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BACKGROUND

Despite the clear evidence on vaccine safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines, misinformation remains rampant across online platforms.

In addition to the dissemination of misinformation online, documented reports of allergic reactions to COVID-19 vaccines may contribute to decreased vaccine confidence among the general population.

We aimed to conduct a living scoping review of peer-reviewed and grey literature on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and allergic reactions.

METHODS

Protocol: The protocol for this review is published in *Asthma, Allergy and Clinical Immunology* and registered with Open Science Framework.

Guided by Arksey and O'Malley's framework for methodological reviews, we searched four scientific databases (MEDLINE, Embase, PsycINFO, CINAHL) using a search strategy developed by content and methodological experts.

No restrictions were applied on the type of COVID-19 vaccine, country of study, and language of publication.

Grey literature searches were restricted to 10 languages.

English	French	Spanish	Swedish	German
Filipino	Hebrew	Bosnian	Croatian	Serbian

The study population included patients of all ages.

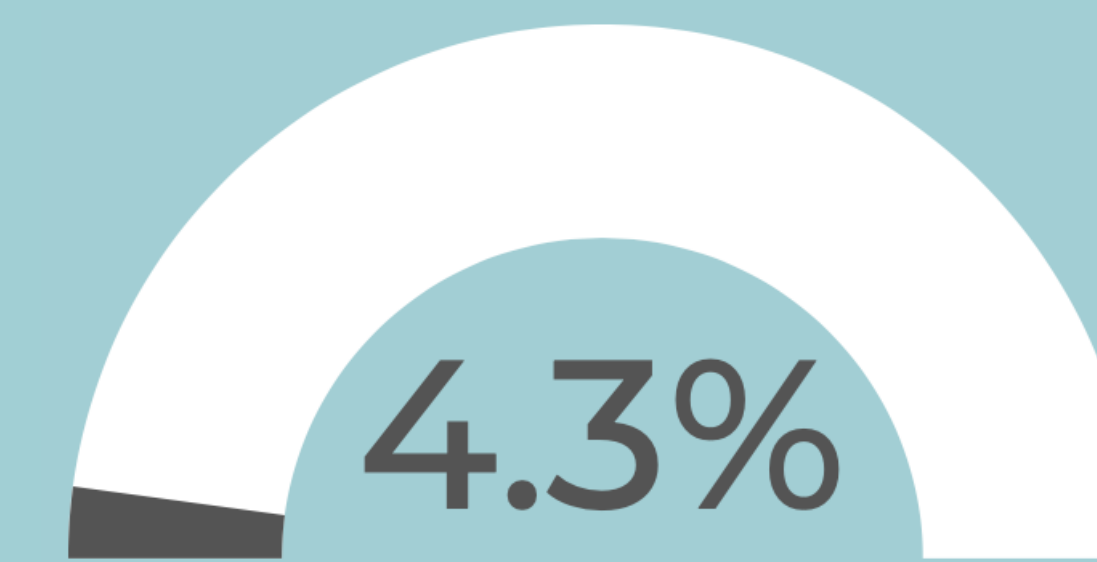


Literature searches and screening were independently performed by two reviewers.

The search was reported according to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR).

RESULTS

60 studies included



Data suggests low incidence of allergic reactions to COVID-19 vaccines across the board.

