

PRISMA-S checklist

INFORMATION SOURCES AND METHODS

Database name	1 Name each individual database searched, stating the platform for each.
Multi-database searching	2 If databases were searched simultaneously on a single platform, state the name of the platform, listing all of the databases searched.
Study registries	3 List any study registries searched.
Online resources and browsing	4 Describe any online or print source purposefully searched or browsed (e.g., tables of contents, print conference proceedings, web sites), and how this was done. Indicate whether cited references or citing references were examined, and describe any methods used for locating cited/citing references (e.g., browsing reference lists, using a citation index, setting up email alerts for references citing included studies).
Citation searching	5
Contacts	6 Indicate whether additional studies or data were sought by contacting authors, experts, manufacturers, or others.
Other methods	7 Describe any additional information sources or search methods used.
SEARCH STRATEGIES	
Full search strategies	8 Include the search strategies for each database and information source, copied and pasted exactly as run.
Limits and restrictions	9 Specify that no limits were used, or describe any limits or restrictions applied to a search (e.g., date or time period, language, study design) and provide justification for their use.
Search filters	10 Indicate whether published search filters were used (as originally designed or modified), and if so, cite the filter(s) used.
Prior work	11 Indicate when search strategies from other literature reviews were adapted or reused for a substantive part or all of the search, citing the previous review(s).
Updates	12 Report the methods used to update the search(es) (e.g., rerunning searches, email alerts).
Dates of searches	13 For each search strategy, provide the date when the last search occurred.
PEER REVIEW	
Peer review	14 Describe any search peer review process.
MANAGING RECORDS	
Total records	15 Document the total number of records identified from each database and other information sources.
Deduplication	16 Describe the processes and any software used to deduplicate records from multiple database searches and other information sources.

See PRESS checklist below

The PRISMA-S checklist was first published by:

Rethlefsen, M.L., Kirtley, S., Waffenschmidt, S. *et al.* PRISMA-S: an extension to the PRISMA Statement for Reporting Literature Searches in Systematic Reviews. *Syst Rev* 10, 39 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13643-020-01542-z>

PRESS 2015 Guideline Evidence-Based Checklist

1. Translation of the research question

Does the search strategy match the research question/PICO?
Are the search concepts clear?
Are there too many or too few PICO elements included?
Are the search concepts too narrow or too broad?
Does the search retrieve too many or too few records? (Please show number of hits per line.)
Are unconventional or complex strategies explained?

2. Boolean and proximity operators (these vary based on search service)

Are Boolean or proximity operators used correctly?
Is the use of nesting with brackets appropriate and effective for the search?
If NOT is used, is this likely to result in any unintended exclusions?
Could precision be improved by using proximity operators (eg, adjacent, near, within) or phrase searching instead of AND?
Is the width of proximity operators suitable (eg, might adj5 pick up more variants than adj2)?

3. Subject headings (database specific)

Are the subject headings relevant?
Are any relevant subject headings missing; for example, previous index terms?
Are any subject headings too broad or too narrow?
Are subject headings exploded where necessary and vice versa?
Are major headings ("starring" or restrict to focus) used? If so, is there adequate justification?
Are subheadings missing?
Are subheadings attached to subject headings? (Floating subheadings may be preferred.)
Are floating subheadings relevant and used appropriately?

Are both subject headings and terms in free text (see the following) used for each concept?

4. Text word searching (free text)

Does the search include all spelling variants in free text (eg, UK vs. US spelling)?

Does the search include all synonyms or antonyms (eg, opposites)?

Does the search capture relevant truncation (ie, is truncation at the correct place)?

Is the truncation too broad or too narrow?

Are acronyms or abbreviations used appropriately? Do they capture irrelevant material? Are the full terms also included?

Are the keywords specific enough or too broad? Are too many or too few keywords used? Are stop words used?

Have the appropriate fields been searched; for example, is the choice of the text word fields (.tw.) or all fields (.af.) appropriate? Are there any other fields to be included or excluded (database specific)?

Should any long strings be broken into several shorter search statements?

5. Spelling, syntax, and line numbers

Are there any spelling errors?

Are there any errors in system syntax; for example, the use of a truncation symbol from a different search interface?

Are there incorrect line combinations or orphan lines (ie, lines that are not referred to in the final summation that could indicate an error in an AND or OR statement)?

6. Limits and filters

Are all limits and filters used appropriately and are they relevant given the research question?

Are all limits and filters used appropriately and are they relevant for the database?

Are any potentially helpful limits or filters missing? Are the limits or filters too broad or too narrow? Can any limits or filters be added or taken away?

Are sources cited for the filters used?

Derived from:

McGowan J, Sampson M, Salzwedel DM, Cogo E, Foerster V, Lefebvre C. PRESS Peer Review of Electronic Search Strategies: 2015 Guideline Statement. J Clin Epidemiol. 2016 Jul;75:40-6. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2016.01.021>