

# Cost & Workload

- What's been found?
  - A majority of reviews require **>1,000 hours** to complete [3]
  - And can cost upwards of a **quarter of a million USD** [50]
  - Most expensive and laborious phases **prior** to eligibility [50]
- What's the gap?



Systematic reviews are **highly costly and time consuming** to produce [87]

[3] I. Elaine Allen and Ingram Olkin. Estimating time to conduct a meta-analysis from number of citations retrieved. Journal of the American Medical Association, 282(7): 634–635, 1999.

[50] Jessie McGowan and Margaret Sampson. Systematic reviews need systematic searchers (irp). Journal of the Medical Library Association, 93(1):74, 2005.

[87] Byron C Wallace, Joël Kuiper, Aakash Sharma, Mingxi Brian Zhu, and Iain J Marshall. Extracting pico sentences from clinical trial reports using supervised distant supervision. Journal of Machine Learning Research, 17(132) 1–25, 2016.

# Formulating a Query

- After a research question has been defined, a **query is formulated** in order to search literature to answer this question
- In systematic reviews, an (often) complex **Boolean query** is used in order to find citations
- Queries are formatted in an iterative process with the help of an **information specialist** and are submitted to a panel for quality assurance