Influential factors on physicians' perspectives about medical sources of information: An overview of systematic reviews

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The Problem

Despite growing availability of evidence and sources of information, it is not clear which are physicians' preferences for filling gaps in their medical knowledge.

Our objective is to summarize the available evidence about **physicians' preferences** and perceived **barriers and facilitators** about medical information sources..

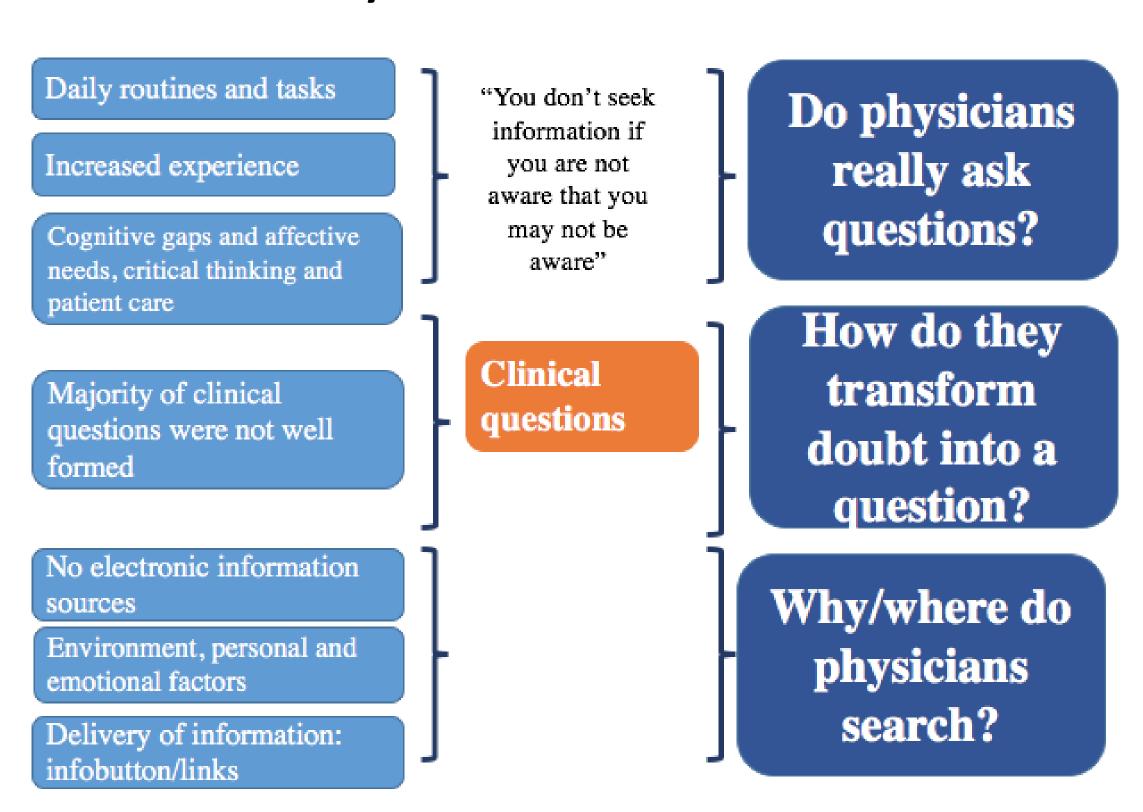
Methods

- We undertook an overview of systematic reviews (SR) according to PRISMA guidelines.
- We searched Epistemonikos, PROSPERO and Scopus from inception until March 2019.
- Inclusion criteria considered SRs (qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods).
- Two authors independently screened and selected records for inclusion.
- We appraised the quality of included SRs using the Joanna Briggs Institute checklist, and the overlap of primary studies according to the corrected covered area formula.
- We conducted a narrative synthesis of quantitative data and a thematic analysis of qualitative findings.

Key Results

Our initial search strategy yielded 4776 unique references, from which four SRs were finally included. Overall quality assessment was 81% and overlap was 0.64% (details on appendix).

