

Social Connection Measurement Tools for Older Residents Living in Long-Term Care Homes

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Introduction

- Social connection is a **basic human need**, and influences quality of life and care for older adults in long-term care (LTC) homes (1).
- Poor social connection has been linked to increase risk of mortality (2,3), worse mental and physical health (2,4), and hospitalization (2).
- LTC home residents are disproportionately affected by poor social connection due to cognitive impairment(s), mobility impairment(s), and seclusion from former ways of life (5).
- Social connection has not been clearly conceptualized leading to the use of inconsistent terminology and ambiguity around quantifying this construct.
- Various tools have measured aspects of social connection in LTC home residents, however, they have not been comprehensively reviewed.
- This study will profile and describe existing measurement tools so that a new, comprehensive tool can be developed to assess social connection in LTC homes.

Social connection is an umbrella term that comprises multiple distinct aspects describing how individuals connect to each other.

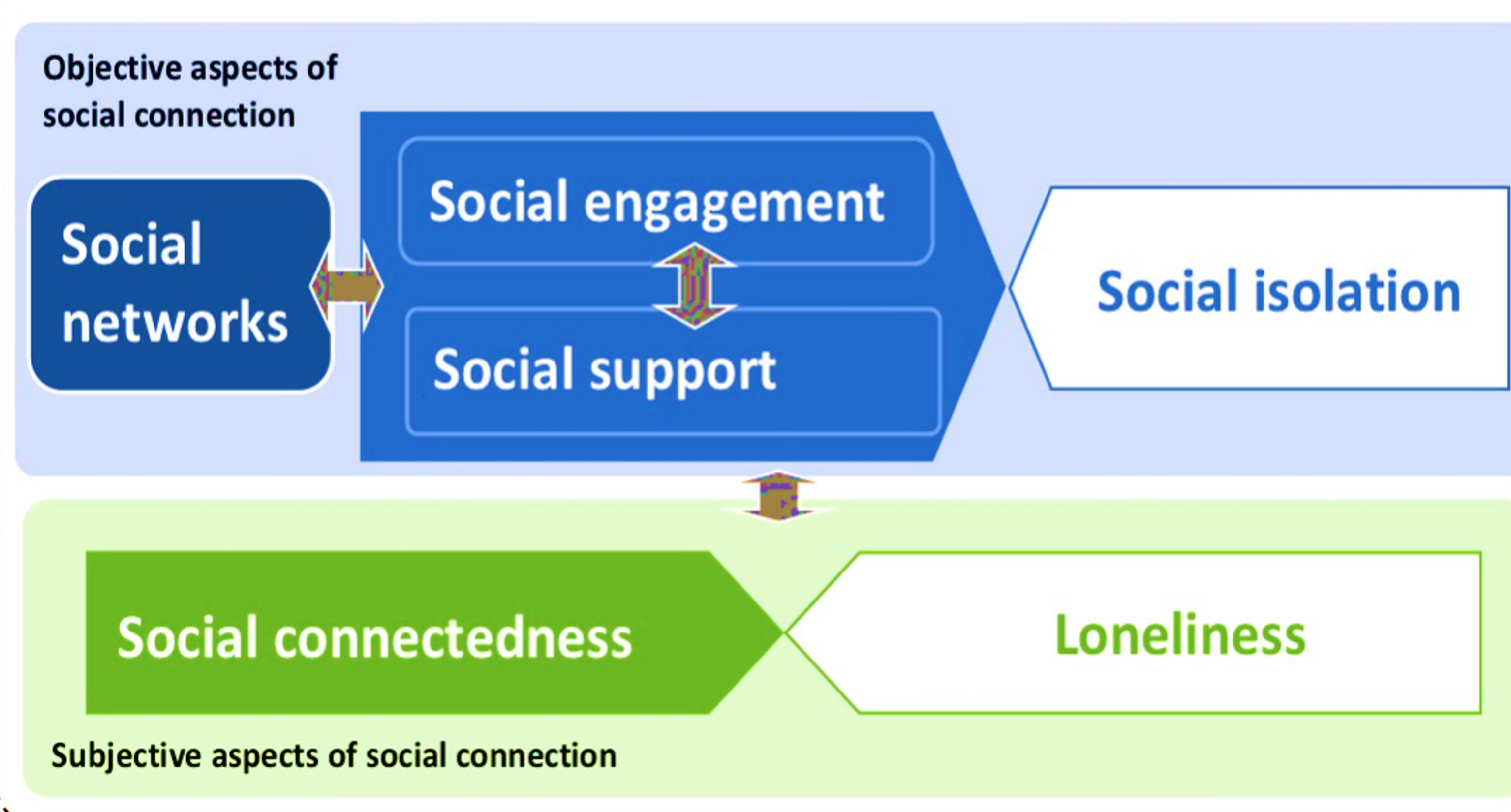


Figure 1. Preliminary Conceptual Model of Social Connection. Aspects are related but distinct. Bidirectional arrows indicate the associations that exist between aspects.

