

Examining Systematic Review Terminology and Quality Assessment in Reviews of Children's Social Care Interventions

Simone Willis, Jonathan Scourfield



OVERVIEW

1 Introduction

2 Objective

3 Methods

4 Results

5 Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

- **What Works Children's Social Care (WWCSC)**
- **Evidence Store**
- **Methodological flaws**

OBJECTIVE

To consider the methodological reasons for the exclusion of articles that identified themselves as systematic reviews or meta-analyses.

METHODS

1 Protocol

2 Eligibility criteria

3 Search strategy

4 Study selection

5 Data extraction

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Population

- Children and young people aged ≤ 21
- Young people in education aged ≤ 25

Intervention

- Child welfare
- Intervention effectiveness

Limits

- UK and high-income countries
- Searches ≥ 2005
- Year ≥ 2008
- Included papers ≥ 1990

Study design

- Systematic reviews, scoping reviews, meta-analyses
- DARE criteria
 - Reported inclusion/exclusion
 - Adequate search strategy
 - Synthesis
 - Quality assessment
 - Sufficient details of included studies

SEARCH STRATEGY

- Database terms:
 - Children and adolescents
 - Social care
 - Systematic reviews
- 15 databases (including Medline, Scopus, ERIC, and Epistemonikos)
- Grey literature (16 websites including NICE, DfE)

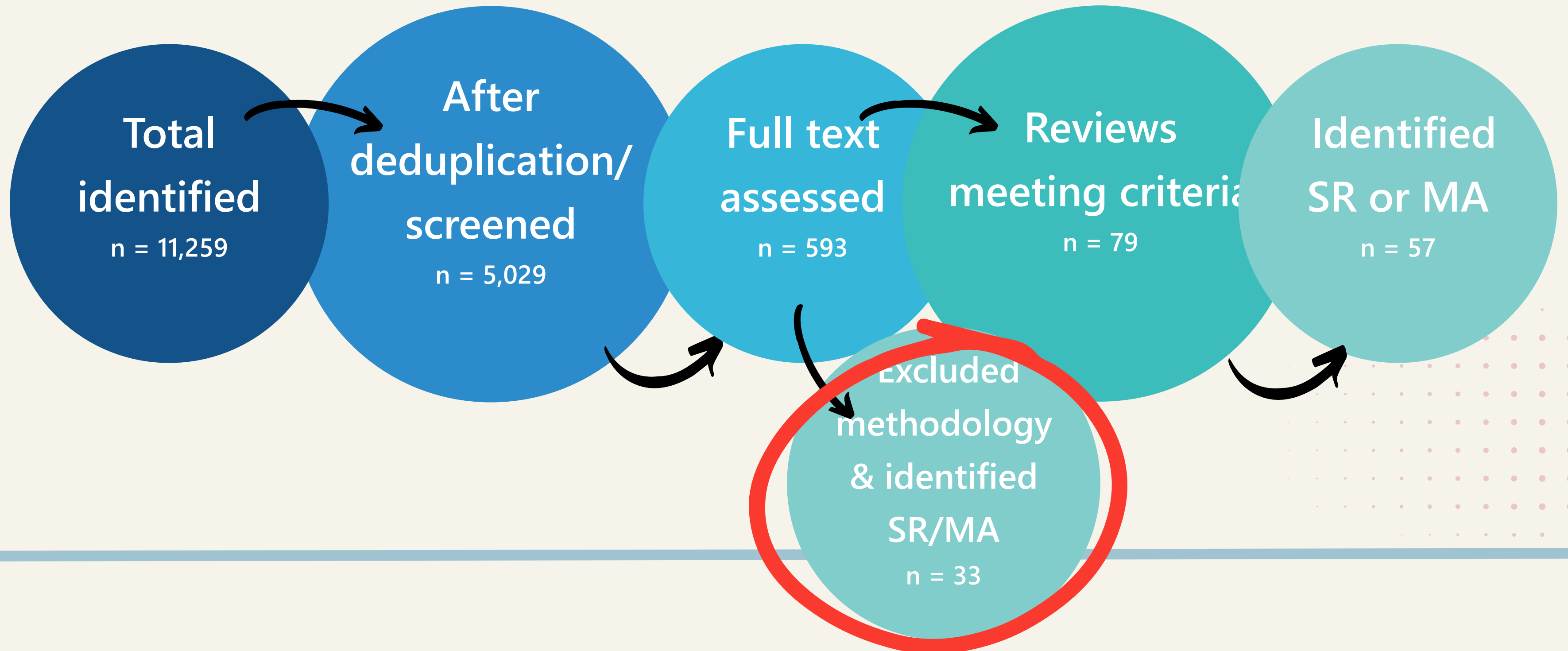
STUDY SELECTION

- 3 Reviewers
- Title/abstract calibration using random set of 250 references
- Independent screening (ti/ab)
- Independent screening with check (ft)
- Recorded reasons for exclusion