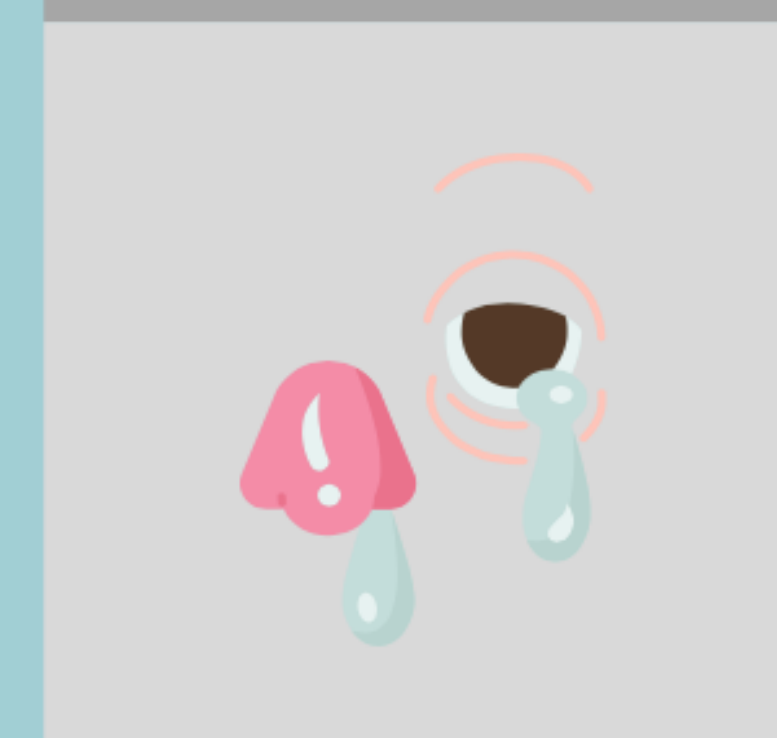
However, the literature also notes allergic reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine as a common fear, resulting in significant vaccine hesitancy.

Taken together, the literature suggests that few people are likely to have a severe allergic reaction to any COVID-19 vaccine, and that allergists often advise patients to seek out vaccination, despite significant reservations held by the public.

