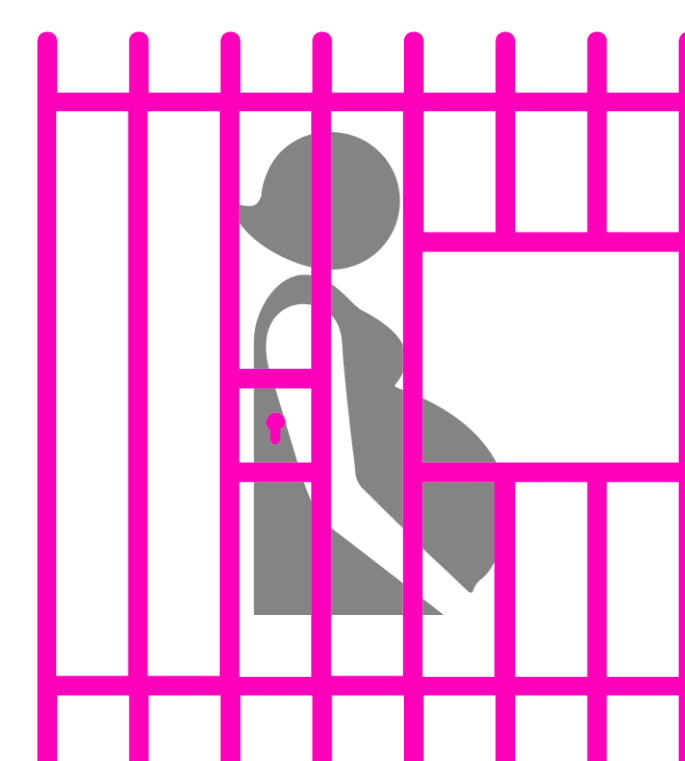


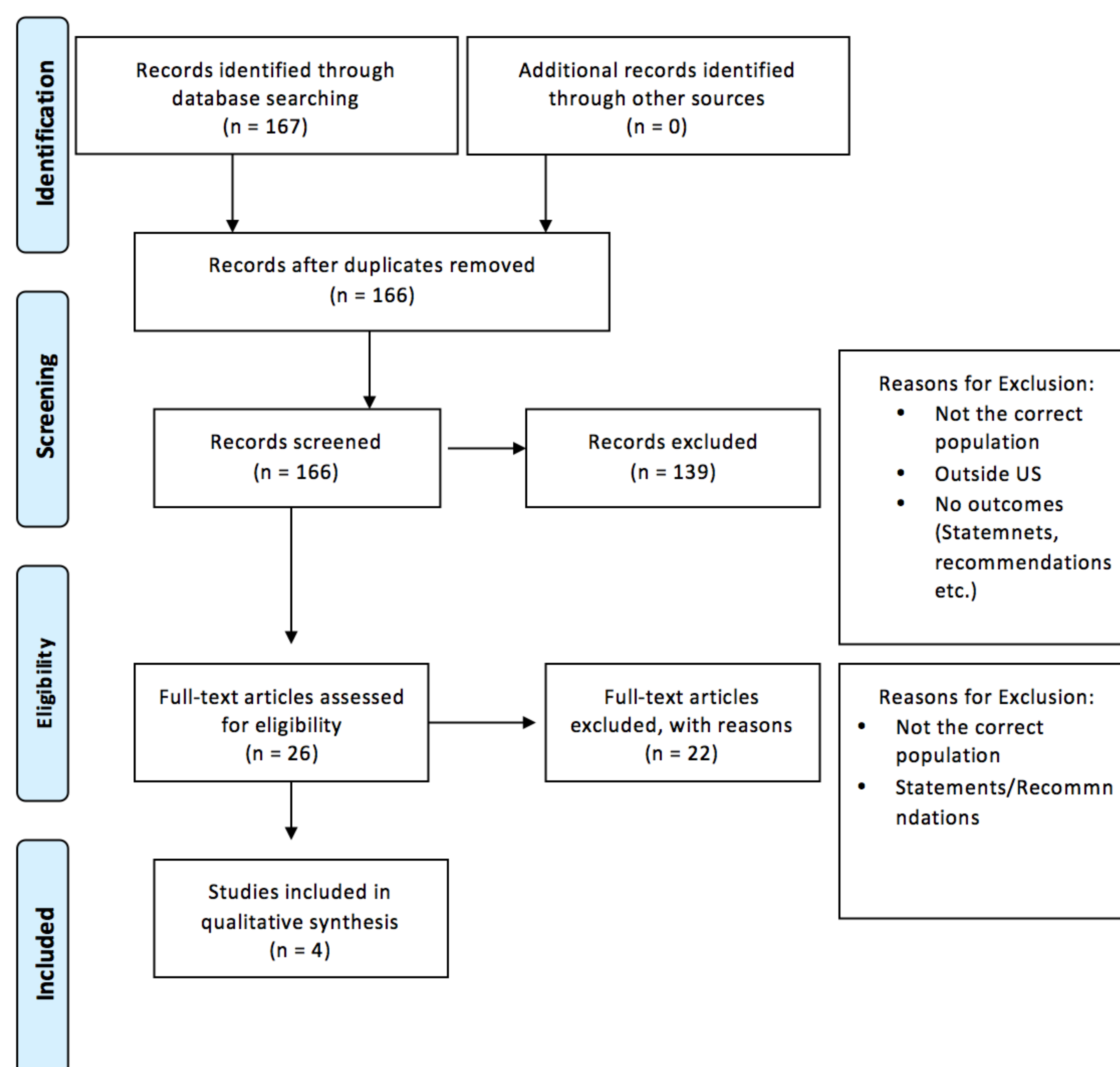
BACKGROUND

- At the end of 2016, there were about 2.2 million people behind bars in the U.S. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2018)
- The number of incarcerated women has been rising for decades
- According to the ACLU, there are more than 1,000,000 women behind bars in the U.S. and many are of childbearing age (2018)
- Incarcerated women face unique barriers to health care, and those who are pregnant and postpartum are at increased risk of negative health outcomes additionally their babies are at risk (ACOG, 2018)



METHODS

- Conducted a systematic review of the literature following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systemic Review and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines
- In consultation with a research librarian, PubMed was explored using the following search terms and derivatives:
 - *Pregnancy, Pregnant Women, Pregnancy Complications, Prenatal Care, Postnatal Care, Birth, Delivery, Parturition, Postpartum Period, Puerperium, Prison, Jail, Incarcerated, Panel, Penitentiary, Correctional Facility, Inmate, Detention, Offender*



RESULTS

Four key papers are summarized below

An Examination of Care Practices of Pregnant Women Incarcerated in Jail Facilities in the United States
(Kelsey, et al., 2017)

- Quantitative Analysis of healthcare practices in jails nationally by region (North, South, East, West, Central)
- Less than 38% of reported giving pregnancy test to all women during intake
- Accommodations such as providing a bottom bunk for sleeping and food supplementation performed the highest of all results obtained
- Despite national campaigns against the shackling of pregnant women, the use of restraints is still significant nationally:
 - During labor: 33%
 - After delivery: 82%

Pregnancy Unshackled: Increasing Equity Through Implementation of Perinatal Depression Screening, Shared Decision Making, and Treatment for Incarcerated Women
(Meine, et al., 2018)

- Quantitative Analysis/ Qualitative Improvement Study in the Milwaukee County Jail and House of Corrections
