

# APPENDIX: SEARCH STRATEGY RESULTS

**Contact person:** Thomas Hansen  
**Search:** Ragnhild Agathe Tornes  
**Peer review:** Marita Heintz  
**Duplicate control in EndNote:** Before duplicate control: 3707  
 After duplicate control: 1887

**Database:** Ovid MEDLINE(R) and Epub Ahead of Print, In-Process, In-Data-Review & Other Non-Indexed Citations, Daily and Versions <1946 to June 16, 2022>  
**Date:** 17.06.22  
**Number of hits:** 731

1	Loneliness/ or Social Isolation/	19903
2	(loneliness or lonely or (social* adj (exclusion? or excluded or isolation or isolated))).tw,kf.	23468
3	1 or 2	34929
4	limit 3 to "reviews (maximizes specificity)"	800
5	Meta-Analysis/ or Network Meta-Analysis/ or ((systematic* adj2 review*) or metaanal* or "meta anal*" or (review and ((structured or database* or systematic*) adj2 search*)) or "integrative review*" or (evidence adj2 review*)).tw,kf,bt.	448581
6	4 or (3 and 5)	1067
7	limit 6 to yr="2017 -Current"	731

**Database:** Embase <1974 to 2022 June 16> (via Ovid)  
**Date:** 17.06.22  
**Number of hits:** 847

1	loneliness/ or social Isolation/	38381
2	(loneliness or lonely or (social* adj (exclusion? or excluded or isolation or isolated))).tw,kf.	29351
3	1 or 2	49393
4	limit 3 to "reviews (maximizes specificity)"	960
5	exp Meta-Analysis/ or "systematic review"/ or ((systematic* adj2 review*) or metaanal* or "meta anal*" or (review and ((structured or database* or systematic*) adj2 search*)) or "integrative review*" or (evidence adj2 review*)).tw,kf.	644343
6	4 or (3 and 5)	1683
7	limit 6 to yr="2017 -Current"	1106
8	limit 7 to (conference abstracts or embase)	847

**Database:** APA PsycInfo <1806 to June Week 2 2022> (via Ovid)

**Date:** 17.06.22

**Number of hits:** 480

1	Loneliness/ or Social Isolation/	13483
2	(loneliness or lonely or (social* adj (exclusion? or excluded or isolation or isolated))).tw.	26095
3	1 or 2	30022
4	limit 3 to "reviews (maximizes specificity)"	819
5	(meta analysis or "systematic review").md. or meta analysis/ or ((systematic* adj2 review*) or metaanal* or "meta anal*" or (review and ((structured or database* or systematic*) adj2 search*)) or "integrative review*" or (evidence adj2 review*)).tw.	98763
6	4 or (3 and 5)	1058
7	limit 6 to yr="2017 -Current"	480

**Database:** Sociological Abstracts (via ProQuest)

**Date:** 16.06.22

**Number of hits:** 87

S1	Searched for: SU.EXACT("Loneliness" or "Social Isolation")	4700
S2	Searched for: AB,TI(loneliness or lonely or (social* P/0 (exclusion or exclusions or excluded or isolation or isolated)))	13108
S3	Searched for: S1 or S2	14142
S4	Searched for: SU.EXACT("Technology Assessment") OR SU.EXACT("Literature Reviews") or AB,TI((systematic* N/1 review*) or metaanal* or "meta anal*" or (review and ((structured or database* or systematic*) N/1 search*)) or "integrative review*" or (evidence N/1 review*))	14395

S5	Searched for: S3 and S4	164
S6	Searched for: (S3 and S4) AND pd(20170101-20220616)	87

**Database:** Cinahl (via Ebsco)

**Date:** 17.06.22

**Number of hits:** 393

S8	S7 Limiters - Exclude MEDLINE records	393
S7	S6 Limiters - Published Date: 20170101-20220631	512
S6	S4 or (S3 and S5)	842
S5	(MH "Meta Analysis") OR (MH "Systematic Review") or TI ((systematic* N1 review* or metaanal* or "meta anal*" or (review and ((structured or database* or systematic*) N1 search*)) or "integrative review*" or (evidence N1 review*)) OR AB ((systematic* N1 review* or metaanal* or "meta anal*" or (review and ((structured or database* or systematic*) N1 search*)) or "integrative review*" or (evidence N1 review*))	229,400
S4	S3 Limiters - Clinical Queries: Review - High Specificity	476
S3	S1 OR S2	21,585
S2	TI(loneliness or lonely or (social* W0 (exclusion# or excluded or isolation or isolated))) or AB(loneliness or lonely or (social* W0 (exclusion# or excluded or isolation or isolated)))	13,427
S1	(MH "Loneliness") or (MH "Social Isolation")	14,691

