3.3: Software available for systematic reviews and meta-analyses

Systematic reviews involve managing large quantities of information. There are various software packages available which can be used to prepare systematic reviews. For example, the Cochrane Collaboration produces a freely available program called RevMan which is a Windows-based software package designed to enter reviews in the Cochrane format. This includes an analysis module (MetaView) for quantitative summaries.

Results of searches from electronic databases can also be automatically downloaded into a reference manager software package, such as EndNote, and, from there, exported into database packages, such as Excel, for review and assessment of abstracts. Standard statistical packages, such as Stata, include modules for meta-analyses.