Objectives

- (1) Identify measurement tools tested in LTC home settings that assess any aspect(s) of resident's social connection.
- (2) Describe these measurement tools according to the aspect(s) of social connection assessed.
- (3) Analyze how dementia specific measurement tools may differ from those developed for broader use among all LTC home residents.

Methodology

- MEDLINE ALL (Ovid), Embase Classic and Embase (Ovid), Emcare Nursing (Ovid), APA PsycInfo (Ovid), Scopus, CINAHL Complete (EBSCOhost), AgeLine (EBSCOhost), and Sociological Abstracts (ProQuest); primary research papers, no language limit, published from database inception to Nov. 2021, and updated in Apr. 2022

Search One: social connection AND LTC AND COSMIN filter
Search Two: identified social connection measures from existing systematic reviews and search one AND LTC AND COSMIN filter

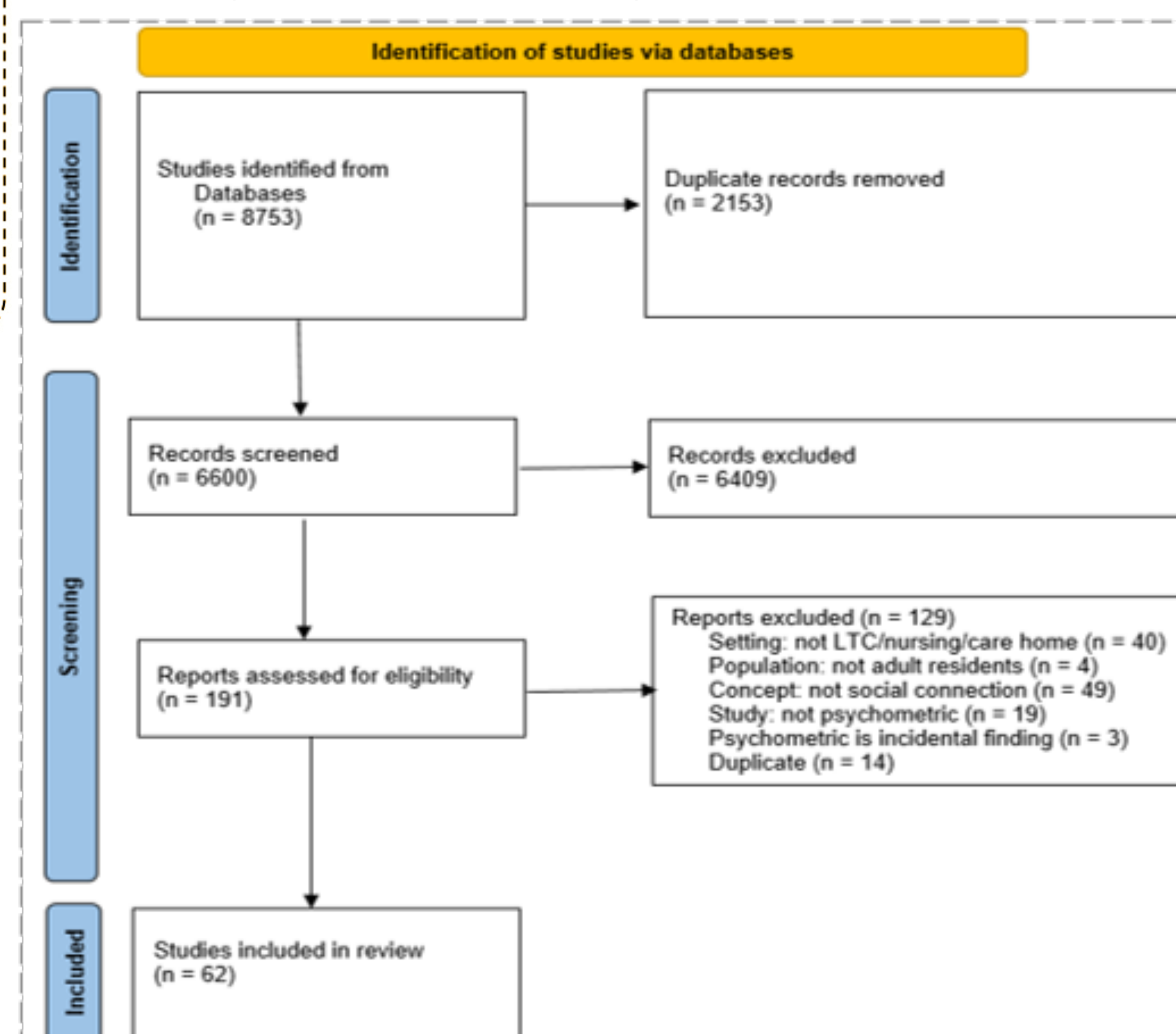
Inclusion Criteria:

