

## Citation

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## Review question [1 change]

### Primary Research Question

1. How is alcohol withdrawal identified in the acute general hospital settings?

### Secondary Research Questions

- a. Which tools are used to identify alcohol withdrawal in the acute general hospital setting?
- b. Which clinical characteristics are highlighted as predictors of alcohol withdrawal in the acute general hospital setting?
- c. Which clinical skills are identified as a requirement for identifying alcohol withdrawal in the acute general hospital setting?

## Searches [1 change]

Three electronic databases will be searched in the first instance - CINAHL Complete, MEDLINE (via EBSCOhost) and PsycINFO. OpenGrey will be used to search for grey literature. Backwards and forwards citation searching of included studies will also be conducted.

Searches will be limited to papers published in the English language, and there will be no date restrictions. See search strategy attached below - the strategy has been built around the terms "alcohol withdrawal", "inpatient" and "identification".

## Types of study to be included

No restrictions on study type.

## Condition or domain being studied [1 change]

Identification of alcohol withdrawal in acute general hospital settings

## Participants/population [1 change]

Individuals experiencing alcohol withdrawal in acute general hospital inpatient settings.

## Intervention(s), exposure(s) [1 change]

Identification of alcohol withdrawal. Eligibility criteria:

Studies will be included in this review if:

- Participants are aged 18 and over
- Participants are identified as experiencing AW in the acute general hospital setting

Studies will be excluded if:

- They do not include detail of identification, assessment or prediction of AW
- They are not published in English

### Comparator(s)/control [1 change]

Not applicable - studies will not be required to have a control group to be included in this review.

### Main outcome(s) [1 change]

- Methods of identifying AW, for example self report, objective assessments, subjective assessments, tools (e.g. GMAWs, PAWSS) or questionnaires. Where this is not explicit, reviewers will seek to interpret text within the paper to determine this
- Clinical characteristics identified as predictors of AW. Where this is not explicit, reviewers will seek to interpret text within the paper to determine this
- Clinical skills required to identify risk of AW in the acute general hospital setting. Where this is not explicit, reviewers will seek to interpret text within the paper to determine this

### Measures of effect

Not applicable

### Additional outcome(s)

Not applicable

### Data extraction (selection and coding) [1 change]

#### *Selection Process*

*Once all references have been imported into RevMan, all duplicates will be removed. Title and abstract screening will be conducted by two independent reviewers using Rayyan, with any disagreements discussed with and agreed by the third author. Full text screening will follow, conducted in the same way. The Cochrane Data Extraction and Assessment Tool will be adapted for use in this review and used to record all full text assessments (Higgins et al., 2019). Numbers of included studies and references will all be stated in the final report via PRISMA Statement (Moher et al., 2015; Shamseer et al., 2015)*

#### *Data Collection Process*

*Data collection will be conducted using an adapted version of the Cochrane Data Extraction and Assessment Tool, with data being entered into RevMan. The tool will be piloted by two reviewers on two of the included full texts, and then adapted as needed. Data collection will be conducted by two reviewers, ensuring duplication and comparison of data collection for at least 10% of included studies. PhD Supervisors (the second and third authors) will aid decision making where there is disagreement between reviewers. Where required, study authors will be contacted to seek confirmation of data or supplementary data where applicable.*

#### *Data Items (including outcomes listed above)*

- *Demographic characteristics (age, gender, employment status, marital status etc)*

- *Setting type (e.g. specific ward type in the general hospital setting)*
- *Details of study groups (if applicable)*
- *Outcome measures used*
- *Recommendations for future research*

### Risk of bias (quality) assessment [1 change]

Risk of bias assessments will be conducted for any included studies which include a comparator group using the GRADE Checklist (Meader et al., 2014). This checklist examines risk of bias, inconsistency, indirectness, imprecision and publication bias (Meader et al., 2014). In addition, funnel plots will be generated using RevMan to complement this element of the GRADE checklist. Full risk of bias assessments will be tabulated in the final report, and a summary risk of bias score will be calculated, where appropriate. Where observational studies are included in the review, the GRACE Checklist will be used to establish quality of the research (Dreyer et al., 2016).

### Strategy for data synthesis [1 change]

Study data will be synthesised using narrative summary techniques (Dixon-Woods et al., 2005; Campbell et al., 2020). This review will focus on identification of AW in acute general hospital settings, using the SWiM Reporting Guideline (Campbell et al., 2020).

### Analysis of subgroups or subsets

Not applicable

### Contact details for further information

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### Organisational affiliation of the review

University of Hull

### Review team members and their organisational affiliations

Ms Rachel Coleman. University of Hull  
Professor Thomas Phillips. University of Hull  
Professor Simon Coulton. University of Kent

### Type and method of review

Narrative synthesis, Systematic review

### Anticipated or actual start date [1 change]

11 June 2021

### Anticipated completion date

31 August 2021

### Funding sources/sponsors

Society for the Study of Addiction PhD Studentship (fully funded), hosted by the University of Hull.

### Grant number(s)

State the funder, grant or award number and the date of award

Society for the Study of Addiction PhD Studentship - awarded September 2020

### Conflicts of interest

**Language**

English

**Country**

England

**Stage of review**

Review Ongoing

**Subject index terms status**

Subject indexing assigned by CRD

**Subject index terms**

Alcoholism; Hospitals, General; Humans; Substance Withdrawal Syndrome

**Date of registration in PROSPERO**

10 June 2021

**Date of first submission**

05 May 2021

**Stage of review at time of this submission**

The review has not started

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Started</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Preliminary searches	No	No
Piloting of the study selection process	No	No
Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria	No	No
Data extraction	No	No
Risk of bias (quality) assessment	No	No
Data analysis	No	No

*The record owner confirms that the information they have supplied for this submission is accurate and complete and they understand that deliberate provision of inaccurate information or omission of data may be construed as scientific misconduct.*

*The record owner confirms that they will update the status of the review when it is completed and will add publication details in due course.*

**Versions**

10 June 2021