Methods

This scoping review was performed following the ROSES standards of reporting for scoping and systematic reviews [1]. While not all guidelines were followed and the protocol was not pre-published, the objective was to ensure transparency and maximize the reproducibility of the search performed.

Selection criteria

The inclusion and exclusion criteria for the screening were identified and recorded before initiating database searches. We included primary literature that sought to determine the effects of a factor on a quantitative measurement of sentinel behavior (e.g. frequency, duration, number of bouts, etc). We only included articles that tested sentinel behavior in terrestrial or avian vertebrates. We rejected articles dated earlier than 1970, as the definition of sentinel behavior in older articles was often nebulous and not consistent with the definition. Theoretical or review articles were excluded. Articles not written in English were rejected unless a translated copy could be obtained.

Search strategy

A preliminary search was performed in Web of Science and Google Scholar to find relevant articles and generated a list of exemplar articles. This list was subsequently used to test the final search strategy and screening. Common keywords in the exemplar articles were compiled and used to develop the search string. The search string used to search for articles was "Sentinel AND Behavio\*". We searched through Web of Science Core, Current Contents Connect, Zoological Records, SciELO Citation Index, KCI-Korean Journal Database, BIOSIS Citation Index, Data Citation Index, and exported the list of search results from Web of Science.

Following the search and screening of articles, Elicit was searched using the factors identified during the full-text screening and synthesis to obtain any articles not present in the databases searched [2].

Data collection & analysis