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## A Validation Study to Optimize Literature Searching for Interprofessional Education Studies in PubMed

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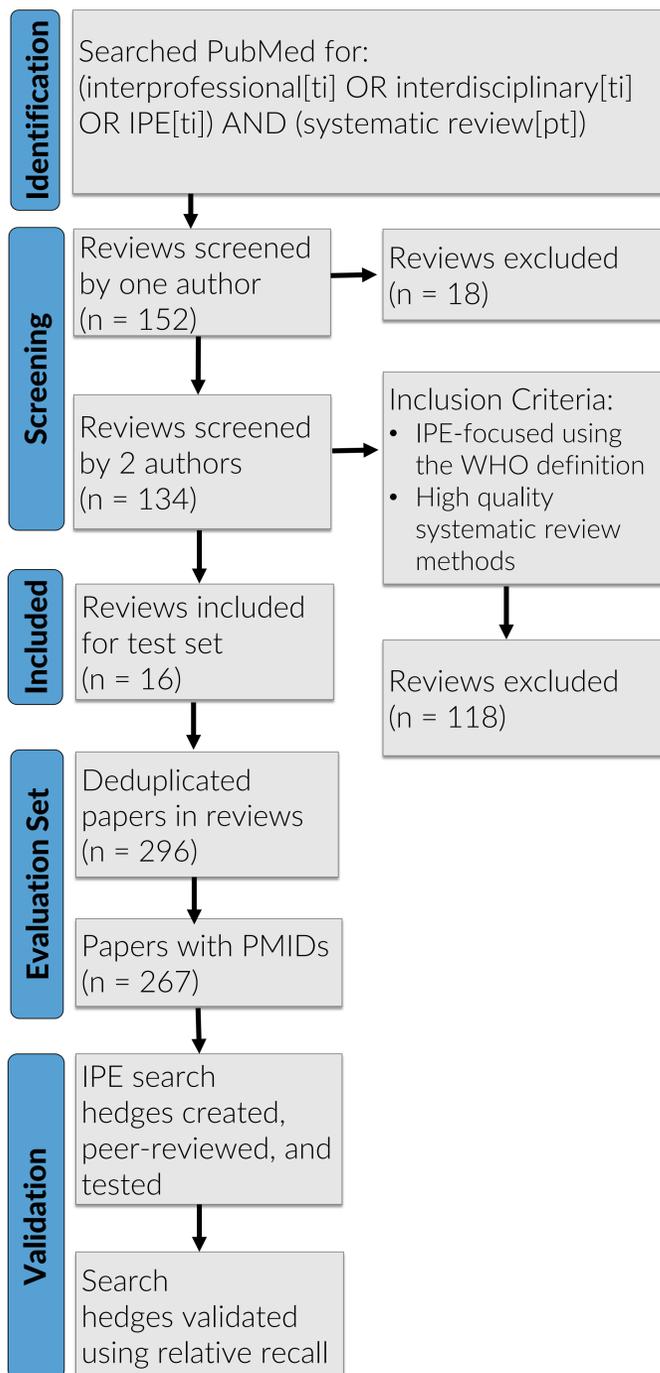
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## Background

As there is exponential growth in the publication of interprofessional education (IPE) research studies, it has become more difficult to quickly find relevant papers and stay abreast of all the latest research. To address this, our poster presents the methods and results of a formal search hedge validation study that provides recommended search terms for IPE studies. Specifically, this poster addresses the development, evaluation, and validation of search hedges for IPE studies in PubMed, to improve future access to and synthesis of IPE research.

## Methods



# Sets of PubMed search terms were developed and validated to improve the retrieval of interprofessional education (IPE) studies: a broad search strategy recommended for reviews and narrow searches for efficient article discovery.

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at CHAPEL HILL

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## Results

IPE search hedges were created for PubMed using combinations of keywords and Medical Subject Heading (MeSH) terms with each term tested for search performance. Search hedges were peer reviewed by a librarian and by a subject expert and then validated using the evaluation set of papers to test relative recall. The three best performing searches are presented here.

Scan the QR code to view the complete search strategies in the online poster handout.



### #1: Narrow Phrase Search

Recall: 71.5%  
Results: 5,200

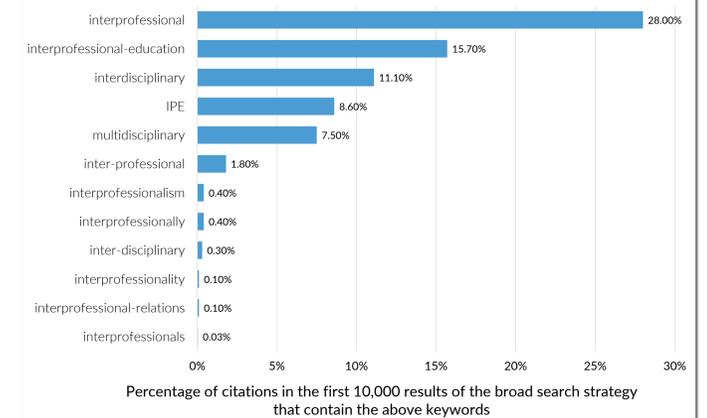
### #2: Narrow Title search

Recall: 82.7%  
Results: 6,555

### #3: Broader Keyword Search

Recall: 95.13%  
Results: 55,791

### Highest Performing Keywords



## Implications

The narrow searches are better suited for quick information retrieval while the broad search is meant for a comprehensive literature review.

The search hedges cover IPE broadly, so researchers should add additional terms appropriate to their topic, such as a specific intervention.

Overall, this is an example of how librarians can contribute their expertise to IPE research. These validated sets of search terms will make it easier and more efficient for scholars to find relevant IPE research in PubMed in the future.