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# BMJ Open

## Occupational justice and social inclusion in mental illness and HIV: A scoping review protocol

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1 **Title:** Occupational justice and social inclusion in mental illness and HIV: A scoping review  
2 protocol.

3 \*Clement Nhunzvi<sup>1,2,4</sup>; Lisa Langhaug<sup>4</sup>; Edwin Mavindidze<sup>3</sup>; Richard Harding<sup>5</sup> & Roshan  
4 Galvaan<sup>2</sup>

5 \* **Corresponding author: Clement Nhunzvi**

6 Department of Rehabilitation  
7 University of Zimbabwe, College of Health Sciences  
8 P.O. Box A178  
9 Avondale, Harare  
10 Zimbabwe  
11 [clemynhu@gmail.com](mailto:clemynhu@gmail.com); [nhncle001@myuct.ac.za](mailto:nhncle001@myuct.ac.za)  
12 TEL: [+263 4 797800](tel:+2634797800) Cell: +263 775 814 587

### 13 **Affiliations**

14 <sup>1</sup> Department of Rehabilitation, College of Health Sciences. University of Zimbabwe.  
15 Zimbabwe.

16 <sup>2</sup> Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, University  
17 of Cape Town. South Africa.

18 <sup>3</sup> Occupational Therapy Department, Ingutsheni Central Hospital, Bulawayo. Zimbabwe.

19 <sup>4</sup> African Mental Health Research Initiative (AMARI), Department of Psychiatry, College of  
20 Health Sciences. University of Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe.

21 <sup>5</sup> Centre for Global Health Palliative Care, Kings College London. UK.

22 **Keywords:** social inclusion, occupational justice, scoping review protocol, HIV, mental  
23 disorders

24 **Word count:** 2283

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3 26 **Abstract**  
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5 27 **Introduction:** As chronic and stigmatised conditions, mental illness and HIV remain  
6 28 prevalent, and a global public health concern. Disability-adjusted life years due to comorbid  
7 29 neuropsychiatric conditions and HIV are rising. Occupational justice and social inclusion  
8 30 emphasise the importance of equity and the utility of resources and opportunities for all to  
9 31 engage in diverse, healthy, and meaningful activities. However, succinct conceptualisation of  
10 32 social inclusion and occupational justice, including the relationship between these concepts is  
11 33 still limited. This hampers their effective utilisation in research and practice. Here, we present  
12 34 our scoping review protocol to appraise literature to describe and explain the state of  
13 35 conceptualisation of occupational justice and social inclusion in relation to mental illness and  
14 36 HIV. We are aiming to review the definitions, current utilisation, and relationships between  
15 37 occupational justice and social inclusion to inform further theorisation and practice  
16 38 application.

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20 39 **Methods and analysis:** This scoping review protocol follows existing guidelines for scoping  
21 40 reviews in occupational therapy with particular attention on Arksey and O'Malley's (2005)  
22 41 Scoping Review Framework. We iteratively developed a search strategy and carried out our  
23 42 search using the following databases: PubMed, Scopus, Academic Search Premier,  
24 43 Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), Africa-Wide  
25 44 Information, Humanities International Complete, Web of Science, PsychInfo, and  
26 45 SocINDEX. Two reviewers will independently screen eligible studies for inclusion.  
27 46 Bibliographic data, abstract content, and aspects of the study design and findings will be  
28 47 extracted and thematically analysed.

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32 48 **Ethics and dissemination:** As secondary analysis, this scoping review does not require  
33 49 ethics approval. Results will summarise and disseminate existing research related to  
34 50 occupational justice and social inclusion in mental health and HIV/AIDS care, describing the  
35 51 conceptualisation, relationships between concepts and identifying gaps for further research  
36 52 and practical application. We will disseminate the results through peer-reviewed journals and  
37 53 conferences, targeting clinicians, academics, researchers, and policy makers.

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3 55 **Title: Occupational justice and social inclusion in mental illness and HIV: A scoping review**  
4 56 **protocol**

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7 57 **Strengths and limitations of this study**

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9 58 • The breadth of chronic and stigmatised conditions, social inclusion and occupational  
10 59 justice and need for a comprehensive and systematic description of research activity  
11 60 and gaps, makes the scoping review a particularly useful methodology.  
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14 61 • A plausible strategy to identify research foci and knowledge gaps related to social  
15 62 inclusion and occupational justice in chronic and stigmatised conditions is presented.  
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18 63 • Based on the multidimensional nature of the concepts under review, methods on how  
19 64 to synthesise research data from diverse designs is put in place.  
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22 65 • Focus is on conceptual and theoretical aspects and not on outcomes of interventions  
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25 66 • Data synthesis will be limited to peer reviewed work published in English.  
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## 67 Introduction

68 There is a growing public health concern over the complex relationship between mental  
69 illness and HIV.<sup>1,2</sup> This is especially so in contexts where the prevalence of HIV among  
70 mental health service users is as high as 25% in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>3,4</sup> Disability-adjusted life  
71 years (DALYs) due to comorbid neuropsychiatric conditions and HIV is rising, with 80% of  
72 DALYs in sub-Saharan Africa resulting from mental illness and HIV.<sup>5,6</sup> Chronic conditions  
73 such as mental illness and HIV are still stigmatised and discriminated against,<sup>3</sup> notably so in  
74 comorbid cases, thereby making health and social well-being outcomes fundamental beyond  
75 biomedical stabilisation. Developing a better understanding of the occupational justice and  
76 social inclusion needs of the affected groups will support intervention development.  
77 Occupational justice is a growing concept in occupational science and therapy<sup>7-9</sup> that can  
78 help shape the care for people who are living with highly stigmatized chronic conditions,  
79 including mental illness and HIV.<sup>10,11</sup> Occupational justice's relevance to highly stigmatised  
80 chronic conditions can be traced to its emphasis on social determinants of health and social  
81 inclusion as outcomes.<sup>11</sup> Similarly, social inclusion is receiving increased attention in mental  
82 health<sup>12,13</sup> and physical conditions such as HIV. There is a growing emphasis on person-  
83 centred outcomes for interventions promoting general health and mental health, with social  
84 inclusion as an ultimate goal when improving mental health.<sup>14,15</sup>