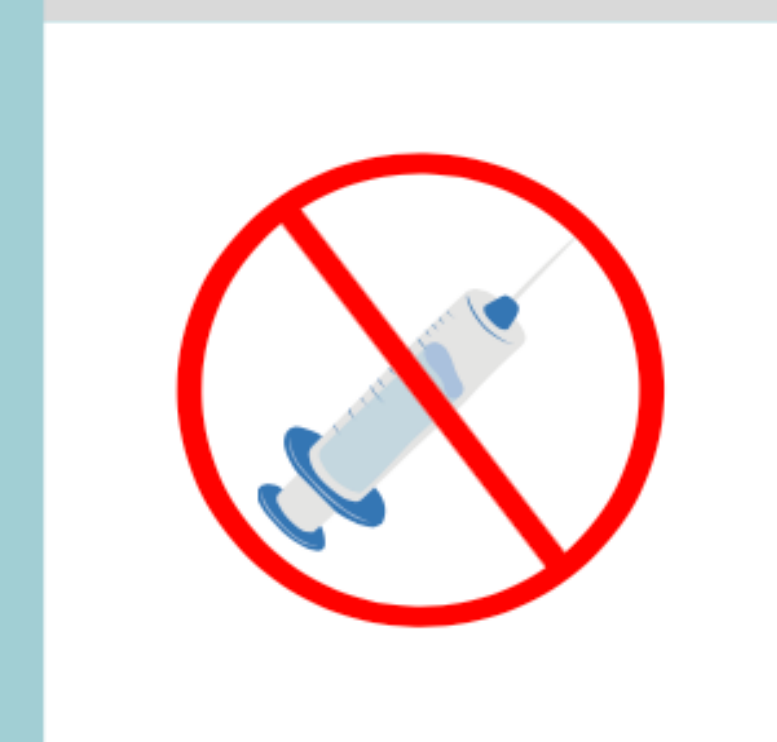
3 major themes identified



Incidence of allergic reactions



Details of allergic reactions



COVID-19 vaccine acceptance/hesitancy in relation to allergy

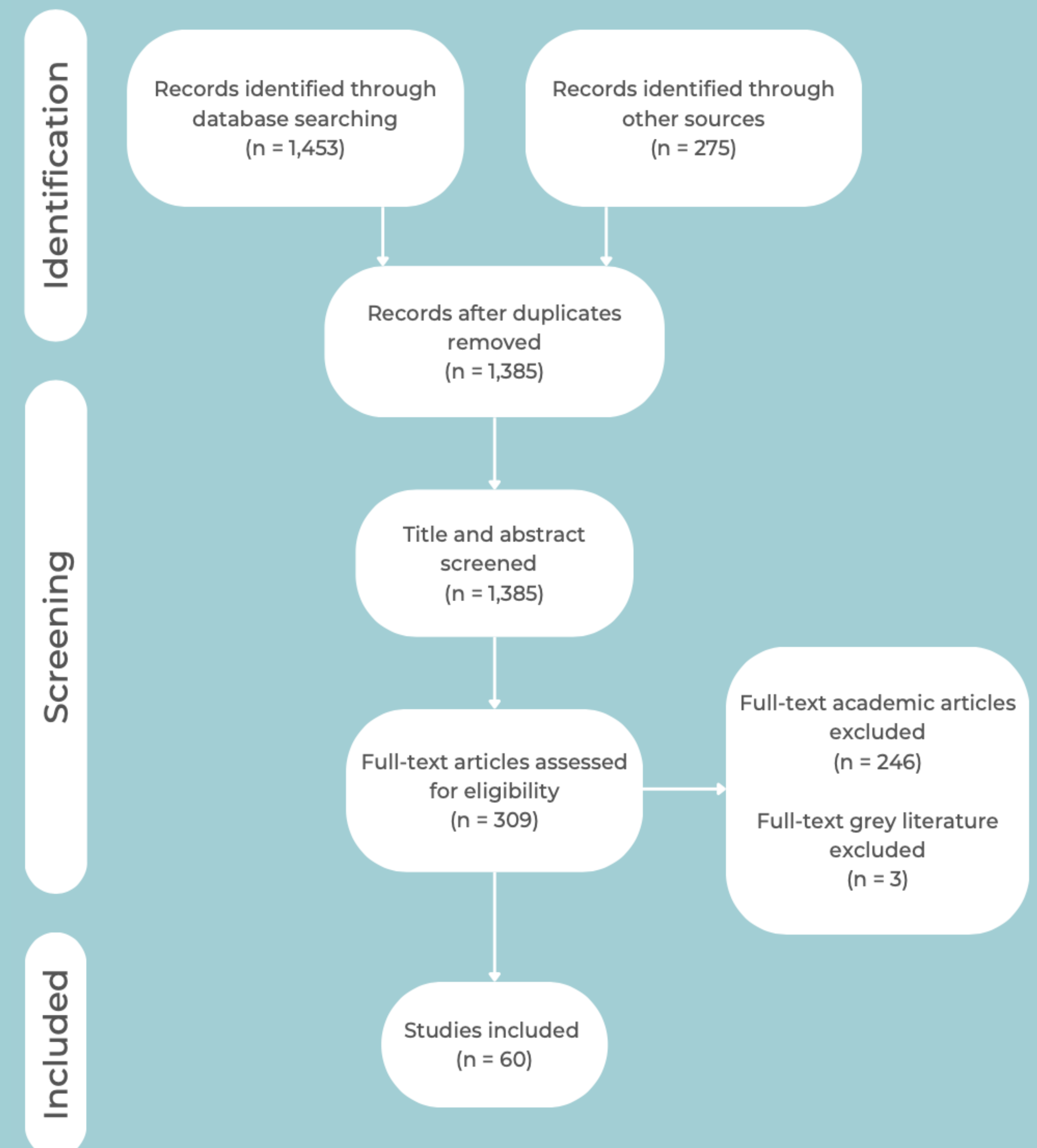


Figure 1. PRISMA flow diagram of the study selection process.

CONCLUSION

Despite the low incidence of serious vaccine-related adverse reactions, fear of allergic reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine is one of the leading causes of vaccine hesitancy.

Therefore, it is imperative to dispel misinformation and ensure that the appropriate information is promoted widely to reduce vaccine hesitancy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS