1. Search for "network analysis" or "network structure" or "network theory"

- Medline: n=1912
- CINAHL: n=270
- BSP: n=3039
- IBSS: n=1315

2. Search for broker* or "boundary spanner" or leader* or "structural hole" or centrality or betweenness or "opinion leader" or bridg* or maven* or connector* or "tertius iungens," or "go-between"

- Medline: n=20415
- CINAHL: n=20508
- BSP: n=300879
- IBSS: n=18504

3. Combine search 1 and 2

- Medline: n=50
- CINAHL: n=30
- BSP: n=206
- IBSS: n=164

4. Review of abstracts and titles

- Medline: n=22
- CINAHL: n=10
- BSP: n=34
- IBSS: n=37
- Snowball: n=91

347 articles excluded: (87 duplicates or incomplete)
260 not focussed on brokerage; not empirical research; non-professional networks: terrorist, internet users, customers, genetic, historical, or children; non-human networks; competitive settings

5. Full text content analysis

19 duplicates removed

77 articles excluded:
17 were not empirical research or did not meet research criteria
44 were not focussed on brokers
15 competitive, non-collaborative networks, or did not use a network approach

Final set: n=24