**Identification of studies via databases and registers**

Records identified from:

Databases (n = 40129)

* CrossRef (n=5971)
* Google Scholar (n=21700)
* PubMed (n=8058)
* Scopus (n=4000)

Search Terms:

“Lyme Disease”  
(“Lyme” for CrossRef)

Records removed *before screening*:

Records without a DOI (n=18119)

Duplicate records within records from same database (n = 560)

**Identification**

Records excluded:

Non journal articles (n = 7921)

Missing journal or article names (n=28)

Truncated journal names (n=155)

Duplicate records when merged (n=4606)

Records screened

(n = 21450)

Abstracts not successfully retrieved 1   
(n = 2843)

Abstracts retrieved with record (n=4615)

Abstracts sought for retrieval

(n = 4125)

**Screening**

Abstracts excluded:

Non-English abstracts 2 (n = 66)

Course Material 2 (n = 1)

Lacking relevant terms 3 (n = 189)

Abstracts assessed for eligibility

(n = 5897)

Abstracts included (n = 5641)

**Included**

1 This number includes 137 scraped abstracts less than 300 characters in length. Upon inspection, the vast majority of these appeared to be only partially scraped but there may be a low number of complete abstracts that were still less than 300 characters. However, due to the low information gained from these few abstracts once used for sentiment or LDA analysis, all scraped or partially scraped abstracts under 300 characters were removed.

2 Seven (7) non-English abstracts and one (1) course-material outline were found and removed manually   
 during inspection of outliers. Other records were removed algorithmically.

3 Lyme, Borrel\*, burgdorferi, Ixodes, Erythema, migrans, tick-borne, tickborne, tick borne

*From:*  Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. BMJ 2021;372:n71. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n71

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