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Recommendations for the extraction, analysis, and presentation of results in scoping reviews.

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1 **Title:** Recommendations for the extraction, analysis and presentation of results in scoping
2 reviews

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7 **Abstract**

8 Scoping reviewers often face challenges in the extraction, analysis and presentation of
9 scoping review results. Using best-practice examples and drawing on the expertise of the
10 JBI Scoping Review Methodology group, and an editor of a journal that publishes scoping
11 reviews, this paper expands on existing JBI Scoping Review guidance. The aim of this article
12 is to clarify the process of extracting data from different sources of evidence, discuss what
13 data can be extracted (and what should not), how to analyse extracted data including an
14 explanation of basic qualitative content analysis, and to offer suggestions for the
15 presentation of results in scoping reviews.

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24 **Introduction**

25 Scoping reviews have been defined as a “*type of **evidence synthesis** that aim to*
26 *systematically identify and map the breadth of evidence available on a particular topic, field,*
27 *concept, or issue, often irrespective of source (i.e. primary research, reviews, non-empirical*
28 *evidence) within or across particular contexts.*”¹ (pg 1) Scoping reviews can clarify key
29 concepts/ definitions in the literature and identify key characteristics or factors related to a
30 concept, including those related to methodological research.² Scoping reviews can also
31 identify gaps in the literature and be precursors of systematic reviews. While scoping
32 reviews share common elements and steps in their conduct with systematic reviews and
33 other types of evidence syntheses,^{2,3} scoping reviews are able to address broader research
34 questions in comparison to the more precise, targeted questions of feasibility,
35 appropriateness, meaningfulness, or the effectiveness of a particular issue more suitable for
36 systematic reviews. For example, a scoping review may look at what outcomes are being
37 reported and how these outcomes are being measured (i.e. how is hearing measured?) for
38 children who have grommet insertion due to chronic ear infections; while a systematic review
39 will assess the effectiveness of grommets on reported outcomes such as hearing, speech
40 and language development.² Beyond the kinds of questions that should be addressed by
41 scoping reviews, a key difference between scoping and systematic reviews is the approach
42 to the extraction, analysis, and presentation of data and results.²

43 The process of extraction, analysis, and presentation of results in scoping reviews has been
44 noted to be challenging for scoping review authors.⁴ Inconsistencies and inappropriateness
45 in the analytical approaches undertaken in the analysis and presentation of the data within
46 scoping reviews has been a recurrent issue.⁵ In part, this may be due to scoping review
47 guidance being unclear and not describing a practical approach to how to extract, analyse
48 and present data within scoping reviews. Additionally, scoping reviews can include a variety
49 of evidence sources, such as peer-reviewed primary research, and gray literature, such as
50 guidelines, organizational reports, policies, government documents, and blogs.⁶

51 Seminal scoping review guidance referred to the process of extraction, analysis, and
52 presentation as 'data charting',^{7,8} and this terminology is used in the Preferred Reporting
53 Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-
54 ScR).⁹ The term charting is seen as a higher level of extraction, which is theoretically
55 appropriate for scoping reviews, and was used to differentiate from the term 'extraction'.
56 'Extraction' may suggest that review authors always extract the study outcome results.
57 However, guidance from JBI has recommended that to be consistent with other evidence
58 synthesis approaches, the term 'extraction' was most appropriate, and will be used
59 throughout this guidance. Arksey and O'Malley⁷ suggested that for scoping reviews, an
60 analytical framework, which was 'basic numerical analysis' be used, along with the use of
61 'thematic constructions.' However, Arksey and O'Malley⁷ were clear that scoping reviews do
62 not synthesize evidence or 'aggregate findings'. Levac, Colquhoun⁸ and colleagues agreed
63 with Arksey and O'Malley⁷ on the importance of a descriptive numerical summary analysis,
64 however, argued that there was a need for more guidance on the methodological approach
65 to thematic presentation of data. Levac, Colquhoun⁸ proposed the use of qualitative content
66 analysis. JBI guidance recommends the use of frequency counts, tabular/graphical
67 presentation and where appropriate 'basic' qualitative content analysis; however, to date, the
68 methodological approach has not been thoroughly described for scoping reviews. Therefore,
69 the JBI Scoping Review Methodology group have developed guidance using best-practice
70 examples of scoping reviews to provide clarity on the following:

- 71 1. Data extraction process: what type of data should be extracted from the included
72 evidence sources and the level of detail required during extraction.
- 73 2. Data analysis: how to analyse the data collected from evidence sources, including a
74 detailed approach of how to conduct basic qualitative content analysis.
- 75 3. Data presentation: suggestions for the presentation of results in scoping reviews.

