DESIGNING AN INTEGRATIVE LITERATURE REVIEW
OF THEORY-BASED INTERVENTIONS AGAINST
HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS

Tsattalios K¹, Macduff C², Stephen A³, Henderson S¹, Laing R³

¹. Faculty of Health & Social Care, Robert Gordon University, 2. School of Design, Glasgow School of Art, 3. Faculty of Design & Technology, Robert Gordon University

INTRODUCTION

• Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) remain an important public health problem¹ resulting in longer hospital stays, increased costs for the healthcare system & alarming morbidity and mortality rates².

• Interventions aiming at tackling HAIs primarily focus on the prevention and control of pathogens by increasing healthcare staff’s adherence to hygiene regulations³.

• Interventions explicitly informed by theory appear limited in nature & scope; the extent & quality of evidence on this topic is unknown & requires systematic investigation.

AIM

To design an integrative literature review in order to systematically explore what & how theory has been implemented in the development of interventions aiding healthcare staff better manage HAIs. The main focus will be on psychological, social & human relations type theories etc. .

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What theory-based interventions have been implemented to aid healthcare staff prevent & control healthcare-associated infections?
2. How are these interventions structured & applied?
3. To what extent are these interventions effective?

STRATEGY

• Key search themes: HAIs; theory; intervention

• Databases: Web of Knowledge, CINAHL, AMED, MEDLINE, PsycARTICLES, ERIC, American Doctoral Dissertations, TRIP

• PROSPERO protocol registration

• Data extraction: 2 independent reviewers; a 3rd one to resolve potential disagreements; Evaluation table including each article’s essential elements.

• Risk of bias (quality) assessment: CASP checklists will be applied based on the study’s design (e.g. qualitative, quantitative, systematic review)

• Data synthesis: Narrative synthesis & descriptive stats; informed by Whittemore & Knafl (2005) integrative approach⁴

BENEFITS OF CURRENT INTEGRATIVE REVIEW

• First systematic approach to provide clarity as to the importance of theory when conceptualising an intervention within the HAIs context .

• Summary of what theories were implemented to inform the design & development of interventions.

• Useful & practical guide aiding scientists to decide on the appropriateness & effectiveness of theory when designing & developing an intervention.

REFERENCES


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