

Scoping Reviews in 6 Steps:



Curated by
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01. Identifying the Research Question

- A preliminary search of literature will help determine: (1) breadth of question; (2) previous reviews; (3) sufficient literature to warrant a scoping review
- Consulting with a librarian will help to decide if a scoping review is appropriate and ways to refine/broaden research question



02. Identifying Relevant Studies

- Consult early with a librarian to build the search strategy, including keywords, Medical Subject Headings, and databases
- Define inclusion and exclusion criteria. Discussions with team members are critical to ensure diverse perspectives



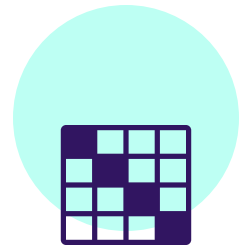
03. Selecting Studies to Include

- Using tools like Covidence or Rayyan can streamline the screening process
- Two reviewers for each paper is ideal but not always feasible. One reviewer can conduct an independent review with a second reviewer verifying a portion
- Agreement between reviewers should not be lower than 90%
- Reviewing papers by title alone is insufficient



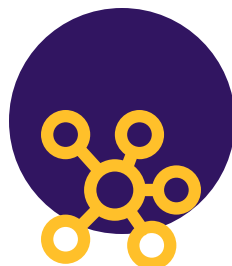
04. Charting the Data

- Data extraction form is developed collaboratively with the team
- Common categories are: author, year, geographical location, study population, main results, study limitations, and future directions
- Data extraction form needs to be piloted with 5 - 10 papers for calibration amongst team members and refined, as needed



05. Collating, Summarizing, and Reporting Results

- Numerical analysis can be presented in table or chart to showcase most salient aspects of the review
- Thematic analysis consists of examining excerpts of text and creating a code that reflects that text to illustrate patterns across the dataset (themes)
- Reflexivity is essential, particularly during thematic analysis, and can be captured through memos
- Readers should be able to see alignment of findings with objectives of the review



06. Consulting Stakeholders (Optional)

- Stakeholder consultation may provide insights on a topic, research question, and/or sources of information
- May shed light on review findings and pinpoint gaps not explored in the literature
- Although named as the final step, can be incorporated throughout the review stages through focus groups, individual interviews, or surveys