**Database:** Web of Science Core Collection: Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-EXPANDED) --1987-present, Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) --1987-present, Arts & Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI) --1987-present, Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) --2015-present

**Date:** 17.06.22

**Number of hits:** 461

4	#3 and PY=2017-2022	Exact search	461
3	#1 AND #2	Exact search	579
2	TS= (("systematic*" NEAR/1 "review*") or ("review" and ("structured" or "database*" or "systematic*" NEAR/1 "search*")) or "integrative review*" or ("evidence" NEAR/1 "review*")) OR TI= ("metaanal*" or "meta anal*") OR AB= ("metaanal*" or "meta anal*")	Exact search	491,731
1	TS= (loneliness or lonely or (social* W0 (exclusion\$ or excluded or isolation or isolated)))	Exact search	19,902

**Database:** Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Issue 6 of 12, June 2022

**Date:** 17.06.22

**Number of hits:** 11 (10 reviews, 1 protocol)

#1	[mh ^Loneliness]	152
#2	(loneliness or lonely or (social* NEXT (exclusion? or excluded or isolation or isolated))):ti,ab	1698
#3	#1 or #2	1711
#4	#3 in Cochrane Reviews and Cochrane Protocols	28
#5	#4 with Cochrane Library publication date Between Jan 2017 and Jun 2022, in Cochrane Reviews, Cochrane Protocols	11

**Database:** Epistemonikos

**Date:** 17.06.22

**Number of hits:** 697

Publication type: Broad Synthesis: 118

Publication type: Structured Summary: 0

Publication type: Systematic Review: 579

**Note:** Simplified search strategy due to the limited search functionality

Title/Abstract: (loneliness or lonely or "social exclusion" or "social exclusions" or "socially excluded" or "social isolation" or "socially isolated")

Year: 2017-2022

## Grey literature search

Number of references retrieved: 280

Number of references after deduplication: 239

Database	Search date	Search strings	Hits																								
<b>Swemed+</b> <a href="https://svemedplus.kib.ki.se/">https://svemedplus.kib.ki.se/</a>	June 20 2022	exp:"loneliness" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] Limits: doctype:"översikt" exp:"Social Isolation" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] Limits: doctype:"översikt" loneliness Limits: doctype:"översikt" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] lonely Limits: doctype:"översikt" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] "social exclusion" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] Limits: doctype:"översikt" "social exclusions" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] Limits: doctype:"översikt" "social excluded" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] Limits: doctype:"översikt" social isolation Limits: doctype:"översikt" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] "socially isolated" AND year:[2017 TO 2019] Limits: doctype:"översikt"	10 (after deduplication)																								
<b>Prospero</b> <a href="https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/">https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/</a>	June 20 2022	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Line #</th> <th>Search for</th> <th>Hits</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>MeSH DESCRIPTOR loneliness AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT WHERE CD FROM 2017 TO 20/06/2022</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>MeSH DESCRIPTOR social isolation AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT WHERE CD FROM 2017 TO 20/06/2022</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>loneliness AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT</td> <td>121</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>social isolation AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT</td> <td>106</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>socially isolated AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>social exclusion AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>socially excluded AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Line #	Search for	Hits	1	MeSH DESCRIPTOR loneliness AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT WHERE CD FROM 2017 TO 20/06/2022	0	2	MeSH DESCRIPTOR social isolation AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT WHERE CD FROM 2017 TO 20/06/2022	0	3	loneliness AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	121	4	social isolation AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	106	5	socially isolated AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	11	6	social exclusion AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	15	7	socially excluded AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	2	194
Line #	Search for	Hits																									
1	MeSH DESCRIPTOR loneliness AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT WHERE CD FROM 2017 TO 20/06/2022	0																									
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		8	social exclusion AND (Review Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	15	
		9	social exclusions AND (Review_Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	0	
		10	lonely AND (Review Ongoing):RS AND (Intervention):RT	10	
		18	#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10	194	
<b>Open Grey System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe</b> <a href="https://easy.dans.knaw.nl/ui/advancedsearch">https://easy.dans.knaw.nl/ui/advancedsearch</a>	June 20 2022	Advanced search: Any field: (loneliness or lonely or "social exclusion" or "social exclusions" or "socially excluded" or "social isolation" or "socially isolated") AND review			5 (no systematic reviews)
<b>The Campbell Collaboration</b> <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/</a>	June 21 2022	loneliness: <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=loneliness&amp;searchphrase=all">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=loneliness&amp;searchphrase=all</a>  lonely: <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=lonely&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=lonely&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20</a>  social isolation: <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=social%20isolation&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=social%20isolation&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20</a>  socially isolated: <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=socially%20isolated&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=socially%20isolated&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20</a>  social exclusion: <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=social%20exclusion&amp;searchphrase=all">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=social%20exclusion&amp;searchphrase=all</a>  social exclusions: <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=social%20exclusions&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=social%20exclusions&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20</a>  socially excluded: <a href="https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=socially%20excluded&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20">https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/website-search.html?searchword=socially%20excluded&amp;searchphrase=all&amp;limit=20</a>			3

