

HOW TO CONDUCT A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW: PRACTICAL ASPECTS

Degree in Occupational Therapy

Academic year 2026-27

Code: 805537

Module: 5

Subject Area: Complementary Training

Type of Subject: Elective

Aimed at: students from 2nd to 4th year

Department: Statistics and Operations Research

Credits: 3 ECTS

Academic term: second semester

Dates: At the beginning of the second semester, during a 5-week period

Schedule: Tuesday and Thursday, from 4 pm to 7 pm

Place: Computer Room of the Biostatistics Section (Building 5, floor 5, Faculty of Medicine)

Number of students: Maximum of 30 students

TEACHING STAFF

Coordinator: Molanes López, Elisa M.^a
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Teachers: Molanes López, Elisa M.^a

SHORT DESCRIPTOR

Being able to synthesize scientific evidence on a clinical research question through a systematic literature review is essential for preparing a final degree project (FDP) for a degree in Health Sciences, especially when choosing the type of bibliographic review. The subject "How to Conduct a Systematic Review: Practical Aspects" will be based on the guidelines of the PRISMA 2020 declaration and will have a fundamentally applied approach, based on the management of the main databases (PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, among others), the use of bibliographic reference management software (e.g., Zotero), and the application of citation standards according to the APA (American Psychological Association) style, 7th edition.

COMPETENCIES

They are those corresponding to the Module and Subject Area.

General and Basic Competences

CB2, CB3, CB4, CG.25.

Specific Competences

CE.M2.15, CE.M2.29.

OBJECTIVES

Provide students with the necessary training to be able to:

- Formulate the clinical research question in terms of the PICO formula (Patient, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome).
- Select search terms (descriptors in free and controlled language using the DeCS/MeSH multilingual thesaurus) and establish inclusion and exclusion criteria in accordance with the PICO formula.
- Implement search strategies by combining the selected terms using Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) and applying applicable automatic filters based on the established inclusion and exclusion criteria.

- Manage search results and create the PRISMA flowchart with the identification, screening, eligibility, and inclusion phases.
- Extract and organize scientific evidence following the structure of a scientific paper with Title, Abstract in Spanish/English, Keywords, Introduction (Background, Justification and Objectives), Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Bibliography and Annexes or Appendices (if necessary).

SYLLABUS

- Systematic review. Concept and structure following the PRISMA declaration guidelines
- PICO question and inclusion and exclusion criteria
- Searches in the main scientific databases
- Development of the PRISMA flowchart
- Extraction of scientific evidence and elaboration of results
- Management of bibliographic references in APA style

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Training activities based on:

- Theoretical lectures.
- Practical case studies.
- Discussion of systematic review articles.

EVALUATION

During the course, continuous assessment will consist of:

- Active participation in class (40%).
- Critical reading of a series of systematic reviews, identifying key elements (30%).
- Development of a systematic review protocol on a topic of interest in the field of Occupational Therapy (30%).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Linares-Espinós, E., Hernández, V., Domínguez-Escrig, J. L., Fernández-Pello, S., Hevia, V., Mayor, J., Padilla-Fernández, B., & Ribal, M. J. (2018). Metodología de una revisión sistemática. *Actas Urológicas Españolas (English Edition)*, 42(8), 499-506. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acuroe.2018.07.002>
- Molero Jurado, M. M., Barragán Martín, A. B., Martos Martínez, A., Gázquez Linares, J. J., & Pérez-Fuentes, M. C. (2021). Manual práctico para la realización de una revisión sistemática. *Editorial Universidad de Almería*. <https://ucm.on.worldcat.org/oclc/1286782197>
- Pardal-Refoyo, J.L., & Pardal-Peláez, B. (2020). Anotaciones para estructurar una revisión sistemática. *Revista ORL*, 11(2), 155–160. <https://doi.org/10.14201/orl.22882>
- Sánchez Serrano, S., Pedraza Navarro, I., & Donoso González, M. (2022). ¿Cómo hacer una revisión sistemática siguiendo el protocolo PRISMA?: Usos y estrategias fundamentales para su aplicación en el ámbito educativo a través de un caso práctico. *Bordón: Revista de pedagogía*, 74(3), 51-66. <https://doi.org/10.13042/BORDON.2022.95090>