Frequently Asked Questions

What if there are few to no studies addressing the population of interest (cardiac arrest) but there are other populations that yield interesting information that may be helpful to a different hypothesis?

If this occurs it is appropriate to do the following:

- Contact the Task Force co chairs identifying the secondary hypothesis that can be addressed by the literature
- Once approved by the Task Force co chairs and the worksheet guru add the following to the worksheet
  - Add the secondary hypothesis to the worksheet in the hypothesis area
  - In the tables of evidence categorize the level of evidence according to the primary hypothesis and indicate by a legend and labels which population was addressed in the study i.e. manikin (m), cadaver (c), under anaesthesia (a)
  - In the consensus of science (and treatment recommendations if you wish) should address the secondary hypothesis as well.

Should I include paediatric papers in my review of literature related to a question not identified as a shared with Peds or neonate question?

There are usually very few paediatric papers on subjects. Suggest all worksheets not exclude paediatric papers in their search strategy. If papers are found that may yield evidence and a consensus on science unique to paediatrics it is appropriate to do the following:

- Contact the Task Force co chairs identifying the body of knowledge
- The Task Force co chairs will discuss with the PAEDs cochairs about the possibility of sharing the results of the worksheet with the PAEDs taskforce or alternatively inviting a paediatric worksheet author to review the data as well at the discretion of the PAEDs cochairs

May I use peer reviewed data provided by industry?

If you wish to review peer reviewed data and wish to contact industry to access the data that they site for their product it is appropriate to do the following:

- Contact the Task Force co chairs
- Co chairs will send a letter to the CEO of the company on ILCOR letterhead requesting the complete data set for the peer reviewed manuscript

May I invite a colleague or two to help me with my worksheet?

You may ask coauthors to assist you and when they agree to do so you will need to notify the Task Force chairs in writing. The interested co authors are required to complete the registration process and conflict of interest. The taskforce chairs will have to review the COI and approve the individuals as coauthors once this registration is complete.

Would you tell me who the second author is so I can get in touch with them?

The most current list of authors assigned to questions is posted on the scholars portal. The taskforce chairs update this regularly. In addition we have posted all the authors
potential and confirmed in a single excel spreadsheet which is also posted on this password protected worksheet. The contact information is current to the AHA registration and you may use this information to contact the other author(s) involved in completing a worksheet on the topic. You are encouraged to share search strategies and clarify the question as you go such that you are all working towards a common understanding of the topic.

I am listed as second author. What does this mean in terms of process and authorship? All authors are listed as first, second, third etc. This is a meaningless numbering system and does not refer to author order. Each worksheet author works independently to write his or her worksheet and it will be cited on the ICOR website attributed to the author.

I have been working with our librarian on the worksheet search terms and I would like to be able to talk to someone who can provide some advice as I try to navigate through this for the first time. Is there someone we can contact?

We have very experienced librarian at the AHA that can help you with literature search for your worksheets. You will need to complete the Lit Review form to provide her with more information for the search and send it to Tanya Semenko at tanya.semenko@heart.org.
In addition all instructions are posted to http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ilcor. Please go to Instructions & Forms link on your right. There is also an example worksheet posted there.

I'm having trouble defining what my exclusion criteria should be. Should I just submit my preliminary worksheet with the entry - 'exclusion criteria: none' - and wait for comments then?

The most efficient way to address this is to email your chair/domain leader and the other author(s) assigned to this question to ask for input on the exclusion parameters.

I do not have access to EMBASE. What procedure should I follow to access that database?

Limited number of accounts is still available on www.embase.com for worksheet authors. Please contact Tanya Semenko at tanya.semenko@heart.org for more information.