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ORTHOPEDIC PATIENTS AND PLASTER CASTS, WHAT EVIDENCE? A SCOPING REVIEW



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INTRODUCTION



The plaster cast is a useful tool commonly used for various purposes in Orthopaedic and Emergency Department and nurses play a fundamental role in their application and in assisting patients with casts



METHODS

AIM

To map the available literature on the use of plaster casts in Orthopaedics and Traumatology, focusing on application techniques and strategies used by nurses

RESEARCH QUESTION

What evidence is available on the use of casts in Orthopaedics and Traumatology?

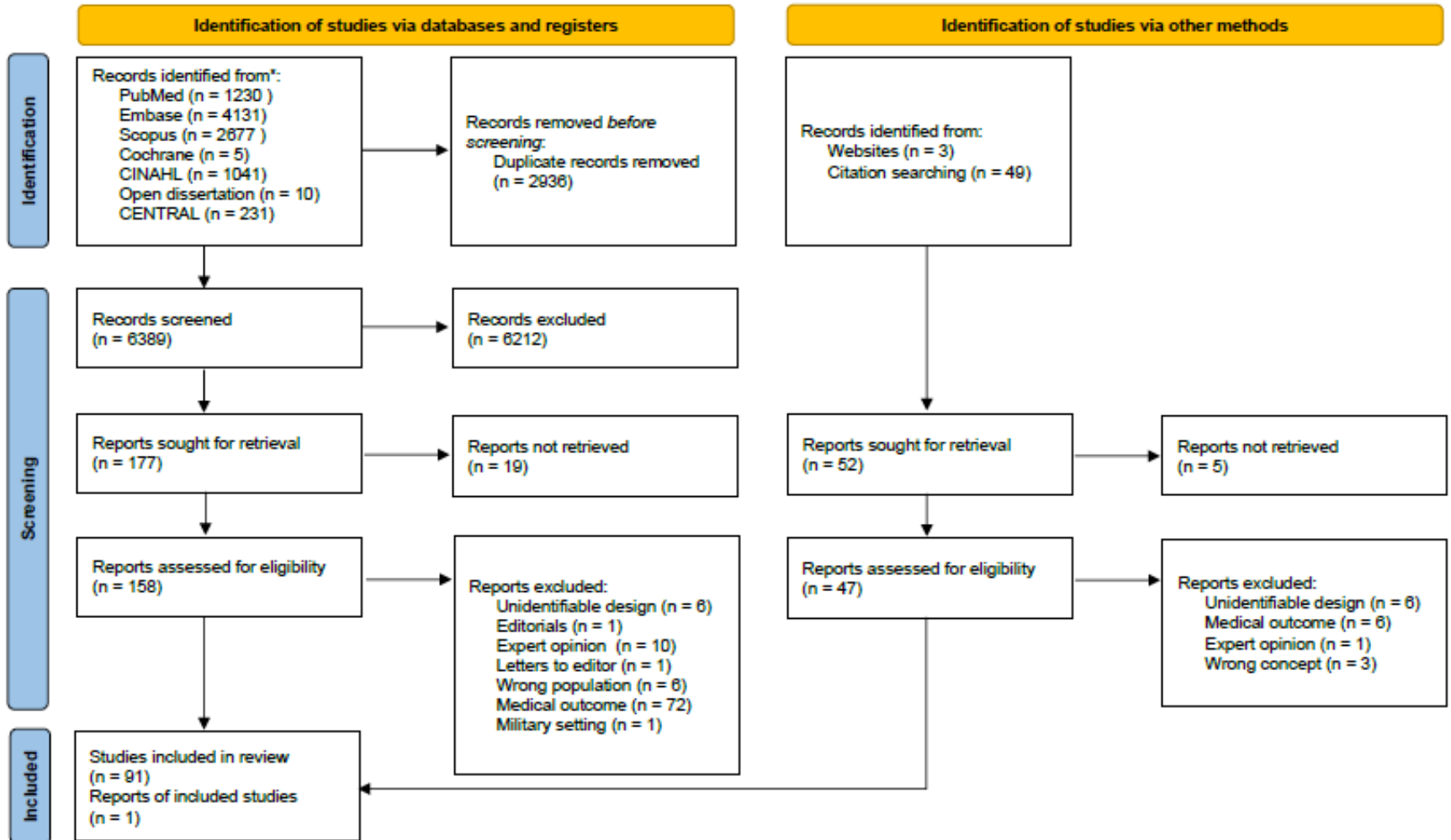


METHODS

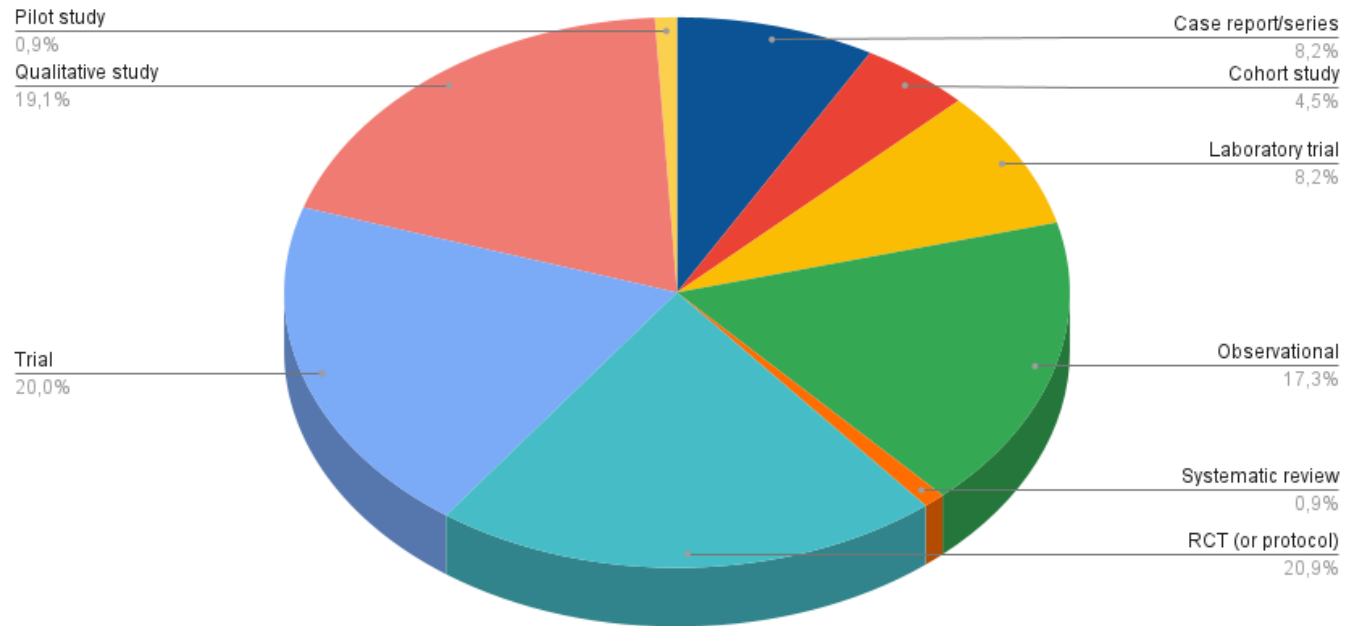
Step	Description
Protocol	Scoping review. JBI. PRISMA-ScR.
Eligibility criteria	<p>Participant: Orthopaedic and traumatological patients needing plaster treatment</p> <p>Concept: Application of plaster casts, application techniques, materials, nursing outcomes and nurses strategies</p> <p>Context: Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Orthopaedic Emergency Room and Orthopaedic/Traumatologic Clinics</p> <p>Source of evidence: Articles of quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research. Literature reviews. Grey literature, reports and abstracts with an identifiable research design, guidelines. Editorials and expert opinions were excluded.</p>
Database	PubMed, Scopus, Embase, CINAHL, Cochrane Library, Open Dissertations, DOAJ and CENTRAL
Synthesis	Graphical and qualitative



