

Background

COVID-19 Pandemic:

- People of color are 3x more likely to become infected by COVID-19
- Black individuals who test positive die at 2.5x the rate of White people
- Hispanic or Latino individuals who test positive die at 1.3x the rate of White people
- Racial and ethnic minorities often had difficulty receiving testing and treatment throughout the pandemic

There is a gap in research examining racial disparities in COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy

Research Question

What are the facilitators of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among Black and Latino individuals?

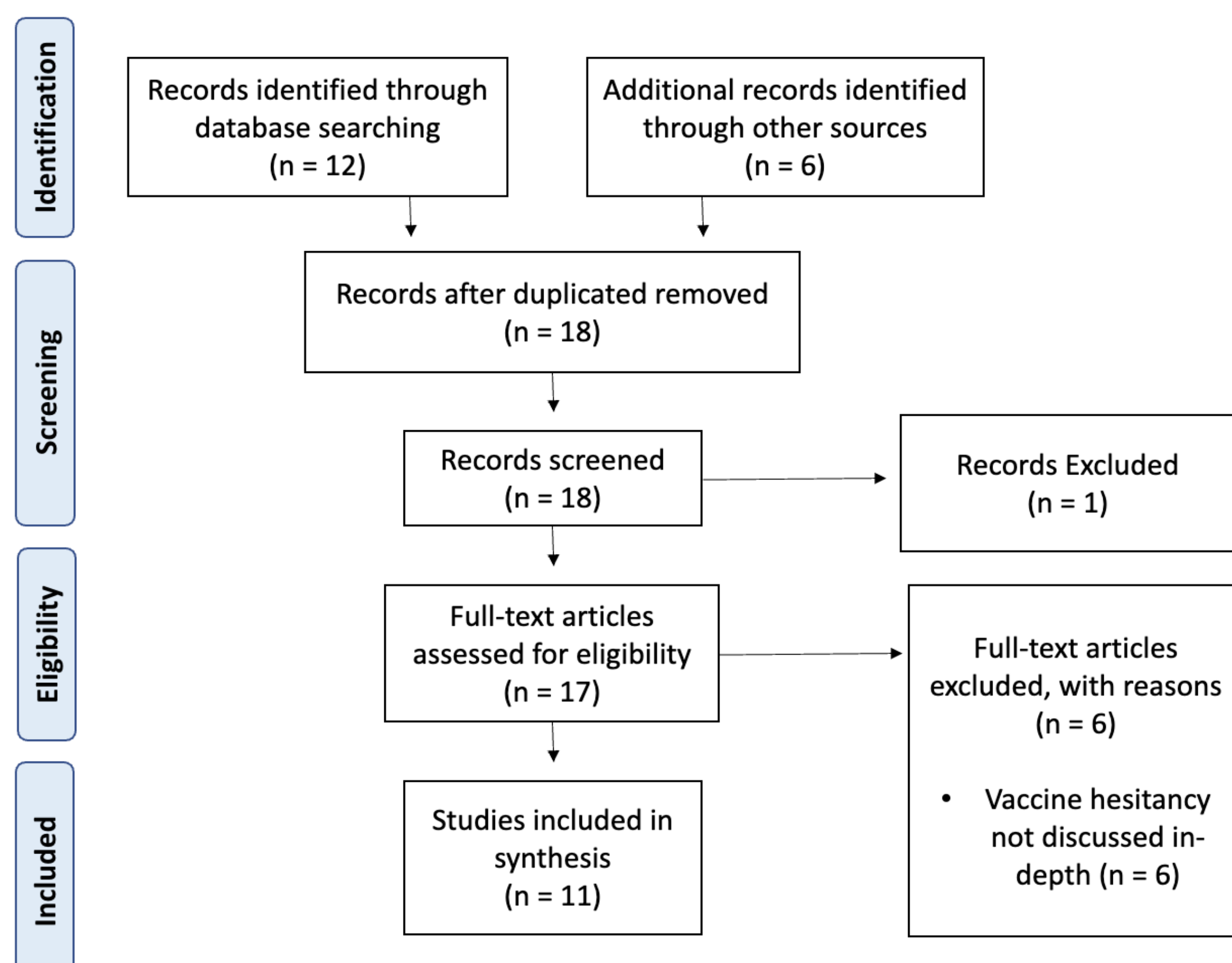
Methods

Databases: PubMed

Keywords: COVID-19, Vaccine Hesitancy, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino

Inclusion Criteria: Qualitative study

Exclusion Criteria: Conducted outside the United States



Results

11 papers were included in the final analysis and 6 major themes were identified.

Historical Influences

- Reported in 8 papers
- Historical medical mistreatment
 - References to Tuskegee syphilis study
 - People in their communities generally receive lower quality healthcare
 - Fear they will receive lower quality vaccines
 - Disparities in mortality rates due to the healthcare system
 - Experiences of their voices being "thrown away" and ignored

Development and Approval Process

- Reported in 8 papers
- Felt like an experimental vaccine because of the quick development and clinical trials seemed rushed
 - Concerns about the pharmaceutical industry's role in the process

Safety

- Reported in 6 papers
- Short- and long-term side effects
 - Vaccine ingredients have unclear effects
 - Uncertainty if and how the vaccine affects pre-existing conditions
 - Effects on women of reproductive age and risks while pregnant and breast-feeding

Access to Information and Resources

- Reported in 5 papers
- Not enough accessible information to counter distrust and non-credible information
 - Language barrier for Latino individuals
 - Not enough resources in Spanish, including Spanish-speaking staff at vaccination sites

Efficacy

- Reported in 4 papers
- Effectiveness against variants
 - Stories of people testing positive for COVID-19 after receiving the vaccine
 - Participants got the "flu" after receiving the influenza vaccine
 - Concerns specific to efficacy for Hispanic/Latino community

Other Factors

- Fear of deportation if giving too much information at vaccination site
- Politics
- Conspiracy Theories
 - Chip in the vaccine, government control, radiation, 5G towers

Discussion

- Increasing access to credible, easy-to-digest information could potentially reduce concerns that fall under 5 out of 6 major themes identified
- Understand historical influences and listen to community voices to begin to decrease mistrust in the healthcare system
- Further research needed to better understand racial and ethnic disparities in COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy

Strengths:

- Studies took place in several states and 2 on a national level
- Worked with statistician to reduce bias

Limitations:

- One database used for literature searches
- Only one reviewer
- Few qualitative studies published, meaning subgroups of these populations may have been missed

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank the following individuals for their support and guidance throughout this project: Dr. Frasso, Dr. Okatch, Dr. Zeigler-Johnson, Dr. Plover, and Mr. Gary Kaplan

References

