

Reducing social isolation in older people: a systematic review protocol

Supplementary files

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Supplementary file 1: PRISMA-P checklist

Table A.1: PRISMA-P 2015 checklist

Section and topic	Item No.	Checklist Item	Reported on page #
A) Administrative Information			
Identification	1a	Identify the report as a protocol of a systematic review	1
Update	1b	Identify protocol as an update of a previous systematic review if applicable	n/a
Registration	2	Name of registry and registration number	2
B) Authors			
Contact		Provide name, institutional affiliation, e-mail address of all protocol authors; provide physical mailing address of corresponding author	1
Contributions		Describe contributions of protocol authors and identify the guarantor of the review	1 + 6 + 7
Amendments		If the protocol represents an amendment of a previously completed or published protocol, identify as such and list changes; otherwise, state plan for documenting important protocol amendments	n/a
Support			
- Sources	5a	Indicate Sources of financial or other support for the review	10
- Sponsor	5b	Provide name for the review funder and/or sponsor	9
- Role of sponsor or funder	5c	Describe roles of funder(s), sponsor(s) and/or institution(s), if any, in developing the protocol	n/a
C) Introduction			
Rationale	6	Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known	3 + 4
Objectives	7	Provide an explicit statement of the question(s) the review will address with reference to participants, interventions, comparators, and outcomes (PICO)	3 + 4
D) Methods			
Eligibility Criteria	8	Specify the study characteristics (such as PICO, study design, setting, time frame) and report characteristics (such as years considered, language, publication status) to be used as criteria for eligibility for the review	5
Information Sources	9	Describe all intended information sources (such as electronic databases, contact with study authors, trial registers or other grey literature sources) with planned dates of coverage	5 + 6
Search Strategy	10	Present draft of search strategy to be used for at least one electronic database, including planned limits, such that it could be repeated	5 + Additional file 2
E) Study Records			
Data Management	11a	Describe the mechanism(s) that will be used to manage records and data throughout the review	6
Selection Process	11b	State the process that will be used for selecting studies (such as two independent reviewers) through each phase of the review (that is, screening, eligibility and inclusion in meta-analysis)	5 - 7
Data Collection Process	11c	Describe planned method of extracting data from reports (such as piloting forms, done independently, in duplicate), any processes for obtaining and confirming data from investigators	6 + 8 + Additional file 3
Data Items	12	List and define all variables for which data will be sought (such as PICO items, funding sources), any pre-planned data assumptions and simplifications	6
Outcomes and prioritization	13	List and define all outcomes for which data will be sought, including prioritization of main and additional outcomes, with rationale	6

Section and topic	Item No.	Checklist Item	Reported on page #
Risk of bias in individual studies	14	Describe anticipated methods for assessing risk of bias of individual studies, including whether this will be done at the outcome or study level, or both; state how this information will be used in data synthesis	7
Data Synthesis	15a	Describe criteria under which study data will be quantitatively synthesised	7 + 8
	15b	If data are appropriate for quantitative synthesis, describe planned summary measures, methods of handling data and methods of combining data from studies, including any planned exploration of consistency	7 + 8
	15c	Describe any proposed additional analyses (such as sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression)	7 + 8
	15d	If quantitative synthesis is not appropriate, describe the type of summary planned	7 + 8
Meta-bias(es)	16	Specify any planned assessment of meta-bias(es) (such as publication bias across studies, selective reporting within studies)	7
Confidence in cumulative evidence	17	Describe how the strength of the body of evidence will be assessed	7

Supplementary file 2: Search strategy

Table A.2.1: Ovid MEDLINE and Embase- search date 15/01/16

Searches	Search Terms
1	exp "Aged, 80 and over"/ or exp Aged/
2	older*.ti,ab.
3	elder*.ti,ab.
4	senior*.ti,ab.
5	geriatric.ti,ab.
6	aged.ti,ab.
7	OR/1-6
8	Social Isolation/
9	Loneliness/
10	isolation.ti,ab.
11	loneliness.ti,ab.
12	(social* adj3 isolat*).ti,ab.
13	(emotional* adj3 isolat*).ti,ab.
14	OR/ 8-13
15	exp Social Support/
16	"social support*".ti,ab.
17	loss.ti,ab.
18	access.ti,ab.
19	(social* adj3 activ*).ti,ab.
20	"social network*".ti,ab.
21	"social intervention*".ti,ab.
22	(promot* or prevent* or support* or self-help or "self help" or educat*).ti,ab.
23	Self Care/
24	exp Policy/
25	policy.ti,ab.
26	program*.ti,ab
27	OR/ 15-26
28	7 AND 14 AND 27
29	limit 28 to yr="1995 -Current"

