Reviews of Reviews: just how meta does it get?

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What is a Review of Reviews

Reviews of reviews and Systematic reviews are very much alike

What are the similarities?

Systematic review

Review of reviews

Use a protocol

Screening process

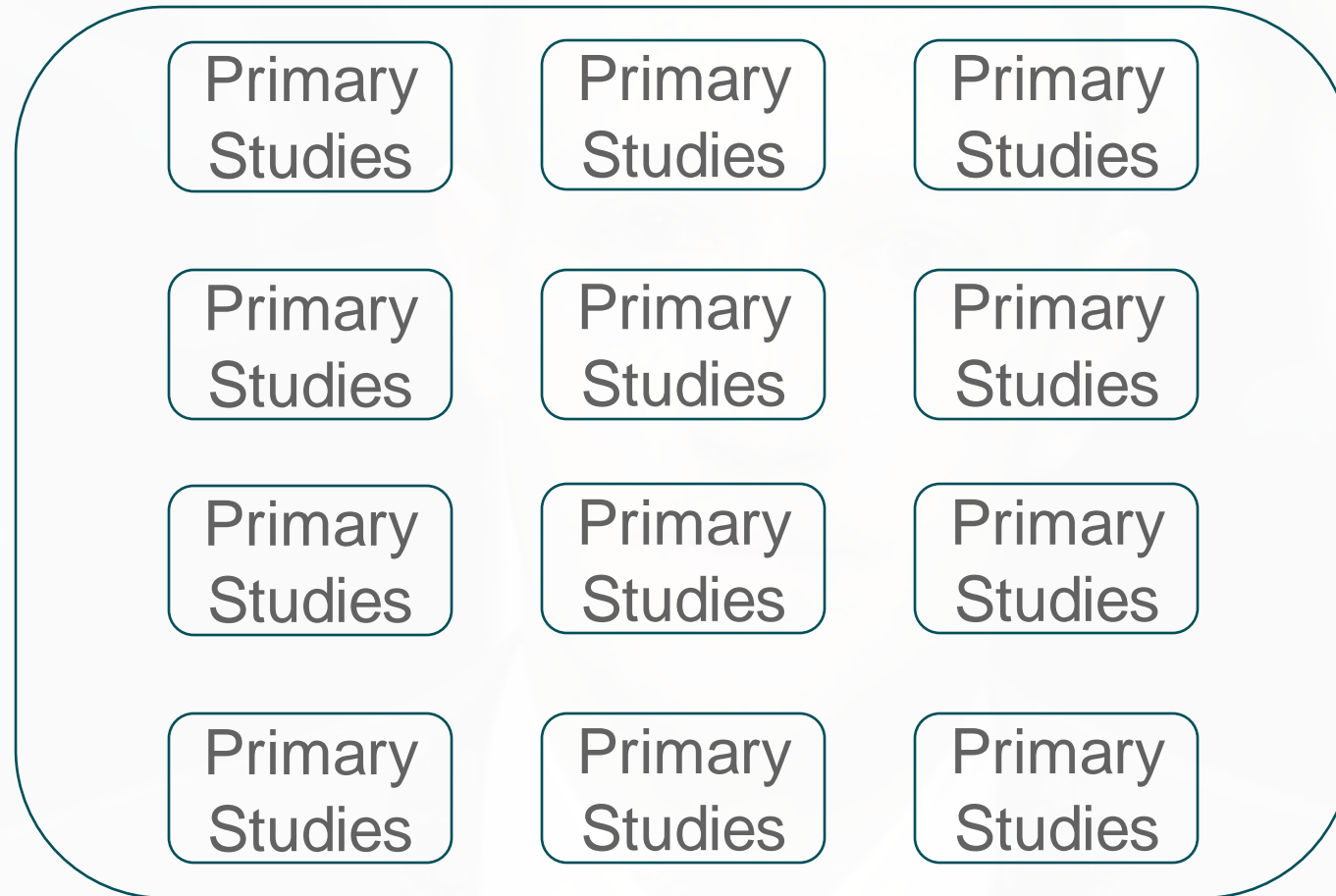Data Extraction

Synthesis

So what's the difference?

