

Define criteria for inclusion and exclusion

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Steps in conducting a SR

1. Formulate the question
- 2. Define criteria for inclusion- and exclusion**
3. Identify (locate) studies
4. Select studies
5. Assess methodological quality of studies (bias)
6. Extract data
7. Analyse data
8. GRADE
9. Present and interpret results

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Objective

Be able to formulate inclusion- and exclusion criteria based on the research question



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Elements of the research question usually translate directly into eligibility criteria for the systematic review

- Population
 - E.g. definition of the condition, subgroups, demographic factors, setting
- Intervention
 - Variations in the intervention
 - E.g. main content, duration, frequency, mode, deliverer
- Comparison
 - No intervention/placebo/other intervention
- Outcome
 - «Hard»: morbidity, mortality
 - Patient-reported: e.g. quality of life, function, perceived pain intensity
 - «Surrogate»: clinical laboratory tests

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Task-sharing interventions for cardiovascular risk reduction and lipid outcomes in low- and middle-income countries: A systematic review and meta-analysis



T. N. Anand, MPH¹, Linju M. Joseph, MSc¹, A. V. Geetha, MSc, Joyita Chowdhury, PhD, Dorairaj Prabhakaran, MD, DM, MSc, FRCP, FNASC, Panniyammakal Jeemon, PhD, MPH, FRSPH, FESC*

● **Inclusion criteria**

- Study design: RCTs, observational studies, before- and after studies
- Setting: low- and middle income countries; primary health center or hospital
- Intervention: task-shared intervention delivered by nurses or non-physician health care workers
- Outcomes: total cholesterol (TC), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-c), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-c), and triglycerides (TGs)

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● **Exclusion criteria**

- Studies with patient's knowledge, attitudes, or intentions as outcome variables without measuring any of the relevant lipid outcomes
- Interventions that involve only peer groups
- Tasksharing activities that are exclusive to traditional healers
- Promotion of self-care management
- Informal care giver health education
- Studies that do not report a change in TC or LDL-c

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- Decide eligibility criteria for a systematic review based on the structured research question you made in the previous exercise – focus on P and E/I/I
- Swap criteria with your neighbour
 - Do the criteria appear relevant?
 - Need for further precision, if any?
- Discuss with your neighbour

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