



# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS IRELAND

## Best Practices for the Conduct of Scoping Reviews

### Background

Estimates for the generation of research evidence suggest that there is an increasing number of trials and systematic reviews published daily. Knowledge syntheses are essential to advance practice and research through consolidation of evidence. Such reviews can also help knowledge users work more efficiently to make evidence-based decisions. Among the various types of knowledge synthesis, the scoping review has become increasingly popular. Scoping reviews are a form of knowledge synthesis that incorporate a range of study designs to comprehensively summarize and synthesize evidence with the aim of informing practice, programs and policy and providing direction to future research priorities. As a method of knowledge synthesis, scoping reviews have potential to advance health care practice, policy and research. However, variability on the methodological conduct and reporting of scoping reviews prevents scoping reviews from fully reaching this potential. In this course, we will focus on best practices for the conduct of scoping reviews.

### Aim

Advance introductory knowledge on the conduct of scoping reviews

### Date:

**11th May 2023**

### Time:

**10:00am – 12:00pm**

### Location:

**University of Galway**

### Skill Level:

**Introductory**

### Facilitators:

**Associate Professor**

**Heather Colquhoun**

Department of Occupational  
Science and Occupational  
Therapy  
University of Toronto

**Associate Professor**

**Andrea Tricco**

Dalla Lana School of Public  
Health & Institute of Health  
Policy, Management,  
and Evaluation  
University of Toronto

### Places:

**25 places available for  
individuals who are  
resident on the island of  
Ireland**

### Fee:

**General €30**

**Student €15**

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## Best Practices for the Conduct of Scoping Reviews

### Learning outcomes

In this course participants will be enabled to:

- Understand steps and best practices for the conduct of scoping reviews
- Distinguish between scoping reviews and other forms of knowledge syntheses
- Understand methods resources for scoping reviews
- Develop methodological skills in the conduct of scoping reviews
- Recognize scoping reviews of varying quality/critique a scoping review

### Target Audience

This is an introductory workshop targeted for healthcare professionals, academics, researchers, decision makers, librarians, information specialists, and Evidence Synthesis Ireland fellows and teaching faculty who would like to learn more about the conduct of scoping reviews.

### Prerequisites

This course is for any health researcher, clinician, manager, policy maker who want to better conduct or evaluate scoping reviews. Skills related to other forms of knowledge syntheses (e.g., systematic reviews, realist reviews) is helpful for participants to have, but not a necessary requirement for the course. Participants must be familiar with the concept of knowledge syntheses and come to the course with a general understanding of the concept of a scoping review.

### Teaching Strategies

The workshop will consist of a mixture of short presentations, small group work and large group discussions.

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### Course timetable

| 11th May 2023 |  |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00         | Introduction to Scoping Reviews  |
| 10:10         | Methods Overview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Best practices for the conduct of scoping reviews including common methodological limitations</li><li>• Developing/emerging methods</li><li>• Review of the 'build your protocol' worksheet</li></ul>                  |
| 10:50         | Break  |
| 11:00         | Small group task: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Find two scoping reviews on any topic (high quality &amp; low quality)</li><li>• Use methodological checklist to make decisions about quality</li><li>• Guide presentation of group work to the larger group</li></ul> |
| 11:30         | Small group presentations of scoping reviews, discussion   |
| 11:50         | Wrap up, discussion, questions   |

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