

## Background

- Family physicians play an important role in healthcare systems.
- Their scope of practice could range from clinical activities in primary care to the ones in hospital.
- However, the synthesis of evidence regarding the benefits from scope of practice among family physicians has not yet been explored.

## Objective

Assess the effects regarding the scope of practice on the family physicians' outcomes.

## Methods

- Study performed:** a rapid literature review.
- Knowledge users' involvement:** consulted at main steps of the review.

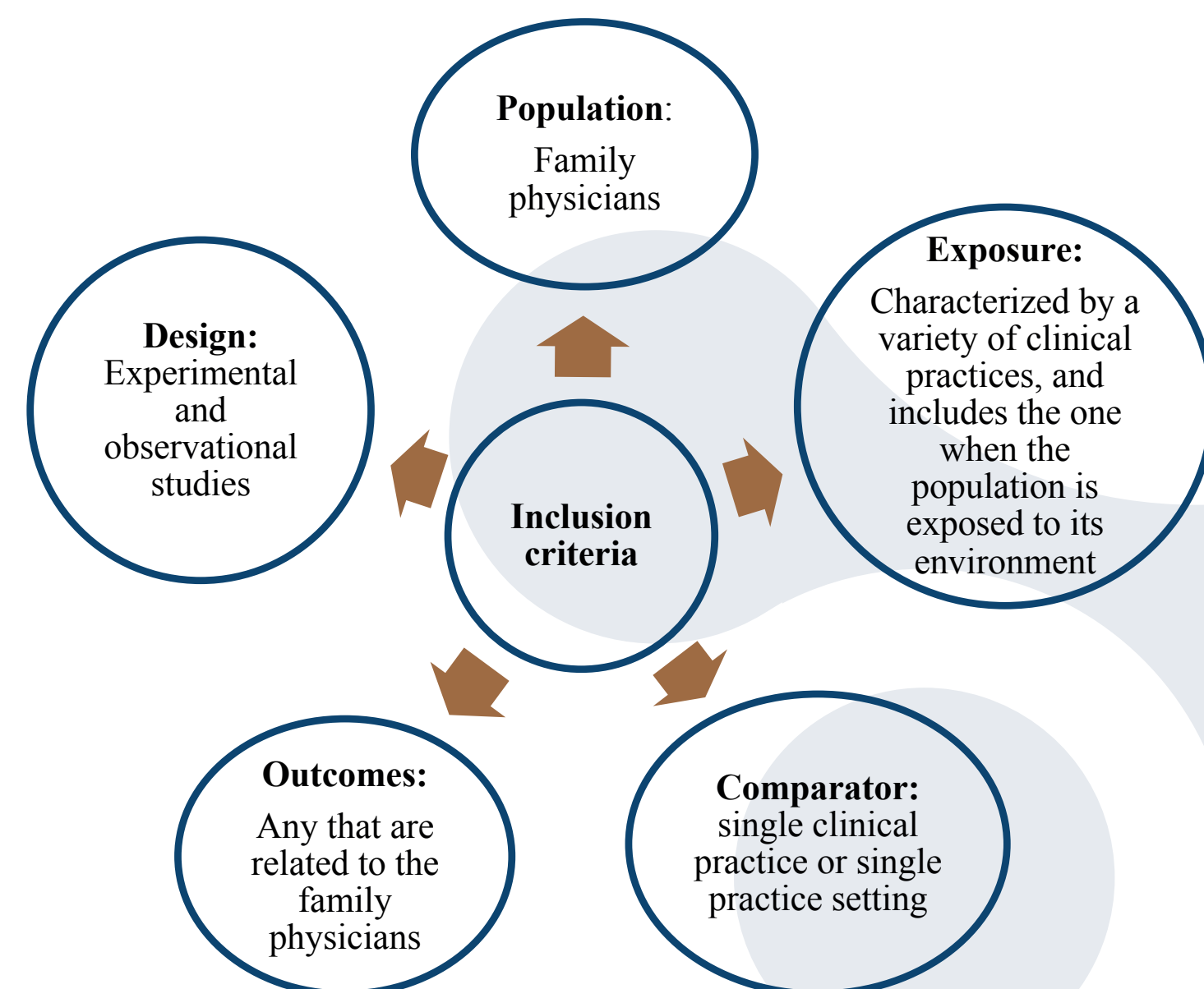


Figure 1: Eligibility criteria for the studies

## Search strategy

- Bibliographic databases consulted:** PubMed, EMBASE and ERIC.
- Consultation period of databases:** January 1966 to August 2018.
- Period restriction:** Over the past five years to quickly reply to decision makers.
- Validation with **potential knowledge users**.

## Study selection

- Pilot phase.
- Studies were independently selected by two reviewers.
- Final selection was determined by representatives of **potential knowledge users**.

## Data extraction and study quality assessment

- Data extraction and study quality assessment were independently performed by two reviewers.
- Data extracted were validated by representatives of **potential knowledge users**.
- Tools used for this quality assessment: Joanna Briggs Institute Critical Appraisal Checklist for Analytical Cross Sectional Studies and Newcastle-Ottawa Scale for cohort studies.

## Data Synthesis:

- We performed a narrative synthesis of data extracted.
- Potential **knowledge users** were involved in data synthesis

## Funding

Health and Social Services Systems, Knowledge Translation and Implementation component of the Quebec SPOR-SUPPORT Unit, and Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Shared Decision Making and Knowledge Translation, CIHR.

## Results

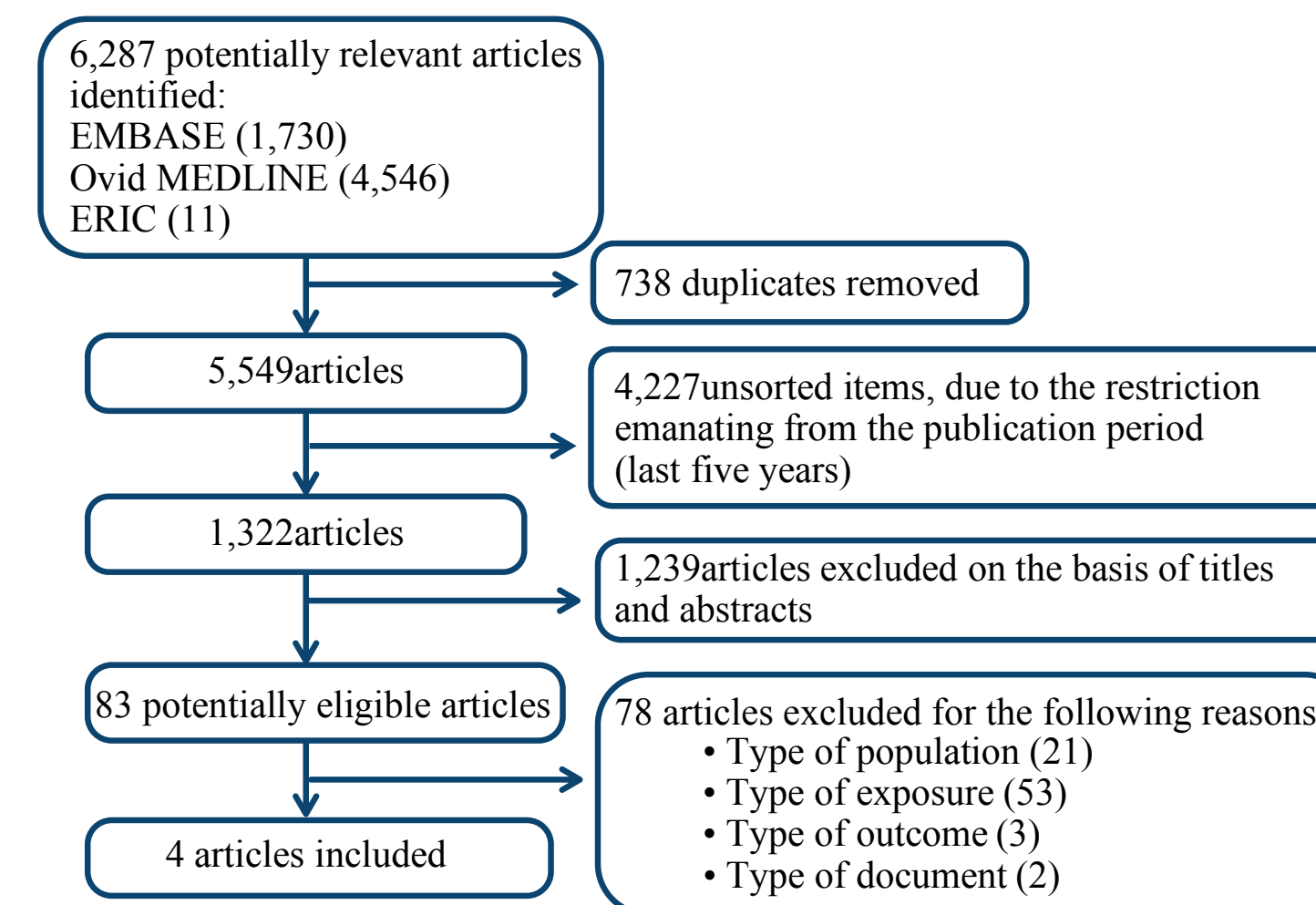


Figure 2 : PRISMA flowchart for the study selection

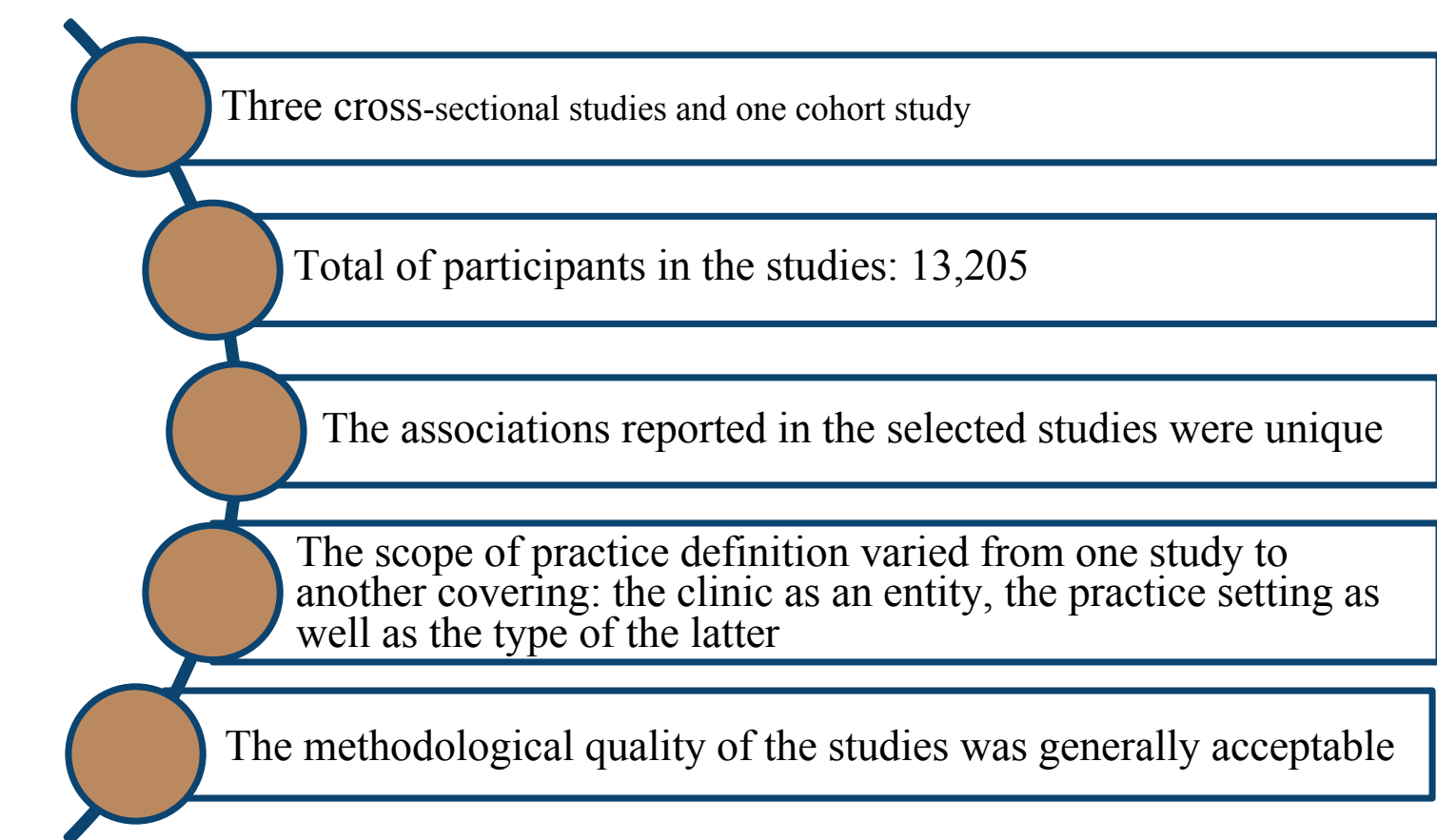


Figure 3: Characteristics of studies selected

Table 1: Association between the scope of practice and the family physicians' outcomes

The scope of practice	The family physicians' outcomes	Odds ratios [95% confidence interval]
Primary care + Prenatal care without delivery <i>versus</i> Primary care	The insertion or removal of an implant	9.04 [5.93;13.43]
Primary care + Prenatal care without delivery <i>versus</i> Primary care	The ability to place or otherwise remove intrauterine or long-acting contraceptive devices	3.40 [1.90;6.10]
Primary care + Hospital medicine <i>versus</i> Primary care	The appearance of burnout	0.70 [0.56;0.87]
Primary care + Obstetrical care <i>versus</i> Primary care	The appearance of burnout	0.64 [0.47;0.88]
Primary care + Hospital care <i>versus</i> Primary care	The prescription of antibiotics	0.76 [0.39;1.49]

## Conclusion

- A list of family physicians' outcomes and varying definitions formulated for the scope of practice was obtained.
- Literature seems to support the broad scope of practice among family physicians.
- However, the small numbers of studies focusing on the association type as well as the exploratory design used in most do not allow establishing a causal link between the scope of practice and the family physicians' outcomes.