85 Occupational justice is defined as equity and fairness for individuals, groups and  
86 communities regarding resources and opportunities for their engagement in diverse, healthy  
87 and meaningful occupations.<sup>7,9</sup> For example, a patient living with a chronic and stigmatised  
88 condition who lacks occupational justice (occupational injustice) may be denied meaningful  
89 employment because of his/her condition, rather than because of his/her qualifications, or  
90 may not be given reasonable accommodations in the workplace. Social inclusion is defined as  
91 a multi-dimensional process or state where prevailing conditions enable full and active  
92 participation in all aspects of everyday life.<sup>12,16</sup> These aspects include civic, social, economic,  
93 and political activities, as well as participation in decision making processes irrespective of  
94 personal characteristic differences.<sup>12,16</sup> For someone living with a chronic and stigmatised  
95 condition, social inclusion would mean availing themselves of resources and opportunities at  
96 macro-level, targeting all marginalised groups in that community. Focusing on social  
97 inclusion in the management of mental illness and HIV makes it possible to consider a  
98 person's life satisfaction, quality of life, social well-being, and equality issues in all levels of  
99 their care, a drive that can potentially benefit from occupational justice.

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3 100 However, to aid our understanding, integration, and utilisation of occupational justice and  
4 101 social inclusion in practice, we need to better understand the conceptualisation and  
5 102 relationship between occupational justice and social inclusion. These two concepts are  
6 103 potentially key in informing the promotion of sustainable person and community-centred  
7 104 recovery with reference to chronic, and stigmatised conditions.<sup>14,15</sup> Despite limited  
8 105 exploration of these concepts in relation to each other, they share notions of human rights and  
9 106 justice, with an emphasis on marginalised and disadvantaged population groups. We aim to  
10 107 review and appraise the definitions, current utilisation, and relationships between these  
11 108 concepts. This will inform further theorisation and application in practice, of occupational  
12 109 justice and social inclusion in comorbid mental illness and HIV.

## 19 110 **Methods**

21 111 Due to the novelty of the area and diverse disciplinary location of existing literature, we  
22 112 propose a scoping review design to achieve our aim.<sup>17,18</sup> A scoping review is a form of  
23 113 knowledge synthesis that addresses an exploratory research question rather than the highly  
24 114 focused question needed for a systematic review.<sup>17,18</sup> The scoping review aims to map key  
25 115 concepts, types of evidence and gaps in research related to a defined area by systematically  
26 116 searching, selecting, and synthesizing existing knowledge.<sup>18-20</sup> The breadth of the area and  
27 117 need for a comprehensive and systematic picture of research activity and gaps, makes the  
28 118 scoping review an appropriate methodology in this protocol.

30 119 This scoping review protocol follows Arksey and O'Malley's Scoping Review framework<sup>18</sup>,  
31 120 guidelines for scoping reviews in occupational therapy<sup>20</sup>, and relevant examples of scoping  
32 121 review protocols.<sup>21,22</sup> The five stages we will follow are:

33 122 Stage 1: Identifying the research question

34 123 Stage 2: Identifying relevant studies

35 124 Stage 3: Study selection

36 125 Stage 4: Charting the data

37 126 Stage 5: Collating, summarising and reporting the results

38 127 Each of the stages planned for the scoping review are described below.

### 39 128 **Stage 1: Identifying the research question**

40 129 An iterative process of refining the research question as a team of authors<sup>18</sup> was followed in  
41 130 order to generate a guiding research question. The process of refining the question was  
42 131 shaped by reflecting on familiar and available literature in the subject area of occupational

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3 132 justice and social inclusion in occupational therapy, mental health practice, and HIV. To  
4 133 facilitate a comprehensive review of the literature, a somewhat broad question was needed,  
5 134 inclusive of the study constructs of interest.<sup>18</sup> Based on the subject area terminology,  
6 135 literature, and our understanding of current practice trends in managing chronic, stigmatised  
7 136 and discriminated against conditions, and the concepts of occupational justice and social  
8 137 inclusion, we asked the following question:

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13 138 What is the extent of conceptualisation regarding the definitions, current utilisation, and  
14 139 relationships between occupational justice and social inclusion in highly stigmatised and  
15 140 chronic conditions such as mental illness and HIV?

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19 141 Subsequently, the following aim and objectives were formulated:

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21 142 **Aim:** to review and appraise the definitions, current utilisation, and relationships between  
22 143 occupational justice and social inclusion among people with mental illness and HIV and  
23 144 identify areas for further knowledge development and utilisation.

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26 145 **Objectives:**

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29 146 • To identify existing research that utilised concepts of occupational justice and  
30 147 social inclusion in mental health and HIV care.  
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32 148 • To describe the conceptualisation of, and research into, the concepts of  
33 149 occupational justice and social inclusion with reference to two highly  
34 150 stigmatised and chronic conditions, that is mental illness and HIV.  
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36 151 • To identify relationships between occupational justice and social inclusion in  
37 152 the mental health and HIV literature.  
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39 153 • To determine potential areas for further development, integration, and  
40 154 application of these concepts in mental health and HIV and AIDS care.

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44 155 **Stage 2 Identifying relevant studies**

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46 156 Although the aim of a scoping review can be broad, parameters must still guide the search  
47 157 strategy.<sup>18</sup> With the help of a health sciences librarian, the first and last authors developed  
48 158 provisional eligibility criteria, exclusion criteria and identified relevant databases to be  
49 159 searched. This iterative process aimed to identify a specific search strategy and inclusive  
50 160 search terms. We ran trial searches with different combinations to determine whether our  
51 161 strategy yielded key literature.