76 **A team approach**

77 As with many other rigorous evidence syntheses, best-practice recommends that scoping
78 reviews require a team approach.¹⁰ The team should meet regularly throughout the entirety
79 of the review process including data extraction, analysis, and presentation. Team check-ins
80 either through face-to-face meetings or email during extraction and analysis phases are
81 particularly important to discuss this process, issues encountered during data extraction, if
82 there are any changes to tools used to guide the extraction of data (extraction forms or
83 tables), and any other review issues and results that are encountered. Knowledge users are
84 those that have a vested interest in the research and its outcomes and impacts and can also
85 be a part of the review team and included in all stages of the review process.¹¹ Knowledge
86 users are people who are most likely to be directly impacted by the research and its
87 outcomes, and may include those with lived experience (e.g. patients, clients, consumers,
88 public), other researchers, healthcare providers or policy decision makers.¹¹ Review teams
89 can include knowledge users at all stages to inform the analysis plan, review the completed
90 extractions, categories and sub-categories and offer insight into the results.¹²

91 **Principles of data extraction**

92 As in systematic reviews, scoping review authors should only extract data items that are
93 relevant to the scoping review question/s. The PCC framework (population, concept, and
94 context) is recommended as a guide to construct a clear and meaningful objective and
95 eligibility criteria for a scoping review.⁶ Therefore, potential data items of interest can be
96 structured around the PCC framework. Further items for data extraction will depend on the
97 purpose and reasoning behind conducting the review. For example, the individual items
98 could be related to the study design, such as whether it was a randomized controlled trial
99 (RCT), the methods used for conduct, and outcome measurement approaches. Alternatively,
100 it could include definitions, statements, or arguments surrounding a concept. It could be
101 interventions studied, their application, dose, duration, and frequency. Data extraction,
102 analysis and presentation are all dependent on each other and require prior planning to
103 ensure consistency. There are broad principles of data extraction that should be followed

104 within a scoping review to ensure its conduct is transparent and rigorous. These principles
105 are as follows:

- 106 • Create a standardized data extraction form and guidance for the form, which
107 describes each point that will be extracted (see Table 1 for an example extraction
108 form). The development of the initial data extraction form is guided by the review
109 question and usually includes population, concept and context. It is recommended
110 that an extraction guidance form (see image one for an example) is developed and
111 accompanies the extraction form detailing each item to be extracted and shared with
112 each scoping reviewer.
- 113 • Describe the planned data extraction approach within an *a-priori* protocol and include
114 a draft data extraction form. This draft extraction form is usually formatted as a table
115 and should be; developed specifically for the review topic at hand, detailed, and
116 include more than a basic plan (i.e. more than just the population, concept and
117 context) for the items that will be extracted.
- 118 • Best-practice is to have at least two scoping review authors extracting data
119 independently per evidence source. However, if this is not possible, one scoping
120 reviewer per evidence source with another person reviewing either all or a proportion
121 of the extraction to ensure it is accurate and complete can be considered.¹³
- 122 • Pilot-test the data extraction form on each type of evidence source, such as primary
123 research articles, evidence syntheses, guidelines, policy statements, or blog posts,
124 included in the review. Aim for each scoping reviewer to independently complete at
125 least 2-3 items per evidence source type, however, this will depend on the complexity
126 of the topic and the variety of evidence sources. During pilot-testing, scoping review
127 authors should reflect on the following questions:
 - 128 ○ Was there anything missing from the extraction form?
 - 129 ○ Was there anything redundant included in the extraction form?

- 130 ○ Was there anything on the extraction form that you did not understand or that
131 could be further clarified?
- 132 ○ Was there any unclear information in the accompanying guidance form?
- 133 ○ How long did it take you to extract the necessary information? This
134 information will help guide further time allocation.
- 135 ● Have a review group discussion with all scoping review authors after piloting to agree
136 on all aspects of the tool, data to be extracted, and reach agreement on queries or
137 conflicts.
- 138 ● Only extract data that is relevant to addressing the stated review questions of the
139 scoping review.
- 140 ● If scoping review authors need any additional information or to clarify doubts about
141 some of the study's information, the authors of the evidence sources should be
142 contacted as soon as possible. Further follow-up of these authors may be necessary.
- 143 ● Ensure and plan for regular team meetings and/or communication during the
144 extraction process to discuss progress and assess if the data extraction form is
145 capturing the necessary information to answer the review question/s.

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149 INSERT TABLE 1

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154 INSERT Image one- Example of data extraction guidance

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157 *Data extraction can be an iterative process*

158 Given the breadth of scoping review questions and the varied sources of evidence that can
159 be included, additional relevant data items may be identified by scoping review authors
160 during the process of extraction from included sources. This means that data extraction can
161 evolve to capture new and different data items requiring an iterative approach, for example if
162 collecting data on education courses, details on assessment methods used may not have
163 been considered initially, but then deemed important throughout the process. It is not
164 uncommon to add additional item(s) to the data extraction form that require extraction during
165 the process. If additional items are extracted which were not pre-specified, it should be made
166 clear in the final report that there was a deviation from the protocol and provide a rationale
167 as to why it occurred.

168
169 **Identifying the relevant information in the evidence source**

170 In systematic reviews, which analyse primary research articles, data is typically extracted
171 from the methods, and results of included sources. This may not be strictly the case for
172 scoping reviews. This is due to the varied types of data of evidence sources included within
173 scoping reviews. Scoping reviews do not typically pose analytical questions where extracting
174 the results of primary research (such as effect sizes or qualitative results) is necessary.²
175 Hence, it may be required to examine other sections of a source including the introduction,
176 discussion, conclusions, and even supplementary information. For example, a scoping
177 review might be conducted to identify and report on the methodological approaches that
178 have been used to investigate a particular topic, and in this case, the methods section would
179 be the primary place where extraction will occur. In the review published by Khalil and
180 Huang¹⁴, the authors extracted both the methodology and methods associated with each
181 study in their data extraction table as part of their review to map the work that has already
182 been undertaken in the area of medication adverse events in primary care. In another
183 scoping review Hoppe, Karimi¹⁵ et al. (2022) mapped the research addressing prescription

184 drug monitoring programs and extracted from the discussion section of primary research
185 articles to determine what they perceived their results to practice were, and the gaps and
186 areas in need of further research.