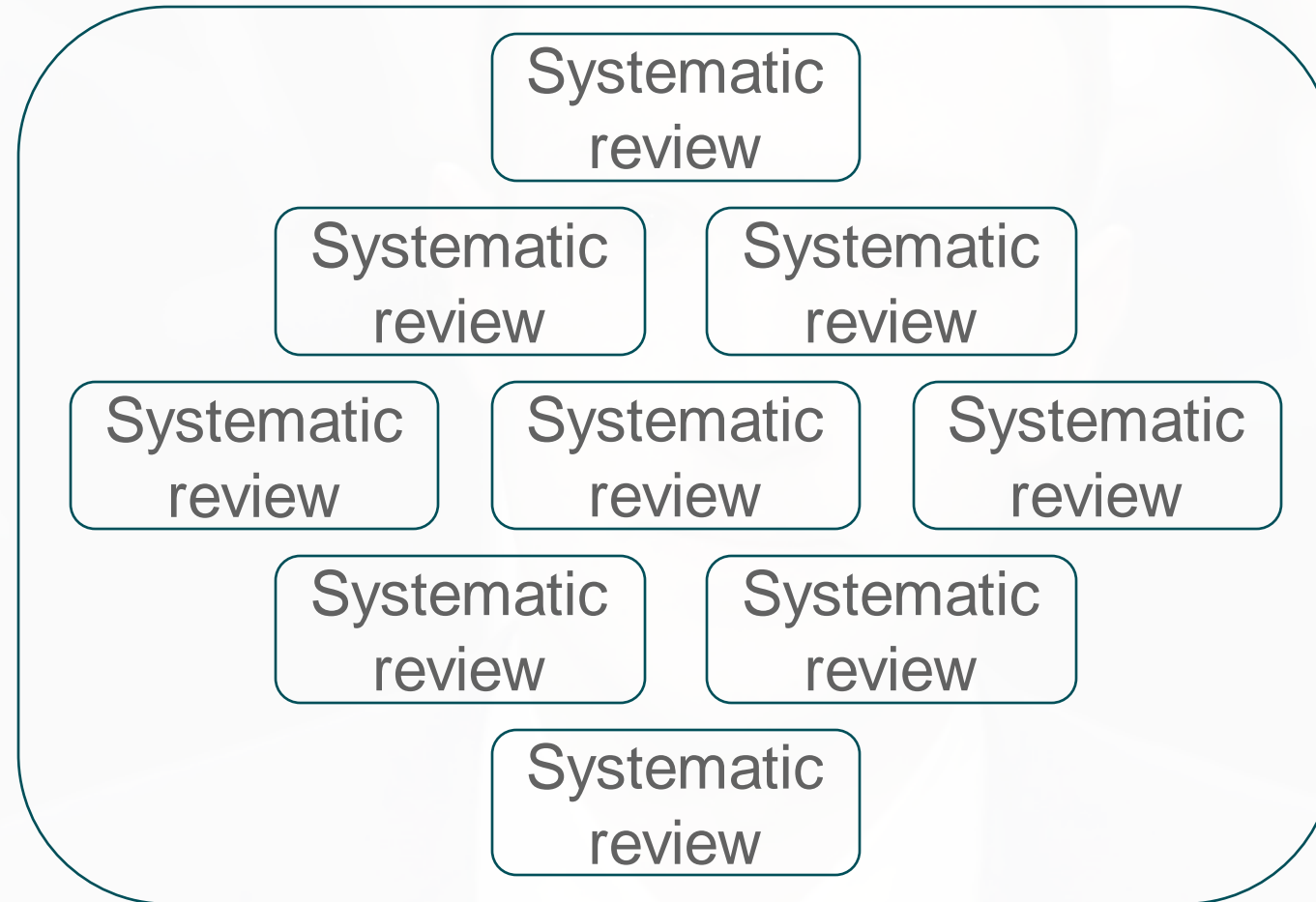Although they are similar, there are two main differences between them

