

Review of: "Mental health in fishing communities: An overview of current knowledge and information gaps for fisheries"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The Woodhead et al. 2018 review had only identified 10 studies looking at mental health in fisheries. It is therefore a worthwhile undertaking to expand and update the literature review on this specific topic.

The article is well written, and the thematic structure of the studies also produces interesting results. However, what is striking is that the literature search only produced results up to 2018. Therefore, it is difficult to count as an "overview of current knowledge" and questions arise regarding the overall methods of the literature search.

When was the search carried out? How exactly were the 7,452 studies broken down into 82 studies? This process is currently not presented transparently, making it difficult to believe the results, for example the geographical distribution and the lack of attention to certain issues.

At the end of the first section of materials and methods, the final WoS search string is described as follows: "(((fisheries, fishers, fisherfolk, fishermen, fisherwomen, anxiety, trauma, distress, stress and depression AND ("mental health in fisheries and fishers *")". I suspect it should be: TOPIC: (fisheries OR fishers OR fisherfolk OR fishermen OR fisherwomen) AND TOPIC: (anxiety OR trauma OR distress OR stress OR depression OR "mental health") ? Please provide the exact final search string, in a way that it's reproducible.

Knowing the exact search string, the date of the search, and the procedure for including/excluding studies in more detail, the question may be answered as to why no studies from the last 5 years were part of the review, and the overall review process and the results can be judged more accurately.

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