187 Depending on the purpose and review question/s posed, scoping review authors may or may
188 not aim to extract the results of primary studies. For example, in a scoping review
189 addressing medication safety programs, the authors extracted information about the types of
190 programs used, the personnel involved in the programs and the outcome measures used to
191 measure the efficacy of the programs. Despite extracting some result information, the
192 authors did not gather information about the effectiveness of the programs.¹⁶

193 Scoping reviews that serve to be precursors to systematic reviews could, with clear rationale
194 and justification, focus on the extraction of results, as seen in a scoping review performed to
195 inform the feasibility and appropriateness of a health technology assessment.¹⁷ In scoping
196 reviews exploring barriers and facilitators, reviewers may extract from the results of
197 qualitative primary studies, and then subsequently categorize these in their respective
198 categories.^{18,19} However, in each of these cases, we suggest scoping review authors be
199 explicit regarding the inability to draw conclusions regarding the effectiveness (or prevalence
200 or meaningfulness or accuracy or costs) of a practice or phenomenon due the absence of
201 risk of bias assessment or advanced data synthesis techniques such as meta-analysis or
202 meta-synthesis. Scoping review authors can however recommend subsequent specific
203 systematic reviews to be undertaken based on the results of their scoping review.

204 **We advocate for extreme caution in cases where a scoping reviewer would want to**
205 **extract the results of evidence sources.** In most instances, a systematic review approach
206 will be the more suitable methodology for dealing with review questions that require the
207 extraction of the results (e.g., effect measures and variance, meaning of phenomena) of
208 included sources. Systematic reviews typically include methodological quality assessment
209 and utilize (where appropriate) formal methods of data synthesis or aggregation.

210 Extracting and presenting results (for example, a relative risk with associated confidence
211 intervals and p-values or themes from a qualitative thematic analysis) may lead to misplaced
212 conclusions regarding the effectiveness (or not) of an intervention, the prevalence of a
213 condition, the accuracy of a test or the experience of a condition/phenomenon. This is due to
214 the included sources of evidence not having undergone a process of critical appraisal (or risk
215 of bias appraisal) and secondly, not having undergone a process of pooling or aggregation
216 that considers the combination of all study results. Without this assessment of
217 methodological quality and pooling or aggregation, authors and readers may be susceptible
218 to making false assumptions based on a naïve or incomplete reading of the results and be
219 more inclined to apply vote counting of results. In this instance, a systematic review is likely
220 the more suitable methodology for dealing with review questions that require the extraction
221 of the results (e.g., effect measures and variance) of included sources.

222

223 **Analysis in scoping reviews**

224 Scoping review authors should present the intended analytical approach that will be used
225 within their scoping review in the protocol. Scoping review authors should clearly articulate
226 how they intend to analyse and present each review question as this may vary. The detail
227 provided by authors should be more than a general statement that they will undertake
228 descriptive statistics, tables and a narrative summary. Rather, there should be a
229 comprehensive description of the analyses undertaken in order to address each individual
230 review question/objective.

231 Scoping review authors may be tempted to perform more advanced statistical or qualitative
232 analysis within a scoping review.⁶ The intention of synthesis methods such as meta-analysis,
233 meta-ethnography, thematic analysis, realist synthesis or meta-aggregation, among others,
234 is to answer questions or inform understandings regarding the feasibility, appropriateness,
235 meaningfulness and effectiveness of a particular intervention or phenomenon.⁶ Therefore,
236 for these questions, the most appropriate review type is a systematic review where the

237 findings/results have undergone critical appraisal, and approaches to establish certainty of
238 those results have been applied to generate conclusions that can inform practice and policy
239 recommendations.

240 Scoping reviews do not address questions of feasibility, appropriateness, meaningfulness
241 and effectiveness, and as such, will not and should not, apply advanced analysis methods. If
242 scoping review authors feel that they are unable to answer their review question without the
243 use of a meta-analysis for example, then the question they are asking is possibly best suited
244 for a quantitative systematic review.²

245 Most scoping reviews will analyse data items by quantifying text and doing frequency counts
246 of data extraction items. These are relatively easy to manage, and should only require the
247 use of descriptive statistics, such as percentages/proportions. For example, common
248 frequencies seen in scoping reviews are the number of evidence sources, which used a
249 particular method (i.e., numbers of RCTs, surveys, evidence syntheses) or the
250 location/country/context where the evidence source was conducted. Furthermore, scoping
251 review authors can extract relevant information aligning to a framework with single-word
252 responses such as 'yes', 'no', 'unsure', or even through the use of a Likert scale. For
253 example, in a recent scoping review, the scoping review authors mapped exercise
254 interventions to the template for intervention description and replication (TIDieR) checklist.²⁰
255 For the nine items on the checklist, reviewers classified each as either fully reported, partially
256 reported or not reported for each included evidence source.²¹

257 **Using basic qualitative content analysis**

258 In scoping reviews that include qualitative evidence, it is not uncommon for scoping review
259 authors to use qualitative synthesis approaches that go beyond the scope of a scoping
260 review, such as thematic synthesis, or a meta-aggregative approach. These approaches are
261 not appropriate within a scoping review as they are better suited to examining questions of
262 experiences and meaningfulness, and require a level of interpretation, which would align

263 more appropriately with a systematic review. Synthesis approaches that aim to re-interpret
264 evidence are not consistent with the purposes of a scoping review. Scoping reviews are
265 descriptive in nature, or to map the available evidence or identify characteristics or factors.
266 For the most part, there will be no need for scoping review authors to go beyond basic
267 descriptive analysis. However, there may be times when it would be appropriate to use a
268 basic qualitative content analysis, such as if the scoping review is identifying key
269 characteristics or factors related to a concept. In these cases, a more complex qualitative
270 data analysis beyond simple frequency counts may be required. This may be necessary
271 when a scoping review has the objective of informing the development of a conceptual
272 framework or theory.