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56 162 The following steps highlight these:



## 163 Selection criteria

164 The literature search will use the following inclusion criteria to guide the identification of  
165 articles to be reviewed.

- 166 • Studies in English that that have been published in peer reviewed journals.
- 167 • Studies with a primary focus on evaluating, defining, or exploring the concepts of  
168 social inclusion or occupational justice for people living with a mental disorder, or  
169 HIV will be included. We will include studies that used the terms “social inclusion”  
170 or “occupational justice,” and their derivatives even if their use of these terms does  
171 not conform with standard definitions<sup>1</sup>. If studies do not include these key words or  
172 alternative key words as described in Table 1, they will be excluded.
- 173 • Both theoretical and empirical studies
- 174 • Studies published in the last two decades (January 1997 – December 2017). The last  
175 two decades have seen occupational justice make its way in to the conceptual debate  
176 in occupational science and occupational therapy.
- 177 • Studies from any country
- 178 • Studies using both qualitative and quantitative study designs

## 179 Databases

180 The following databases will be searched: PubMed, Scopus, Academic Search Premier, the  
181 Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), Africa-Wide  
182 Information, Humanities International Complete, Web of Science, PsychInfo, and  
183 SocINDEX.

## 184 Search Strategy

185 The search strategy evolved during the development of the provisional eligibility criteria of  
186 the scoping review. We drew on the occupational justice/injustice terminology and social  
187 inclusion/exclusion language in occupational therapy, mental health, and HIV practice to  
188 come up with operational search terms for occupational justice and social inclusion with  
189 reference to chronic and stigmatised conditions. The first and last authors, together with a  
190 librarian, in a repeated process, developed an inclusive list of primary and secondary search  
191 terms and the applicable filtering methods. The primary search terms focused on the primary  
192 concepts of occupational justice and social inclusion. The secondary search terms included  
193 the broader terms of mental health, occupational therapy, mental illness, HIV, and

194 rehabilitation. The main filtering method was that of date range, that is within the last 20  
195 years (1997-2017), with English language as our final filter.

196 We used our preliminary search to review publication titles which further informed  
197 refinement of our search strategy. To come up with an appropriate search strategy that would  
198 maximise sensitivity and specificity, our consultant librarian played a key role in determining  
199 and pretesting possible keywords. All the search strategies were also modified to comply with  
200 the different databases we searched. The suggested Boolean phrases, MESH terms and filters  
201 are listed below (Table 1).

202 **Table 1: Search strategy**

Key Word	Alternative words
<b>Occupational therapy</b>	Occupational rehabilitation
<b>Mental health</b>	Mental illness OR Mental disorder OR Psychiatric disability
<b>Occupational justice</b>	Occupational injustice OR Occupational marginalisation OR Occupational alienation OR Occupational imbalance OR Occupational deprivation
<b>Social inclusion</b>	Social exclusion OR Social isolation OR social integration
<b>HIV</b>	HIV OR HIV/AIDS OR HIV infection OR AIDS

### 203 **Stage 3 Study selection**

204 This review will follow a two-part article selection process. Article titles will be reviewed  
205 first, where the first author will review the titles to identify articles that i) indicate a research  
206 focus on mental illness, or HIV, or both and ii) titles including the key terms of occupational  
207 justice, social inclusion or both. However, where there is uncertainty with the title, especially  
208 around the research focus, the article will not be eliminated until it is examined more in-depth  
209 by looking at the abstract in stage two.

210 The second stage of article selection will be conducted by two independent reviewers, the  
211 first and third authors. This stage will involve review of titles and abstracts using the  
212 inclusion and exclusion criteria described in Table 2. Any differences arising between the two  
213 independent reviews will be resolved with the aid of the fourth author. What is key in our  
214 scoping review is to include abstracts which demonstrate the subject area content being  
215 reviewed, that is occupational justice and social inclusion in two highly stigmatised and  
216 chronic conditions; mental illness and HIV.  
217

218 **Table 2: Inclusion and exclusion criteria for acceptable articles**

Criteria for inclusion	Criteria for exclusion
Minimum criteria required in the abstract: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explicit mention of mental illness, and or HIV/AIDS.</li> <li>• Explicit mention of either occupational justice and its varieties or social inclusion and its varieties. (varieties are informed by how articles with these terms are indexed in databases)</li> <li>• Date range (1997 - 2017).</li> <li>• English language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-peer reviewed journal/research articles.</li> <li>• Used animal subjects.</li> <li>• Non-English language</li> </ul>

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220 **Stage 4 Charting the data**

221 Key information about the study content will be extracted. Using a framework specifically  
 222 designed for this review (Table 3), the extraction will include standard bibliometric  
 223 information and details of the study characteristics. Study objectives will guide the  
 224 development of the categories of the study characteristics. Key information will be extracted  
 225 from the main body of the article to sufficiently address the research question. We will be  
 226 flexible to accommodate additional categories that may emerge during the actual review  
 227 process which can aid in comprehensively answering the question and addressing study  
 228 objectives. On-going consultation with the team remains key in successful completion of this  
 229 review and maintaining research rigour.<sup>18</sup>

230 Table 3: Framework for data extraction

Bibliometric Information	Characteristics of the study	Categories of study characteristics
Study title Authors Source/Journal Year of publication Country Profession of primary author/ academic discipline Type of study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research question/aim(s)</li> <li>• Objective(s)</li> <li>• Intervention(s)</li> <li>• Outcome(s)</li> <li>• Key recommendation(s)</li> <li>• Patient population (e.g. diagnosis, age group, co-morbidity, ethnicity, etc)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Definition(s) of key concepts and associated terms – occupational justice and social inclusion</li> <li>▪ Conceptualisation(s) of key concepts</li> <li>▪ Summary of key message</li> <li>▪ Application to practice</li> <li>▪ Links between concepts</li> <li>▪ Areas of further development, integration, and application</li> </ul>

