

757 records identified through Medline, ISI, Cochrane, Scopus, Global Health and CINAHL databases libraries

612 records, after duplicates removed

612 records screened

503 excluded as did not meet inclusion criteria

109 abstracts assessed for eligibility

41 articles excluded: 39 articles excluded based on abstract as were reviews and /or editorial papers or did not meet selection criteria (e.g. involved sample over 18 years of age, did not assess caries, did not assess BMI and/or did not assess the association between dental caries and BMI). Two additional articles excluded because full texts not available.

68 full- text articles assessed for eligibility and included in the systematic literature review

21 full texts excluded because did not meet selection criteria (e.g. did not assess caries, did not assess BMI and/or did not assess the association between dental caries and BMI)

47 studies included in the systematic literature review