ti: title; ab: abstract

Table A.2.2: PsycINFO - search date 15/01/16

Searches	Search Terms
1	exp "Aged, 80 and over"/ or exp Aged/
2	older*.ti,ab.
3	elder*.ti,ab.
4	senior*.ti,ab.
5	geriatric.ti,ab.
6	aged.ti,ab.
7	OR/1-6
8	Social Isolation/
9	Loneliness/
10	isolation.ti,ab.
11	loneliness.ti,ab.
12	(social* adj3 isolat*).ti,ab.
13	(emotional* adj3 isolat*).ti,ab.
14	OR/ 8-13
15	exp Social Support/
16	"social support*".ti,ab.
17	loss.ti,ab.
18	access.ti,ab.
19	(social* adj3 activ*).ti,ab.
20	"social network*".ti,ab.
21	"social intervention*".ti,ab.
22	(promot* or prevent* or support* or self-help or "self help" or educat*).ti,ab.
23	Self Care/
24	exp Policy Making/ or exp Health Care Policy/ or exp Government Policy Making/
25	policy.ti,ab.
26	program*.ti,ab
27	OR/ 15-26
28	7 AND 14 AND 27
29	limit 28 to yr="1995 -Current"

ti: title; ab: abstract

Table A.2.3: Cinahl - search date 15/01/16

Searches	Search Terms
1	exp "Aged, 80 and over"/ or exp Aged/
2	older*.ti,ab.
3	elder*.ti,ab.
4	senior*.ti,ab.
5	geriatric.ti,ab.
6	aged.ti,ab.
7	OR/1-6
8	Social Isolation/
9	Loneliness/
10	isolation.ti,ab.
11	loneliness.ti,ab.
12	(social* adj3 isolat*).ti,ab.
13	(emotional* adj3 isolat*).ti,ab.
14	OR/ 8-13
15	exp "Support, Psychosocial+"/
16	"social support*".ti,ab.
17	loss.ti,ab.
18	access.ti,ab.
19	(social* adj3 activ*).ti,ab.
20	"social network*".ti,ab.
21	"social intervention*".ti,ab.
22	(promot* or prevent* or support* or self-help or "self help" or educat*).ti,ab.
23	Self Care/
24	(MH "Public Policy+") OR (MH "Policy Making") OR (MH "Policy Studies+") OR (MH "Health Policy Studies") OR (MH "Health Policy+") OR (MH "Policy and Procedure Manuals") OR (MH "Organizational Policies+") OR (MH "Hospital Policies+")
25	policy.ti,ab.
26	program*.ti,ab
27	OR/ 15-27
28	7 AND 14 AND 27
29	limit 28 to yr="1995 -Current"