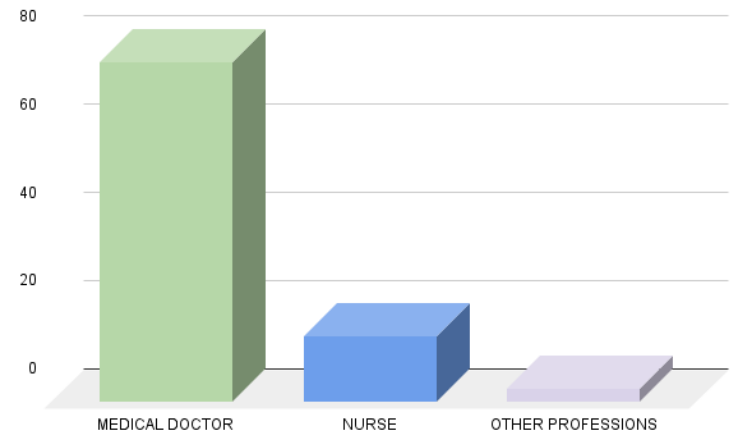
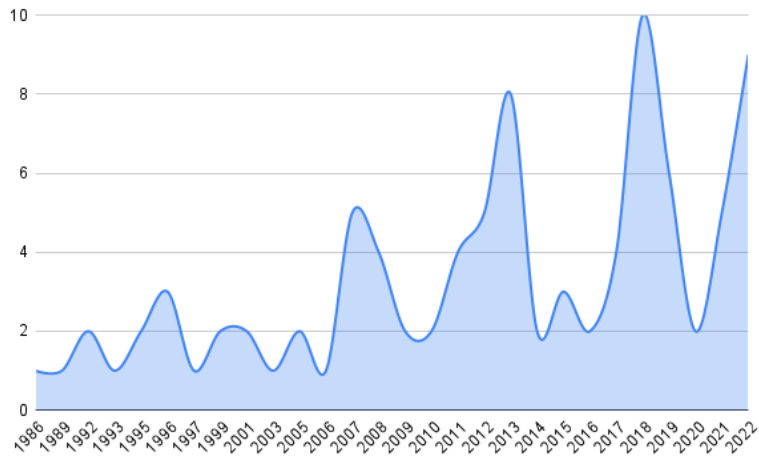
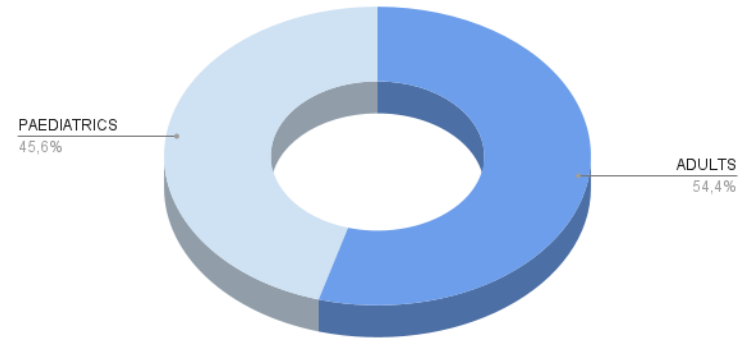
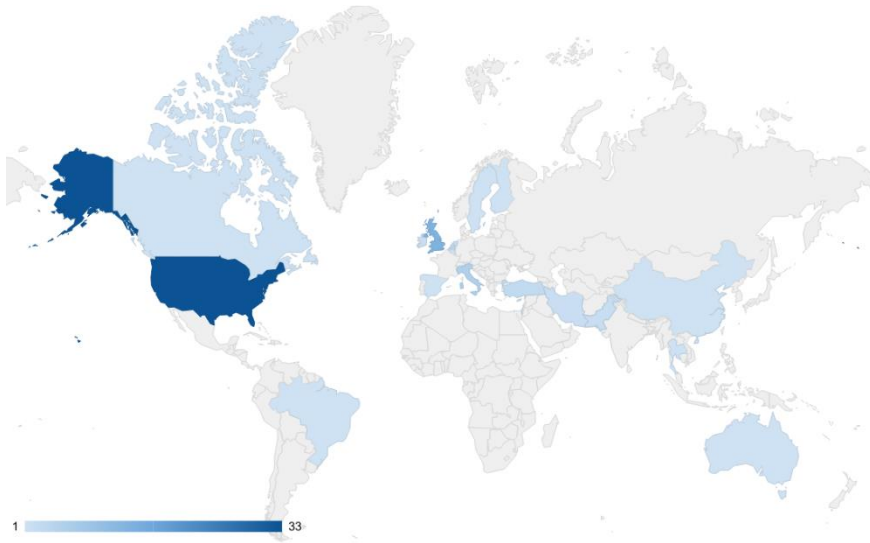
RESULTS