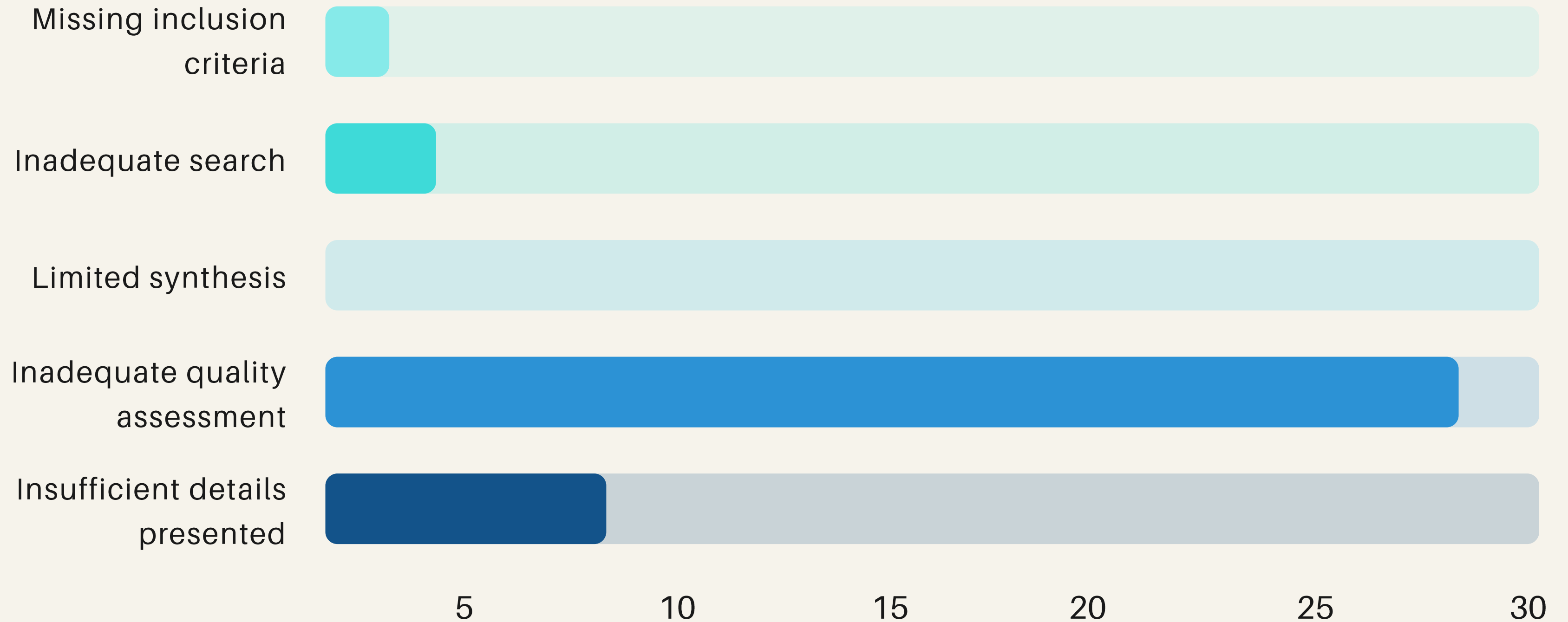
DATA EXTRACTION

- Studies described as “Systematic review” or “Meta-analysis” in title or abstract
- Excluded studies: analysed reasons for exclusion
- Included studies: Quality assessment
 - Name
 - Type (scale, checklist, domain, Page et al., 2018)
 - Study design