ti: title; ab: abstract

Table A.2.4: ASSIA - search date 20/01/16**Search Terms**

((SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Terminally ill elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Disabled elderly women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Low income elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Visually impaired elderly women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Visually impaired elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Terminally ill elderly women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Widowed elderly men") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Married elderly men") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Terminally ill elderly men") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Language disordered elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly widows") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Mentally ill elderly women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly husbands") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Remarried elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly fathers") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Sick elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Learning disabled elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Mentally ill elderly men") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Divorced elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Sick elderly women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Emotionally disturbed elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Disabled elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly married couples") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly mothers") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Mentally ill elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Disabled elderly men" OR "Elderly men" OR "Married elderly men" OR "Mentally ill elderly men" OR "Terminally ill elderly men" OR "Widowed elderly men") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Single elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly relatives") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Disabled elderly men") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Brain damaged elderly people" OR "Centenarians" OR "Disabled elderly people" OR "Divorced elderly people" OR "Elderly people" OR "Emotionally disturbed elderly people" OR "Gifted elderly people" OR "Hearing impaired elderly people" OR "Homeless elderly people" OR "Housebound elderly people" OR "Language disordered elderly people" OR "Learning disabled elderly people" OR "Low income elderly people" OR "Mentally ill elderly people" OR "Remarried elderly people" OR "Retired people" OR "Sick elderly people" OR "Single elderly people" OR "Terminally ill elderly people" OR "Visually impaired elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Blind-Deaf elderly women" OR "Disabled elderly women" OR "Elderly women" OR "Married elderly women" OR "Mentally ill elderly women" OR "Sick elderly women" OR "Single elderly women" OR "Terminally ill elderly women" OR "Visually impaired elderly women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Homeless elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Married elderly women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Hearing impaired elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Housebound elderly people") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly housing assistance programmes") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly parents")) OR (ab(older* OR elder* OR senior* OR geriatric OR aged) OR ti(older* OR elder* OR senior* OR geriatric OR aged))) AND (SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Isolation" OR "Purdah" OR "Seclusion") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Loneliness") OR (ti(isolation OR loneliness OR (social* NEAR/3 isolat*) OR (emotion* NEAR/3 isolat*)) OR ab(isolation OR loneliness OR (social* NEAR/3 isolat*) OR (emotion* NEAR/3 isolat*))) AND ((SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Computer based social support" OR "Perceived social support" OR "Social support") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Perceived social support")) OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Selfcare") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Agricultural policy" OR "Colonial policy" OR "Constitutional policy" OR "Criminal justice policy" OR "Criminal policy" OR "Economic policy" OR "Energy policy" OR "Environmental policy" OR "Fiscal equalization" OR "Fiscal policy" OR "Foreign policy" OR "Health policy" OR "Housing policy" OR "Incomes policy" OR "Industrial policy" OR "Mental health policy" OR "Monetary policy" OR "Organizational policy" OR "Penal policy" OR "Policy" OR "Public health policy" OR "Public policy" OR "Regional policy" OR "Science policy" OR "Social housing policy" OR "Social policy" OR "Technological policy" OR "Transport policy" OR "Urban policy" OR "Welfare policy") OR (ab("social support*") OR ti("social support*")) OR (ab(loss) OR ti(loss)) OR (ab(access) OR ti(access)) OR (ab((social* NEAR/3 activ*) OR "social network*" OR "social intervention*") OR ti((social* NEAR/3 activ*) OR "social network*" OR "social intervention*")) OR (ab(promot* OR prevent* OR support* OR self-help OR "self help" OR educat*) OR ti(promot* OR prevent* OR support* OR self-help OR "self help" OR educat*)) OR (ab(policy OR program*) OR ti(policy OR program*)))

Table A.2.5: LILACS - search date 21/01/16**Search Terms**

(aged OR older* OR elder* OR senior* OR geriatric) AND (isolat* OR loneliness) AND ("social support*" OR loss OR access OR "social* activ*" OR "social network*" OR "social intervention*" OR promot* OR prevent* OR support* OR self-help OR "self help" OR educat* OR policy OR program*)

Table A.2.6: OpenGrey - search date 21/01/16

Search Terms
(aged OR older* OR elder* OR senior* OR geriatric) AND (isolat* OR loneliness) AND ("social support*" OR loss OR access OR "social* activ*" OR "social network*" OR "social intervention*" OR promot* OR prevent* OR support* OR self-help OR "self help" OR educat* OR policy OR program*))

Table A.2.7: The Cochrane Library – search date 21/01/16

Searches	Search Terms
1	MeSH descriptor: [Aged] explode all trees
2	older* or aged or elder* or senior* or geriatric.ti,ab.
3	#1 or #2
4	MeSH descriptor: [Social Isolation] explode all trees
5	isolation.ti,ab.
6	loneliness.ti,ab.
7	(social* near/3 isolat*) .ti,ab.
8	(emotional* near/3 isolat*) .ti,ab.
9	#4 or #5 or #6 or #7 or #8
10	MeSH descriptor: [Social Support] explode all trees
11	"social support*" .ti,ab.
12	loss.ti,ab.
13	access.ti,ab.
14	(social* near/3 activ*) .ti,ab.
15	"social network*" .ti,ab.
16	"social intervention*" .ti,ab.
17	(promot* or prevent* or support* or self-help or "self help" or educat*) .ti,ab.
18	MeSH descriptor: [Self Care] explode all trees
19	MeSH descriptor: [Policy] explode all trees
20	policy.ti,ab.
21	program*.ti,ab.
22	#10 or #11 or #12 or #13 or #14 or #15 or #16 or #17 or #18 or #19 or #20 or #21
23	#3 and #9 and #22
	Limit by date: 1995 to present

ti: title; ab: abstract

Supplementary file 3: Pro-forma for Data Extraction

Reviewer	
Date form completed	

Study Details

Title	
Author	
Year Published	
Journal	
Location (country/city)	
Language (if not English)	

