



Minimally Invasive Organ Transplant Consensus Conference (MIOT.CC)

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Guidelines for conducting a scoping review of the literature for the purpose of the MIOT Consensus Conference (MIOT.cc)

A **scoping review** is a type of knowledge synthesis that uses an iterative approach to identify and synthesize an existing or emerging body of literature on a given topic. A scoping review typically seeks to present an **overview** of a potentially diverse body of literature pertaining to a broad topic.

Guidelines summary

1. Define your **research question** based on the topic allocated to your panel.
2. Determine the scope and **inclusion/exclusion** criteria.
3. Develop a **search strategy** using relevant **keywords**.
4. Conduct the **literature search** in databases such as PubMed / Google Scholar.
5. Screen and **select** studies based on the criteria.
6. Extract relevant data from selected studies, **qualitative** information will be adequate.
7. **Organize** the information into meaningful groups or themes.
8. **Summarize** the results by identifying patterns and gaps.

Guidelines for conducting a scoping review

- **Define the Research Question:** Clearly identify the research question or objective of your scoping review. It should be focused and specific to topic allocated to your panel.
- **Determine the Scope:** Decide on the inclusion and exclusion criteria for selecting studies. Consider factors such as study design, publication date, language, and geographical location. Determine the population, intervention/exposure, comparison, and outcome (PICO) elements relevant to your research question.
- **Develop a Search Strategy:** Construct a comprehensive search strategy using relevant keywords. Utilize appropriate databases, such as PubMed, Embase, Google Scholar, based on the topic allocated to your panel. Include both published and unpublished literature. Including your own data if available to minimize publication bias.
- **Conduct the Literature Search:** Execute the search strategy in the selected databases. Retrieve the search results and export them into a reference management software, such as EndNote or Zotero, for organization and removal of duplicates.
- **Study Selection:** Screen the search results based on the predetermined inclusion and exclusion criteria. Begin with title and abstract screening, followed by full-text review of potentially eligible studies.
- **Data Extraction:** Create a data extraction form to collect relevant information from selected studies. Extract details such as study characteristics (authors, publication year, study design), population characteristics, interventions/exposures, outcomes, and key findings. Consider using a standardized data extraction tool or template, otherwise an excel file is sufficient for this project.
- **Charting the Data:** Organize the extracted data in a meaningful manner, such as tabular format or thematic mapping. Group the studies based on common themes, topics, or research areas. This process will help identify patterns, gaps, emerging themes in the literature as well as to grade your recommendations.
- **Collating, Summarizing, and Reporting the Results:** Analyze the extracted data to identify trends, patterns, and key findings. Summarize the results descriptively, considering quantitative and qualitative aspects. Use tables, figures, or other visual aids to present the findings clearly. Identify gaps in knowledge and suggest potential areas for future research.
- **Reporting:** Prepare a structured report based on the PowerPoint presentation that we have provided you.
- **Flexibility:** These guidelines are meant to provide a general framework for conducting a scoping review. You may need to adapt or even simplify them based on the specific topic allocated to your panel.

The MIOT.cc Team