Figure 1: Realist Synthesis Screening Process

Search Strategy Development

Electronic Database Search (24,021)

- MEDLINE (4,530)
- EMBASE (8,482)
- CINAHL (5,638)
- PsycInfo (4,993)
- Sociological Abstracts (248)
- Web of Science (130)

Reference List (1) paper added by Cheryl Stetler:
Stetler, CB; Legro, M; Rycroft-Malone J; Bowman C; Ciaran G; Gabriel M; Hagedorn H; Pineros S; Wallace C (2006). Role of external facilitation in implementation of research findings: a qualitative evaluation of facilitation experiences in the Veterans Health Administration. Implementation Science, 1:22 (3 October 2006).

Initial results imported into Reference Manager (24,022)

- Duplicates removed in Reference Manager software (1,602)

Non-English and pre-1997 articles removed (1,544 non-English; 3,493 earlier than 1997)

Non-relevant based on title and abstract screening (16,187)

Potentially relevant articles (16,383)

Non-relevant based on screening of full document versions (144)

Relevant papers for retrieval of full documents and data extraction (196)

Quality assessment of relevant papers (52)

Data extraction from 52 papers in total (regardless of quality assessment)