Covidence for Systematic Reviews

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What is a systematic review?

“Systematic reviews seek to collate evidence that fits pre-specified eligibility criteria in order to answer a specific research question. They aim to minimize bias by using explicit, systematic methods documented in advance with a protocol.”

Steps to Completing a Systematic Review

- Write Protocol
- Create search strategies, run, deduplicate results
- Title Abstract Review
- Full Text Review
- Data Abstraction
- Synthesis
- Reporting, including creation of PRISMA chart
What is Covidence?

- Web-based platform
- Systematic review production tool
- Non-profit organization out of Australia
- As of 2015, Covidence is the standard production platform for Cochrane Reviews
Covidence is NOT a citation management program.

It is important that you still use a citation management program like RefWorks, EndNote, Zotero, Mendeley, or others.

See the Welch Medical Library’s guide on citation management to make an informed decision.

https://browse.welch.jhmi.edu/citation-management
Key Features: How Covidence Can Help

- Title/Abstract Screening
- Full-Text Review
- PDF Annotation
- Risk of Bias Assessment
- Extraction of Study Characteristics
- Export of Data and References
- PRISMA Flow Diagram Help
## Review Summary

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<th>Section</th>
<th>Relevant</th>
<th>Irrelevant</th>
<th>Total to Screen</th>
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Title and abstract screening

Team Progress:
- 15 DONE
- 59 ONE VOTE
- 16 NO VOTES
- 10 CONFLICTS

Resolve:
- 10

Screen:
- 44

Claire, you can still resolve conflicts.

You've screened 56 studies so far.
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a leading cause of irreversible visual loss and is primarily treated with nutritional supplementation as well as with anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) agents for certain patients with neovascular disease. AMD is a complex disease with both genetic and environmental risk factors. In addition, treatment outcomes from nutritional supplementation and anti-VEGF agents vary considerably. Therefore, it is reasonable to suspect that there may be pharmacogenetic influences on these treatments. Many series have reported individual associations with variants in complement factor H (CFH), age-related maculopathy susceptibility 2 (ARMS2), and other loci. However, at this time there are no validated associations. With respect to AMD, pharmacogenetics remains an intriguing area of research but is not helpful for routine clinical management.
PRISMA Flow Diagram

Helpful Resources

Resources to help you through your next review.

- Covidence Knowledge Base
  https://covidence-knowledge-base.groovehq.com/help

- Welch Library’s Systematic and Expert Reviews Guide
  https://browse.welch.jhmi.edu/sr-methods

- Find Your Librarian
  https://welch.jhmi.edu/about/informationists or
  https://www.library.jhu.edu/
Using Covidence for Conducting Systematic Reviews Video Tutorial
More on Quality Assessment

More on Data Extraction
More on Exporting Citations
Systematic Review Resources

- Campbell Collaboration: [https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/research-resources/writing-a-campbell-systematic-review.html](https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/research-resources/writing-a-campbell-systematic-review.html)
- Uni of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination: [https://www.york.ac.uk/crd/guidance/](https://www.york.ac.uk/crd/guidance/)
- Cochrane Handbook: [http://training.cochrane.org/handbook](http://training.cochrane.org/handbook)
- JBI Reviewer's Manual: [https://reviewersmanual.joannabriggs.org/](https://reviewersmanual.joannabriggs.org/)
- The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine Standards for Systematic Reviews: [https://www.nap.edu/read/13059/chapter/1](https://www.nap.edu/read/13059/chapter/1)
- See more on the Welch Medical Library SR Guide: [https://browse.welch.jhmi.edu/sr-methods/standards-guidelines](https://browse.welch.jhmi.edu/sr-methods/standards-guidelines)