



Health Research
Methods, Evidence
& Impact



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INTRODUCTION

- Sepsis is a significant cause of morbidity and mortality, accounting for an estimated **48.9 million cases** and **11 million sepsis-related deaths** worldwide.¹
- The presentation of sepsis varies widely, leading to delayed recognition and treatment.
- Most studies on sepsis have focused on the pathogenesis and treatment²; however, **80% of sepsis cases begin outside of healthcare settings, highlighting the need for policy measures to improve early detection.**³

Despite the success of “Rory’s Regulations” in New York and the presence of sepsis-related legislation in other states and globally, **Canada lacks similar policies mandating hospitals to establish protocols for early sepsis detection and treatment.**⁴

OBJECTIVES



To identify and describe the **ideas, interests, institutions, and external factors** that led to the New York State sepsis regulations; and



To describe a scoping review of existing **sepsis policies, clinical practice guidelines, and health professional training standards** in Canada.

These studies are part of a national initiative to inform evidence-based recommendations on sepsis policy and health professional training standards in Canada.

METHODS

Analysis of Rory’s Regulations

- To guide this policy analysis, the **3-I +E Framework** – Institutions, Interests, Ideas, and External Factors, was utilized.
- Relevant sources of information were identified through (a) a literature search of academic databases; (b) a review of publicly available policy documents and government websites; and (c) a review of news media.

Jurisdictional Policy Review

- To analyze the current landscape of sepsis policies, clinical practice guidelines, and health professional training standards, we performed a **scoping review** and **environmental scan**.
- Any sepsis policy, guideline, or training standard related to sepsis identification, management, and/or reporting, published or revised since 2010, and available in English or French were included.

RESULTS

Analysis of Rory’s Regulations

- Although the interplay of institutions, interests and ideas contributed to the decision to enact Rory’s regulations, Rory Staunton’s death facilitated the passage.
- **Barriers to implementing similar policies include failure to justify a policy response and lack of coordination with existing policies.**

Jurisdictional Policy Review

- Following systematic searches in **five databases**, **1329 sources** of evidence were included in the first screening phase.
- Additional sources of evidence were identified by searching Canadian organizations responsible for regulating training of healthcare professionals and reporting health outcomes.
- Following full-text review, **38 sources of evidence will be included in the final analysis.**

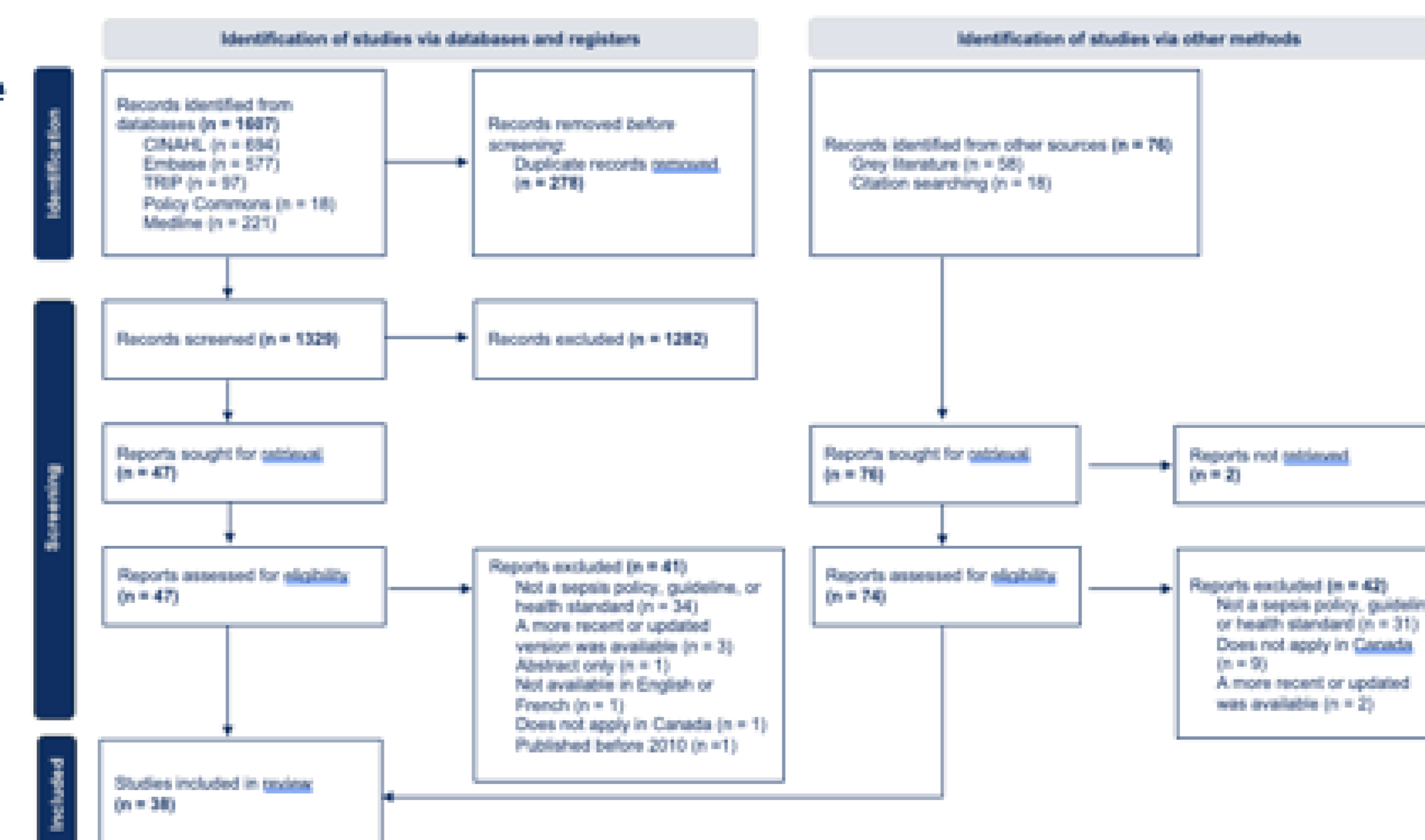


Figure 1. PRISMA Flowchart of literature identification, review, and selection.

