

Supplementary file 1: Search strategy

We will work with a librarian at the university to refine the search strategy to ensure key articles are captured. Here is the plan.

We will apply the 3-step approach as outlined in the Joanna Briggs Institute Scoping Review Guideline.

Step 1: The initial search includes two online databases relevant to the topic: Ovid MEDLINE & CINAHL.

An example of the search in Ovid MEDLINE:

#	Searches	Results
S1	telepresence adj3 robot	88
S2	(giraff or temi or VGo or Double) and robot	805
S3	S1 or S2	891
S4	Older or aged or elderly or senior	5752669
S5	S3 AND S4	316

This initial search is then followed by an analysis of the text words contained in the title and abstract of retrieved papers, and of the index terms used to describe the articles.

Step 2: A second search using all identified keywords and index terms will then be undertaken across all selected databases: MEDLINE (Ovid), CINAHL, PsycINFO (EBSCO), Web of Science, and ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global.

2a) Search terms and their combinations in step 2.

Telepresence terms	Robot terms	Aged care terms
Virtual care	Robotic	Geriatrics
Telemedicine	Robot	Elderly
Telehealth	Bot	Gerontology
Telecommunication	automaton	Older adult
	Technology assistive device	Senior
		Aged

2b) Google will be used to search grey literature (i.e., organizational reports, newsletters, and other articles not indexed in a library database).

Step 3: The resulting reference lists of all identified reports and articles will be searched for additional studies. Google Scholar will be used to find published articles, organizational reports and related articles. We will also conduct forward citation searching and related article searching in Google Scholar.