

## **Additional Files**

### **Additional File 1 - Search strategies used for stigma reviews**

**Description: This file details the electronic and manual search strategies conducted for this review.**

For the synthesis of qualitative and quantitative literature on stigma, HIV and health (stigma systematic review), two search strategies were conducted: 1) electronic database searches; 2) manual searches of literature that included reviewing reference lists of reviews on the topic of stigma; soliciting literature recommendations from content experts; and reviewing reference lists of literature included at the full-paper review stage.

#### **Electronic Database Search**

A librarian conducted electronic searches on six databases: CINAHL, Embase, MEDLINE, PsycINFO, Sociological Abstracts, and WHOLIS. For each database, subject headings and/or keyword terms related to HIV/AIDS (e.g., human immunodeficiency, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), and stigma/discrimination (e.g., stigma\*, ostracism, prejudice, stereotyping, discrimination) were used to extract literature, using a date range from January 1996 to current date of search.

Whenever possible, keywords related to quantitative or qualitative methodology were used to limit the search (e.g., EMBASE, MEDLINE). We chose to restrict literature to post-1995 since the introduction of combination antiretrovirals (cART) is often cited in the literature as a key turning point in the transformation of the HIV epidemic. To avoid the exclusion of relevant health-related literature at this stage, the search strategy used key terms for HIV and stigma, then

incorporated health-related inclusion criteria in the review stages. In total, we yielded 8,397 references from the electronic database search.

Databases included in the electronic database search

**CINAHL:** The Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL) contains references to health literature, predominantly in the areas of nursing, allied health sciences, and biomedicine.

**Embase:** The Excerpta Medica database (Embase) contains references to biomedical and pharmacological bibliographic literature with a broad national and international scope.

**MEDLINE:** MEDLARS Online (MEDLINE) contains references to life sciences literature with a concentration in biomedicine.

**PsycINFO:** The Psychological Information Database (PsycINFO) contains references to psychology and related disciplines including medicine, psychiatry, nursing, and sociology.

**Sociological Abstracts:** Sociological Abstracts contains references to international literature in sociology and related disciplines in the social and behavioural sciences.

**WHOLIS:** The World Health Organization library database (WHOLIS) indexes all WHO publications, journals, and technical documents.

## Subject headings and key words used in electronic search strategies

*Limit Dates: From 1996 to current date*

DATABASE	HIV/AIDS	Stigma
CINAHL	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>            "HIV+"            AIDS serodiagnosis            "HIV-Infected Patients+ "            "HIV Infections+ "</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>            HIV            AIDS            human immunodeficiency            acquired immunodeficiency syndrome            human immunodeficiency            acquired immune deficiency syndrome</p>	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>            stereotyping            social conformity            social attitudes            "Social isolation+ "            "Discrimination+ "            "Negotiation"            Stigma            Prejudice            Shame            Fear            Self Concept            confidence</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>            stigma*            social discrimination            prejudice*            social* exclu*            social* isolat*            ostraci*            marginali*            social* alienat*            social acceptance</p>

DATABASE	HIV/AIDS	Stigma
PsycINFO	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>  aids  hiv testing  exp "aids (attitudes toward)"  aids prevention  exp aids dementia complex  exp hiv  exp hiv testing</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>  HIV  human immunodeficiency  acquired immunodeficiency syndrome  acquired immune deficiency syndrome  AIDS</p>	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>  stereotyped attitudes  social approval  social acceptance  exp social discrimination  exp prejudice  *labeling  Attitudes  social perception</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>  ostrac\$  stigma\$  marginal\$  social  discrimination  prejudice\$  social\$ exclu\$  social\$ isolate\$  social\$ alienat\$  social acceptance</p>
MEDLINE	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>  exp hiv infections  AIDS Serodiagnosis  Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome  HIV  HIV long term survivors  exp anti-hiv agents  exp hiv protease inhibitors  exp reverse transcriptase inhibitors</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>  HIV  human immunodeficiency  acquired immunodeficiency syndrome  acquired immune deficiency syndrome  AIDS</p>	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>  Prejudice  Shame  Self Concept  exp social isolation  *stereotyping  Taboo  Vulnerable Populations  Social Conformity  social perception</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>  ostrac\$  stigma\$  marginal\$  social  discrimination  prejudice\$  social\$ exclu\$  social\$ isolate\$  social\$ alienat\$  social acceptance</p>