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232 **Stage 5 Collating, summarising, and reporting the results**

233 Bibliometric information will be subjected to content analysis to identify the academic  
 234 discipline in which the study is located, geographic distribution of the scholarship, and the  
 235 research designs applied. Extracted characteristics and categories will be thematically  
 236 analysed<sup>23</sup> to identify definitions, similarities, differences and gaps in conceptualisations of  
 237 occupational justice and social inclusion for people with mental illness and HIV. Developing  
 238 the framework for presenting the findings will be an iterative process that will emerge as we  
 239 examine the articles.<sup>18,20,24</sup>

240 **Patient and public involvement:**

241 Patient and public involvement (PPI) representatives have not been directly involved in the  
 242 design of this scoping review protocol. However, experiences of the first author in working  
 243 with adults afflicted with HIV and mental health disorders in Zimbabwe informed the need to  
 244 explore issues faced by this population beyond biomedical care. Life beyond symptom  
 245 management was not being attention it deserves and hence the need to conduct a scoping

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3 246 review in this area. We also plan to share findings of the planned review with service users,  
4 247 practitioners, and policy makers in most accessible formats like using newsletters, social  
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6 248 media and policy briefs.  
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## 8 249 **Conclusion**

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10 250 To our knowledge, this scoping review, which examines the concepts of occupational justice  
11 251 and social inclusion in populations suffering from two highly stigmatized conditions, is the  
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13 252 first of its kind. It has the potential to expand understanding and utilisation of occupational  
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15 253 justice and social inclusion as concepts which promote global mental health. In this scoping  
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17 254 review, we aim to review and appraise the definitions, current utilisation, and relationships  
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19 255 between occupational justice and social inclusion for people with mental illness and HIV. In  
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21 256 so doing, it will give us a better theoretical basis from which to inform further research,  
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23 257 practice, and training.  
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## 25 258 **Contributors:**

26 259 All authors have made substantive intellectual contributions to the development of this  
27  
28 260 protocol. CN and RG conceptualised the review approach and provided general guidance to  
29  
30 261 the research team. The CN and RG were involved in developing the review question and the  
31  
32 262 review design. CN identified the framework from which CN, RG and EM with the help of a  
33  
34 263 subject librarian developed and tested search terms. The first author initially developed the  
35  
36 264 data extraction framework which was then further developed by input from all authors. LL  
37  
38 265 and RH gave substantial review and critique to the draft of the protocol.

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60 273 **Competing interests:** None.

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25 <sup>1</sup> **Occupational Justice:** the full enjoyment of occupational rights implying equity and  
26 fairness for individuals, groups and communities regarding their engagement in diverse,  
27 healthy and meaningful occupations <sup>4</sup>.

31 **Social inclusion:** a multi-dimensional process or state where prevailing conditions enable full  
32 and active participation of every member of the society in all aspects of life, including civic,  
33 social, economic, and political activities, as well as participation in decision making  
34 processes irrespective of personal characteristics differences.<sup>12,16</sup>



# BMJ Open

## Occupational justice and social inclusion in mental illness and HIV: A scoping review protocol

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3 1 **Title:** Occupational justice and social inclusion in mental illness and HIV: A scoping review  
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5 2 protocol.

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7 3 \*Clement Nhunzvi<sup>1,2,4</sup>; Lisa Langhaug<sup>4</sup>; Edwin Mavindidze<sup>3</sup>; Richard Harding<sup>5</sup> & Roshan  
8 4 Galvaan<sup>2</sup>

9  
10 5 **\* Corresponding author: Clement Nhunzvi**

11  
12 6 Department of Rehabilitation  
13 7 University of Zimbabwe, College of Health Sciences  
14 8 P.O. Box A178  
15 9 Avondale, Harare  
16 10 Zimbabwe  
17 11 [clemynhu@gmail.com](mailto:clemynhu@gmail.com); [nhncle001@myuct.ac.za](mailto:nhncle001@myuct.ac.za)  
18 12 TEL: [+263 4 797800](tel:+2634797800) Cell: +263 775 814 587

21  
22 13 **Affiliations**

23 14 <sup>1</sup> Department of Rehabilitation, College of Health Sciences. University of Zimbabwe.  
24 15 Zimbabwe.

25 16 <sup>2</sup> Division of Occupational Therapy, Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences,  
26 17 Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town. South Africa.

27 18 <sup>3</sup> Occupational Therapy Department, Ingutsheni Central Hospital, Bulawayo. Zimbabwe.

28 19 <sup>4</sup> African Mental Health Research Initiative (AMARI), Department of Psychiatry, College of  
29 20 Health Sciences. University of Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe.

30 21 <sup>5</sup> Centre for Global Health Palliative Care, Kings College London. UK.

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32 22 **Keywords:** social inclusion, occupational justice, scoping review protocol, HIV, mental  
33 23 disorders

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## 26 **Abstract**

27 **Introduction:** As chronic and stigmatised conditions, mental illness and HIV remain prevalent,  
28 and a global public health concern. Disability-adjusted life years due to comorbid  
29 neuropsychiatric conditions and HIV are rising. Occupational justice and social inclusion  
30 emphasise the importance of equity and the utility of resources and opportunities for all to  
31 engage in diverse, healthy, and meaningful activities. However, succinct conceptualisation of  
32 social inclusion and occupational justice, including the relationship between these concepts is  
33 still limited. This hampers their effective utilisation in research and practice. Here, we present  
34 our scoping review protocol to appraise literature to describe and explain the state of  
35 conceptualisation of occupational justice and social inclusion in relation to mental illness and  
36 HIV. We are aiming to review the definitions, current utilisation, and relationships between  
37 occupational justice and social inclusion to inform further theorisation and practice application.