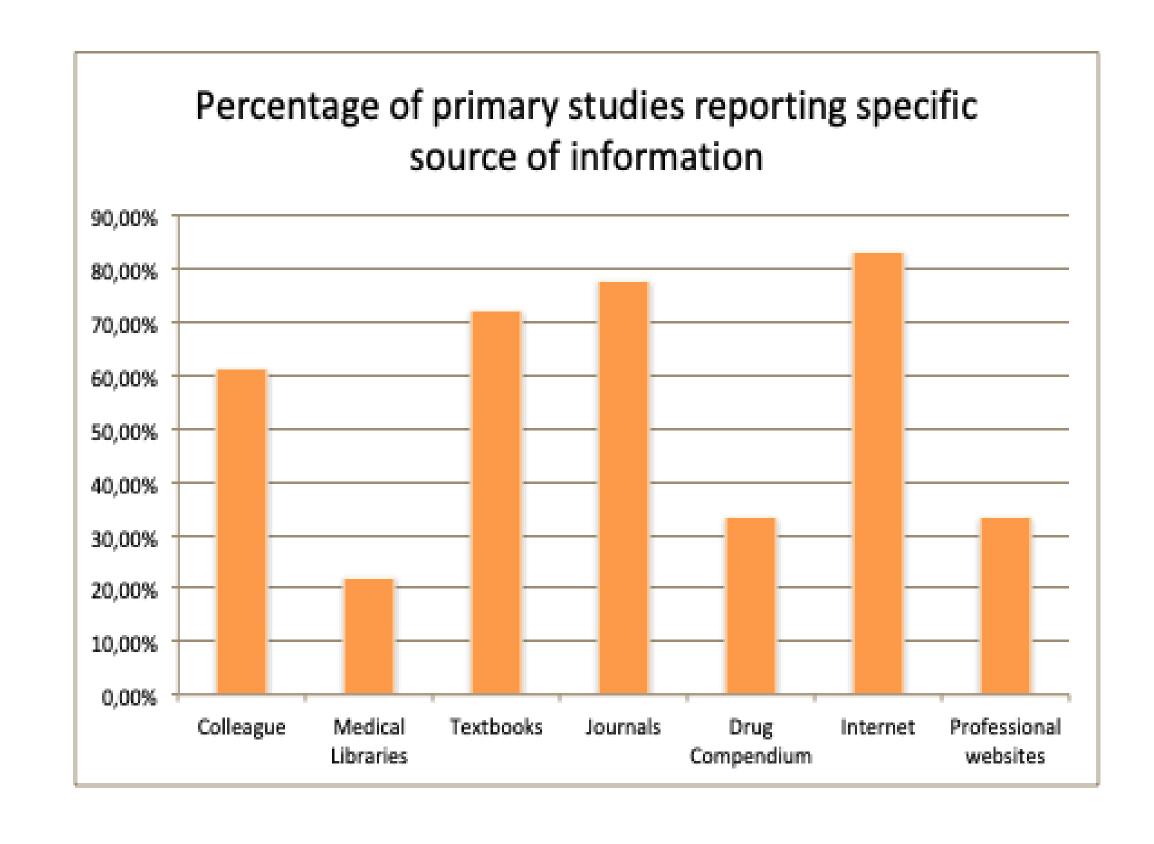
Thematic analysis



 Facilitators: curiosity and uncertainty, emotions related with patient care, professional responsibilities and development and EBM training

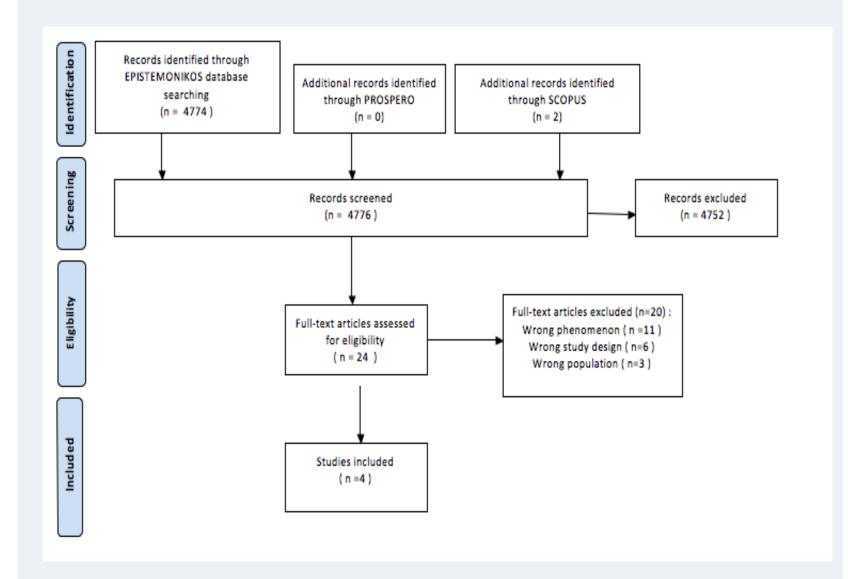
Quantitative results

- Internet (15/18), journals (14/18) and textbook (13/18) are the most reported sources.
- From 57 studies, principal barriers identified were the lack of time (62,4%), followed by lack of skills and knowledge, (55%).



APPENDIX

Fig 1. PRISMA flowchart
Tab 1. JBI checklist
Tab 2. Identified barriers



	Fourie I 2009	Clark 2013	Swennen MH 2013	Barzkar 2016
is the review question clearly and explicitly stated?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Were the inclusion criteria appropriate for the review question?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unclear.
Was the search strategy appropriate?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Were the sources and resources used to search for studies adequate?	Yes	Yes	No	Yea
Were the criteria for appraising studies appropriate?	No	No	Yes	Yes
Was critical appraisal conducted by two or more reviewers independently?	Not applicable	Not applicable	Yes	Yea
Were there methods to minimize errors in data extraction?	No	No	Yes	No
Were the methods used to combine studies appropriate?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Was the likelihood of publication bias assessed?	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Were recommendations for policy and/or practice supported by the reported data?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Were the specific directives for new research appropriate?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

Barriers reported for physicians for filling gaps				
Barriers	Median	Min	Max	Studies (№)
Lack of time	62,4%	21,0%	91,0%	39
Lack of skills and knowledge	55,0%	8,6%	77,0%	21
Lack of facilities and resource	49,3%	3,0%	88,8%	30
Lack of interest	16,0%	7,2%	22,6%	3
Lack of evidence	23,0%	17,0%	62,0%	3



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