DATABASE	HIV/AIDS	Stigma
EMBASE	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>  human immunodeficiency virus antibody  exp human immunodeficiency virus  hiv associated lipodystrophy  human immunodeficiency virus  prevalence  exp acquired immune deficiency  syndrome  *wasting syndrome  "attitude to aids"</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>  HIV  human immunodeficiency  acquired  immunodeficiency syndrome  acquired immune deficiency syndrome  AIDS</p>	<p><b>Subject Headings</b>  stigma  shame  taboo  Self Concept  self esteem  social isolation  social attitude</p> <p><b>Key Words:</b>  ostrac\$  stigma\$  marginal\$  social discrimination  prejudice\$  social\$ exclu\$  social\$ isolate\$  social\$ alienat\$  social acceptance</p>
Sociological Abstracts	<p><b>Key Words:</b>  HIV  human immunodeficiency  acquired immunodeficiency syndrome  acquired immune deficiency syndrome  AIDS</p>	<p><b>Key Words:</b>  stigma  discriminate  discrimination  prejudice  marginalize  marginalization  social isolation</p>
WHOLIS	<p><b>Key Words:</b>  HIV  AIDS</p>	<p><b>Key Words:</b>  stigma  discrimination  prejudice  marginalization  social isolation</p>

Example of Search Strategy: PsycINFO

Database: PsycINFO <1987 to February Week 3 2010> Search Strategy:

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- 1 aids hiv testing exp "aids (attitudes toward)" aids prevention exp aids dementia complex exp hiv exp hiv testing/ (22467)
  - 2 (hiv or human immunodeficiency or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or acquired immune deficiency syndrome or aids).tw. (30560)
  - 3 stereotyped attitudes/ (5468)
  - 4 social approval social acceptance exp social discrimination \*labeling attitudes social perception/ (26136)
  - 5 exp prejudice/ (2676)
  - 6 (ostrac\$ or stigma\$ or marginal\$ or social discrimination or prejudice\$ or social\$ exclu\$ or social\$ isolate\$).tw. or social\$ alienat\$.mp. or social acceptance.tw. (23666)
  - 7 or/1-2 (30680)
  - 8 or/3-6 (51608)
  - 9 7 and 8 (2262)
  - 10 limit 9 to yr=1997-2009 (1677)
  - 11 from 10 keep 1-1000 (1000)
  - 12 from 10 keep 1001-1677 (677)
  - 13 from 10 keep 1 (1)
- PsycINFO total = 1,677**

## **Manual Searches**

Manual searches were also conducted to better ensure that stigma-related literature not found using the database search was included in the review. Manual search strategies include:

- References identified in other systematic reviews on the topic of stigma;
- References recommended by content experts;
- References identified through manual search of included literature

### Literature identified from previously published systematic reviews on stigma

In spring 2009, the review team conducted a citation search of systematic reviews addressing the topic of HIV-related stigma for people living with HIV/AIDS (PHAs). Six reviews were identified (Brown, Macintyre, & Trujillo, 2003; Crawford, 1996; Gadalla & Logie, 2009; Mak, Poon, Pun, & Cheung, 2007; Sandelowski, Lambe, & Barroso, 2004; Vidanapathirana, Randeniya, & Operario, 2007). From the manual review of other systematic reviews, 111 references were identified as being relevant to this review.

### Literature identified by content experts

The review team also contacted and received references from content experts with expertise in the literature related to HIV stigma and discrimination. From the papers recommended by content experts, an additional 27 papers were added that were not already included in the review.

### Literature identified through manual search

Over the course of the review process, the review team conducted manual searches of references from articles included at Level 2 – full paper review. 87 references were identified from the manual search.

**Search yields from electronic and manual searches**

<b>Source</b>	<b># of references</b>
<i>Electronic Database Search</i>	
CINAHL	2,607
EMBASE	1,490
MEDLINE	1,835
PsycINFO	1,677
Sociological Abstracts	766
WHOLIS	22
<i>Manual Searches</i>	
Citation search of systematic reviews	111
Content experts recommendation	27
Manual search of references	87
<b>Total References</b>	<b>8,622</b>
Duplicates	(2,893)
<b>Total references included for T&amp;A review</b>	<b>5,729</b>