

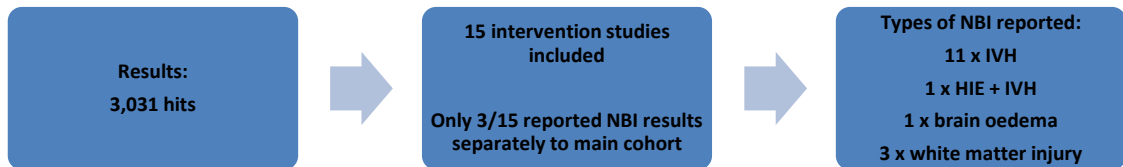
Feeding Interventions for Neonatal Brain Injury: Use of the JBI Approach to Evidence Synthesis

Introduction and Aims

- Existing neonatal feeding interventions can be effective in reducing feeding difficulties in preterm infants but have not been designed for infants with neonatal brain injury (NBI) who have motor and sensory impairments of different aetiology, type, and severity than healthy preterm infants.
- This scoping review aims to identify research that evaluates feeding interventions used with infants with a history of neonatal brain injury.

Methods

- The JBI Manual for Evidence Synthesis was used as the basis for this scoping review, an important component of which is the systematic development of a search strategy.
- Definitions were created for population, concept, and context.
- Preliminary search terms related to these definitions were identified and used for a stage 1 search of the Embase and Medline databases.



Conclusions

- Preliminary findings from this stage 1 search revealed few feeding intervention studies that included infants with neonatal brain injury in their cohort.
- Studies that do include infants with neonatal brain injury in the cohort typically do not separate results of the brain-injured infants from the main cohort, limiting the generalisability of the study findings to infants with neonatal brain injury.

Implications

- When carrying out a scoping review, undertaking a stage 1 search and analysing resultant subject headings and keywords is a useful way to ensure a robust strategy for the main database search.
- These findings have informed a full-scale scoping review protocol, which is now in progress.
- Future research should focus on developing and evaluating brain-injury specific neonatal feeding interventions.