- **Setting:** LTC home/care home/nursing home, >2/3 home residents
- **Population:** adult residents, >2/3 aged over 65 years
- **Concept:** Measures that assess any aspect(s) of social connection
- **Study:** Reported at least one psychometric property of the measure(s)

Data Extraction:

Included social connection aspects (Figure 1.); target population (e.g. residents with dementia); mode of administration (self or proxy report) ; measurement properties assessed.

Figure 2. PRISMA Flow Diagram for Search One and Search Two



Ongoing Results

62 Extracted Research Papers and 35 Identified Measurement Tools

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) QUALIDEM | 19) Nursing Home Care-related Quality of Life Scale |
| 2) Quality of Life in late-stage Dementia (QUALID) | 20) Social Observation Behaviors Index (SOBRI) |
| 3) Revised Index of Social Engagement (RISE) | 21) Social Support Scale in Chronic Diseases (SSCI) |
| 4) Quality of Life Alzheimer's Disease (QoL-AD) | 22) Quality of Life Scale |
| 5) Alzheimer's Disease Related Quality of Life (ADRQL) | 23) Socially Supportive Activity Inventory (SSAI) |
| 6) Nottingham Health Profile (NHP) | 24) SAR Foundation's Satisfaction and Quality of Life Scale (SyCV-FSAR) |
| 7) Dementia Quality of Life (DQOL) | 25) Social Connectedness Index (from MDS 3.0) |
| 8) Multidimensional Observation Scale for Elderly Subjects (MOSES) | 26) Social Quality (from MDS) |
| 9) ICEpop CAPability measure for Older people (ICECAP-O) | 27) World Health Organisation Quality of Life (WHOQOL)-BREF |
| 10) Time Use (from Minimum Data Set (MDS)) | 28) Satisfaction measure for elderly residents in Galicia |
| 11) Nursing Home Adjustment Scale (NHAS) [relationship development] | 29) Quality of Life-Alzheimer's Disease scale in Nursing Homes (QOL-AD NH) [Intra & interpersonal environment-related QoL] |
| 12) Lubben Social Network Scale Revised (LSNS-R) | 30) World Health Organization's Quality of Life Questionnaire-version for older people (WHOQOL-OLD) |
| 13) Social Well-being Of Nursing home residents-scale (SWON scale) | 31) Philadelphia Geriatric Center Morale Scale |
| 14) Engagement of a Person with Dementia Scale | 32) Sociability of Aged Persons |
| 15) The Index of Social Engagement Scale (ISE) | 33) Salamon-Conte Life Satisfaction in the Elderly Scales (LSES) |
| 16) interRAI Self-Report Nursing Home Quality of Life Survey | 34) Nursing Home Outcomes |
| 17) Laurens Well-Being Inventory for Gerontopsychiatry | 35) Comprehensive Ability of Older People Assessment Scale |
| 18) Maastricht Electronic Daily Life Observation tool (MEDLO-tool) | |

Conclusions

- Results will inform the preliminary conceptual model of social connection (Figure 1.) to demonstrate how social connection is conceptualized and operationalized in measures developed specifically for LTC home residents.
- Findings will inform future measurement tool development through its contribution to the SONNET study. SONNET is creating a novel, person-centered, social connection measurement tool for LTC home residents.

Bibliography

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Study Details

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PROSPERO registration: www.crd.york.ac.uk/prosperto/display_record.php?ID=CRD42022303526

Website: www.sonnetstudy.com

Twitter: @SonnetStudy