup>th</sup> October 1963, legal address for this position is The Cochrane Collaboration.

### **ESTABLISHED THAT**

- The Regional Health Plan 2009-2011 (Resolution of the Regional Council n. 298 of 28 April 2009) states that, in the area of "clinical governance", scientific evidence (particularly Evidence Based Medicine) represents the indispensable support to the choices of regional health policy, and that the methodologies and criteria of The Cochrane Collaboration constitute one of the highest standards for the production of this evidence (Systematic Reviews);
- The Neurological Field of The Cochrane Collaboration, located in Umbria since 2007 and hosted and supported by the Regional Health Authority of Umbria, offers a solid base to contribute to the mission of The Cochrane Collaboration (“*to promote evidence-informed health decision-making by producing high-quality, relevant, accessible systematic reviews and other synthesised research evidence*”), facilitating its work with an international network of

health care professionals, decision-makers and consumers with an interest in the area of neurology.

- Cochrane Systematic Reviews are published in the Cochrane Library, a collection of databases containing high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making, useful in orienting medical and nursing activities, in on-going training and in the organization of health services (*Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Methodology Register, Health Technology Database, NHS Economic Evaluation Database*), its use is promoted by Neurological Field.

### **CONSIDERING THEREFORE**

That the Region intends to sign an agreement with Cochrane to take advantage of the findings and methods of this organisation, in particular through the activities of the Neurological Field, useful for the improvement of clinical governance across the Regional Health Service, with particular reference to the branch of neurology, it is hereby agreed:

#### **Art. 1**

The above premise is an integral and essential part of this agreement.

#### **Art. 2**

The Associazione Network Neurological recognizes that the present Agreement replaces, in its entirety and to all intents and purposes, the previous Agreement concluded and signed on 22/07/2013 between the Associazione Network Neurological and the Umbria Region (registered in the provisions of the Umbria Region n. 3749 of 25/07/2013), which is here now terminated by mutual consent and replaced with the present Agreement.

The Associazione Network Neurological states that the activities carried out under the previous Agreement find recognition within this present Agreement between the Region and Cochrane.

For all matters and concerns the Associazione Network Neurological have no further claim with the Umbria Region on the basis of the previous Agreement (registered in the provisions of the Umbria Region n. 3749 of 25/07/2013).

### **Art. 3**

For the purposes of the Regional Health Plan, Cochrane, together with the Neurological Field, is committed to presenting an Annual Activity Plan and related budget within one month from the signing of the present Agreement for the first year's activity. It also undertakes to draw up, with the Neurological Field, an annual report on all the activities carried out with a final account of the sums spent by the end of the subsequent year. The activities referred to in the said Annual Activity Plan should include the following actions:

- promotion (through conferences, workshops, newsletter, web-site) in Umbria, Italy and abroad, of Cochrane, with particular reference to the effectiveness of evidence-based medicine;
- promotion of initiatives whose objectives are the study of ethical and social implications in the choices of evidence-based medicine in the field of social and health policies;
- interaction with the local, intra and extra regional, national and international health agencies responsible for promoting innovation and quality of care (refresher courses and training);
- research, training and education on methods for assessing the effectiveness and quality of interventions in neurology, also in collaboration with university institutions;
- promotion of training and study initiatives relative to the critical evaluation of the quality of scientific literature in neurology (also through a dedicated web-site);
- initiation of projects to encourage the active involvement and empowerment of citizens and their associations in the promotion and acquisition of a critical attitude towards the use of health and social services;
- experimentation with innovative initiatives in the diffusion and dissemination of results of scientific research on the effectiveness of health and social interventions, aimed at health professionals and the general public.

### **Art. 4**

Cochrane, through the Neurological Field, is committed to promoting and giving the maximum publicity possible of the results of the activities carried out in Article 2 of the present

Agreement. A semi-annual report of activities will be prepared and sent to all regional stakeholders.

#### **Art. 5**

The present Agreement is valid for a period of two years with effect from the signing date.

#### **Art. 6**

For the activities set out in Article 2 of the present Agreement, the Region will make a contribution of € 50.000,00 (fifty thousand /00) to Cochrane to support the activities of the Neurological Field, divided into two annual payments of € 25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand / 00 euro), to be paid in a single disbursement.

The relative contribution for the first payment will be disbursed upon approval of the first Annual Activity Plan indicated in Article 2 of the present Agreement.

Disbursement of the second payment will be made, following approval of the second Annual Activity Plan, and following the evaluation of activities carried out along with the relative financial statement. In the event that the Region proposes to rescind or prematurely terminate the present Agreement, it shall provide Cochrane with a full written explanation within 30 days of receiving above documentation.

In the absence of said written explanation the Regional Administration shall be bound to make its second contribution of € 25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand / 00 euro).

#### **Art. 7**

The Region has identified the employee Kathryn Mary Mahan, assigned to the District health care Section, *Social-health care and hospital services planning* Department, Health and Social Services Directorate, as the person with the necessary skills to carry out the organizational and technical secretariat activities of the Cochrane Neurological Field. Ms Mahan has also been given the task of liaising between the Cochrane Collaboration and the Region of Umbria and to monitoring, on behalf of the Region, the Cochrane Neurological Field activities considered in this Agreement. The above noted activities fall within the institutional remit of the employee, therefore no further remuneration will be contemplated. For the implementation of the above tasks, the employee can go to the Neurophysiopathology Department at the Perugia Hospital; place of work of the Cochrane Neurological Field Director Dr. Teresa Anna Cantisani,

Head of the Neurophysiopathology Unit, Perugia Hospital. If the presence of the employee is required, for purposes regarding the Cochrane Neurological Field, at courses, conferences or meetings outside her usual place of work, travel expenses, accommodation and meals, duly substantiated, will be covered by the quota already established with the present Agreement or through Cochrane funds, Cochrane will directly verify and provide necessary reimbursement. Travel for work, away from the usual place of work will need to be authorized according to the regulations of the Regional Administration.

**Art. 8**

The present Agreement consists of 2 original copies, made up of an English and an Italian version, and is subject to registration only in the event of use. It is not subject to the Italian tax disc according to Act no. 266, art. 8 paragraph 1, 11.08.1991.

**Art. 9**

Any material produced by the Cochrane Neurological Field with the economic contribution of the Region is to be considered property of both parties, signatories of the present Agreement.

**Art. 10**

Any dispute concerning the interpretation, application, or resolution of this Agreement will be designated to the competent Court in Perugia.

The Cochrane Collaboration

Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Mark Wilson

The Region of Umbria

Direzione Sanità e Servizi Sociali

Il Dirigente del Servizio II

Dr. Gianni Giovannini

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Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

Associazione Network Neurological

President

Dr. Teresa Anna Cantisani

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Date: