

## Optimizing Community Participation in Healthcare Planning, Decision Making and Delivery through Rural Health Councils

Optimiser la participation communautaire à la planification, à la prise de décision et à la prestation des soins de santé par le biais des conseils de santé ruraux

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### Appendix 1. Search strategy

The literature search was conducted by one reviewer (CC) in consultation with the principal investigator (JK) and the University of British Columbia's medical liaison librarian. Three concepts underpinned the literature search including "community participation," "rurality" and "health boards." The search combined subject headings and keywords specific to the three concepts. MEDLINE (Ovid), EMBASE (Ovid), Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), PAIS Index and Web of Science were searched from inception until November 2018. However, non-English publications and materials published before 1990 were ultimately excluded due to limits on time and considerations of relevancy, respectively. The date limit was not applied during citation searching activities (see below), where foundational texts pertaining to citizen participation in health governance were retrieved and included for review (e.g., Arnstein 1969).

Citation searching was used by two reviewers (author CC and contributor Zeena Yesufu) using the Web of Science database; the reference lists of publications that were deemed highly relevant and their citing publications were searched for additional studies. The publications for which citation searching was used include Guzy et al. (2017), Abelson et al. (1995), Pickard et al. (2002), Elder and Amundson (1991) and Kenny et al. (2017). See the PRISMA flow diagram, below, for the inclusion process.

FIGURE 1: PRISMA flow diagram

