# PRISMA-P 2015 Checklist

This checklist has been adapted for use with systematic review protocol submissions to BioMed Central journals from Table 3 in Moher D et al: Preferred reporting items for systematic review and meta-analysis protocols (PRISMA-P) 2015 statement. Systematic Reviews 2015 4:1

An Editorial from the Editors-in-Chief of Systematic Reviews details why this checklist was adapted - Moher D, Stewart L & Shekelle P: Implementing PRISMA-P: recommendations for prospective authors. Systematic Reviews 2016 5:15

| Section/topic | # | Checklist item                                                                 | Information reported | Line number(s) |
|---------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION** |   |                                                                              |                      |                |
| Identification | 1a | Identify the report as a protocol of a systematic review                      | ☒ | ☐ | 1-3 |
| Update        | 1b | If the protocol is for an update of a previous systematic review, identify as such | ☐ | ☒ |     |
| Registration  | 2  | If registered, provide the name of the registry (e.g., PROSPERO) and registration number in the Abstract | ☒ | ☐ | 84-86 |
| Authors       |   |                                                                              |                      |                |
| Contact       | 3a | Provide name, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address of all protocol authors; provide physical mailing address of corresponding author | ☒ | ☐ | 5-48 |
| Contributions | 3b | Describe contributions of protocol authors and identify the guarantor of the review | ☒ | ☐ | 322-326 |
| Amendments    | 4  | If the protocol represents an amendment of a previously completed or published protocol, identify as such and list changes; otherwise, state plan for documenting important protocol amendments | ☒ | ☐ | 331-333 |
| Support       |   |                                                                              |                      |                |
| Sources       | 5a | Indicate sources of financial or other support for the review                | ☒ | ☐ | 318-320 |
| Sponsor       | 5b | Provide name for the review funder and/or sponsor                             | ☐ | ☒ |     |
| Role of sponsor/funder | 5c | Describe roles of funder(s), sponsor(s), and/or institution(s), if any, in developing the protocol | ☐ | ☒ |     |
| **INTRODUCTION** |   |                                                                              |                      |                |
| Rationale     | 6  | Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known | ☒ | ☐ | 94-121 |
| Objectives    | 7  | Provide an explicit statement of the question(s) the review will address with reference to | ☒ | ☐ | 122-131 |
| Section/topic          | # | Checklist item                                                                 | Information reported | Line number(s) |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                       |   | participants, interventions, comparators, and outcomes (PICO)                    |                       |               |
| METHODS               |   |                                                                                  |                       |               |
| Eligibility criteria  | 8 | Specify the study characteristics (e.g., PICO, study design, setting, time frame) and report characteristics (e.g., years considered, language, publication status) to be used as criteria for eligibility for the review | ☒ | ☐ | 138-149 |
| Information sources   | 9 | Describe all intended information sources (e.g., electronic databases, contact with study authors, trial registers, or other grey literature sources) with planned dates of coverage | ☒ | ☐ | 151-161 |
| Search strategy       | 10| Present draft of search strategy to be used for at least one electronic database, including planned limits, such that it could be repeated | ☒ | ☐ | 151-161 |
| STUDY RECORDS         |   |                                                                                  |                       |               |
| Data management       | 11a| Describe the mechanism(s) that will be used to manage records and data throughout the review | ☒ | ☐ | 164-172 |
| Selection process     | 11b| State the process that will be used for selecting studies (e.g., two independent reviewers) through each phase of the review (i.e., screening, eligibility, and inclusion in meta-analysis) | ☒ | ☐ | 174-180 |
| Data collection process | 11c | Describe planned method of extracting data from reports (e.g., piloting forms, done independently, in duplicate), any processes for obtaining and confirming data from investigators | ☒ | ☐ | 182-188 |
| Data items            | 12| List and define all variables for which data will be sought (e.g., PICO items, funding sources), any pre-planned data assumptions and simplifications | ☒ | ☐ | 190-198 |
| Outcomes and prioritization | 13 | List and define all outcomes for which data will be sought, including prioritization of main and additional outcomes, with rationale | ☒ | ☐ | 200-222 |
| Risk of bias in individual studies | 14 | Describe anticipated methods for assessing risk of bias of individual studies, including whether this will be done at the outcome or study level, or both; state how this information will be used in data synthesis | ☒ | ☐ | 224-233 |
| DATA                  |   |                                                                                  |                       |               |
| Synthesis             | 15a| Describe criteria under which study data will be quantitatively synthesized      | ☒ | ☐ | 235-246 |
|                       | 15b| If data are appropriate for quantitative synthesis, describe planned summary measures, methods of handling data, and methods of combining data from studies, including any planned exploration of consistency (e.g., I², Kendall’s tau) | ☒ | ☐ | 235-246 |
|                       | 15c| Describe any proposed additional analyses (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression) | ☒ | ☐ | 235-246 |
| Section/topic | #   | Checklist item                                                                 | Information reported | Line number(s)                  |
|--------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
|              | 15d | If quantitative synthesis is not appropriate, describe the type of summary planned | Yes                  | 235-246, 122-131               |
| Meta-bias(es)| 16  | Specify any planned assessment of meta-bias(es) (e.g., publication bias across studies, selective reporting within studies) | Yes                  | 248-251                        |
| Confidence in cumulative evidence | 17  | Describe how the strength of the body of evidence will be assessed (e.g., GRADE)       | Yes                  | 235-258                        |