



Project Transform

Searching and LSRs

Anna Noel-Storr

Oxford University

Anna.noel-storr@rdm.ox.ac.uk



Searching: critical component



As with any SR, the search for evidence forms a critical component
What happens here has a knock-on effect for the whole review

Searching: current approach/es



Bespoke, multi-source searches for each individual review



Searching: current approach/es



Bespoke, multi-source searches for each individual review



Broader searches to create comprehensive specialized register

Searching: current approach/es



Bespoke, multi-source searches for each individual review



Broader searches to create comprehensive specialized register

Around 90% of review groups follow approach 1

Searching: current approach/es



P I C O T S

Population Intervention Comparator Outcome Time Study design

Searching: current approach/es



P I C O T S

Most searches aim to maximise sensitivity by focusing on
Population and **Intervention** and **Study design**

Searching: current approach/es



P I C O T S

For registers, searches will mainly focus on **Population** and **Study design**



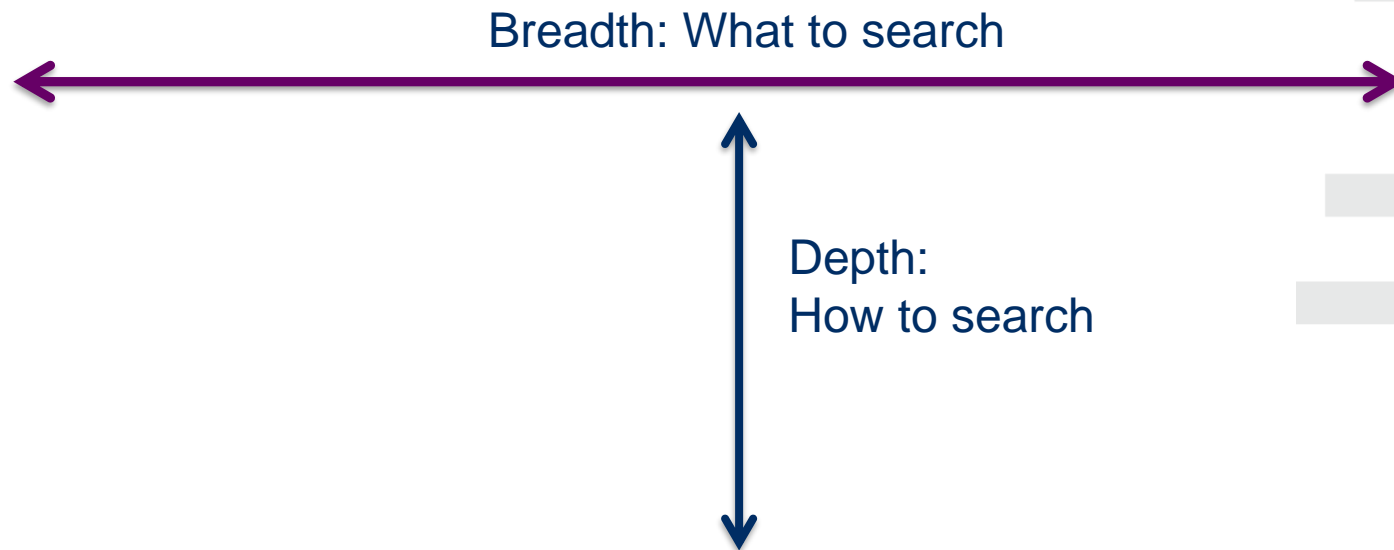
Project Transform

Searching: current approach/es

Breadth: What to search

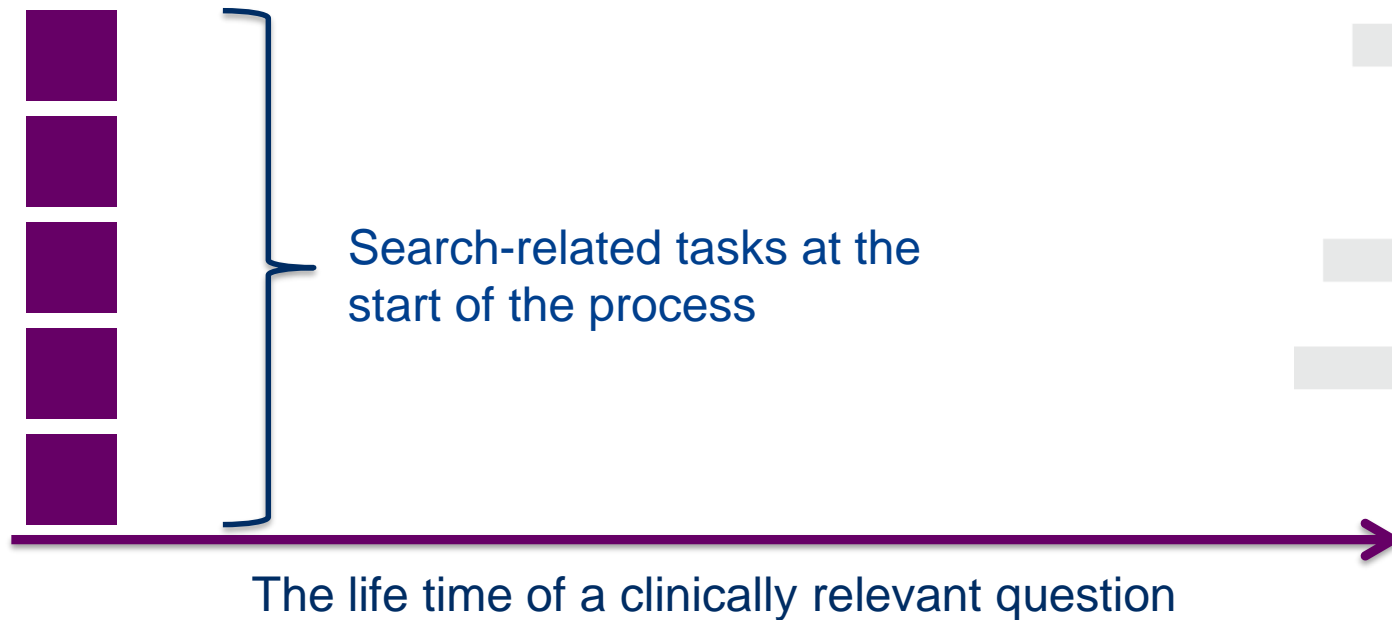


Searching: current approach/es



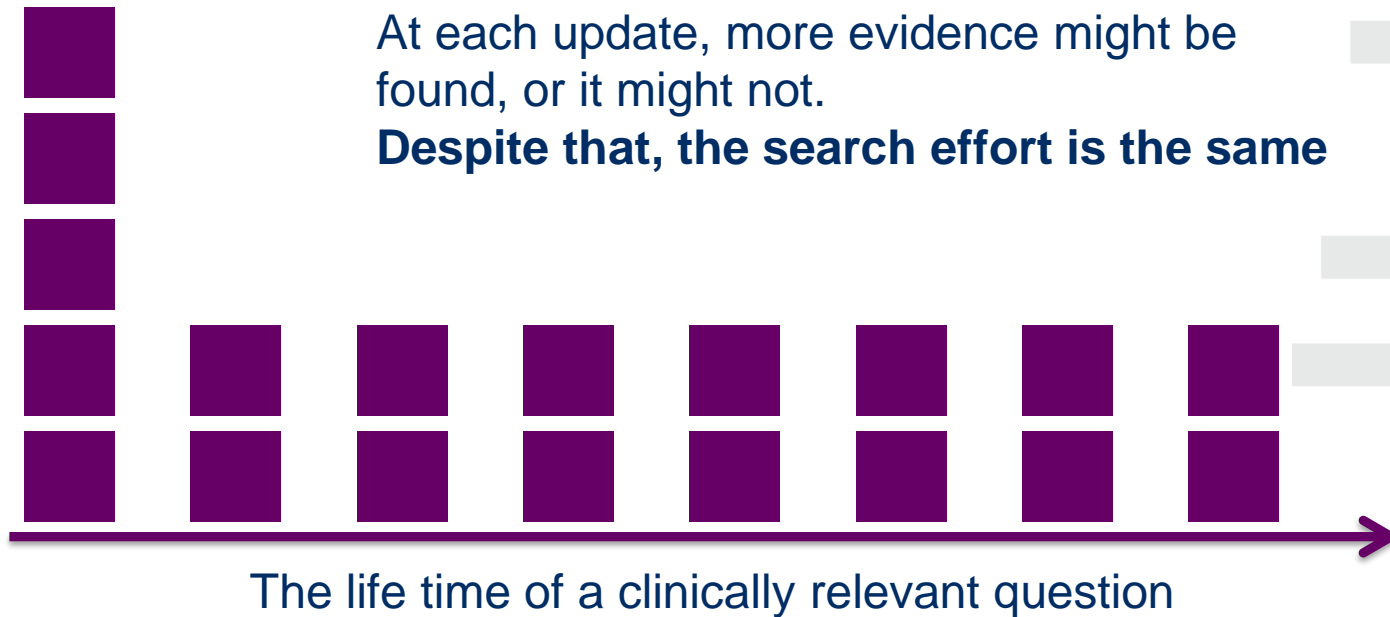
For both approaches, it's about breadth and depth:
What to search, and How to search it
MECIR offers guidance on minimum acceptable

