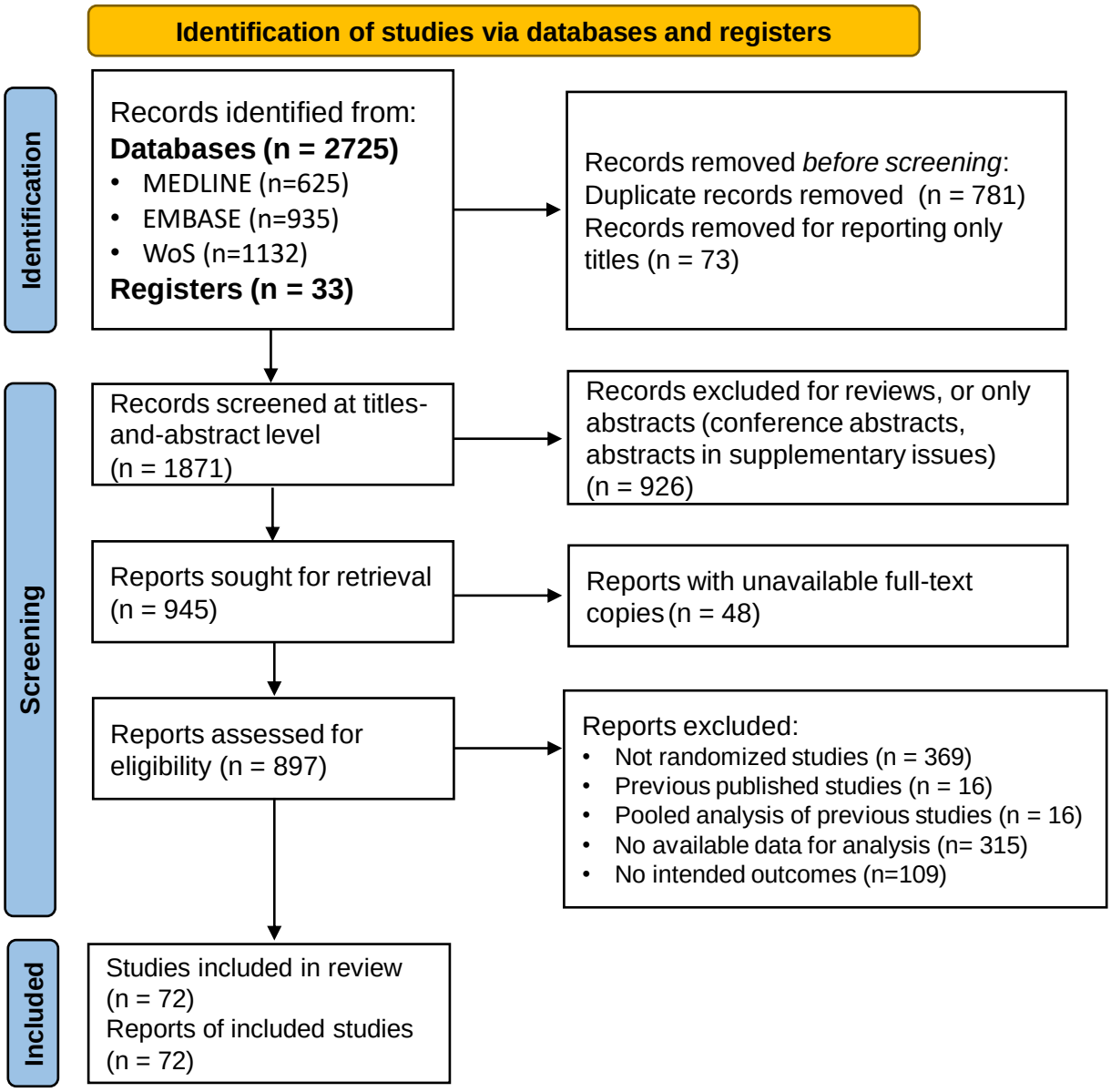
Identification of studies via databases and registers
Identification
Records identified from:
Databases (n = 2725)
• MEDLINE (n=625)
• EMBASE (n=935)
• WoS (n=1132)
Registers (n = 33)
Records removed before screening:
Duplicate records removed (n = 781)
Records removed for reporting only titles (n = 73)
Screening
Records screened at titles-and-abstract level (n = 1871)
Records excluded for reviews, or only abstracts (conference abstracts, abstracts in supplementary issues) (n = 926)
Reports sought for retrieval (n = 945)
Reports with unavailable full-text copies (n = 48)
Reports assessed for eligibility (n = 897)
Reports excluded:
• Not randomized studies (n = 369)
• Previous published studies (n = 16)
• Pooled analysis of previous studies (n = 16)
• No available data for analysis (n= 315)
• No intended outcomes (n=109)
Included
Studies included in review (n = 72)
Reports of included studies (n = 72)