



To examine the health literacy status of farmers – Systematic Review

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Background

- ❑ Health concerns of farming population
- ❑ Changes in agricultural practices reducing the physical aspects of farming.
- ❑ Increase stress for the farmer due to uncertainty in markets and climate change actions.
- ❑ The gap in knowledge of health and wellbeing among the farming community.

Research Aim

To provide a systematic review of the published literature examining the status of health literacy of farmers.

Research Objectives

1. To establish a baseline of health literacy among farmers.
2. To provide feedback on the status of health literacy among farmers and how improvements could be made to encourage health enhancing behaviours.

Methodology

- ❑ Preferred Reporting items for systematic review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (PRISMA-P)
- ❑ Cochrane Handbook.
- ❑ EndNote
- ❑ A pilot search was conducted on UCD Library and Google Scholar.
- ❑ Controlled terms from Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) and Embase Subject Headings were used.

Database Selection & Search Strategy

1. Scopus
2. Embase
3. PubMed

Eligibility Criteria

- ✓ Full research articles
- ✓ Farmer focused
- ✓ Defined health literacy
- ✓ Agricultural context

Results

- ❑ 20 research records
- ❑ 8 extra from similar articles
- ❑ Duplicate search
- ❑ The year of publication from 2009 – 2020

Health literacy

Farmer health practice

Role of education and training

Farmers health and wellbeing

Key Findings

The sustainable farm families project: changing attitudes to health

- Brumby et al 2009
- Strong

Educational Interventions to Improve Safety and Health Literacy Among Agricultural Workers: A Systematic Review

- Coman et al 2020
- Moderate

Developing and Implementing Farm Stress Training to Address Agricultural Producer Mental Health

- Cuthbertson et al 2020
- Strong

Research Conclusions

Conclusion

- The review of literature highlights the potential for increasing the health literacy status of the farming community through tailored health education and training.
- The role of intersectoral collaboration from the entire agricultural industry was a key learning outcome and emphasises the need for further collaborative efforts to address the growing health concerns of our farming population.
- The research also highlights the important role educational interventions can play to improve the status of health literacy, the inclusion of health literacy modules into all educational structures and curricula in all modes of agricultural education.