		Location in text (page/figure/table/other)
Type of study	Randomised controlled trial <input type="checkbox"/> Non-randomised controlled trial <input type="checkbox"/> Controlled before and after study <input type="checkbox"/> Uncontrolled before and after study <input type="checkbox"/>	
A. Start Date	A.	
B. End Date	B.	
Outcomes Measured (aims)		

Participants

		Location in text (page/figure/table/other)
Setting	Large population in unspecified setting <input type="checkbox"/> Community: <input type="checkbox"/> Supported living <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Type of Participants		
Enrolment Eligibility		
A. Inclusion Criteria	A.	
B. Exclusion Criteria	B.	
Recruitment process (e.g. phone, mail, clinic)		
Total number randomised (or total population for non-RCT)		
Age range (mean age)		
Gender (% female)		
Ethnicity		
Sample size		
Any other relevant sociodemographic information		
Any subgroups established		
Notes		

Intervention

		Location in text (page/figure/table/other)
Intervention	Description	
	Duration of each intervention episode	
	Duration of intervention studied (total study duration)	
	Frequency (daily/weekly etc.)	
	Provider (i.e. no., profession, training)	
	Economic information (cost, resource requirements)	
Type of intervention	Group Intervention	Community based: At home <input type="checkbox"/> Centralised location <input type="checkbox"/> Supported Living* <input type="checkbox"/>
	One-to-one Intervention	Community based: At home <input type="checkbox"/> Centralised location <input type="checkbox"/> Supported Living* <input type="checkbox"/>
	Focus of intervention	Social skills training <input type="checkbox"/> Enhanced social support <input type="checkbox"/> Increased opportunity for social interaction <input type="checkbox"/> Social cognitive training <input type="checkbox"/> Provision of services** <input type="checkbox"/> Other..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Intervention Mode	Technology assisted <input type="checkbox"/> Non-technology assisted <input type="checkbox"/>	
Compliance		
Notes		

Outcomes

	Description as stated in paper/report	Location in text (page/figure/table/other)
Measure of social isolation/loneliness		
Outcome tool validated	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear <input type="checkbox"/>	
Any outcomes other than social isolation/loneliness measured?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Details	
	No <input type="checkbox"/>	

Results: effect of the intervention on social isolation or loneliness

		Location in text (page/figure/ table/other)					
Comparison							
Outcome							
Subgroup							
Time point (from start or end of intervention)							
Results	Intervention	Comparison					
	Mean	SD (or other variance, specify)	No participants	Mean	SD (or other variance, specify)	No participants	
Effect size	Effect size: _____ Standard error: _____ Inverse variance: _____ 95% confidence interval: _____						
Any other results reported (e.g. Odds ratio)							
Statistical method used							
Notes							

Results: effects of the intervention on other outcome continuous variables

		Location in text (page/figure/ table/other)					
Comparison							
Outcome							
Subgroup							
Time point (from start or end of intervention)							
Results	Intervention	Comparison					
	Mean	SD (or other variance, specify)	No participants	Mean	SD (or other variance, specify)	No participants	
Effect size	Effect size: _____ Standard error: _____ Inverse variance: _____ 95% confidence interval: _____						
Any other results reported (e.g. Odds ratio)							
Statistical Method used							
Notes							

Results: effect of the intervention on other outcome categorical variables

					Location in text (page/figure/table/other)
Comparison					
Outcome					
Subgroup					
Time point (from start or end of intervention)					
Results	Intervention		Comparison		
	No. with event	No. in group	No. with event	No. in group	
Effect size (95% CI)					
Any other results reported (e.g. Odds ratio)					
Statistical method used					
Notes					

Other Information

					Location in text (page/figure/table/other)
Author's conclusions					
References to other relevant studies					
Reviewer's conclusions					
Notes					

*Residential or nursing care

**Provision of services such as transport, medical services, etc.