38 **Methods and analysis:** This scoping review protocol follows existing guidelines for scoping  
39 reviews in occupational therapy with particular attention on Arksey and O'Malley's (2005)  
40 Scoping Review Framework. We iteratively developed a search strategy and carried out our  
41 search using the following databases: PubMed, Scopus, Academic Search Premier, Cumulative  
42 Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), Africa-Wide Information,  
43 Humanities International Complete, Web of Science, PsychInfo, and SocINDEX. To enhance  
44 comprehensiveness of our search and capture all relevant information, we will also search a  
45 variety of grey literature sources. Two reviewers will independently screen eligible studies for  
46 inclusion. Bibliographic data, abstract content, and aspects of the study design and findings  
47 will be extracted and thematically analysed.

48 **Ethics and dissemination:** As secondary analysis, this scoping review does not require ethics  
49 approval. Results will summarise and disseminate existing research related to occupational  
50 justice and social inclusion in mental health and HIV/AIDS care, describing the  
51 conceptualisation, relationships between concepts and identifying gaps for further research and  
52 practical application. We will disseminate the results through peer-reviewed journals and  
53 conferences, targeting clinicians, academics, researchers, and policy makers.

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3 55 **Title: Occupational justice and social inclusion in mental illness and HIV: A scoping review**  
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5 56 **protocol**  
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7 57 **Strengths and limitations of this study**  
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10 58 • The breadth of chronic and stigmatised conditions, social inclusion and occupational  
11 59 justice and need for a comprehensive and systematic description of research activity  
12 60 and gaps, makes the scoping review a particularly useful methodology.  
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15 61 • A plausible strategy to identify research foci and knowledge gaps related to social  
16 62 inclusion and occupational justice in chronic and stigmatised conditions is presented.  
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18  
19 63 • Based on the multidimensional nature of the concepts under review, methods on how  
20 64 to synthesise research data from diverse designs is put in place.  
21  
22  
23 65 • Focus is on conceptual and theoretical aspects and not on outcomes of interventions  
24  
25  
26 66 • Data synthesis will be limited to work published in English originally or with available  
27 67 English translated copies.  
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30 68 • Focus on mental illness which is a large grouping of several different conditions can  
31 69 introduce some generalisation biases, however this will aid in identifying the range of  
32 70 diverse influences of different mental illnesses on concepts under study.  
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## 71 Introduction

72 There is a growing public health concern over the complex relationship between mental illness  
73 and HIV.<sup>1 2</sup> This is especially so in contexts where the prevalence of HIV among people with  
74 mental illness is as high as 25% in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>3 4</sup> Disability-adjusted life years  
75 (DALYs) due to comorbid neuropsychiatric conditions and HIV is rising, with 80% of DALYs  
76 in sub-Saharan Africa being a result of the combined effect of mental illness and HIV.<sup>5 6</sup>  
77 Chronic conditions such as mental illness and HIV are still stigmatised and discriminated  
78 against,<sup>3</sup> notably so in comorbid cases, thereby making health and social well-being outcomes  
79 fundamental beyond biomedical stabilisation. Developing a better understanding of the  
80 occupational justice and social inclusion needs of the affected groups will support intervention  
81 development. Occupational justice is a growing concept in occupational science and therapy  
82 <sup>7-9</sup> that can help shape the care for people who are living with highly stigmatized chronic  
83 conditions, including mental illness and HIV.<sup>10 11</sup> Occupational justice's relevance to highly  
84 stigmatised chronic conditions can be traced to its emphasis on social determinants of health  
85 and social inclusion as outcomes.<sup>11</sup> Similarly, social inclusion is receiving increased attention  
86 in mental health <sup>12 13</sup> and physical conditions such as HIV. There is a growing emphasis on  
87 person-centred outcomes for interventions promoting general health and mental health, with  
88 social inclusion as an ultimate goal when improving mental health.<sup>14 15</sup> In this context, mental  
89 illness implies the diseased state or presence of a mental health disorder, while mental health  
90 is defined as a dynamic state of internal equilibrium well-being which enables individuals to  
91 recognise and use their abilities in harmony with universal values of society in which they live,  
92 cope with the normal stresses of life, are economically productive.<sup>16</sup> Mental health practice  
93 refers to the field of practice in occupational therapy, and this is how these terms are to be used  
94 in this paper.

95 Occupational justice is defined as equity and fairness for individuals, groups and communities  
96 regarding resources and opportunities for their engagement in diverse, healthy and meaningful  
97 occupations.<sup>7 17</sup> For example, a patient living with a chronic and stigmatised condition who  
98 lacks occupational justice (occupational injustice) may be denied meaningful employment  
99 because of his/her condition, rather than because of his/her qualifications, or may not be given  
100 reasonable accommodations in the workplace. Social inclusion is defined as a multi-  
101 dimensional process or state where prevailing conditions enable full and active participation in  
102 all aspects of everyday life.<sup>12 18</sup> These aspects include civic, social, economic, and political  
103 activities, as well as participation in decision making processes irrespective of personal

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3 104 characteristic differences.<sup>12 18</sup> For someone living with a chronic and stigmatised condition,  
4 105 social inclusion would mean availing themselves of resources and opportunities at macro-level,  
5 106 targeting all marginalised groups in that community. Focusing on social inclusion in the  
6 107 management of mental illness and HIV makes it possible to consider a person's life satisfaction,  
7 108 quality of life, social well-being, and equality issues in all levels of their care, a drive that can  
8 109 potentially benefit from occupational justice.

10 110 However, to aid our understanding, integration, and utilisation of occupational justice and  
11 111 social inclusion in practice, we need to better understand the conceptualisation and relationship  
12 112 between occupational justice and social inclusion. These two concepts are potentially key in  
13 113 informing the promotion of sustainable person and community-centred recovery with reference  
14 114 to chronic, and stigmatised conditions.<sup>14 15</sup> Despite limited exploration of these concepts in  
15 115 relation to each other, they share notions of human rights and justice, with an emphasis on  
16 116 marginalised and disadvantaged population groups. We aim to review and appraise the  
17 117 definitions, current utilisation, and relationships between these concepts. This will inform  
18 118 further theorisation and application in practice, of occupational justice and social inclusion in  
19 119 comorbid mental illness and HIV.