- At the end of the study, 8 out of 10 providers were competent in screening this population
- Treatment refusal rate down to 9% from 22%
- Screening of 92% exceeded the original 80% goal
- 85% of positive screens began treatment within 72 hours

Pregnancy and Parenting Support for Incarcerated Women: Lessons Learned
(Shlafer, et al., 2015)

- Mix-Methods pilot study in Minnesota
- Partnership program between a community, university and correctional organization
 - Feasibility study of a health education and support program
- Doula's matched with 19 women providing birth education and support
- A survey was completed by the participants following birth and collected information on:
 - The support received from the program
 - Satisfaction with the program and perceived benefits
 - Birth process
- Participants reported more parenting confidence and support

Effectiveness of a Prison-Based Healthy Pregnancy Curriculum Delivered to Pregnant Inmates: A Pilot Study
(Lepper, et al., 2018)

- Quantitative Analysis / Pre and Post test survey measuring knowledge gained after a 4-week health workshop for 25 selected participants
- Results showed an insignificant change in knowledge for all 7 sessions provided
 - Topics ranged from pregnancy stages to postpartum parenting skills
- Promotes the use of health education programs among pregnant incarcerated women
 - Study acknowledges difficulties with retention and the need for increased facility staff engagement

DISCUSSION

- Correctional facilities are seeing an increase in the number of women needing maternity care while incarcerated
- Addressing the needs of this vulnerable population is complex
- Poor practices, including shackling before, during and after delivery are still in place
- Research points to a need for additional programs designed to improve outcomes for incarcerated mothers and their babies
- Health education programs have proven to be successful in this context
- ***The life course approach should inform programing to improve outcomes for women and babies affected by incarceration***