

SYSTEMS THINKING - HOW TO ADDRESS WICKED PROBLEMS IN HEALTHCARE DELIVERY: IMPLICATIONS TO CANCER CARE

Ria Joseph*, Joe Pun, Oluwaseyifunmi A. Agbejule, Imogen Ramsey, Fiona Crawford-Williams, Chad Y. Han, Matthew P. Wallen, Carolyn Ee, Carla Thamm, Reegan Knowles, Juliana Christina, Anna Ugalde, Anna Chapman, Vivienne Milch, Catherine Paterson, Raymond J. Chan

INTRODUCTION

- Systems thinking is increasingly applied to address complex problems in cancer care delivery by enabling a holistic understanding of systems, their components, and the interconnections between them.

AIMS

- In this scoping review, we aimed to describe and classify existing systems-thinking methods applied in healthcare delivery research, with the goal of drawing insights from general healthcare to inform cancer care.

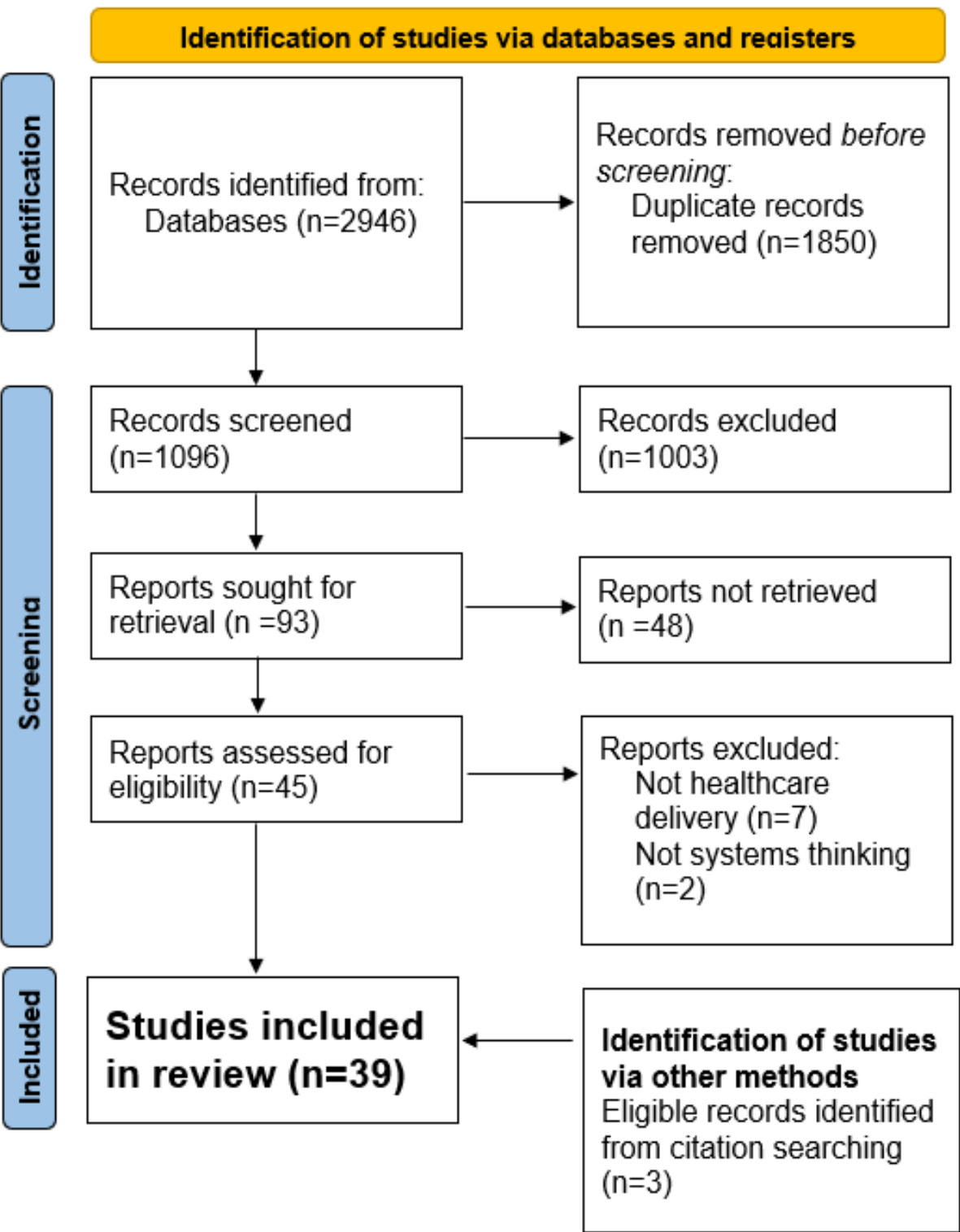


Figure 1. PRISMA 2020 flow diagram

METHODS



Figure 2. Framework for a systems approach to healthcare delivery

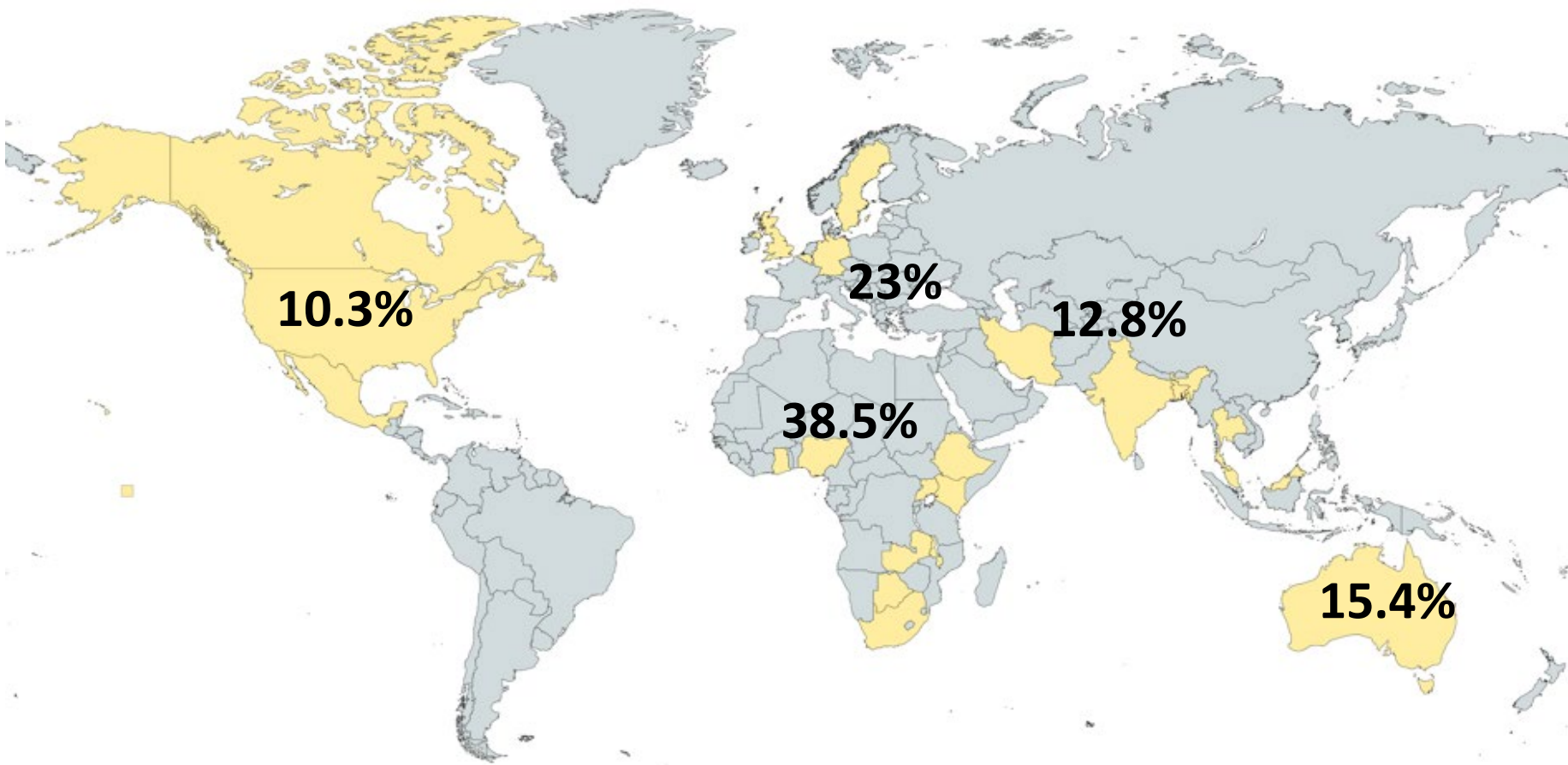


Figure 3. World map illustrating the distribution of studies

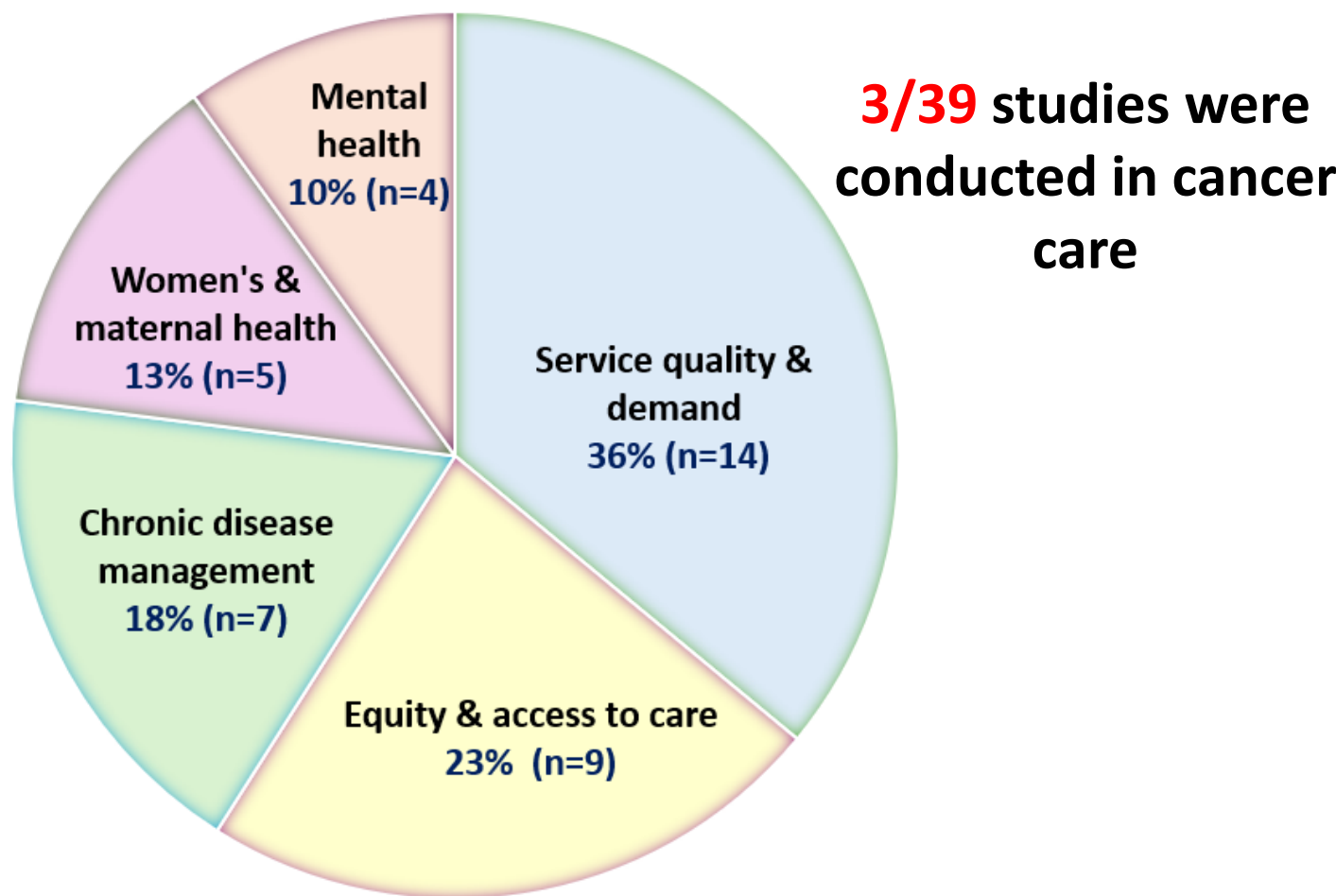


Figure 4. Distribution of healthcare delivery challenges

RESULTS

N=39

Systems-thinking application	Number of studies (%)
Identifying factors and their interconnections	17 (43.6)
Identifying factors and their interconnections AND Identifying key leverage points	7 (17.9)
Identifying barriers and facilitators <u>only</u>	7 (17.9)
Identifying factors and their interconnections AND Developing interventions	4 (10.3)
Mapping network structure <u>only</u>	2 (5.1)
Identifying factors and their interconnections AND Identifying key leverage points AND Developing interventions	1 (2.6)
Developing interventions <u>only</u>	1 (2.6)

Figure 5. Application of systems-thinking methods

CONCLUSIONS

- The applications of systems-thinking methodology are diverse and can be used to address complex problems in cancer care.
- The findings provide **valuable guidance for researchers, clinicians and policymakers in designing more comprehensive and adaptable cancer care interventions** that address the complex nature of healthcare systems.