## 120 **Methods**

121 Due to the novelty of the area and diverse disciplinary location of existing literature, we  
122 propose a scoping review design to achieve our aim.<sup>19 20</sup> A scoping review is a form of  
123 knowledge synthesis that addresses an exploratory research question rather than the highly  
124 focused question needed for a systematic review.<sup>19 20</sup> The scoping review aims to map key  
125 concepts, types of evidence and gaps in research related to a defined area by systematically  
126 searching, selecting, and synthesizing existing knowledge.<sup>20-22</sup> The breadth of the area and  
127 need for a comprehensive and systematic picture of research activity and gaps, makes the  
128 scoping review an appropriate methodology in this protocol.

129 This scoping review protocol follows Arksey and O'Malley's Scoping Review framework<sup>20</sup>,  
130 guidelines for scoping reviews in occupational therapy<sup>21</sup>, and relevant examples of scoping  
131 review protocols.<sup>23 24</sup> The five stages we will follow are:

132 Stage 1: Identifying the research question

133 Stage 2: Identifying relevant studies

134 Stage 3: Study selection

135 Stage 4: Charting the data

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3 136 Stage 5: Collating, summarising and reporting the results  
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6 137 Each of the stages planned for the scoping review are described below.  
7

### 8 138 **Stage 1: Identifying the research question**

9  
10 139 An iterative process of refining the research question as a team of authors<sup>20</sup> was followed in  
11  
12 140 order to generate a guiding research question. The process of refining the question was shaped  
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14 141 by reflecting on familiar and available literature in the subject area of occupational justice and  
15  
16 142 social inclusion in occupational therapy, mental health practice, and HIV. To facilitate a  
17  
18 143 comprehensive review of the literature, a somewhat broad question was needed, inclusive of  
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20 144 the study constructs of interest.<sup>20</sup> Based on the subject area terminology, literature, and our  
21  
22 145 understanding of current practice trends in managing chronic, stigmatised and discriminated  
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24 146 against conditions, and the concepts of occupational justice and social inclusion, we asked the  
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26 147 following question:

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28 148 What is the extent of conceptualisation regarding the definitions, current utilisation, and  
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30 149 relationships between occupational justice and social inclusion in the highly stigmatised and  
31  
32 150 chronic conditions of mental illness and HIV?

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34 151 Subsequently, the following aim and objectives were formulated:

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36 152 **Aim:** to review and appraise the definitions, current utilisation, and relationships between  
37  
38 153 occupational justice and social inclusion among people with mental illness and HIV and  
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40 154 identify areas for further knowledge development and utilisation.

#### 41 155 **Objectives:**

- 42  
43 156
- 44 157 • To identify existing research that utilised concepts of occupational justice and  
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46 158 social inclusion in mental health and HIV care.
  - 47 159 • To describe the conceptualisation of, and research into, the concepts of  
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49 160 occupational justice and social inclusion with reference to two highly  
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51 161 stigmatised and chronic conditions, that is mental illness and HIV.
  - 52 162 • To identify relationships between occupational justice and social inclusion in  
53  
54 163 the mental health and HIV literature.
  - 55 164 • To determine potential areas for further development, integration, and  
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57 165 application of these concepts in mental health and HIV and AIDS care.

### 58 59 165 **Stage 2 Identifying relevant studies**

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3 166 Although the aim of a scoping review can be broad, parameters must still guide the search  
4 strategy.<sup>20</sup> With the help of a health sciences librarian, the first and last authors developed  
5 167 provisional eligibility criteria, exclusion criteria and identified relevant databases to be  
6 168 searched. This iterative process aimed to identify a specific search strategy and inclusive search  
7 169 terms. We ran trial searches with different combinations to determine whether our strategy  
8 170 yielded key literature.  
9 171

14 172 The following steps highlight these:

### 17 173 **Selection criteria**

19 174 The literature search will use the following inclusion criteria to guide the identification of  
20 175 articles to be reviewed.

- 23 176 • Peer reviewed studies and grey literature in English or with available English  
24 177 translations.
- 26 178 • Literature with a primary focus on evaluating, defining, or exploring the concepts of  
27 179 social inclusion or occupational justice for people living with a mental disorder, or HIV  
30 180 will be included. We will include studies and reports that used the terms “social  
31 181 inclusion” or “occupational justice,” and their derivatives even if their use of these  
32 182 terms does not conform with standard definitions<sup>i</sup>. If studies or reports do not include  
33 183 these key words or alternative key words as described in Table 1, they will be excluded.
- 37 184 • Both theoretical and empirical literature
- 39 185 • Literature published in the last two decades (January 1997 – December 2017). The last  
40 186 two decades have seen occupational justice make its way in to the conceptual debate  
41 187 in occupational science and occupational therapy.
- 44 188 • Studies from any country
- 46 189 • Studies using both qualitative and quantitative study designs

### 48 190 **Databases**

51 191 The following databases will be searched: PubMed, Scopus, Academic Search Premier, the  
52 192 Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), Africa-Wide  
53 193 Information, Humanities International Complete, Web of Science, PsychInfo, and SocINDEX.  
54 194 PubMed is the free platform we will use for searching articles indexed on Medline database.  
55 195 A librarian used the journal indexing system in identifying suitable databases. These databases  
56 196 were selected to capture a comprehensive sample of literature both grey and peer reviewed, from  
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3 197 biomedical health sciences, allied health sciences, social sciences, and other disciplines. To enhance  
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5 198 comprehensiveness of our search and capture all relevant information, we will also search a variety of  
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7 199 grey literature sources. We will search grey literature databases like Grey literature Report, Web of  
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9 200 Science Conference Proceedings, and Open Grey.

