PubMed Search conducted in 2010

Number of hits
\(n = 4,227\)

Articles excluded based on titles and abstracts
\(n = 3,684\)

Potentially relevant articles
\(n = 543\)

Articles that did not meet inclusion criteria
\(N = 471\)

Papers that met inclusion criteria
\(n = 72\)

Papers retrieved from search of known cohort studies
\(n = 10\)

Studies included in the review
\(n = 82\)

Reasons articles were excluded
\(n = 4,155\)

- 2,236 had less than 1,000 participants
- 372 used only one wave of data in the analysis
- 103 used data from a study already included in the review
- 547 did not report original research findings
  - 100 were descriptive papers
  - 356 were methods papers
  - 5 were evaluation papers
  - 86 were review papers
- 807 did not use a prospective cohort design
- 47 added new participants to follow up waves of the original study participants
- 17 the unit of analysis was not the individual
- 26 retrieved data from databases