

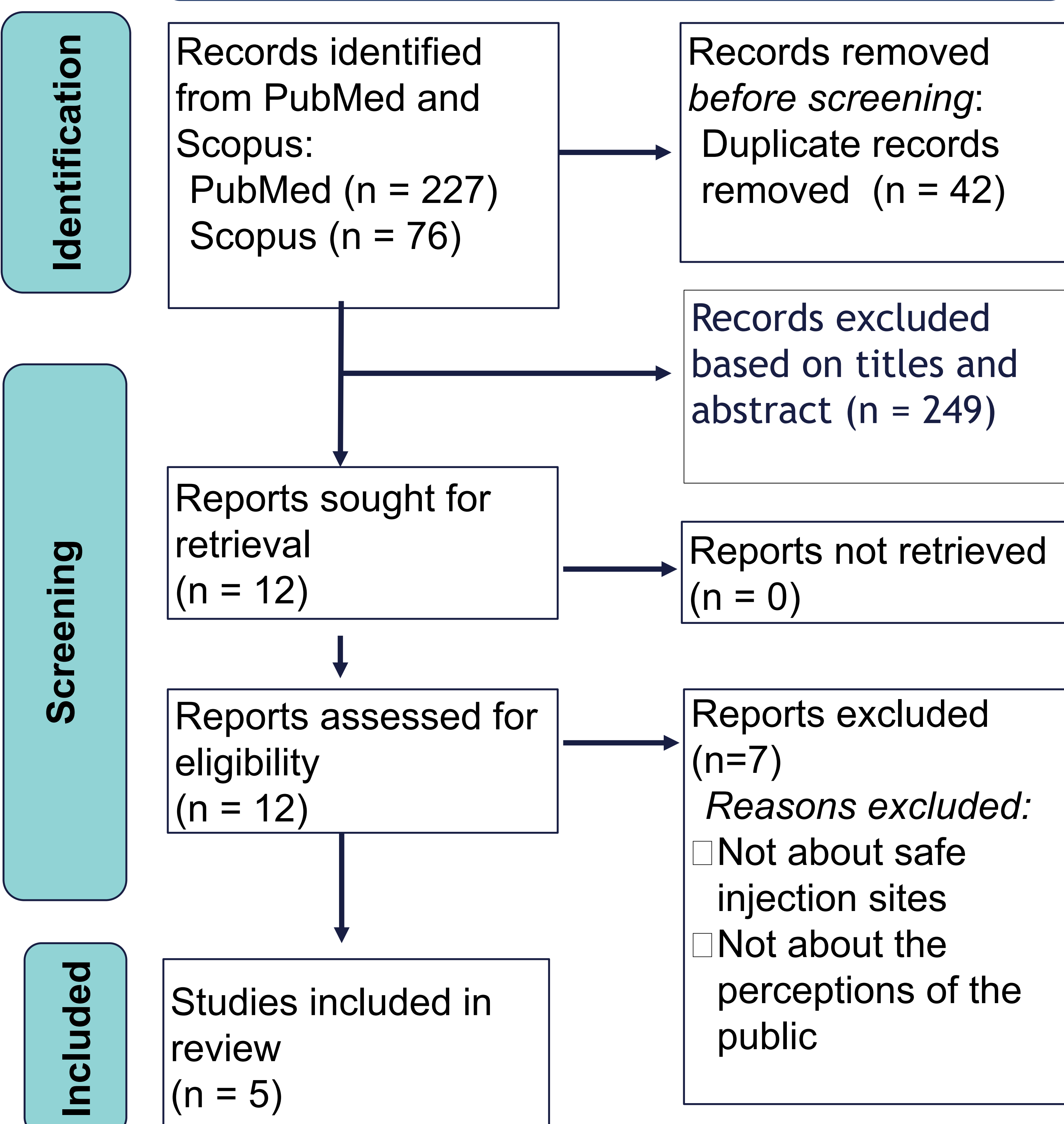
Background

- The opioid epidemic began in 1999 and the number of deaths from overdoses has since quadrupled by 2019
- 50,000 deaths in the US in 2019 from opioid overdoses and the numbers increase each year
- Research Question:** What are the public's and communities' perceptions of safe injection sites?

Methods

- A literature search was conducted using PubMed and Scopus
- Articles managed in RefWorks
- Prisma guidelines were followed:

Identification of studies via databases: PubMed & Scopus



Results

Figure 2: Summary of Selected Articles

Author (Year)	Study Setting	Study Design	Perceptions of Safe Injection Sites	Demographic Characteristics Associated with Support	Other Factors Impacting Support and Considerations
Brooks-Russell et al. (2021)	Colorado	Cross-sectional in-person survey	57% of participants believed SIS should be legal	Democrats who were between the ages of 18-35 were more likely to support SIS	SIS provide resources for PWID Reduce infectious diseases Fewer needles in the streets
Kuleza et al. (2015)	United States at the Project Implicit research website	Cross-sectional web-based survey	60% agreed with funding SIS	Democrats who were male and older above the age of 35	Believe PWID are deserving of help vs deserving of punishment
McGinty et al. (2018)	United States online survey	Cross-sectional web-based survey	29% of Americans supported legalizing SIS	Democrats between 30-40 years of age and over 60 years Those who were unemployed	Whether SIS would promote drug use and/or increase crime
Munoz Sastre et al. (2020)	Toulouse and Andorra, France	Cross-sectional in-person survey	49% support SIS depending on the missions of the site	More liberal and younger women	
Strike et al. (2014)	Ontario, Canada	Cross-sectional phone surveys	There was an increase in support between 2003 and 2009 for SIS intended to decrease overdoses		Increase in support if PWID can be helped by health professionals SIS decrease overdoses and infectious diseases SIS's mission

- 5 studies included for final review
- Each conducted a cross-sectional survey
- Average sample size of 1,018 (range: 318 to 1212)

Strengths & Limitations

Strengths:

- PRISMA guidelines were followed
- TJU librarians assisted in database search strategies
- Strict inclusion and exclusion criteria

Limitations:

- One reviewer of abstract and titles
- Studies used convenience sampling

Discussion

- There is a disconnect between the laws in US and the support for SIS amongst the public
- Communities need to be educated based on evidence in support for SIS
- Aligning community support with stakeholders and policy makers
- The correlation with political affiliation has turned this issue less into a public health crisis
- More SIS need to be opened and studied in the US to ensure similar success as in other countries

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