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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Systematic review literature search workshop

Welcome and introduction

November 19, 2010



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Introductions

What is your area of interest/faculty/department?

What are you currently working on?

What are you hoping to take away from today's session?



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What is a systematic review?

- A review in which specified and appropriate methods that are intended to limit bias and random error have been used to identify, appraise, and summarize studies addressing a defined question. It can, but need not, involve meta-analysis.
- Includes a comprehensive search of all potentially relevant articles and the use of explicit, **reproducible** criteria in the selection of articles for review.



What is a meta-analysis?

- A statistical technique that summarizes the results of several studies in a single weighted estimate, in which more weight is given to results of studies with more events and sometimes to studies of higher quality.



Qualitative or mixed-method systematic reviews

- Qualitative research is concerned with the subjective world and offers insight into social, emotional, and experiential phenomena.
- Current trend toward development of a more systematic approach to the utilization of the complex evidence base, including research and non-research sources, both quantitative and qualitative findings.
- Many different approaches are in use or under development, e.g. Bayesian meta-analysis, critical interpretive synthesis, realist synthesis, qualitative cross-case analysis, meta-narrative mapping.



The systematic review process

Stage 1: Planning the Review

Step 1 – Forming a review panel

Step 2 – Mapping the field of study

Step 3 – Producing a review protocol

Stage 2: Identifying and evaluating studies

Step 4 – Conducting a systematic search

Step 5 – Evaluating studies

Stage 3: Extracting and synthesising data

Step 6 – Conducting data extraction

Step 7 – Conducting data synthesis

Stage 4: Reporting

Step 8 – Reporting the findings

Stage 5: Utilising the findings

Step 9 – Informing research

Step 10 – Informing practice



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The plan for today

9.00 – 9.30	Introductions and overview with coffee
9.30 – 10.30	Planning the search – creating a framework and identifying searchable terms
10.30 – 10.45	Refreshment break
10.45 – 12.15	Searching tips and techniques
12:15 – 12:30	Grant considerations
12.30 – 1.30	Lunch on your own
1.30 – 2.15	Selecting sources, including grey literature
2.15 – 2.30	Coffee break
2.30 – 3:15	Managing and documenting the citation gathering and review process
3.15 – 4.00	Unfinished business, consults, practice, evaluation



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