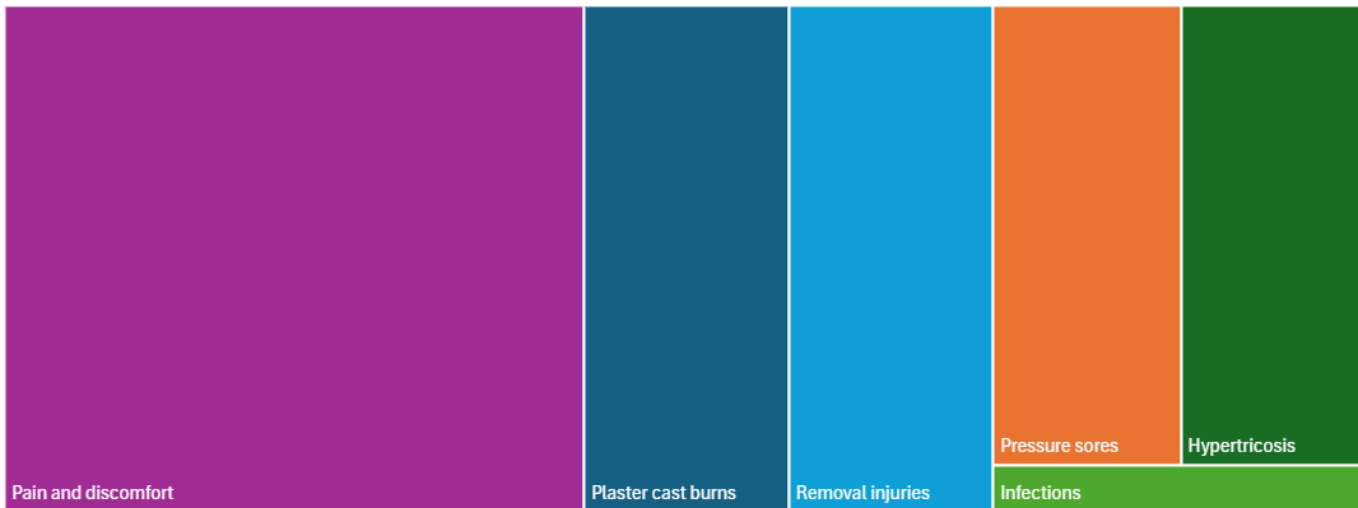
RESULTS



RESULTS



RESULTS



SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

- Few systematic reviews
- Majority of studies conducted in North America and Europe
- Fluctuating number of studies over the years
- Majority of studies first author medical
- Most studies consider application and removal strategies, but nurses are less present
- Pain and discomfort are the most commonly considered complications



TAKE HOME MESSAGE

1. Studies conducted by expert orthopaedic and trauma nurses are needed to identify the best strategies for applying plaster casts and caring for casted patients
2. Future research could focus on systematic reviews
3. Future research could focus on preventing complications



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