

Review Protocol: Mobile Apps for COVID 19: A Systematic Review of Reviews

Administrative Information

Section and topic	Item No	Checklist Item		
Title:				
Identification	1a	Protocol for a quasi-systematic review of reviews on mobile apps for Covid-19		
Update	1b	n/a (This protocol is not for an update for a previous systematic review)		
Registration	2	n/a (This protocol is not yet registered)		
Authors:				
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Contributions	3b	0.	Conceptualization: Felix Holl & Marco Aigner	
		1.	Database search: Marco Aigner	
		2.	Title/Abstract & Full text Screening: Felix Holl & Marco Aigner	
		3.	Data Analysis: Felix Holl & Marco Aigner	
		4.	Manuscript Writing: Felix Holl & Marco Aigner	
		5.	Manuscript Review and Editing: Felix Holl, Marco Aigner, Johannes Schobel & Walter Swoboda	
Amendments	4	Important protocol amendments shall be documented		
Support	5	No funding to declare		

Introduction

Section and topic	Item No	Checklist Item
Rationale	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To identify and assess already existing reviews on apps for Covid-19• To find out whether further research of current health apps for Covid-19 is necessary.
Objectives	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What previous work has been done to assess current native health apps for Covid-19 (in the United States)?• PICO<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Patients: People at risk of being exposed to SARS-CoV-2 or being diagnosed with Covid-19○ Intervention: Reviews of mobile apps for Covid-19○ Control: With or without a comparator○ Outcome: Metadata, subject of review, methods used, results

Methods

Section and topic	Item No	Checklist Item
Eligibility criteria	8	PICO
		See Item No 7
		Study design
		Reviews
		Setting
		See Item No 7
		Time frame
Information Sources	9	n/a
		Years considered
		01/01/2020 - today
		Language(s)
		English
Search strategy	10	Publication status
		Peer-Reviewed & Published
Information Sources	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Databases:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Medline○ Embase• No other sources planned
Search strategy	10	1. Initial Research

- a. Search databases (see item no 9)
 - b. Eligibility criteria (see item no 8)
- 2. Title/Abstract Screening
 - a. Screening by two independent researchers
 - b. Discussion on conflicts and agreement on in-/ or exclusion
- 3. Paper retrieval
 - a. Exclude papers that could not be retrieved
- 4. Full-text screening by two independent researchers
 - a. Discussion on conflicts and agreement on in-/ or exclusion
 - i. Documentation of reasons for exclusion
- 5. Analysis and synthesis of remaining studies
 - a. Risk of bias

Study records:

Data management	11a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Storage of studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Result sets are being exported from the databases using text-, .csv or proprietary file-formats ○ Results are being imported into Endnote 20 2. The review process (selection, discussion on in-/ or exclusion) is carried out in Covidence
Selection process	11b	See item no 10
Data collection process	11c	n/a
Data items	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Metadata ○ Subject of review ○ Methods Used ○ Results • Apps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Categories ○ Countries ○ Assessment/Ratings
Outcomes and prioritization	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metadata of studies • Categorization of studies • Study results
Risk of bias in individual studies	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bias in qualitative studies is to be assessed using the GRADE-CERQual approach.
Data synthesis	15a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criteria under which study data will be quantitatively synthesized <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of assessed apps ○ Categories of assessed apps ○ Methods used to assess apps ○ Results of app assessments
	15b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depending on the methods found in studies
	15c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional analyses (sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression) are planned
	15d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative synthesis with regard to possible effects of mobile apps on Covid-19 or the need to perform further research on the topic
Meta-bias(es)	16	n/a
Confidence in cumulative evidence	17	n/a