

Culture is Key: Engaging culturally and linguistically diverse populations in breast cancer screening in high income contexts: A scoping review

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1. Background

Breast cancer is the most diagnosed cancer in Australia and the second highest cause of cancer mortality in Australian women. Screening can significantly reduce mortality; however, research suggests that women from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds are less likely to participate in screening. While there is an established body of literature describing the lower engagement of CALD populations and the associated challenges they face, less is known about effective interventions to improve engagement.

2. Aims

Gain insights into international best practice interventions that improve engagement of CALD populations in breast cancer screening.

3. Methods

Systematic scoping review. The search strategy followed standard requirements for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR). PUBMED, EMBASE and CINHAL databases were searched for studies published between January 2012-October 2023.

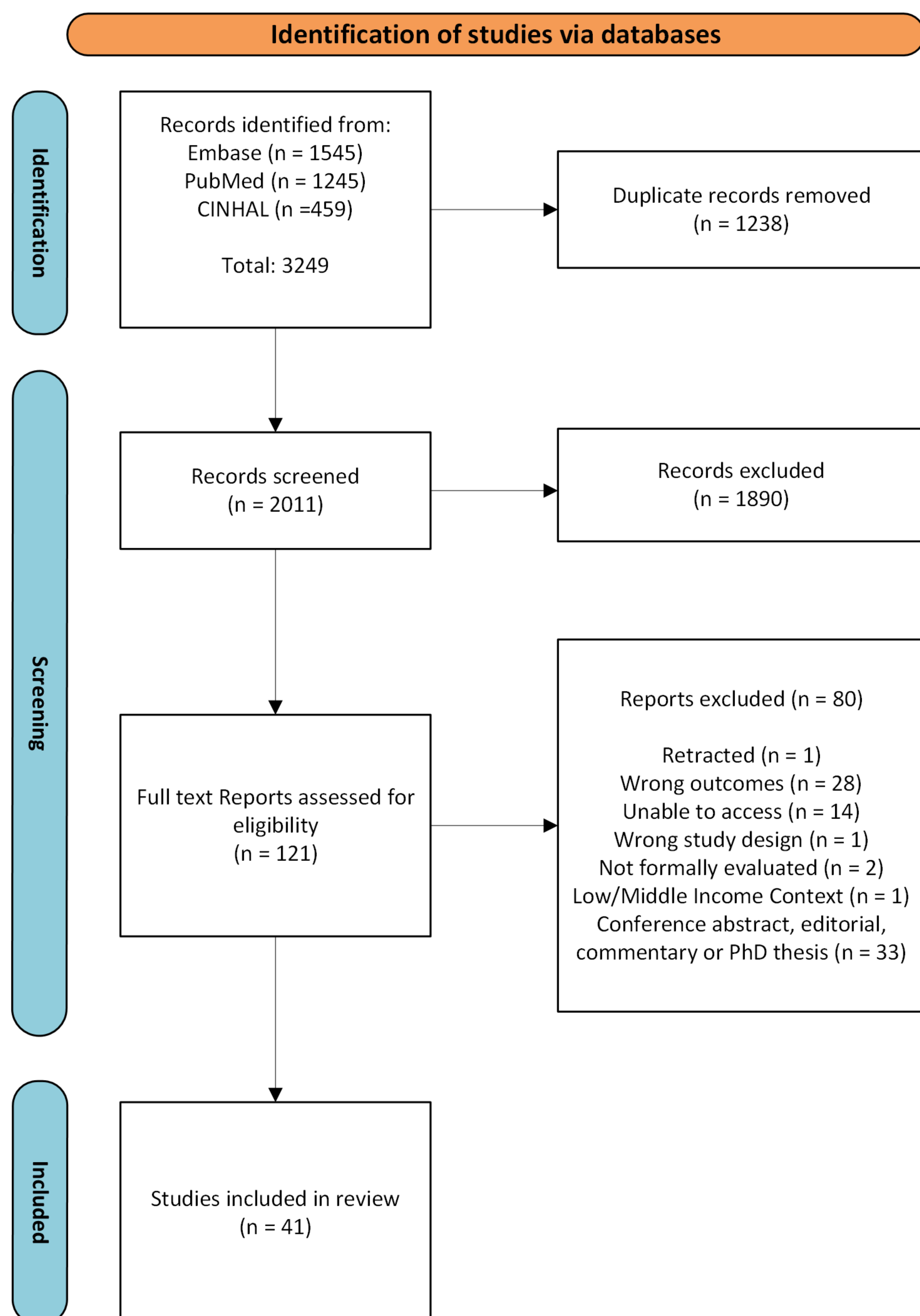
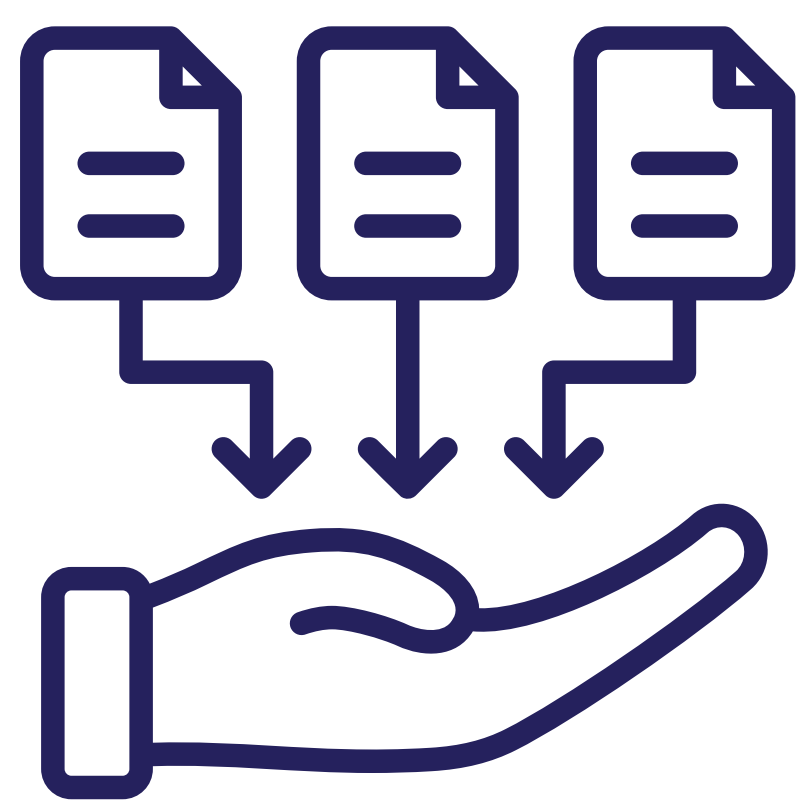


Figure 1: PRISMA diagram of database search



1 in 7 women in NSW will develop breast cancer.



4. Results

After removing duplicates, 2011 titles and abstracts were screened. 121 papers underwent full text review, a total of 41 were included in the review. Key intervention characteristics were identified. Studies that included a combination of interventions or that were multi-component interventions demonstrated results that were most effective at increasing mammography in CALD populations. Cultural appropriateness and tailoring to specific populations were the most significant considerations to be integrated into screening programs.

Recommendations for Practice

- 1** Multi-component interventions are the most effective in increasing mammogram utilisation
- 2** BreastScreen should explore the option of bilingual service navigation for CALD populations
- 3** Incorporation of community health workers as a key strategy to engage CALD populations
- 4** Culturally appropriate materials are necessary to improve CALD engagement and is an important consideration during recruitment

5. Conclusion

CALD populations have lower engagement and experience many challenges in accessing screening services. This systematic scoping review found that the integration of cultural appropriateness and tailoring of services to cultural need are critical to successfully delivering breast screening services to CALD populations. A population focused approach that engages with CALD communities, rather than an individual service driven response, is most effective.