

The Impact of Atopic Dermatitis on Quality-of-Life in Pediatric Patients: Search Strategy of a Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis



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Background

- Atopic dermatitis (AD), a common form of eczema, is a chronic inflammatory skin condition characterized dry, itchy, and erythematous skin lesions.¹
- AD usually manifests in infancy and can contribute to poor quality of life (QoL) among pediatric AD patients.²
- This is particularly due to its' negative impacts on physical activity, mental health, social interactions, and disturbed sleep during developmental years.
- While reviews assessing QoL in adult AD patients have been reported³, to our knowledge, systematic analyses of current evidence on the impact of QoL across pediatric ages in recent years is lacking.
- The impact of AD on QoL across the pediatric spectrum should be evaluated.

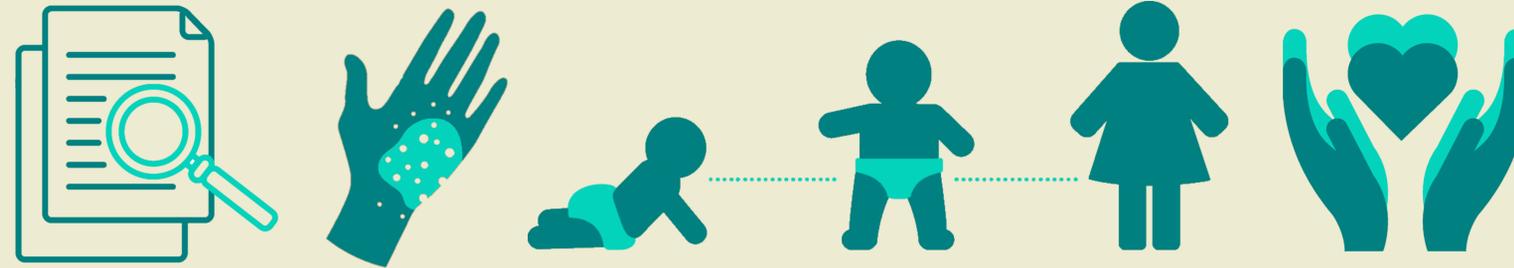
Purpose

- Systematically review available literature to collectively identify QoL deficits in pediatric AD populations.

Methods

- A comprehensive systematic review of the literature of all articles evaluating quality of life in pediatric atopic dermatitis patients is currently in-progress.
- Biomedical literature databases were queried up to November 2020.
- A standard protocol was employed in database searches and an initial title and abstract screening was conducted by two independent reviewers.

Atopic dermatitis manifests early in the lifecourse and may contribute to poor quality of life among children.



A systematic analyses synthesizing QoL deficits in pediatric groups may help develop and improve QoL interventions in this population.

Figure 1. Databases & Search Terms

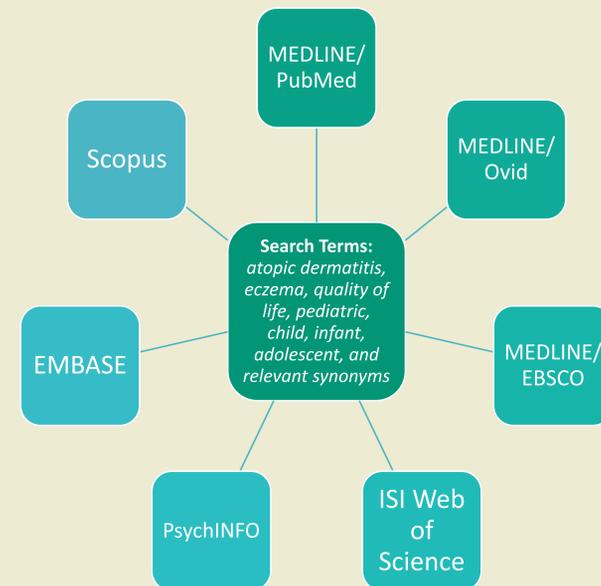
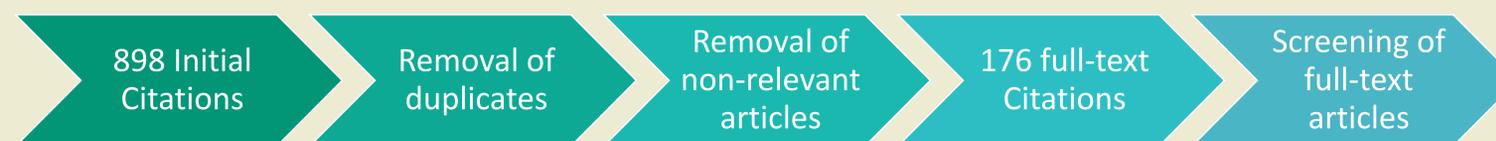


Figure 2. Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria



Figure 3. Preliminary Search Results



Future Steps

- All remaining 176 full-text articles will be further screened using strict inclusion and exclusion criteria.
- Data will be extracted and synthesized, study quality appraised, and results disseminated via publication.
- When feasible, meta-analysis will be performed to obtain standardized mean differences in QoL scores.

Relevance & Importance

- Poor QoL contributed by AD in childhood can result in long-lasting, harmful health consequences throughout the lifecourse.
- Understanding the impact of AD on QoL across infants, children, and adolescents is needed to develop and improve therapeutic interventions targeting QoL in pediatrics
- This effort to synthesize QoL deficits in pediatric AD populations will help support these future initiatives.

References

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