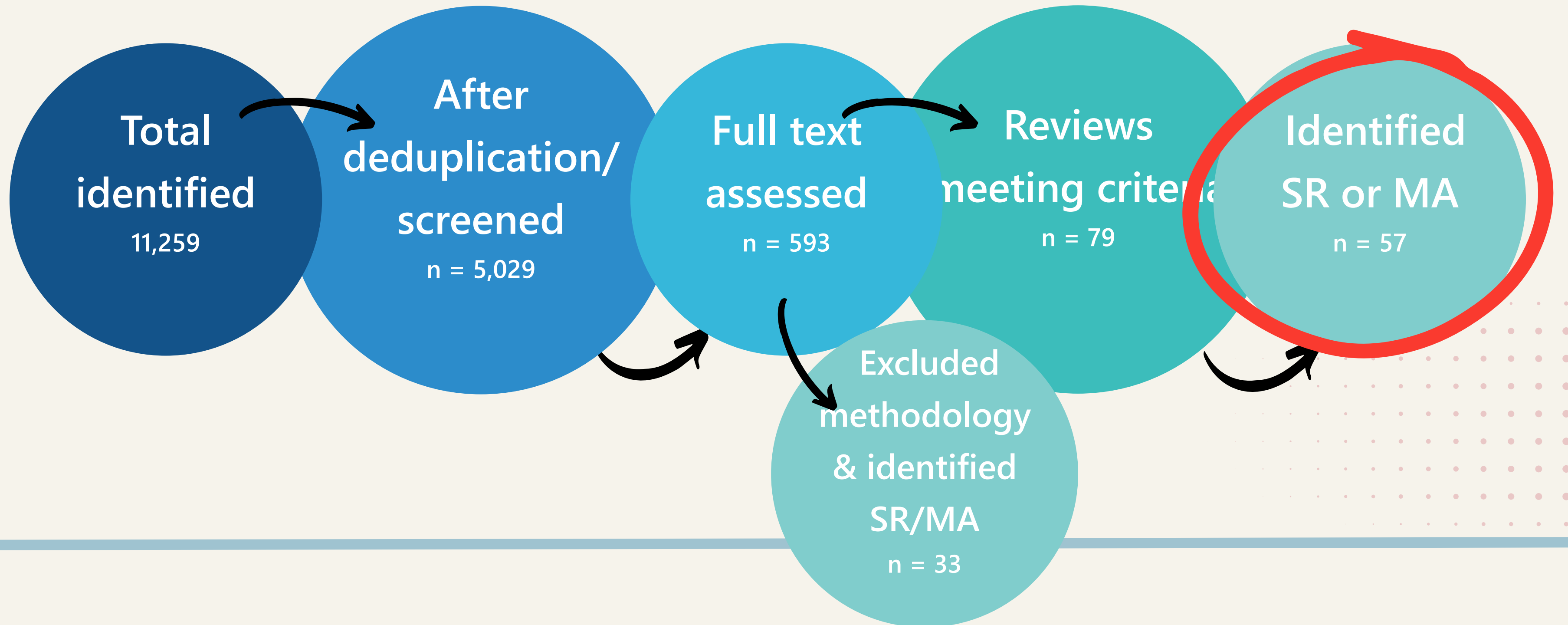
RESULTS



REASONS FOR EXCLUSION



RESULTS



QUALITY ASSESSMENT TOOLS

- Author developed tools (15 studies)
- Scales
 - Downs & Black Quality Index (Downs & Black, 1998) - 5 studies
 - Jadad Scale (Moher et al., 1996; Oliver et al., 2008) - 5 studies
 - Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (Wells et al., 2009) - 5 studies

QUALITY ASSESSMENT TOOLS

- Checklists
 - Joanna Briggs Institute Meta-Analysis of Statistics Assment and Review Instrument (JBI-MAStARI; Nwogu et al., 2015) - 2 studies
 - Law's Critical Review Form (Law et al., 1998) - 1 study
 - Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (2011) - 1 study

QUALITY ASSESSMENT TOOLS

- Domain
 - Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool (Higgins et al., 2011) - 13 studies
 - Risk of Bias Assessment Tool for Nonrandomised Studies (RoBANS; Kim et al., 2013) - 1 study
 - SBU Standardised checklist (Swedish Agency for HTA and assessment of Social Services, 2017) - 2 studies

CONCLUSION

- Methodological guidelines
- Reporting standards
- Author-developed tools
- Training
- Publishing process

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Simone Willis



WillisS5@cardiff.ac.uk



[linkedin.com/in/simonewillis/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/simonewillis/)