

World leaders in evidence-informed healthcare and development join for first ever Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town

The Joanna Briggs Institute, together with four other leading organizations in the production and dissemination of evidence for decision making in the global health, social and economic policy and practice sectors - proudly announces the first 'Global Evidence Summit' in Cape Town, South Africa.

Next year, The Joanna Briggs Institute, a global network of researchers, professionals, patients, carers and people working in evidence-based healthcare is joining four other leading organisations- the Guidelines International Network, The Campbell Collaboration, the International Society for Evidence-based Health Care, and Cochrane- to hold the first 'Global Evidence Summit' in Cape Town, South Africa from the 12-16 September.

The theme of the Summit, 'Using Evidence. Improving Lives' will highlight and promote evidence-informed approaches to health policy and development, offering the most cost-effective interventions.

The summit will focus on the opportunities and challenges facing Low and Middle-Income countries, a reason why the Global Evidence Summit (GES), is to be hosted in Cape Town, South Africa. The event is expected to attract up to 2000 delegates and will bring together many parts of the evidence community to promote evidence-informed decision-making worldwide.

Director of host organisation, Cochrane South Africa, Professor Jimmy Volmink says: *"This is a hugely exciting opportunity for the global evidence world. It is the first global meeting of its kind which will highlight how using evidence and information helps people make better decisions to improve lives, as well as enhance capacity development and future research in the fields of health and social development."*

He went on to say: *"This global event will show how the best available evidence, clinical judgment and patient preferences are important components of healthcare decision-making."*

Acting Executive Director of the Joanna Briggs Institute, Associate Professor Craig Lockwood, warmly welcomed today's news: *"This announcement is a landmark moment in global collaboration, and there could be no more symbolic and fitting location than South Africa, a place of history and hope, where collaboration continues to shape knowledge and where peoples have come together, forging a new future."*

The Joanna Briggs Institute opened a collaborating centre in Durban in 2003, then hosted one of South Africa's first evidence-based healthcare conventions in 2006. Returning in 2017 after nearly 15 years of continuous collaboration with clinicians and academics from across Africa is indicative of the Institute's long-term commitment to supporting scientific endeavour, scholarship and best practice at the point of care for health professionals across Africa. JBI stands in partnership with health policymakers and practitioners in Africa, establishing a significant cohort of health professionals skilled and equipped to conduct locally relevant systematic reviews and implementation studies.

In co-hosting this Global Evidence Summit, JBI will continue to work locally and influence globally with partners from around the world as we meet together in Cape Town. This event brings world leading groups in evidence synthesis for policy and practice together with doctors, nurses and allied health professionals in Africa with researchers, policy makers, administrators, thought leaders in their fields in a unique opportunity to connect and collaborate, strengthening existing partnerships and enabling a fresh perspective on evidence-based healthcare."

More detail on dates, registration and the scientific programme will be announced in the coming months. You can find out more at globalevidencesummit.org and follow us: @GESummit

Find out more at globalevidencesummit.org

Twitter: @GESummit

Facebook: facebook.com/globalevidencesummit/

Registration will open in late 2016.

Find out more at:

- Cochrane: cochrane.org
- The Guidelines International Network: g-i-n.net
- The Campbell Collaboration: campbellcollaboration.org
- The International Society for Evidence-based Health Care: isehc.net
- The Joanna Briggs Institute: joannabriggs.org

Press contact:

For further information, please contact,

Michelle Galloway: Cochrane South Africa

E Michelle.Galloway@mrc.ac.za

Jo Anthony: Senior Media and Communications Manager, Cochrane

M +44(0) 7582 726 634 **E** janthony@cochrane.org or pressoffice@cochrane.org