



Caregiver-identified priorities for support: A scoping review

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INTRODUCTION

Canada's population of older adults is growing and the vast majority of older adults who are chronically ill rely on informal caregivers.

Caregivers often require additional support to facilitate their role. There has yet to be a collation of caregiver identified priorities for support.

This scoping review serves to provide a comprehensive picture of what caregivers have identified as priorities for support through previous research efforts.

METHODS

The five-step methodology for scoping studies developed by Arksey and O'Malley (2005) was used for this review. See Figure B.

Review Management Software:



Inclusion Criteria:

- Peer-reviewed research of any design.
- Sample is caregivers to older adults (>55 years).
- Manuscripts published in English.
- The priorities for caregiver support were identified by caregivers themselves.

Exclusion Criteria:

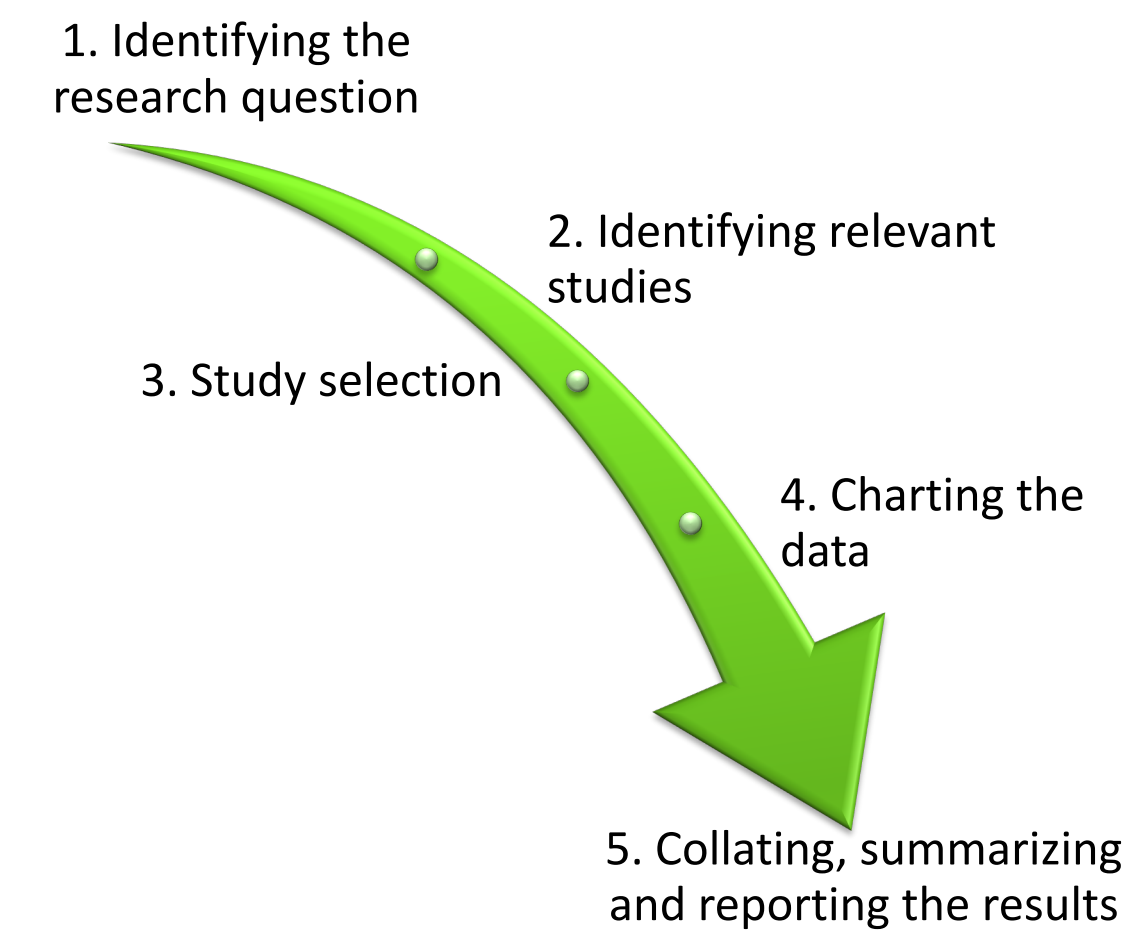
- Sample population is caregivers to individuals other than older adults.
- Does not identify priorities for caregiver support.
- Priorities established within the report are not identified by caregivers.
- Protocols, abstracts, editorials, grey literature, and conference proceedings.
- Published in a language other than English.