## 10 201 **Search Strategy**

11  
12 202 The search strategy evolved during the development of the provisional eligibility criteria of the  
13  
14 203 scoping review. We drew on the occupational justice/injustice terminology and social  
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16 204 inclusion/exclusion language in occupational therapy, mental health, and HIV practice to come  
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18 205 up with operational search terms for occupational justice and social inclusion with reference to  
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20 206 chronic and stigmatised conditions. The first and last authors, together with a librarian, in a  
21  
22 207 repeated process, developed an inclusive list of primary and secondary search terms and the  
23  
24 208 applicable filtering methods. The primary search terms focused on the primary concepts of  
25  
26 209 occupational justice and social inclusion. The secondary search terms included the broader  
27  
28 210 terms of mental health, occupational therapy, mental illness, HIV, and rehabilitation. The main  
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30 211 filtering method was that of date range, that is within the last 20 years (1997-2017).

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32 212 We used our preliminary search to review publication titles which further informed refinement  
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34 213 of our search strategy. To come up with an appropriate search strategy that would maximise  
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36 214 sensitivity and specificity, our consultant librarian played a key role in determining and  
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38 215 pretesting possible keywords. All the search strategies were also modified to comply with the  
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40 216 different databases we searched. The suggested Boolean phrases, MESH terms and filters are  
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42 217 listed below (Table 1). Appendix 1 highlights the preliminary search strategy for PubMed which  
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44 218 will be adapted accordingly for other databases.

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60 219 **Table 1: General Search Strategy**

Key Word	Alternative words
<b>Occupational therapy</b>	Occupational rehabilitation
<b>Mental health</b>	Mental illness OR Mental disorder OR Psychiatric disability
<b>Occupational justice</b>	Occupational injustice OR Occupational marginalisation OR Occupational alienation OR Occupational imbalance OR Occupational deprivation
<b>Social inclusion</b>	Social exclusion OR Social isolation OR social integration
<b>HIV</b>	HIV OR HIV/AIDS OR HIV infection OR AIDS

### 221 **Stage 3 Study selection**

222 This review will follow a three-part article selection process. Article titles will be reviewed  
 223 first, where the first author (CN) will review the titles to identify articles that i) indicate a  
 224 research focus on mental illness, or HIV, or both and ii) titles including the key terms of  
 225 occupational justice, social inclusion or both. However, where there is uncertainty with the  
 226 title, especially around the research focus, the article will not be eliminated until it is examined  
 227 more in-depth by looking at the abstract in stage two.

228 The second stage of article selection will be conducted by two independent reviewers, the first  
 229 and third authors (CN & EM). This stage will involve review of titles and abstracts using the  
 230 inclusion and exclusion criteria described in Table 2. Any differences arising between the two  
 231 independent reviews will be resolved with the aid of the third reviewer, who is the second  
 232 author (LL). What is key in our scoping review is to include abstracts which demonstrate the  
 233 subject area content being reviewed, that is occupational justice and social inclusion in two  
 234 highly stigmatised and chronic conditions; mental illness and HIV.

235 In the third stage, the two independent reviewers (CN & EM) will each screen full-text articles  
 236 to determine if they meet the inclusion/exclusion criteria. Any discordant full-text articles will  
 237 be resolved through discussion with a third reviewer (LL) until full consensus is reached.

238 We will use Cohen's  $\kappa$  statistic to determine inter-rater agreement. Inter-rater agreement will  
 239 be calculated at both the title and abstract review stage and at the full article review stage.

240

#### 241 **Table 2: Inclusion and exclusion criteria for acceptable articles**

<b>Criteria for inclusion</b>	<b>Criteria for exclusion</b>
Minimum criteria required in the abstract: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explicit mention of mental illness, and or HIV/AIDS.</li> <li>• Explicit mention of either occupational justice and its varieties or social inclusion and its varieties. (varieties are informed by how articles with these terms are indexed in databases)</li> <li>• Date range (1997 - 2017).</li> <li>• English language</li> <li>• English translation of abstract and article available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used animal subjects.</li> </ul>

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3 2424  
5 243 **Stage 4 Charting the data**

6 244 Key information about the study content will be extracted. Using a framework specifically  
7 245 designed for this review (Table 3), the extraction will include standard bibliometric information  
8 246 and details of the study characteristics. Study objectives will guide the development of the  
9 247 categories of the study characteristics. Key information will be extracted from the main body  
10 248 of the article to sufficiently address the research question. We will be flexible to accommodate  
11 249 additional categories that may emerge during the actual review process which can aid in  
12 250 comprehensively answering the question and addressing study objectives. On-going  
13 251 consultation with the team remains key in successful completion of this review and maintaining  
14 252 research rigour.<sup>20</sup>

253 Table 3: Framework for data extraction

Bibliometric Information	Characteristics of the study	Categories of study characteristics
Study title Authors Source/Journal Year of publication Country Profession of primary author/ academic discipline Type of study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research question/aim(s)</li> <li>• Objective(s)</li> <li>• Intervention(s)</li> <li>• Outcome(s)</li> <li>• Key recommendation(s)</li> <li>• Patient population (e.g. diagnosis, age group, co-morbidity, ethnicity, etc)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Definition(s) of key concepts and associated terms – occupational justice and social inclusion</li> <li>▪ Conceptualisation(s) of key concepts</li> <li>▪ Summary of key message</li> <li>▪ Application to practice</li> <li>▪ Links between concepts</li> <li>▪ Areas of further development, integration, and application</li> </ul>

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### 255 Stage 5 Collating, summarising, and reporting the results