What's being reviewed   Checking overlap

Systematic review

Primary Studies Primary Studies Primary Studies
Primary Studies Primary Studies Primary Studies
Primary Studies Primary Studies Primary Studies
Primary Studies Primary Studies Primary Studies
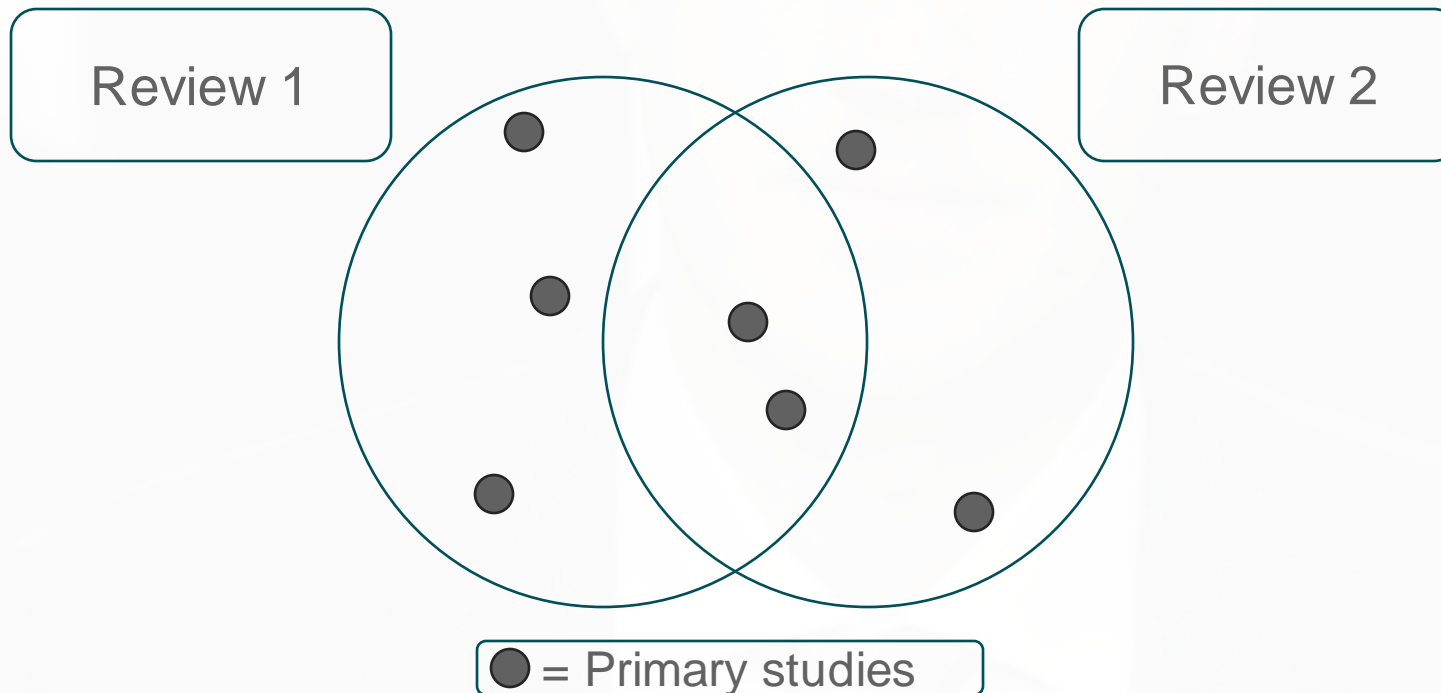
Overlap

- Reviews of reviews analyse systematic reviews
- Each of the systematic reviews can overlap

Review 1

Review 2

● = Primary studies

Citation matrices

	Review 1	Review 2	Review 3	Review 4
Primary publication 1	x			
Primary publication 2	x			x
Primary publication 3	x	x	x	x
Primary publication 4	x	x	x	
Primary publication 5	x	x		x
Primary publication 6	x			
Primary publication 7	x	x	x	
Primary publication 8	x			
Primary publication 9		x		
Primary publication 10		x		
Primary publication 11			x	
Primary publication 12				x

$$CA \ (covered \ area) = \frac{N}{r \ c}$$

$$CCA \ (Corrected \ CA) = \frac{N - r}{r \ c - r}$$

Table 1. Interpretation of CCA

CCA	Overlap
0–5	Slight
6–10	Moderate
11–15	High
>15	Very high

Abbreviation: CCA, corrected covered area.