273 When performing basic qualitative content analysis, categorization is required to map the
274 results in a way to aid their simplification to address the scoping review question. For
275 example, in a scoping review by Hoppe, Ristevski ²² the authors mapped the evidence
276 associated with community pharmacists' views towards drug misuse management. The
277 authors mapped the results into pharmacists' knowledge, training and education, attitudes,
278 and practice strategies. ²²

279 JBI scoping review guidance recommends using basic qualitative content analysis,⁶ which is
280 a descriptive approach to analysis and involves a process of open coding to code concepts
281 or characteristics into overall categories. This can be applied to any evidence source or
282 study design in any scoping review, it is not limited to primary qualitative studies only. In
283 previous guidance, including JBI, there has been no definitive process described as to what
284 basic qualitative content analysis involves, and it is acknowledged that there are many
285 different analytical approaches that could be undertaken. However, the present paper
286 describes one approach that could be undertaken by scoping review authors.

287 *A basic qualitative content analysis approach for scoping reviews*

288 Elo and Kyngäs²³ describe three phases of qualitative content analysis for the results of
289 primary qualitative research including *preparation*, *organizing*, and *reporting*. These phases
290 could also be used to describe a basic process of qualitative analysis within scoping reviews.
291 A fourth '*abstraction*' phase is also described by Elo and Kyngäs²³ however this technique
292 would be beyond the realm of scoping reviews in which we do not seek to synthesize or re-
293 interpret evidence. Flowchart 1 shows the process of how to conduct the analyses of
294 qualitative data within a scoping review.

295 *Preparation Phase*

296 Scoping review authors should first determine if there is the need to conduct a basic
297 qualitative content analysis during the protocol stage of their scoping review. If the aim of the
298 review were to explore experiences, or the meaningfulness of an issue, then a qualitative
299 systematic review would be more appropriate.² If a basic qualitative content analysis
300 approach is deemed necessary (e.g., as the characteristics of a particular issue, definitions
301 for a concept, or concept are being mapped) then it would be appropriate to use this method
302 within scoping reviews.

303 Depending on the research question, and the field of research, an inductive or deductive
304 approach will need to be decided upon by the scoping review team during the protocol
305 development stage and subsequently reported within the protocol. These terms will be
306 familiar to qualitative researchers. An inductive approach may be useful where there is a
307 dearth of evidence on the topic, or the goal is to develop or inform a conceptual framework
308 or theory.²³ The deductive approach is typically used to map the data to an established
309 framework or theory within the literature.²³ There may be times however, when a deductive
310 approach is chosen without using a pre-existing framework – (for example, when no suitable
311 framework or theory can be found). In such situations, the review team needs to decide upon
312 a framework during the protocol stage and, ideally, will have consulted on the suitability of
313 the framework.

314 —

315 INSERT Flowchart 1: The process of how to conduct the analyses of qualitative data within a
316 scoping review.

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318

319 *Organizing phase*

320 The organizing phase during qualitative data analysis within scoping reviews will differ
321 depending whether the scoping review is following an inductive or deductive approach.²³

322 The first step in the organization stage is for the review authors to familiarize themselves
323 with the data. This includes reading and comprehending all the included evidence sources
324 and understanding how it is relevant to the objective and questions of the scoping review.²³

325 *Inductive approach*

326 When the authors have become familiar with the sources of evidence and relevant data,
327 review authors can then carry out open coding of the data. A code can be described as a
328 label and can be an initial descriptor that is a few words long. The process of open coding
329 involves reviewing the evidence sources again and listing initial thoughts, possible
330 categories or notes which help describe what is occurring within the data which explains the
331 objective and review question. During this stage, there are no limitations as to how many
332 high-level categories can be listed. This is an initial process that will be refined. Once the
333 open coding process has occurred, the coding framework can be developed. This will
334 involve gathering all the information in the prior stage to develop a coding framework to help
335 describe and answer the review question(s) and allow the organization of extracted data.

336 At this stage, the coding framework may include higher order categories, or sub-categories.

337 It is also beneficial to provide a definition of these categories and sub-categories to help
338 extractors, but also to show transparency in the decision-making that has occurred

339 throughout this process. The coding framework should be reviewed by all members of the
340 review team. Once the coding framework has been reviewed, extractors are now able to go
341 through the included evidence sources, extract the relevant information, and organize it
342 within the coding framework. Categorization involves exploring the organized extractions and
343 assessing if the initial coding framework adequately answers the review question. It is
344 common for the categories and sub-categories within the initial coding framework to be
345 changed during this stage to accommodate new understanding of what was stated within the
346 evidence sources. These categories can form a conceptual framework or theory.

