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## PROSPERO International prospective register of systematic reviews

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### Professional body and regulatory organisation guidance on the use of social media for registered healthcare professionals: a systematic review protocol

*Alyson Brown, Derek Stewart, Sarah Pederson, Katie MacLure, Brian Addison*

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#### Citation

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#### Review question(s)

The aim of this review is to critically appraise, synthesize and present the available evidence on professional body and regulatory organisation guidance on the use of social media for registered healthcare professionals.

To describe how professional body and regulatory organisations have derived and provided guidance on the use of social media for registered healthcare professionals

To describe the similarities and differences in terms of the nature and content of the guidance

To describe the emphasis placed on implementation and evaluation within the professional body and regulatory organisation guidance

#### Searches

Articles, guidelines and policy documents for review will be selected from a range of sources including electronic databases and snowballing from references. Readily accessible peer-reviewed full articles, conference proceedings and grey literature published in English since 1st January 2010 will be included. Due to the changing nature of social media and the definition of e-professionalism in 2009, guidance produced before this date is unlikely to be relevant to the current climate.

The databases to be searched are:

1. AMED
  2. ASLIB
  3. CINAHL
  4. IPA
  5. EMBASE
  6. MEDLINE
  7. Cochrane Library
  8. ScienceDirect
  9. SpringerLink
  10. Zetoc
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The search for grey literature and unpublished studies will be undertaken using:

1. EThOS
2. Web of Science Conference Proceedings Citation Index
3. Google Scholar
4. Google

### **Types of study to be included**

There are no restrictions on the types of study design eligible for inclusion

### **Condition or domain being studied**

Guidance and e-professionalism for registered healthcare professionals.

### **Participants/ population**

Inclusion criteria:

Registered healthcare professionals as defined by the Department of Health (2015) similarly registered professions in other English speaking countries::

- Medical Doctor
- Nurse
- Midwife
- Dentist
- Optometrist
- Osteopath
- Chiropractor
- Pharmacist
- Arts therapist
- Biomedical scientist
- Chiropodist / podiatrist
- Clinical scientist
- Dietitian
- Hearing aid dispenser
- Occupational therapist
- Operating department practitioner
- Orthoptist
- Paramedic

- Physiotherapist
- Practitioner psychologist
- Prosthetist / orthotist
- Radiographer
- Social workers
- Speech and language therapist

Exclusion criteria:

Guidance is usually readily available, but where this is not the case and is not in the public domain, these items will be excluded.

**Intervention(s), exposure(s)**

Not applicable.

**Comparator(s)/ control**

Not applicable.

**Context**

Registered healthcare professionals are expected to adhere to a code of conduct. Where a concern is raised about an individual's social media behaviour, this has the potential to be tested against professional expectations of behaviours and may have implications for the individual's fitness to practise.

**Outcome(s)**

**Primary outcomes**

A report presenting the available evidence on professional body and regulatory organisation guidance on the use of social media for registered healthcare professionals.

**Secondary outcomes**

- A description of how professional body and regulatory organisations have derived and provided guidance on the use of social media for registered healthcare professionals
- A description of the similarities and differences in terms of the nature and content of the guidance
- A description of the emphasis placed on implementation and evaluation within the professional body and regulatory organisation guidance

**Data extraction, (selection and coding)**

Titles and guidance will be independently screened by two reviewers from a team of five with abstracts and executive summaries followed by full articles where any doubt remains. Consensus on final inclusions will be negotiated with the third reviewer. Inclusions and exclusions will be recorded following PRISMA guidelines

A data extraction tool has been designed to capture:

- Population
- Context
- Timeline and review
- Geographical location

- Development process
- Structure and content
- Implementation
- Definitions

### **Risk of bias (quality) assessment**

Critical appraisal checklists appropriate to each study design type have been identified (CASP) and will be applied independently by two of the review team. Guidance will not be subject to quality assessment.

### **Strategy for data synthesis**

A descriptive synthesis is planned with a narrative report.

### **Analysis of subgroups or subsets**

None planned

### **Dissemination plans**

- conference proceedings
- peer reviewed journal publication
- PhD thesis

### **Contact details for further information**

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### **Organisational affiliation of the review**

None

### **Review team**

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### **Anticipated or actual start date**

08 February 2016

### **Anticipated completion date**

06 May 2016

**Funding sources/sponsors**

Not applicable.

**Conflicts of interest**

None known

**Language**

English

**Country**

Scotland

**Subject index terms status**

Subject indexing assigned by CRD

**Subject index terms**

Health Personnel; Humans; Names; Organizations; Social Media

**Stage of review**

Ongoing

**Date of registration in PROSPERO**

07 February 2016

**Date of publication of this revision**

07 February 2016

**Stage of review at time of this submission**

	<b>Started</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Preliminary searches	No	No
Piloting of the study selection process	No	No
Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria	No	No
Data extraction	No	No
Risk of bias (quality) assessment	No	No
Data analysis	No	No

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