7742 citations identified

1164 duplicates citations

6578 citations screened for retrieval

6241 citations not related to health professionals excluded

337 potentially eligible papers retrieved

299 papers excluded:
- 142 qualitative reports
- 52 reports of indirect measurement
- 49 reports of attitudes towards mental illnesses or intellectual disabilities or learning disabilities
- 56 reports not related to health care professionals or students

38 papers reporting on attitudes of healthcare professionals or students retrieved

29 paper excluded:
- 15 papers using validated tools but not reporting on their development or validation excluded
- 14 papers using non-validated instruments excluded

9 papers reporting on 7 instruments included in the systematic review