Sir,

With reference to my recent review article published on Cochrane database,[1] which besides emphasizing the importance of this electronic repository pleaded for a national contract with the Cochrane Collaboration, I wish to inform all readers that this has been made freely available to Indians with Internet access (since 29th January 2007). This is a result of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) signing a contract with the international publishing company John Wiley and Sons.[2,3] This has happened soon after the publication of an article in IJS is purely coincidental as I am sure that our professional peers and the scientific fraternity have been working on it for some time. Our thanks to ICMR for funding the contract and enabling India to be the second Asian country after China to buy from the Cochrane Library and offer residents free-critiqued reviews on all aspects of healthcare. I hope that this will encourage more and more Indian doctors including surgeons to keep themselves abreast of the latest evidence and research methodology.

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