Searching: updating



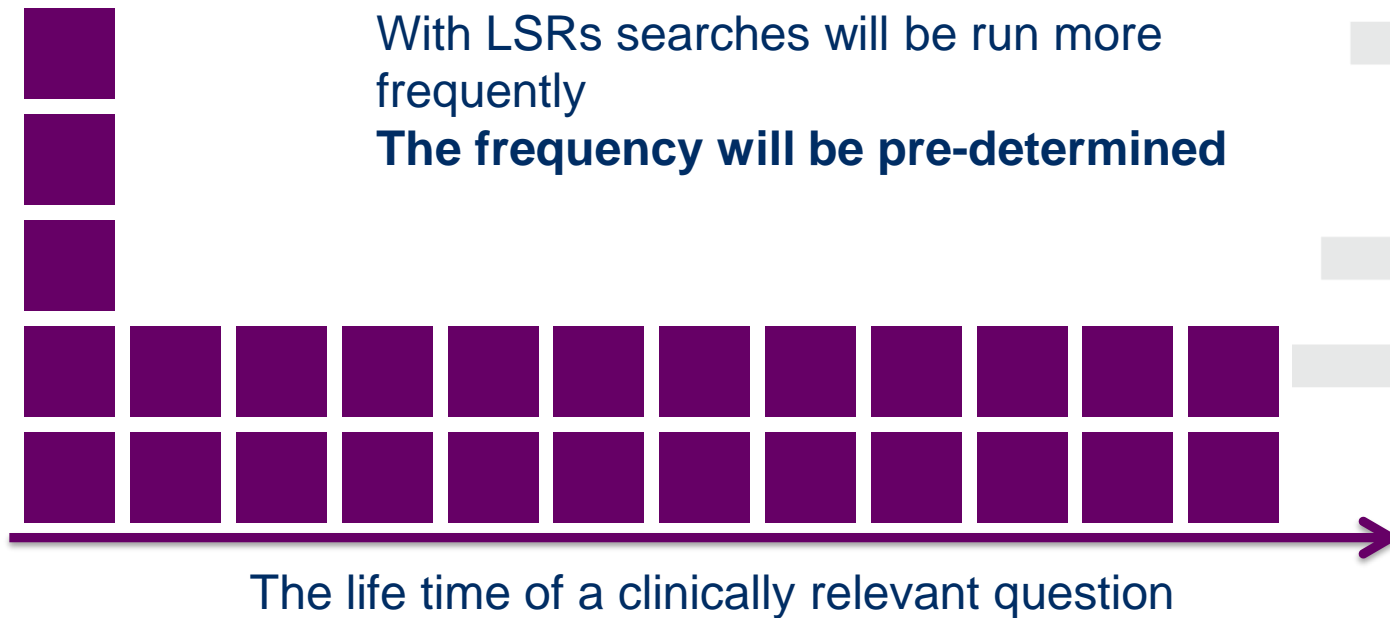
The first search you do for a review generally involves the most work:
Designing searches, running them, downloading, de-duping and reporting

Searching: updating



Tasks at update: check search, revise if needed, run it, download, de-dupe, report

Searching: LSRs



LSRs aim at the outset to achieve a high degree of currency by continuous monitoring of the evidence

Pilot guidance 0.3



Searching: 3 main challenges

1. Argh, Ovid's changed, again (databases change)
2. Reporting
3. Effort vs value

These are not new challenges





Project Transform

Searching: databases change

Re-running a search isn't just a matter of pressing a button

Re-run the
search





Project Transform

Searching: reporting

Reporting changes to searches, or search process, even if no new data is identified





Project Transform

Searching: effort vs value

Same effort in re-running a search even when nothing new is identified time and time again



Searching: CSS



The Centralised Search Service will play an important role in helping reduce wasted human effort

Won't rule out the need for searching these sources altogether



Project Transform

Searching: CSS

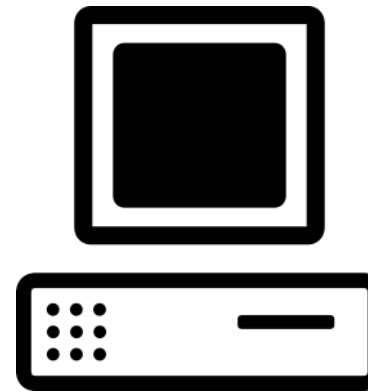
CINAHL

Takes effort (time and skill) to search for very little yield

CT.gov

Important source of ongoing and unpublished trials

Searching: crowd and machine



The Crowd and the Machine (as part of Project Transform), work closely with CSS to help create a number of 'centralised' searches



Searching: summary

- The move towards being able to produce living evidence is exciting
- Searching for LSRs will not mean compromising on the quality of searching
- But there will be challenges
- Enablers such as CSS, Crowd and Machine will play a significant role in effective study identification
- The pilots will be critical in helping to explore the challenges and the role of enablers