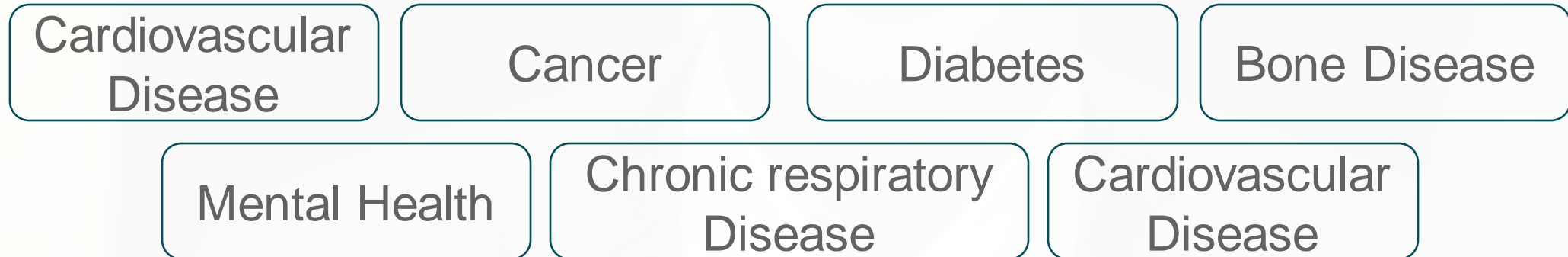*Screenshots taken from Pieper et al. 2014*

Citation Matrices

- Not a perfect solution

- If one study has many more primary studies than another it can affect how well the method works

Number of Reviews (c)	Total number of publications (N)	Number of Unique publications (r)	CCA
2	189	37	0

How I'm using it

- NCD Umbrella review
- The goal is to provide an overview of the current coverage by systematic reviews on NCD's in 7 key areas

| Cardiovascular Disease | Cancer | Diabetes | Bone Disease |

| Mental Health | Chronic respiratory Disease | Cardiovascular Disease |

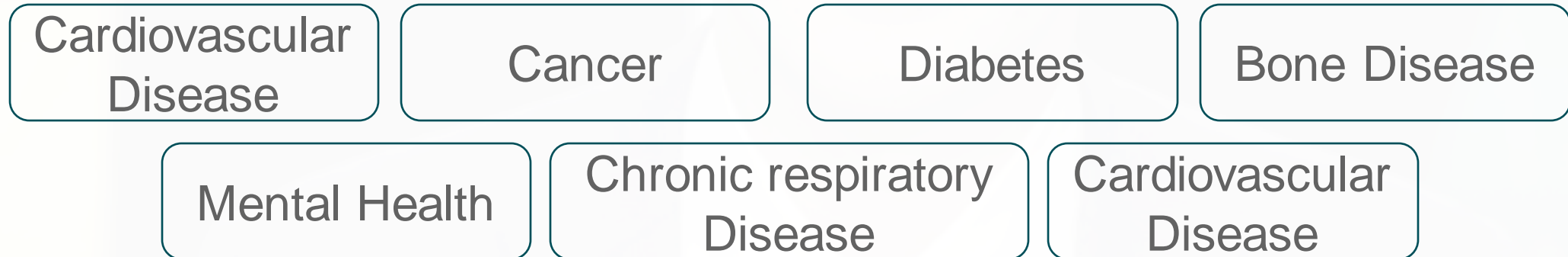# How I'm using it

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The end

To contact me or to access the slides again please scan the QR code