CONCLUSIONS

- The 2017 World Health Organization resolution identified sepsis as a global priority.
- **Understanding what other countries have done to address sepsis, the lessons learned, and the current policy landscape in Canada is important to develop future policy.**
- This is the *first study to analyze the current landscape of sepsis policies, clinical practice guidelines, and health professional training standards to inform future policy directions in Canada.

**The complete protocol for the jurisdictional policy review is available on OSF and will be published in BMJ Open soon.*

REFERENCES

1. Rudd KE, Johnson SC, Agesa KM, et al. Global, regional, and national sepsis incidence and mortality, 1990-2017: analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study. *Lancet Lond Engl*. 2020;395(10219):200-211. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(19)32989-7
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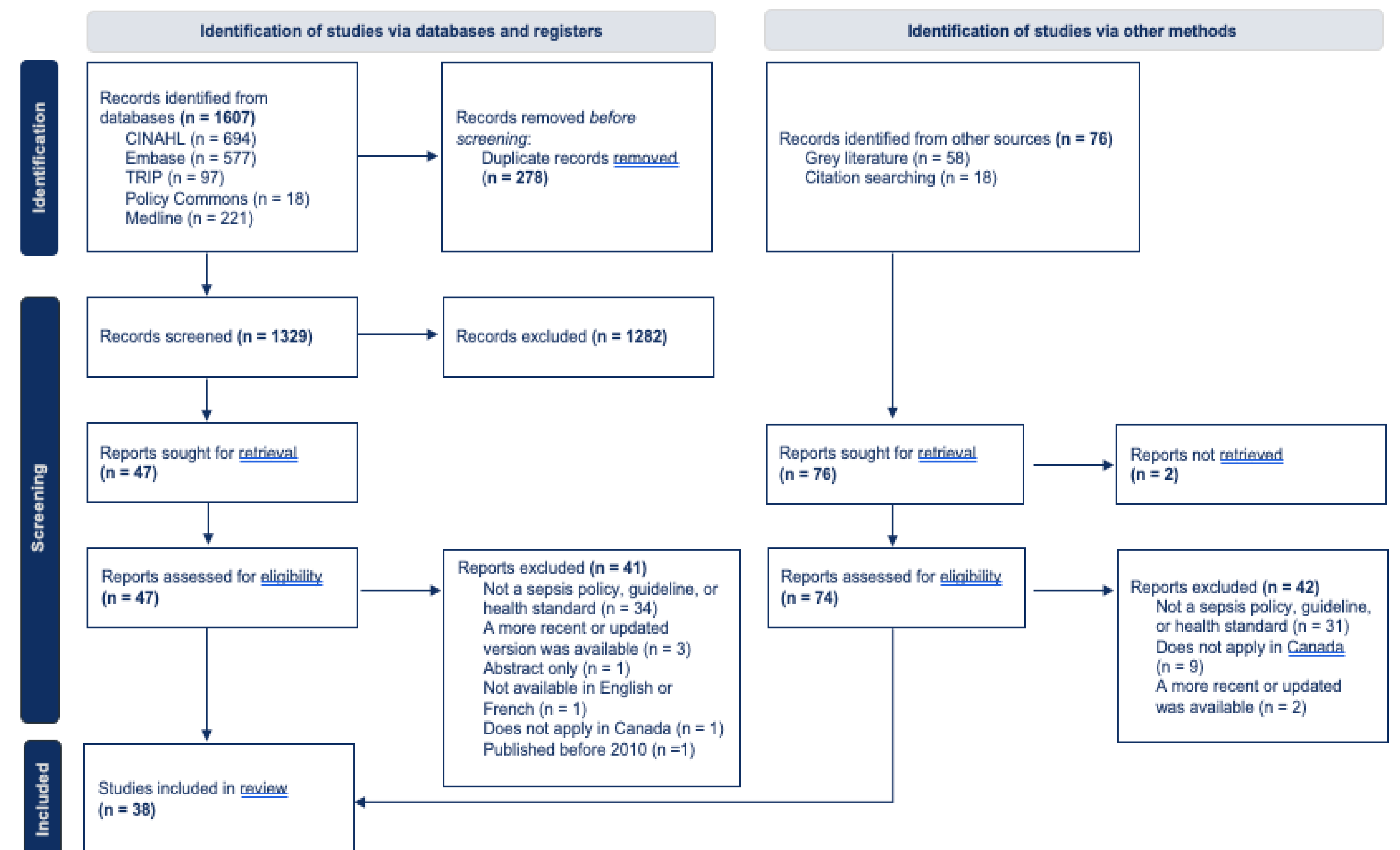


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