

ABSTRACT: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW ON 'DIGNITY OF RISK' IN AGED CARE

BACKGROUND AND AIM:

'Dignity of risk' (DoR) is an emerging concept in aged care which refers to giving people the dignity to take risks and make choices about the way they live. The aim of this systematic review was to identify the extent to which DoR has been defined, measured and applied in previous studies.

METHOD:

After screening, 199 articles remained for full text review. The full text review was completed independently by 2 reviewers, any conflicts will be resolved by a 3rd reviewer. The population for inclusion were residents in aged care facilities and interventions involved those relating to DoR. All studies which met the inclusion criteria were included, while any commentaries were excluded. For studies which met the inclusion criteria, the reviewers recorded in Excel how (if at all) DoR was defined, applied and measured. The reviewers also recorded for included studies, the barriers and facilitators to the application of DoR. Once each reviewer had completed the full text review, all studies to be included/excluded were recorded in Covidence.

RESULTS:

There are very few studies which measure/define/apply DoR, the exact number will be determined by the 3rd reviewer. Many of the articles screened during full text review were commentaries which were excluded. While barriers and facilitators to DoR were readily found, there appears to be large gaps in the literature on the concept of DoR; especially in its measurement, application and definition.