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## Perspectives of Authors in General Medical and Nursing Journals towards the PRISMA

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1. Country of affiliation (i.e. where you are based at now):

2. What is your specialty (i.e. area of specialty)?

- |                                    |                                      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Anaesthesia  | <input type="radio"/> Orthopaedic    |
| <input type="radio"/> Anatomy      | <input type="radio"/> Otolaryngology |
| <input type="radio"/> Biochemistry | <input type="radio"/> Paediatrics    |
| <input type="radio"/> Dentistry    | <input type="radio"/> Pathology      |

3. Age group (years)

- 21-30  
 31-40  
 41-50  
 51-60  
 61 or above

4. Gender

- Female  
 Male

5. Your years of experience in conducting academic research (years):

6. Do you know what is systematic review?

- Yes  
 No

7. Have you published any systematic review?

- Yes  
 No

8. Are you aware of the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guideline?

- Yes  
 No

9. Do you follow the PRISMA guideline when conducting and reporting your systematic review?

- Yes
- No (not required by journals or organisations)
- No (other reasons)
- Not applicable (did not conduct any systematic review)
- Not applicable (others)

10. Rate the importance to follow the PRISMA guideline in conducting and reporting of systematic reviews in journals:

1: Not important, ..., 10: Very important



In the following, we would like you to rate the importance of each item in the PRISMA guideline (1: Not important, ..., 10: Very important) and the reason of your rating if any.

11a. Item related to the *Title*

Item 1: Identify the report as a systematic review, meta-analysis, or both.



11b. Reason for your rating (optional):

Text

12a. Item related to the *Abstract*

Item 2: Provide a structured summary including, as applicable: background; objectives; data sources; study eligibility criteria, participants, and interventions; study appraisal and synthesis methods; results; limitations; conclusions and implications of key findings; systematic review registration number.



12b. Reason for your rating (optional):

Text

13a. Items related to the *Introduction*

Item 3: Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known.



Item 4: Provide an explicit statement of questions being addressed with reference to participants, interventions, comparisons, outcomes, and study design (PICOS).



13b. Reason for your rating (optional):

Text

**14a. Items related to the *Methods***

Item 5: Indicate if a review protocol exists, if and where it can be accessed (e.g., Web address), and, if available, provide registration information including registration number.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 6: Specify study characteristics (e.g., PICOS, length of follow-up) and report characteristics (e.g., years considered, language, publication status) used as criteria for eligibility, giving rationale.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 7: Describe all information sources (e.g., databases with dates of coverage, contact with study authors to identify additional studies) in the search and date last searched.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 8: Present full electronic search strategy for at least one database, including any limits used, such that it could be repeated

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 9: State the process for selecting studies (i.e., screening, eligibility, included in systematic review, and, if applicable, included in the meta-analysis).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 10: Describe method of data extraction from reports (e.g., piloted forms, independently, in duplicate) and any processes for obtaining and confirming data from investigators.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 11: List and define all variables for which data were sought (e.g., PICOS, funding sources) and any assumptions and simplifications made.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 12: Describe methods used for assessing risk of bias of individual studies (including specification of whether this was done at the study or outcome level), and how this information is to be used in any data synthesis.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 13: State the principal summary measures (e.g., risk ratio, difference in means).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 14: Describe the methods of handling data and combining results of studies, if done, including measures of consistency (e.g.,  $I^2$ ) for each meta-analysis.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 15: Specify any assessment of risk of bias that may affect the cumulative evidence (e.g., publication bias, selective reporting within studies).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 16: Describe methods of additional analyses (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression), if done, indicating which were pre-specified.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

**14b. Reason for your rating (optional):**

Text

**15a. Items related to the Results**

Item 17: Give numbers of studies screened, assessed for eligibility, and included in the review, with reasons for exclusions at each stage, ideally with a flow diagram.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 18: For each study, present characteristics for which data were extracted (e.g., study size, PICOS, follow-up period) and provide the citations.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 19: Present data on risk of bias of each study and, if available, any outcome level assessment (see item 12).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 20: For all outcomes considered (benefits or harms), present, for each study: (a) simple summary data for each intervention group (b) effect estimates and confidence intervals, ideally with a forest plot.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 21: Present results of each meta-analysis done, including confidence intervals and measures of consistency.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 22: Present results of any assessment of risk of bias across studies (see Item 15).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 23: Give results of additional analyses, if done (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression [see Item 16]).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

**15b. Reason for your rating (optional):**

Text

**16a. Items related to the Discussion**

Item 24: Summarize the main findings including the strength of evidence for each main outcome; consider their relevance to key groups (e.g., healthcare providers, users, and policy makers).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 25: Discuss limitations at study and outcome level (e.g., risk of bias), and at review-level (e.g., incomplete retrieval of identified research, reporting bias).

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Item 26: Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence, and implications for future research.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

**16b. Reason for your rating (optional):**

Text

**17a. Items related to the Funding**

Item 27: Describe sources of funding for the systematic review and other support (e.g., supply of data); role of funders for the systematic review.

N/A      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

**17b. Reason for your rating (optional):**

Text