

The scope of research on the smoking of migrant across the globe: protocol for a scoping review

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Abstract

Introduction: Currently, there is a body of research present on migrant smoking across the globe, with the knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours of various populations towards smoking having been researched extensively. The objective of this scoping review is to understand the extent, the type, and the geographical concentration of evidence in relation to migrant smoking across the globe by systematically reviewing the available published literature.

Methods:

The updated framework of JBI for scoping review methodology will be used as guide for conduct of this scoping review. Electronic databases, reference lists of selected studies and grey literature will be considered for inclusion in this review. The literature search is anticipated to be carried out in June-July 2022. Initially, the search strategy will be developed in consultation with a medical librarian, followed by search from the selected sources. Consequently, the titles, abstracts, and full articles will be screened to establish relevance of each study for inclusion. Factors associated with migrants and smoking will be coded and categorised.

Introduction

Tobacco use is one of the most important causes of non-communicable diseases, reduced quality of life and premature mortality.¹ At the same time, there is a social gradient in smoking patterns, both when it comes to years spent smoking and success in smoking cessation.²⁻⁵

In recent years, various strategies, and measures to reduce tobacco consumption have proven successful, however mainly amongst higher socioeconomic groups. Thus, both at the policy level and in the planning of specific interventions, differences in access to tobacco prevention services and a lack of health literacy among disadvantaged migrant populations, particularly those in low socio-economic strata, can contribute to further increase the already existing social gradient with regard to tobacco use. Currently, there is a body of research present on migrant smoking across the globe.⁶⁻¹⁷ Similarly in the psychology domain, the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of various populations towards smoking has been researched extensively.¹⁸⁻²⁴ The majority of studies stem from the USA, with research from Europe scarcer and mainly concentrated on the UK and Germany. The preliminary search also showed that no current or underway reviews with the focus on migrant smoking were identified.

Aim:

This scoping review will map and summarise a range of research on migrant health and smoking to convey the breadth and depth of the field. As explained by Lockwood et al. (2019), the scoping review will show where the main bodies of research are found, will allow the refinement of subsequent research projects, as well as to provide the basis for comparisons of findings to those in other countries.^{25 26} The main objective of this scoping review is thus to understand the extent, the type and the geographical concentration of evidence in relation to migrant smoking across the globe by systematically reviewing the available published literature.

Review question

Research Questions:

What are the differences in available evidence on the knowledge, attitude, and behaviour of smoking amongst migrant populations across the globe?

What are the differences in knowledge, attitude, and behaviour of smoking between migrant populations, across varying countries?

Definition of terms

Migrant:

Defining migration and the concept of migrants is challenging, and often a controversial activity. While it is generally accepted that migration has both distance and time dimensions, there is still no consensus on the definition of the concept. The problem of classifying a migrant seems to stem to a large extent to differences in internal population movements, or international moves between countries, as well as the reasons for the movement.²⁷

For the sake of the scoping review, we refer to the International Organisation for Migration, who have defined a migrant as “an umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the

common lay understanding of a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons. The term includes a number of well-defined legal categories of people, such as migrant workers; persons whose particular types of movements are legally-defined, such as smuggled migrants; as well as those whose status or means of movement are not specifically defined under international law, such as international students."²⁸

Within the scope of Switzerland, the concept migrants will refer to populations with a migration background, defined by the Federal Statistical Office as all foreign nationals, nationalized Swiss citizens, except for those born in Switzerland and whose parents were both born in Switzerland, as well as Swiss citizens at birth whose parents were both born abroad.²⁹

Smoking:

Smoking will be defined as the consumption of tobacco and nicotine products, most often through the act of inhaling and exhaling the aerosols of a substance. This act is commonly associated with burning tobacco, smoked in the form of a cigarette, cigar or pipe, but is not limited to these materials and can also include the heating of e-liquids within e-cigarettes, or other ENDS (electronic nicotine delivery systems). Under this concept, we will also include smokeless products, such as snuff or snus.

Eligibility criteria

Studies published in any language will be included. Studies published in the last 10 years will be included as to ensure relevancy. The geographical scope will be global. The search strategy will aim to locate both published and unpublished studies, including observational studies and reviews, but excluding animal studies and RCTs, or clinical trials. An initial limited search of Medline (via Ovid) was undertaken to identify articles on the topic. The text words contained in the titles and abstracts of relevant articles, and the MeSH terms used to describe the articles were used to develop a full search strategy. The search strategy, including all identified keywords and index terms, will be adapted for each included database and/or information source. The reference list of all included sources of evidence will be screened for additional studies.

The databases to be searched will include Ovid Medline, Embase.com, Web of Science, PsycINFO (Ovid), and Global Health (Ovid). Depending on the number and quality of literature identified from the database searches, we may also consider searching for unpublished/grey literature using Google Scholar, Eurobarometer and other EU/non-EU country surveillance sources.

Methods

The proposed scoping review protocol was developed in accordance with the JBI methodology for scoping reviews.³⁰

Sample Search strategy

The search strategy will be developed in consultation with a medical librarian and will be refined through several pilot searches, to inform decisions on the parameters of the review. A sample search strategy may be found below:

Database:

Ovid MEDLINE(R) ALL <1946 to March 11, 2022>

Date last searched: 14th March 2022

Constructing the literature search based on concepts.

Combination of concepts: 1) AND 2) AND 3) + adding limits 4)

Medline ALL Ovid

<p>Migrants Concept 1: MeSH</p> <p>Concept 1: Textwords</p>	<p>("Transients and Migrants"/ or Refugees/ or exp Human Migration/ or exp "Emigrants and Immigrants"/ or Minority Groups/ or Minority Health/ OR "Ethnic and Racial Minorities"/ or Cross-Cultural Comparison/ or Cultural Diversity/ or Vulnerable Populations/</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(migrant* or immigrant* or (migration* adj3 (human* or background*)) or immigration* or emigrant* or "labour migration*" or "labor migration*" or refugee* or asylum* or (forced adj (migra* or displace* or immigra*)) or ((displaced or undocumented) adj3 (person* or people* or population* or women or men or adolescen* or individual*)) or (minorit* adj3 (group* or health* or population*)) or ((underrepresented or under-represented or racial) adj3 (group* or minorit*)) or ((racial* or race) adj3 divers*) or foreigner* or foreign-born* or foreignborn* or multi-ethnic* or multiethnic* or (ethnic* adj3 (difference* or divers* or background* or group* or population* or identit* or minorit*)) or (cultur* adj3 (difference* or divers* or background* or identit* or minorit*)) or CALD or diaspora* or alien* or resettlement* or re-settlement* or (border* adj1 crossing*) or newcomer* or naturalized citizen* or non-native* or nonnative* or "international student*").ti,ab,kf.)</p>
<p>AND</p>	
<p>Smoking Concept 2: MeSH</p> <p>Concept 2: Textwords</p>	<p>((exp Smoking/ or "Tobacco Use"/ or "Tobacco Use Disorder"/ or smoking devices/ or electronic nicotine delivery systems/ or smoking pipes/ or smoking water pipes/ or tobacco products/ or tobacco, smokeless/ or tobacco, waterpipe/) AND (epidemiology.fs or ethnology.fs or psychology.fs. or pc.fs))</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(smoking or smoke or smoker* or tobacco* or cigar or cigars or cigarillo* or cigarette* or pipe or pipes or waterpipe or waterpipes or ecig* or ecig* or "electr* cigar*" or nicotine or vaporizer or vapourizer or vaporiser or vapouriser or vaper or vapers or vaping or vape or cannabis or snuff or shisha* or snus or "nicotine pouches" or Dokha* or Hooka*).ti,kf. or ((behav* or knowledge* or attitude*) and smoking).ab.)</p>
<p>AND</p>	

<p>Behavior(s), attitude(s) Concept 3: MeSH</p> <p>Concept 3: Textwords</p>	<p>(Attitude/ or Attitude to Health/ or Awareness/ or Health knowledge, attitudes, practice/ or Health Behavior/ or Health Education/ or Health Literacy/ or Acculturation/</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(attitud* or adapt* or assimilat* or accultur* or aware* or behav* or belief or beliefs or choice* or comprehension or consum* or habits or habit or habitual or knowledge* or meaning or perspective* or practice* or purchas* or pattern* or perception* or perceiv* or prefer* or reflecti* or select* or understanding*).ti,ab,kf.)</p>
<p>AND</p>	
<p>Limits/Filters:</p> <p>excl. animal studies excl. editorials, comments ... as well as clinical trials (publication types .pt.)</p> <p>Publication years: 2012-current</p>	<p>not (exp animals/ NOT humans/) not (letter or news or comment or editorial or congress).pt. not (clinical trial or controlled clinical trial or randomized controlled trial).pt. not (trial).ti</p> <p>limit yr="2012 -Current"</p>

Study/Source of Evidence selection

Based on relevance, accessed studies will be considered for inclusion through EndNote software. Initially, the title and abstract of a retrieved study will be read. Based on relevancy, the reviewer will recommend, include or exclude. Then, the reviewer will read the included full-length articles and independently rate the appropriateness of the article or any reading material for inclusion. The reviewer will then cross check the list of included and excluded studies. If any discordance occurs respecting inclusion or exclusion of any full-text article or any other material (eg. reports, brief and so on) selected at the preliminary stage, the article or other material will be reread; and if still not clear to include or exclude, a second reviewer will be involved to build consensus. The appropriateness of the selected material will be based on inclusion criteria and authenticity of the publishing authority or of the organisation to which unpublished work is associated.

Data Extraction

Data will be extracted from papers included in the scoping review by two independent reviewers using a data extraction tool developed by the reviewers. The data extracted will include specific details about the participants, context, study methods and key findings relevant to the review question/s. Quality assessment of included literature will not be performed as the intent of scoping review is to examine the breadth and depth of a phenomenon and not to check the robustness of the selected studies.

Data Analysis and Presentation

The findings of this review will be presented in tables, appropriate diagrams and texts. The findings of the review will be shared through publications, posters, conference presentations and meetings with different stakeholders. *A narrative summary will accompany the tabulated and/or charted results and will describe how the results relate to the reviews objective and question/s.*

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Conflicts of interest

None to be declared.

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