FIGURES

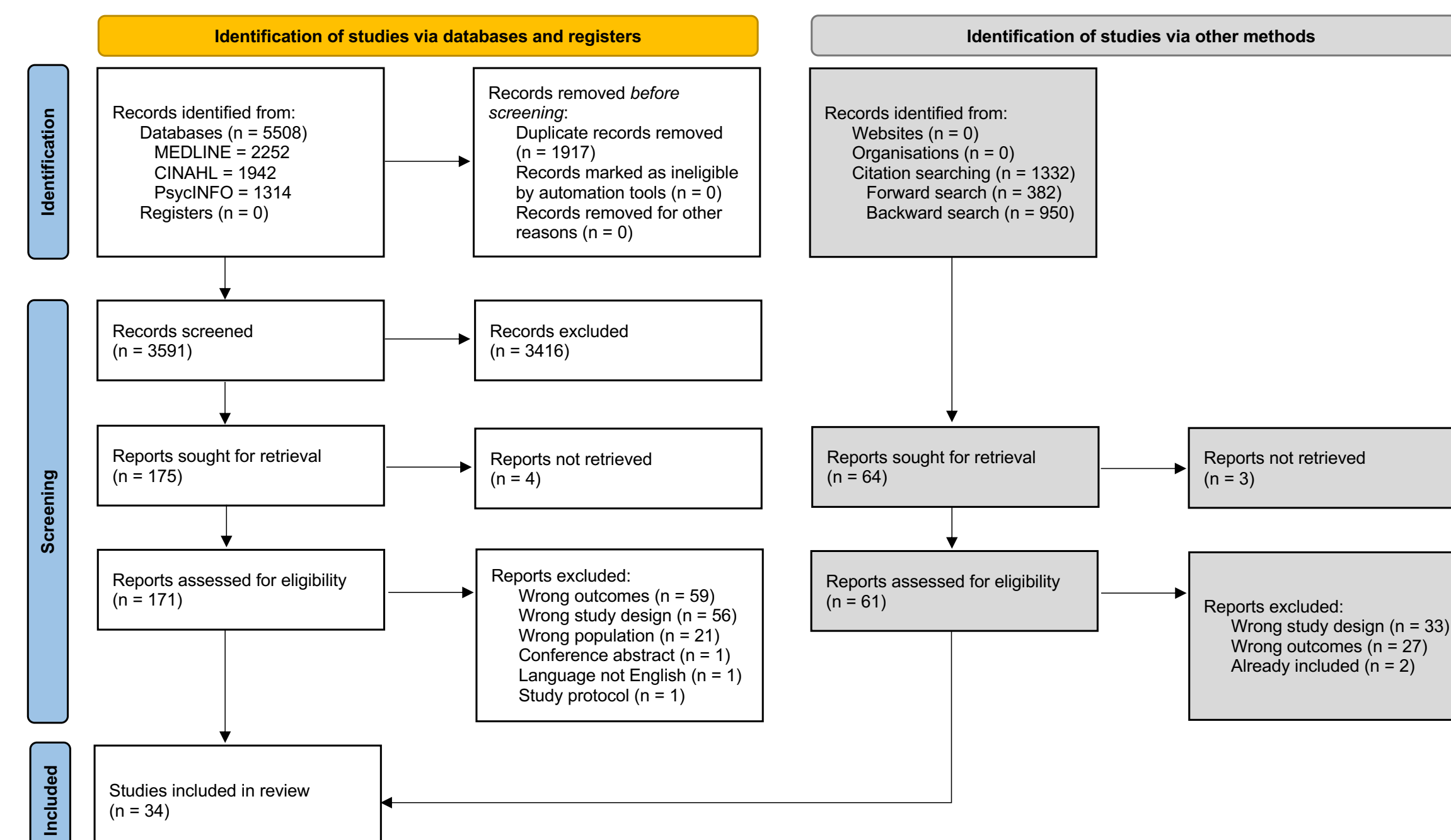
A) Thematic Analysis Sunburst Chart



B) Arksey & O'Malley 5-Step Scoping Review Methodology



C) PRISMA 2020 Flow Diagram



From: Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. *BMJ* 2021;372:n71. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n71. For more information, visit: <http://www.prisma-statement.org/>

RESULTS

A total of **34 studies** met the inclusion criteria. See Figure C for flow diagram.

Seven themes (Figure A) emerged from the caregiver-identified priorities. Themes were quantified based on the number of codes for each theme and organized into a prioritized list:

1. Orientation to the caregiving role
2. Self-care and respite
3. Adapting healthcare
4. Improved supports
5. Information needs
6. Access to resources
7. Financial assistance

CONCLUSION

Researchers have previously engaged caregivers in setting priorities for support interventions.

This scoping review provides a collation of this literature and presents a synthesized list of caregivers' priorities for support.

Evidence from this study can be used to guide decisions by policymakers, healthcare professionals and non-profit organizations when developing support interventions for caregivers.

This scoping review lays the groundwork for an upcoming study to set priorities specifically for caregiver support in Saskatchewan.

REFERENCES

Arksey, H., & O'Malley, L. (2005). Scoping studies: towards a methodological framework. *International journal of social research methodology*, 8(1), 19-32.