347

348 **Case study of inductive qualitative data extraction and analysis**

349 A scoping review was undertaken with the objective to assess the available literature that
350 documents or utilizes patient journey mapping methodologies and examine their reporting
351 processes.²⁴ After an extensive searching and selection process, there were 81 included
352 evidence sources within this scoping review. The scoping review authors chose to extract
353 information about why primary authors would use patient journey mapping. The scoping
354 review authors extracted 76 justifications. During the analysis stage, the scoping review
355 team met several times to review each of these justifications. The process of analysis
356 included listing initial thoughts, possible categories or notes (which help describe what is
357 occurring within the data) with the eventual goal to make a smaller list of common
358 justifications why researchers choose patient journey mapping. After meeting several times
359 as a group, 10 categories were identified, such as comprehensiveness of care, how people
360 were navigating the system, patient satisfaction with services and comparing patient
361 experiences with standards of practice. An example of this process of developing categories
362 can be seen in flowchart 2, however, to note, this is not a linear process, and it may be
363 necessary to re-examine the categories and establish whether they could be further refined.

364 —

365 INSERT Flow chart 2: Example of the process of developing categories

366 —

367 Once the framework had been developed, two scoping review authors individually went
368 through the extracted data and assigned it to a category. These review authors then came
369 together and assessed if there were any discrepancies. All discrepancies were discussed
370 and consensus was achieved, however, a third reviewer had agreed to manage any
371 discrepancies that could not be resolved through discussion.

372 *Deductive approach*

373 As described above, in the deductive approach, the framework has already been developed
374 during the protocol stage. Therefore, the review authors can extract data according to that
375 framework, by extracting the verbatim text, which maps to the decided framework and
376 answers the proposed question(s). Once this is completed, the extractions should then be
377 reviewed by the members of the review team to ensure that they reflect the understanding of
378 the framework. There may be a scenario, when scoping review authors initially utilize a
379 deductive framework, and then recognize that this would not be the best fit for the extracted
380 data and its ability to provide a descriptive map of the available evidence. Therefore, the
381 scoping review authors can switch to an inductive approach during the extraction and
382 analytical steps of a scoping review and document this deviation from the protocol in the final
383 review.

384 **Case study of deductive qualitative data extraction and analysis**

385 A scoping review was conducted to identify barriers and facilitators in the prevention of type
386 two diabetes mellitus and gestational diabetes in vulnerable groups.²⁵ After searching
387 several databases, 125 evidence sources were included. A pre-existing framework had been
388 developed prior to the extraction of the data, which included eight categories: language;
389 economic factors; family and friends; work; social support; religion; culture and knowledge.
390 During extraction, scoping review authors extracted barriers and facilitators and then sorted

391 into pre-arranged categories. Other barriers which did not fit into these pre-arranged
392 categories were found, and they included insufficient time, problems with travelling and
393 insufficient motivation, however these were minimal and the framework did not change.²⁵

394 **Including other forms of evidence synthesis and the issue of double counting**

395 An issue seen within systematic reviews is ensuring that the same data set is not counted
396 across multiple studies. Double counting issues can arise in scoping reviews for numerous
397 reasons such as when you include evidence synthesis and primary articles (i.e. there is the
398 potential for overlap). There may also be a scenario where multiple evidence synthesis
399 sources are included in the scoping review and the primary article is included within them all;
400 or there are several reports of one, and, the same primary study. This may become
401 problematic if, for example, the review question is attempting to determine the type and
402 frequency of outcomes being used within a particular field of work, as scoping review
403 authors may count the same outcome from both the original study and any evidence
404 synthesis source that also included the original study, thus skewing the prominence. While
405 there is no formal guidance on how to manage this issue, scoping review authors should be
406 aware of the risk and make efforts to avoid counting the same data items multiple times from
407 different sources. Authors may decide to still include the evidence synthesis within the
408 scoping review to be able to map the available evidence and to report the number of
409 evidence syntheses mapped. Guidance for systematic reviews and overviews (reviews of
410 reviews/umbrella reviews)²⁶ might also apply. However, scoping review authors should
411 clearly report which other included sources of primary evidence were included within that
412 evidence synthesis. The final scoping review report should clearly state how other types of
413 evidence synthesis were handled in the review and what data were extracted from them and
414 from the primary studies (if appropriate).

415

416 **Presentation of data**

417 There are a multitude of ways that scoping reviews can present data and answer the
418 proposed review question(s). Scoping reviews commonly include tables that present the
419 available data. Although useful as they can summarize a large amount of information, and
420 show how extraction has occurred, there also needs to be consideration in communicating
421 results from the scoping reviews to the wider community. Further, scoping review results
422 with many included sources may result in tables that are too large to easily present in the
423 standard fashion of a journal article. There are many creative approaches that scoping
424 reviews can include to convey results to the reader in an understandable way. For example,
425 in Tricco, Lillie⁵ they visualized the different terminology of scoping reviews through a word
426 cloud. Kynoch, Ramis²⁷ used a honeycomb to visualize the outcomes in the included
427 evidence sources and the number of relevant studies. The author team using Power BI
428 developed four further examples of how scoping review results can be visualized. In
429 example 1, the authors have created a world heat map with the size of the circle indicating
430 how many evidence sources were conducted in that country. Example 2; is a tree graph
431 indicating the illness categories seen within the included evidence. Example 3 is using
432 iconography to represent the different types of populations (and how many of each) were
433 included within the evidence sources. Example 4 are waffle charts of the type of
434 methodology used by the evidence sources included within a scoping review.