<b>SBU – Statens beredning för medicinsk och social utvärdering</b> <a href="https://www.sbu.se/sv/">https://www.sbu.se/sv/</a>	June 21 2022	Ensamhet (loneliness): <a href="https://www.sbu.se/sv/sok/?q=ensamhet">https://www.sbu.se/sv/sok/?q=ensamhet</a> Social isolering (social isolation): <a href="https://www.sbu.se/sv/sok/?q=social+isolering">https://www.sbu.se/sv/sok/?q=social+isolering</a>	14 (loneliness), 48 (social isolation)
<b>WHO Library Catalog</b> <a href="https://kohahq.searo.who.int/cgi-bin/koha/opac-search.pl">https://kohahq.searo.who.int/cgi-bin/koha/opac-search.pl</a>	June 21 2022	Advanced search: Keyword: loneliness Publication date range: 2017-2022	0
<b>WHO IRIS</b> <a href="http://apps.who.int/iris/">http://apps.who.int/iris/</a>	June 21 2022	Browsing by Subject "Loneliness" Limit: 2017-2022	2
<b><u>The Grey Literature Report in Public Health</u></b>	June 21 2022	loneliness Publication Year: 2017-2022 lonely Publication Year: 2017-2022 social exclusion Publication Year: 2017-2022 social exclusions Publication Year: 2017-2022 socially excluded Publication Year: 2017-2022 social isolation Publication Year: 2017-2022 social isolation Publication Year: 2017-2022 socially isolated Publication Year: 2017-2022	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
<b>Mednar</b>	June 21 2022	Search: Full Record: loneliness / Title: review / From: 2017 / To: 2022 Medical	74

<a href="https://mednar.com/">https://mednar.com/</a>		Topics: systematic review	
<b><u>Socialstyrelsen</u></b>	June 21 2022	Search: ensamhet (loneliness), limit 2017-2022 <a href="https://www.socialstyrelsen.se/sok/?q=ensamhet">https://www.socialstyrelsen.se/sok/?q=ensamhet</a>	1
<b><u>Statens Institut for Folkesundhed</u></b>	June 21 2022	Search: ensomhed (loneliness) <a href="https://www.sdu.dk/da/sif/search?q=ensomhed&amp;l=0&amp;ps=&amp;c=&amp;sc=&amp;s=1&amp;pst=">https://www.sdu.dk/da/sif/search?q=ensomhed&amp;l=0&amp;ps=&amp;c=&amp;sc=&amp;s=1&amp;pst=</a>	1
<b>Preprints in Embase(Ovid)</b>	June 21 2022	Embase <1974 to 2022 September 12>  1 loneliness/ or social Isolation/ 39457 2 (loneliness or lonely or (social* adj (exclusion? or excluded or isolation or isolated))),tw,kf. 30486 3 1 or 2 50791 4 limit 3 to "reviews (maximizes specificity)" 1003 5 exp Meta-Analysis/ or "systematic review"/ or ((systematic* adj2 review*) or metaanal* or "meta anal*" or (review and ((structured or database* or systematic*) adj2 search*)) or "integrative review*" or (evidence adj2 review*)),tw,kf. 667120 6 4 or (3 and 5) 1775 7 limit 6 to yr="2017 -Current" 1199 8 limit 7 to "preprints (unpublished, non-peer reviewed)" 5	5
<b>Google scholar</b>	June 30 2022	Search string: (loneliness   lonely   "social exclusion"   "social exclusions"   "socially excluded"   "social isolation"   "socially isolated") AND (review   meta-analysis) Limit: years 2017-2022. We assessed the first 200 hits.	17