

## SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION (STSM) SCIENTIFIC REPORT

This report is submitted for approval by the STSM applicant to the STSM coordinator

**Action number: CA17117**

**STSM title: Resource-intensive steps in systematic reviewing. A qualitative approach**

**STSM start and end date: 20/01/2020 to 01/02/2020**

**Grantee name: Raluca Sfetcu**

### PURPOSE OF THE STSM:

The aim of this STSM was to prepare the Qualitative study task of Activity Group 8 (AG8) within the Work Package 3 (WP3) of the EVBRES Cost Action. More specifically, the Qualitative study task of AG8 aims to conduct a qualitative study interviewing experienced systematic reviewers on their views and experiences concerning factors that make some systematic review steps to need more resources. For this STSM the focus has been on further developing the methodology for the qualitative study (interview guide, selection criteria and developing a short survey for potential interviewees, data analysis strategy), on finalizing the study protocol and preparing it for publication as well as piloting the interview guide.

### DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE STSMS

In order to reach the above-mentioned aims and expected outcomes, during the STSM the recipient of the grant (i.e. Raluca Sfetcu) has worked together with the activity lead (i.e. Ms. Moriah Ellen) in the context of planned working meetings that took place at the office of Ms Moriah Ellen. Several iterations of the protocol, interview, profiling tool and invitation letter have been developed and the application for the ethical approval of the study was submitted at BGU University Ethical Committee. The above mentioned documents have also been revised based on feedback received from the WG3 lead as well as the active members of the A8 group by email. Desktop research and

drafting of the working documents has been performed on individual working hours. Once the interview guide, the short survey for SRs and the invitation letter have been finalised, these have been piloted in a face to face interview with an information specialist working for the Faculty of Health Sciences in Beersheva, Israel, as well as as with an experienced systematic reviewer with a clinical background working for the Johanna Briggs Institute in Adelaide, Australia – via Skype. Subsequently, based on the feedback received and own observations, all the materials have been adjusted.

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN RESULTS OBTAINED**

The study protocol has been updated and edited for publication in the „Management in Health” Journal a letter of interest has been drafted and sent to the journal editors. Based on their favourable reply, the protocol has been submitted to the journal for review. The interview guide has been finalised, piloted and adjusted based on internal and external feedback, as well as the invitation letter and the survey for the potential interviewees. The request for the ethical approval has been submitted at BGU for evaluation by the ethical committee. To summarise, at the end of the STSM the preparation stage for conducting the qualitative study was finalized and all instruments were prepared and are now ready to use, the protocol was finalized and submitted for publication, and the instruments were piloted.

### **FUTURE COLLABORATIONS (if applicable)**

During the STSM there was opportunity for discussing future collaboration. One idea was to cooperate in the framework of an Erasmus+ KA2 grant, together with other EVBRES colleagues, with a focus on developing educational resources in the area of implementation for non-researchers and on developing easy to use implementation tools. Information about PhD and postdoc scholarship openings currently advertised at BGU was provided for subsequent dissemination among potential candidates from Romania.