435 Alongside any visual presentation, a supporting narrative must be provided about the result.
436 Further consideration for the presentation of scoping review results is the use of interactive
437 resources. While many scoping reviews map the breadth of the evidence in an area, this can
438 be useful to inform future research and as such, a searchable interactive resource would be
439 helpful. An example of this is the searchable interactive map of outcome tools and
440 International Scientific Tendinopathy Symposium Consensus (ICON) health domains relative
441 to tendinopathy types presented as supplementary files in a scoping review of exercise for
442 tendinopathy.²⁸

443 _____

444 INSERT Examples 1,2,3 and 4

445 —

446 **Reporting scoping reviews**

447 The PRISMA-ScR provides a checklist for reporting a scoping review. It has clear guidance
448 on how to report the extraction (called ‘data charting’ within PRISMA-ScR), analysis (called
449 ‘data synthesis’), and presentation of data. Items 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 20 and 21 are
450 applicable for these sections and should be referred to whilst writing the scoping review
451 report to ensure a transparent and rigorous process. A completed PRISMA-ScR checklist
452 which documents page numbers where each of these actions have been addressed should
453 also be included as a supplementary file to your scoping review report. Because the
454 checklist requires authors to indicate the page that items are checked off against, ensure
455 that these page numbers are accurate in the final proofs of your scoping review if it is to be
456 published otherwise, they will not match up.

457 The PRISMA-ScR also provides an appendix (titled: PRISMA extension for Scoping Reviews
458 Explanation and Elaboration) that describes each section, which needs to be reported within
459 a scoping review, and a written example of how this can be achieved within a report.

460 **Software**

461 There are many software programs, which can be used to assist in the extraction, analysis
462 and presentation of scoping review data. These include Google Sheets as this allows for
463 real-time editing and can manage version control issues. However, Microsoft Excel is also
464 appropriate for data extraction, and can facilitate basic descriptive analyses. NVIVO
465 (released in March 2020)²⁹ is also often used in the extraction, analysis and presentation of
466 qualitative information. Further, data visualization programs can include Microsoft Power BI,
467 or Tableau. For mapping, EPPI-Mapper³⁰ and even EndNote³¹ are useful tools, amongst
468 others. Having scoping review authors familiar with software use and its application helps
469 facilitate the data extraction, analysis, and presentation of results.

470 **Conclusion**

471 Scoping reviews aim to systematically identify and map the breadth of evidence available on
472 a particular topic, field, concept, or issue within or across particular contexts, and this
473 requires a different analytical approach to systematic reviews. The extraction, analysis, and
474 presentation of results within a scoping review can be challenging due to the variety of
475 evidence sources that scoping reviews can include and the absence of specific guidance for
476 reviewers. This article has partially addressed this gap by providing guidance regarding how
477 to extract, analyse, and present data within scoping reviews. It is hoped that scoping review
478 authors will be able to use this guidance to improve the quality and clarity of published
479 scoping reviews and to make conducting and reporting scoping reviews easier.

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582 Table 1: Example of a data extraction table

Author, year	Country	Aim	Study type/Source	Population	Sample size	Age (yrs)	Gender	Other demographics	Setting	Concept – Ex type	Ex Adherence	Outcomes (Health Domain)	Results
Crawshaw 2010 ¹²	UK	To compare the effectiveness of subacromial corticosteroid injection combined with timely exercise and manual	RCT – 2arm	Aged 40 and older, have unilateral shoulder pain, subjectively rate their pain as moderate or severe on a 3 point scale (mild/moderate/severe), and have a non-capsular	Total (n = 232), Injection + exercise (n=115), Exercise only (n = 117)	Injection + exercise = M (57.2), SD (10.3), Exercise only = M (54.9), SD (10)	Injection + exercise = 57% F, Exercise only = 52% F	Median weeks of shoulder pain, started after injury, employed, diabetic	Clinic	Flexibility - Stretching, Flexibility - PNF, Strength - Isometric, Other - Scapular stabilisation or motor control,	Treatment logs	SPADI (Disability); GROC (Participant/patient rating overall condition)	Disability & GROC: Short term benefit from injection, but no difference at 12 or 24 weeks

		therapy (injection plus exercise) or exercise and manual therapy alone (exercise only) in patients with subacromi al impingem ent syndrome		pattern of restriction.						Strength - Progressi ve Resistan ce Exercise			
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Levy et al; 2009 ¹³	UK	To investigate recreational participant s' experiences of adhering to a sport injury rehabilitation program	Qualitative	Recreational sport participants, tendonitis related overuse injury	6	Range 24-38	4 M, 2 F	Reason for injury	Mixed	Group exercise class and social dancing class	Lack of motivation and confidence had –ve effect on home ex; ineffective coping strategies, over support and pain affected clinic adherence	NA	5 themes: motivation, confidence, coping, social support, and pain
Ex – Exercise													

NA – Not applicable
PNF – Proprioceptive Neuromuscular Facilitation
GROC – Global rating of change
SPADI – Shoulder Pain and Disability Index

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584 Image one- Example of data extraction guidance

- **Author**
 - Smith
 - Smith & Hunt
 - More than three authors-> Smith et al
- **Title of source**

What is the title of this article, guideline, etc.? Write the full title
For example the experience of mothers and fathers in cases of stillbirth in Spain. A qualitative study
- **Publication**

Where was this article published? I.e. Midwifery; Birth; Women and Birth. If it is an organisation guideline-, write the organisation, i.e. American College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
There is the occasion where there may be multiple dates on an article i.e. pre-prints, or an article that would be put online before it then is published. Just stick to the date on the article that you have.
- **Year**

The year the article was published.

