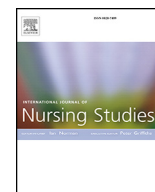




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Letter

Comment on Yu et al. (2024) 'Effects of interventions to promote resilience in nurses: A systematic review'

Dear Editor,

We read with great interest the paper by Yu et al. (2024) in volume 157 of the International Journal of Nursing Studies. The authors concluded that digital interventions are more likely to produce a moderate lasting effect on nurses' resilience, compared to face-to-face interventions. While the review addresses a significant topic, we have identified some inconsistencies that the authors should address to enhance the quality and transparency of their work.

Firstly, the authors claim, "At the time of the conduct of this review, a search revealed no existing protocol for such a review." However, they submitted their protocol to the International Prospective Register of Systematic Reviews (PROSPERO) on June 17, 2023, after Kunzler et al.'s (2022) review was published. This discrepancy raises questions about the comprehensiveness of their initial search, and no significant analysis of Kunzler et al.'s work is provided to explain why this review is still needed, aside from the inclusion of potential new articles published within such a short period.

Secondly, in Section 2.1, the Supplementary file provides a broad search strategy without specifying the tailored search strategies used for each database. This lack of specificity makes it impossible to reproduce the authors' search results accurately. The manuscript and Supplementary file do not clarify which terms are natural language search terms and which are subject headings, further complicating reproducibility. Additionally, the authors' choice of the term "intervention" to define their review's scope may be too narrow. Related terms such as "strategy," "approach," "best practice," "treatment," "therapy," and "program" could also be relevant and might be used by international authors in their publications. Furthermore, the authors' advice to use MeSH terms in all database searches is problematic. Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) terms are not valid in certain databases, such as the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL) or Excerpta Medica Database (Embase). This raises concerns about the legitimacy and effectiveness of their search strategy.

We would also like to question the authors' decision to leave out any analysis on secondary outcomes, although these are specified in their review protocol. Exploring the effectiveness of such interventions on decreasing nurses' reported stress, burnout, satisfaction, anxiety, and depression is crucial in the current times, and it seems that some of the included articles do report these outcomes.

We appreciate the authors' valuable contribution to this important area of research and hope they will address these issues to improve the robustness and replicability of their work.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

Paulo Santos-Costa: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Formal analysis, Conceptualization. **Inês F. Almeida:** Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Formal analysis, Conceptualization. **Rafael A. Bernardes:** Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Formal analysis, Conceptualization.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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