

Search Strategy

The SPIDER (Sample, Phenomenon of Interest, Design, Evaluation, Research type) tool was adopted to define key elements of the review question and as a means to inform and standardise the search strategy. The SPIDER tool offers an alternative to the more frequently applied PICO (Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome) tool as it adapts the PICO components, making them better suited to searching for qualitative research papers (Cook, Smith and Booth, 2012). For instance, qualitative research ‘Outcomes’ “might be unobservable, or subjective constructs (e.g., attitudes and views and so forth)” and therefore ‘Outcomes’ (O) becomes the more suitable ‘Evaluation’ (E) (Cook, Smith & Booth, 2012, p. 1437). Table 1 shows how the SPIDER tool can be applied to the research question (see below).

Table 1. The SPIDER tool applied to the review questions

i. Sample	Donors and recipients, as well as potential donors and recipients of sperm from online routes (to include male and transgender donors, heterosexual, lesbian and bisexual+ couples and single female and transgender recipients)
ii. Phenomenon of Interest	Sperm donation resulting from a website or social media platform
iii. Design	Published literature of any research design, grey literature
iv. Evaluation	Characteristics, views, experiences
v. Research Type	Qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods peer-reviewed studies. Grey literature including third sector and government reports and briefings, educational theses, conference proceedings.

Table 2 shows the proposed search strategy mapped against the SPIDER tool:

<p>Sample</p>	<p>AB sperm donor* OR TI sperm donor* OR AB sperm recipient* OR TI sperm recipient* OR AB lesbian famil* OR TI lesbian famil* OR AB lesbian conception OR TI lesbian conception OR AB lesbian conceive* OR TI lesbian conceive* OR AB bisexual famil* OR TI bisexual famil* OR AB bisexual conception OR TI bisexual conception OR AB bisexual conceive* OR TI bisexual conceive* OR AB transgender famil* OR TI transgender famil* OR AB transgender conception OR TI transgender conception OR AB transgender conceive* OR TI transgender conceive* OR AB single wom* sperm OR TI single wom* sperm</p>
<p>Phenomenon of Interest</p>	<p>AB sperm donation OR TI sperm donation OR AB donated sperm OR TI donated sperm OR AB donor conception OR TI donor conception OR AB donor conceive* OR TI donor conceive* OR AB sperm exchange OR TI sperm exchange OR AB home insemination OR TI home insemination OR AB private sperm don* TI private sperm don* OR AB online sperm don* OR TI online sperm don* OR AB internet sperm don* OR TI internet sperm don* OR AB connection website OR TI connection website OR AB assisted conception OR TI assisted conception OR AB donor insemination OR TI donor insemination</p>
<p>Evaluation</p>	<p>AB motivat* OR TI motivat* OR AB characteristic* OR TI characteristic* OR AB experience* OR TI experience OR AB expect* OR TI expect* OR AB decision* OR TI decision* OR AB decide* OR TI decide* OR AB attitude* OR TI attitude* OR AB view* OR TI view* OR AB perception* OR TI perception* OR AB perspective* OR TI perspective* OR AB opinion* OR TI opinion* OR AB impact* OR TI impact* OR AB choreograph* OR TI choreograph* OR AB judgement* OR TI judgement* OR AB belief* OR TI belief* OR AB believe* OR TI believe* OR AB reflect* OR TI reflect* OR AB impression* OR TI impression* OR AB insight* OR TI insight* OR AB issues OR TI issues OR AB feeling* OR TI feeling* OR AB evaluat* OR TI evaluat* OR AB understanding* OR TI understanding OR AB learn* OR TI learn* OR AB know* TI know* OR AB story OR TI story OR</p>

	AB stories OR TI stories OR AB diar* OR TI diar* OR AB reason* OR TI reason* OR AB transition* OR TI transition* OR AB meaning* OR TI meaning* OR AB account* OR TI account* OR AB represent* OR TI represent* OR AB behav* OR TI behav* OR AB process* OR TI process* OR AB document* OR TI document* OR AB prefer* OR TI prefer*)
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Table 2. Search Terms

As the review question does not target a specific study methodology, it was decided that the ‘Design’ (D) and ‘Research type’ (R) elements of SPIDER would not be included in the search terms in order to capture articles that might not contain reference to these (i.e. to be as inclusive as possible). Initial scoping searches were conducted which separated the ‘Sample’ (S) and ‘Phenomenon of Interest’ (PI) using AND, but this search did not produce any results. This might have been because papers sometimes conflate the sample and the phenomenon of interest and do not therefore include both. It was subsequently decided that OR would be used between S and PI, e.g., (S OR PI) AND E. The search terms will be adapted for use with each bibliographic database.