Date the data was collected
The article may have collected data at another time point prior to publication. In this section write the time period, i.e. (1990-2000) data was collected. If this data was not stated, or no data was collected (i.e. discussion paper) then write NA.
- **Type of Evidence Source (Primary Research/ Evidence Synthesis/Conference abstract/ Discussion article)**
 - Primary research: Peer-reviewed research articles
 - Epidemiology: Articles that have used population-level datasets
 - Evidence synthesis: Narrative reviews, systematic reviews, scoping reviews, rapid reviews etc.
 - Conference abstracts: Abstracts presented within conferences.

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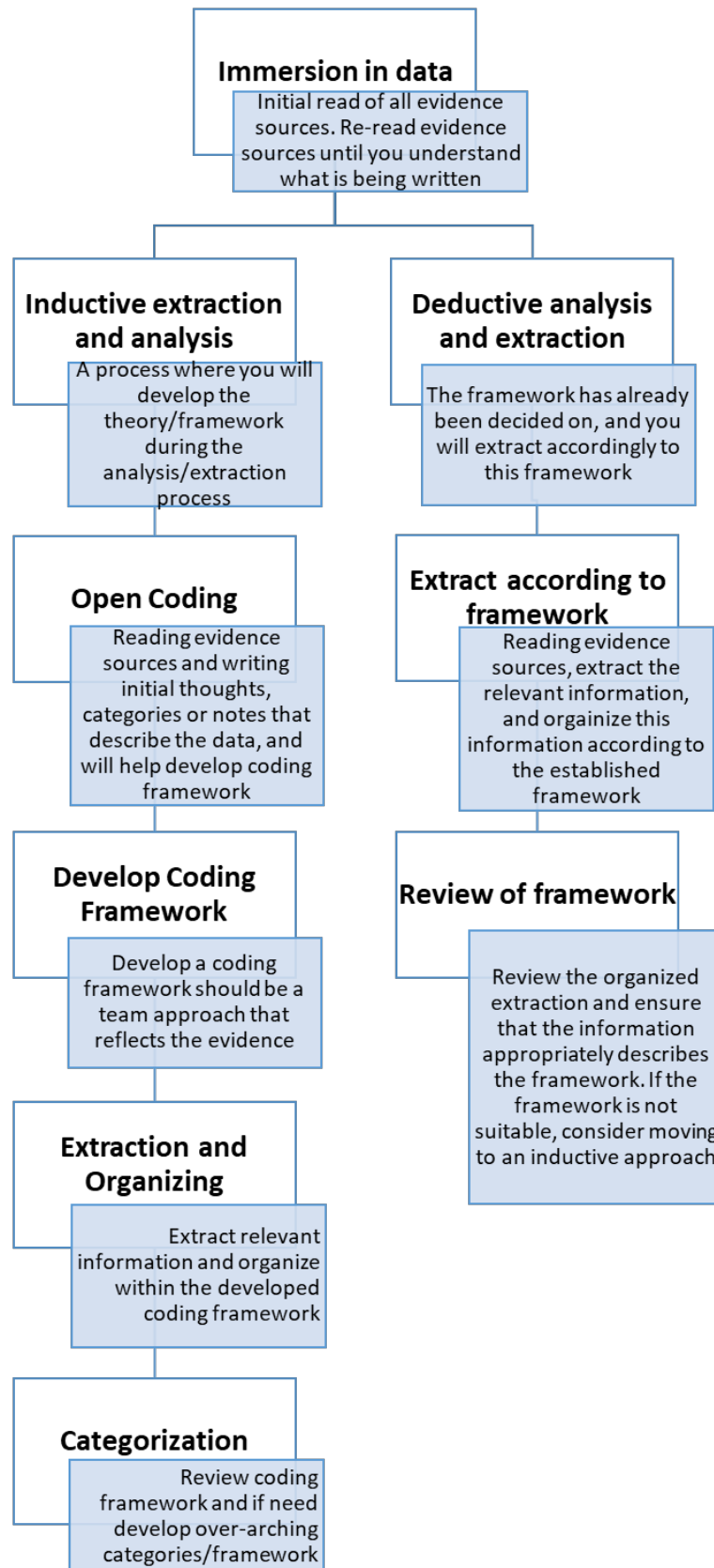
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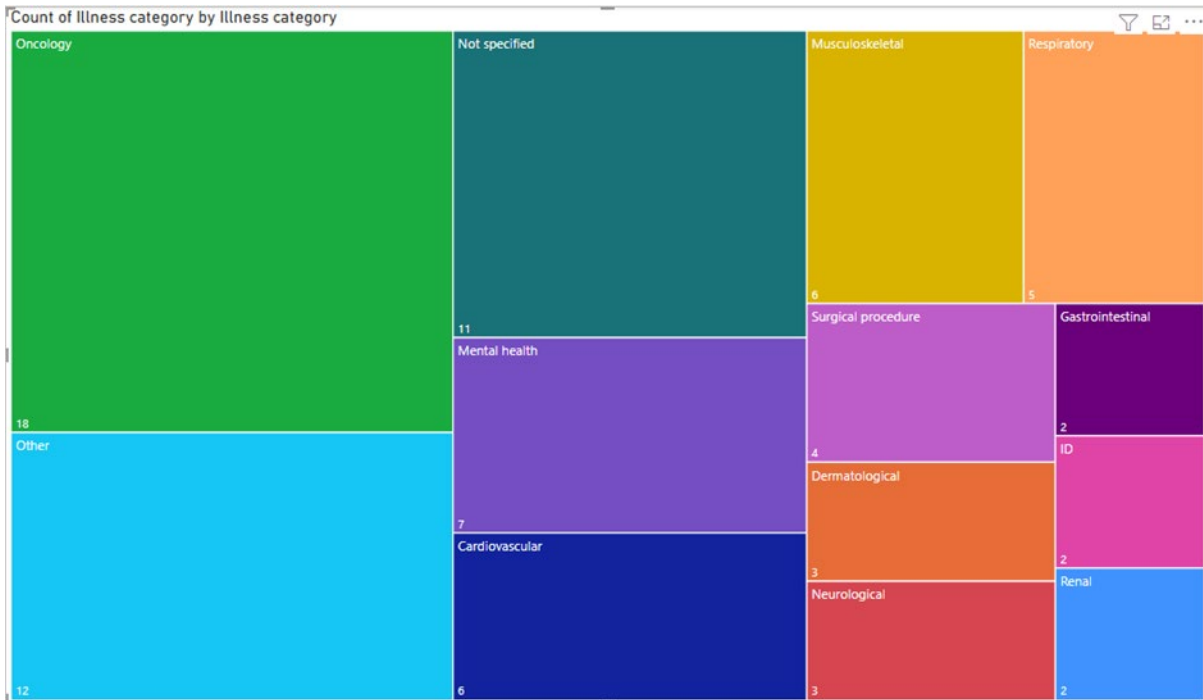


