

Identifying Research Area in Mental Health under National Health Research Priority Setting in Malaysia



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Introduction

World Health Organization (WHO) defines mental health as an identification of individual potential state of well-being, coping with life's normal stresses, working productively and fruitfully, and able to make community contribution.

Objective

This study aims to identify gaps in mental health research globally and in Malaysia, serving to guide a national project on health research priorities setting.

Method

Identifying research questions

Identifying relevant studies

Study selection for inclusion

Extracting, summarizing and reporting the results

Results

- Systematic searches retrieved 43,282 records, yielding 2890 eligible studies
- Using the reference lists of included studies, an additional 216 eligible records were retrieved, yielding a total of 3106 studies. A total of 189 studies were retrieved for full text and 27 studies were included.
- Most of the studies concentrated on the effectiveness of interventions, epidemiology and biomedical research.
- Only 5 studies were concerned with rehabilitation and complication.

Table 1: Summary of scope of research in the included studies

Total studies	Research Scope	Authors and year
5	1. Institutional rehabilitation 2. Social rehabilitation 3. Spiritual rehabilitation	Ramli et al. (2012) Chie et al. (2016) Zulkifli WZ et al. (2017) Adnan MW et al. (2019) Suarn VS et al. (2019)
13	1. Epidemiology, identification of vulnerable groups 2. Risks and association 3. Behavioural studies 4. Biomedical	Yeap R and Low WY (2009) Ahmad N et al. (2015) Hanafiah AN et al. (2015) Abdul Manaf MR et al. (2016) Tajik E et al. (2017) Lee AMH et al. (2018) Ibrahim N et al. (2019) Othman S and A Essau C. (2019) Rosli H et al. (2019) Zahir Izuan A et al. (2019) Berry C et al. (2019) Berry C et al. (2020) Dai H et al. (2020)
7	1. Education intervention at institutions 2. Training among workers 3. Clinical intervention 4. Training at workplace 5. Robotic technology 6. Swimming intervention 7. Exercise intervention including swimming and stretching conducted three times weekly for eight weeks.	Ahmad Zamani Z et al. (2013) Dahlan R et al. (2013) Chu AH et al. (2014) N. Ali et al. (2017) Tay KW et al. (2019) Jaapar S. Z. S. et al. (2020) Junainor Hassan et al. (2020)
2	Systematic review, meta-analysis and scoping reviews	Choudhry FR et al. (2016) Heim E et al. (2019)

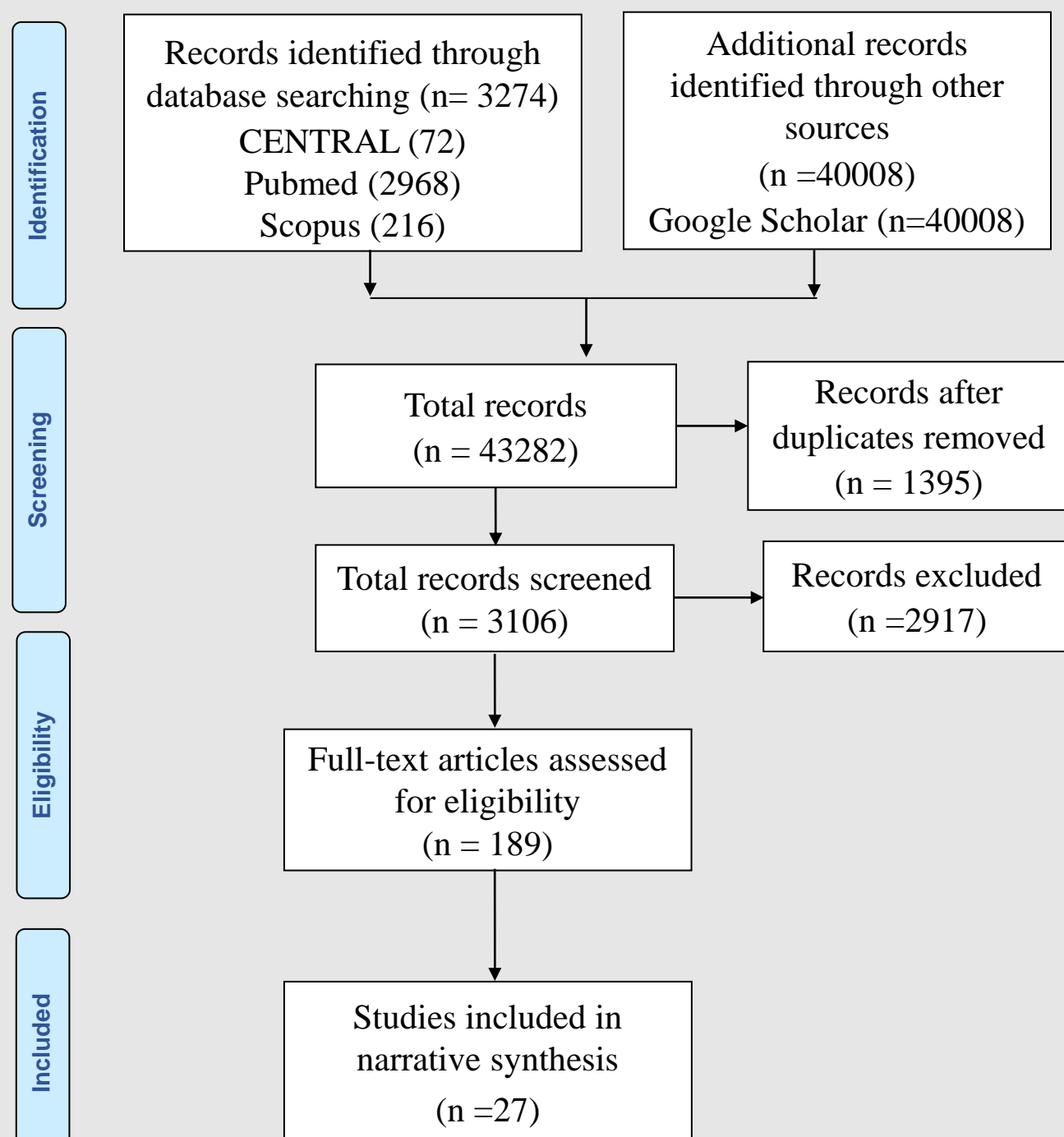


Fig 1: The PRISMA flowchart for the included studies in identifying research area in Mental Health

Conclusion

This study provided a mapping of evidence used to identify, prioritize, and display gaps or priorities in mental health research. Through this exercise, a need is identified for increased research on rehabilitation and complications of various mental health conditions.

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