To better understand the persistent presence, diversity, and impact of biases, we are compiling a Catalogue of Bias, stemming from original work by David Sackett. The entries are a work in progress and describe a wide range of biases – outlining their potential impact in research studies.

The Catalogue of Bias Collaboration started in June 2017 with a meeting at the Harbour Hotel, Bristol. The first pages were posted in December 2017, and a launch event was held in Oxford at the Practice of Evidence-Based Healthcare module on the 17th January 2018. In 2019 we moved our away day meetings to Ettington Park, in Stratford. We continue to welcome further ideas for content, contributions and collaborations to continually refine and update this resource.

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David Sackett:
Sackett recognised the importance of bias in research. His 1979 paper “Bias in Analytic Research”, published in the Journal of Chronic Diseases, reported the first draft of a ‘catalog of biases which may distort the design, execution, analysis, and interpretation of research.’ Sackett catalogued 35 biases that arise in sampling and measurement, in the context of clinical trials, and listed 56 biases potentially affecting case-control and cohort studies. He proposed the continued development of an annotated catalogue of bias as a priority for research.

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Catalogue of Bias Collaboration: The Collaboration meets regularly to develop and refine the contents of the Catalogue and in between work on updating content.

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Vision
Better research

Mission
To better understand the persistent presence, diversity, and impact of biases.

Values
  Research
  Understanding

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Carl Heneghan :
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Research

Avoid distortion in the design, execution, analysis, and interpretation of research

Bias

Develop a catalogue of bias

Administrative Information

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