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University of the
Sunshine Coast

WELCOME

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH WEEK 14-18 JULY 2014

Aged Care Services Redesign

- Extended roles for allied health professionals: An updated systematic review of the evidence
- Robyn Saxon
- Professor Marion Gray
- Dr Florin Oprescu

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Aim:

- To review the level of evidence around extended roles for allied health professionals.

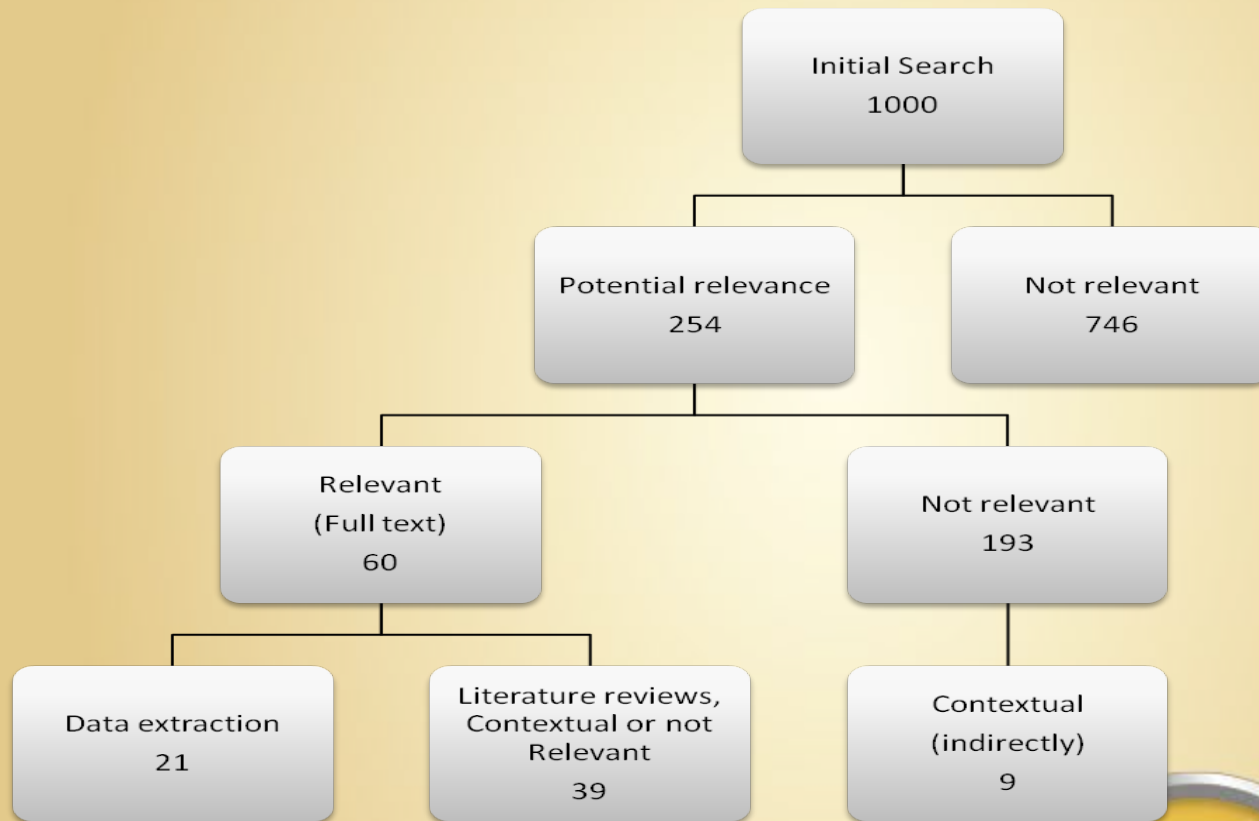
Context:

- Internationally healthcare services have finite resources
- Ageing population + technology = increased pressure
- Extended scope roles for allied health professionals is one strategy

Method:

- Search strategy -> Patients Intervention
Controls Outcomes
- Professions: Physiotherapists, Occupational therapists, Speech Pathologists, Paramedics, Radiographers
- Modifications
 - Tightened professionals due to interdisciplinary & transdisciplinary grouping

Results:



Key Findings:

- AHP are adequately skilled to acquire new tasks
- Patient access to care is improving
- Patients appear to be satisfied with the care provided
- Healthcare decision makers are continuing to invest

Future Directions:

- Level of evidence remains low, varying designs
 - No RCTs, Case studies, small cohort, descriptive
- Emerging clarity around what specific tasks constitute Extended Scope Practice for professions
 - Varies by country due to legislation

Future Directions:

- Challenge the “status quo”
- Inclusion of patient outcome measures
- Robust economic evaluation
- Impact to junior clinicians
- Emerging descriptions of training frameworks, competency development