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597 Flowchart 1: The process of how to conduct the analyses of qualitative data within a scoping

598 review

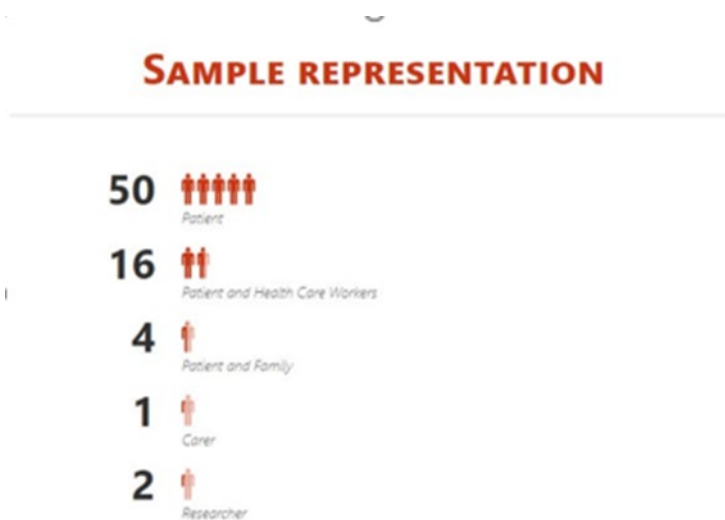
610 Example 2: A tree graph of illness categories seen within the included evidence



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613 Example 3: A visual representation of the different types of populations included within the
614 evidence sources



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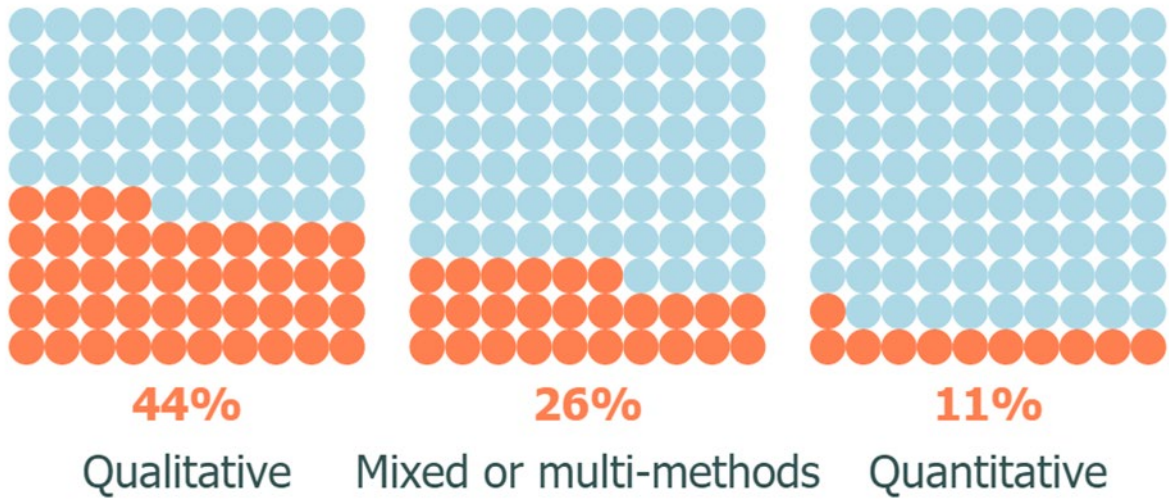
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618 Example 4: A waffle chart of the methodology used within the included evidence sources

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Count of Methodology by Methodology



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