

*Workshop 1.1 Overview*

**Finding, critically appraising, and using a core outcome set (COS) for your trial**

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A core outcome set (COS) is an agreed standardised set of outcomes that should be measured and reported, as a minimum, in all clinical trials in a specific condition. This allows research to be compared and combined as appropriate, ensuring all studies provide usable information. Many organisations endorse the use of COS, including funders who refer applicants to the COMET database to check for a relevant COS. Use of a high-quality COS in clinical trials should ensure that outcomes important to patients, trialists and health care professionals are considered.

Goals for the workshop are: to describe the rationale for using COS in trials, and demonstrate how the COMET database helps to facilitate this; to describe issues to consider when deciding whether a COS is applicable to a specific trial, and whether a COS has been developed using reasonable methods.

The workshop will comprise presentations, discussion, group work and individual activities.