256 In this review we will present the narrative account of our findings in two ways. Firstly, a  
 257 numerical analysis of the bibliometric information will be presented. This will describe the  
 258 extent, nature and distribution of the studies included in the review through tables and charts  
 259 mapping bibliometric information and illustrating the academic disciplines in which the study  
 260 is located, geographic distribution of the scholarship, and the research designs applied.  
 261 Secondly, the extracted characteristics and categories will be organised thematically, using  
 262 deductive thematic analysis according to different definitions and related concepts for occupational  
 263 justice and social inclusion. Therefore, the concepts definitions will be our primary unit of analysis.  
 264 With the deductive thematic analyses <sup>25</sup> we aim to summarise and present definitions,  
 265 similarities, differences and gaps in conceptualisations of occupational justice and social

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3 266 inclusion for people with mental illness and HIV. Developing the framework for presenting the  
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5 267 findings will be an iterative process that will emerge as we examine the articles.<sup>20 21 26</sup>

### 6 268 **Ethics and dissemination**

8 269 Since the scoping review methodology consists of reviewing and collecting data from publicly  
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10 270 available literature, this scoping review does not require ethics approval. We aim to summarise  
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12 271 and disseminate existing research related to occupational justice and social inclusion in mental  
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14 272 illness and HIV/AIDS care, describing the conceptualisation, relationships between concepts  
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16 273 and identifying gaps for further research and practical application. We will disseminate the  
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18 274 results through peer-reviewed journals and conferences, targeting clinicians, academics,  
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20 275 researchers, service users and policy makers.

### 21 276 22 277 **Patient and public involvement:**

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24 278 Patient and public involvement (PPI) representatives have not been directly involved in the  
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26 279 design of this scoping review protocol. However, experiences of the first author in working  
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28 280 with adults afflicted with HIV and mental health disorders in Zimbabwe informed the need to  
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30 281 explore issues faced by this population beyond biomedical care. Life beyond symptom  
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32 282 management was not being given the attention it deserves and hence the need to conduct a  
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34 283 scoping review in this area. We also plan to share findings of the planned review with service  
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36 284 users, practitioners, and policy makers in most accessible formats like using newsletters, social  
37  
38 285 media and policy briefs.

### 38 286 **Conclusion**

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41 287 To our knowledge, this scoping review, which examines the concepts of occupational justice  
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43 288 and social inclusion in populations suffering from two highly stigmatized conditions, is the  
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45 289 first of its kind. It has the potential to expand understanding and utilisation of occupational  
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47 290 justice and social inclusion as concepts which promote global mental health. In this scoping  
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49 291 review, we aim to review and appraise the definitions, current utilisation, and relationships  
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51 292 between occupational justice and social inclusion for people with mental illness and HIV. In  
52  
53 293 so doing, it will give us a better theoretical basis from which to inform further research,  
54  
55 294 practice, and training.

### 55 295 **Contributors:**

56  
57 296 All authors have made substantive intellectual contributions to the development of this  
58  
59 297 protocol. CN and RG conceptualised the review approach and provided general guidance to  
60

1  
2  
3 298 the research team. Then CN and RG were involved in developing the review question and the  
4  
5 299 review design. CN identified the framework from which CN, RG and EM with the help of a  
6  
7 300 subject librarian developed and tested search terms. The first author initially developed the data  
8  
9 301 extraction framework which was then further developed by input from all authors. LL and RH  
10  
11 302 gave substantial review and critique to the draft of the protocol.

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**Occupational Justice:** the full enjoyment of occupational rights implying equity and fairness for individuals, groups and communities regarding their engagement in diverse, healthy and meaningful occupations <sup>4</sup>.

**Social inclusion:** a multi-dimensional process or state where prevailing conditions enable full and active participation of every member of the society in all aspects of life, including civic, social, economic, and political activities, as well as participation in decision making processes irrespective of personal characteristics differences.<sup>12</sup>



## **Appendix 1. PubMed Search Strategy**

### **PubMed**

#### **Set 1**

1. Social Justice [MeSH]
2. Social Isolation [MeSH]
3. Social Marginalization [MeSH]
4. Social Participation [MeSH]
5. Rehabilitation, Vocational [MeSH]
6. Injustice OR justice OR social inclusion OR social exclusion OR social isolation OR social separation OR social barriers OR social distance OR social acceptance OR social rejection OR social participation OR deprivation OR marginalization OR alienation
7. 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 6 (*represents Social inclusion set*)

#### **Set 2**

1. Social stigma [MeSH]
2. Prejudice [MeSH]
3. Stigma OR prejudice OR stigmatise OR stigmatisation OR stigmatize OR stigmatization OR discrimination
4. 1 OR 2 OR 3 (*represents Stigma set*)

#### **Set 3**

1. Occupational justice OR Occupational injustice OR Occupational deprivation OR Occupational alienation OR Occupational marginalisation OR Occupational imbalance OR Occupational OR occupation OR occupations OR activities OR work OR employment OR unemployment OR engagement (*this set is used to narrow search to occupation as defined by OT not PubMed's definition*)

#### **Set 4**

1. Mental Disorders [MeSH] (*this heading includes substance-related disorders*)
2. Mentally Ill Persons [MeSH]

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3 3. Mental disorders OR mental illness OR mentally ill OR Psychiatric disorder OR psychiatric illness  
4 OR psychological disorder OR Developmental Disability OR Intellectual Development Disorder OR  
5 Intellectual disability OR Mental retardation OR Mental deficiency  
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7 4. 1 OR 2 OR 3 (*represents Mental Disorders set*)  
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10 **Set 5**

- 11  
12 1. HIV [MeSH]  
13 2. HIV Infections [MeSH]  
14 3. Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (MeSH)  
15 4. HIV OR human immune deficiency virus OR AIDS OR acquired immunodeficiency syndrome OR  
16 acquired immune deficiency syndrome OR HIV/AIDS  
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18 5. 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4  
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21 **Now combine Sets, 1 AND 2 AND 3 AND 4 or Sets 1 AND 2 AND 3 AND 5**  
22 Limit to last 20 years  
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