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Anyi Rodriguez

Sara Debab

Jay Lawson

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Oral health prevention interventions targeting the Latinx population in United States: A scoping review

Anyi A. Rodriguez, Sara Debab, Jay Lawson, BA, Dina T. Garcia, Ph.D, M.P.H.



Purpose

A number of barriers exist to Latinx access to dental care, including cost, a lack of insurance, language barriers, and discrimination.^{1,2,3} A lack of access to care and information regarding oral health practices can lead to increased risk of oral health issues (i.e. early childhood caries).²

To address this gap in the literature, the goal of this scoping review is to understand the current state of literature concerning oral health intervention research related to the Latinx population in the U.S.

Methods

A scoping review of literature regarding oral health behavior and intervention studies targeting the U.S. Latinx population was conducted following the Arksey and O'Malley (2005) and the Tricco et al. (2018) Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses Extension for Scoping Review Guidelines.

Search

- Four scholarly databases (Embase, Ovid Medline, DOSS, CINAHL) were searched from inception to December 13, 2019 for peer-reviewed articles published in English or Spanish.

Inclusion Criteria

- Articles were included if they focused on the Latinx population in the United States and mentioned oral health.

Review process

- Four reviewers independently screened articles at the title-abstract level using Rayyan QCRI software.
- Conflicting decisions were resolved by consensus between reviewers.

208 out of 3065 articles fulfilled the requirements for a full length article review.

Conclusions

- Less than seven percent of published literature in this scoping review focused on oral health prevention interventions targeting the Latinx population.
- Frequent discussions of the inclusion criteria throughout the abstract charting process facilitated consensus among group members.

Future Implications

- The research group will conduct the full-article abstract review phase of the scoping review process during summer 2020.
- Findings from the overall scoping review will inform the direction of future oral health prevention intervention research.

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Results

After applying the scoping review inclusion criteria by four independent reviewers, 208 of the 3096 identified articles possessed the requirements to undergo full length article review.

