

Our search strategy explored oncology health literacy among Black people. We targeted English peer-reviewed and grey literature from biomedical databases from 2011 to Dec. 6, 2021, including MEDLINE (Ovid), EMBASE; PsycINFO, Cochrane Library, PubMed, CINAHL, MEDLINE (Ebsco) and Web of Science. The grey literature sources queried were Alberta Health Services Insite, OAISter, ClinicalTrials.gov, American Society of Clinical Oncology, European Society of Medical Oncology, Google and Google Scholar. Our search terms were “oncology,” “health literacy” and “Black people” or the corresponding MeSH terms ([cancer OR neoplasm\* OR carcinoma OR tumour\* OR tumour\* OR oncology OR “medical oncology”] AND [“health literacy” OR “health literat\*” OR “patient education”] AND [Blacks OR “Black people” OR Negro\* OR Negroid OR “Negroid race” OR “Black African” OR “African American\*\*” OR “African Carribean” OR “people of colour” OR “people of color” OR “coloured people” OR “colored people” OR “dark-skinned people” OR Africans]).

We retrieved 220 articles from this search. We excluded 35 articles owing to irrelevance to the topic.

The remaining 185 articles were mostly from the United States with others from various countries in Africa, Haiti, Jamaica and Canada. Most high-quality studies examined health literacy interventions to improve cancer screening practices among Black people. A paucity of data reported on health literacy among Black patients with cancer regarding starting and adhering to cancer treatments, genomic testing, clinical trials and bone marrow transplantation.