

Validity in Current Forensic Odontology Research

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BACKGROUND

Forensic odontology is a field of dentistry that encompasses 4 major areas of study:

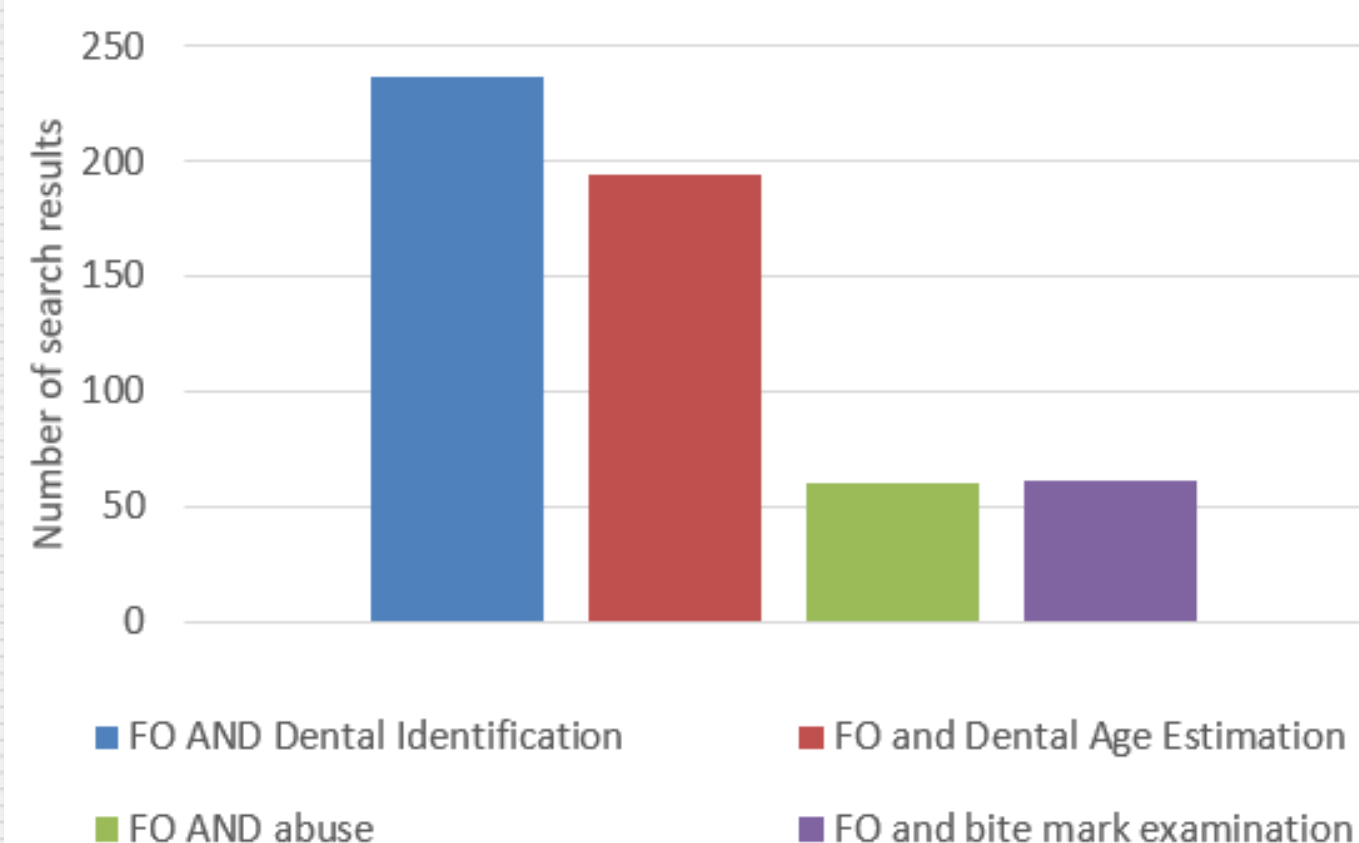
- A. Human identification
- B. Age estimation
- C. Abuse
- D. Bite mark examination

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Literature search using PubMed and Google Scholar databases
- Reviewed articles published since 2017
- Full text, free-access, and in English
- Final sample size was n = 329
- Search keywords:
“Forensic Odontology”
“Dental Identification”
“Dental Age Estimation”
“Abuse”
“Bite mark”

RESULTS

Number of Search Results Yielded in GS and PM Databases Based on Differing Search Keywords



RESULTS

- Dental identification (n = 237) and age estimation (n = 194) categories had the most results
- Non-DNA-based identification methods were the primary focus
- Bite mark abuse categories have greatest ratio of secondary research (review articles) to primary research (RCTs, experimental trials, etc.)

DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION

- Validity of research in forensic odontology should be an ongoing pursuit
- Aim to develop methods that can be continuously applied, regulated, consistently repeated, and updated in the legal system
- Experimental studies in bite mark and abuse cases are a potential area to pursue, especially regarding limitations of evidence collection methods

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

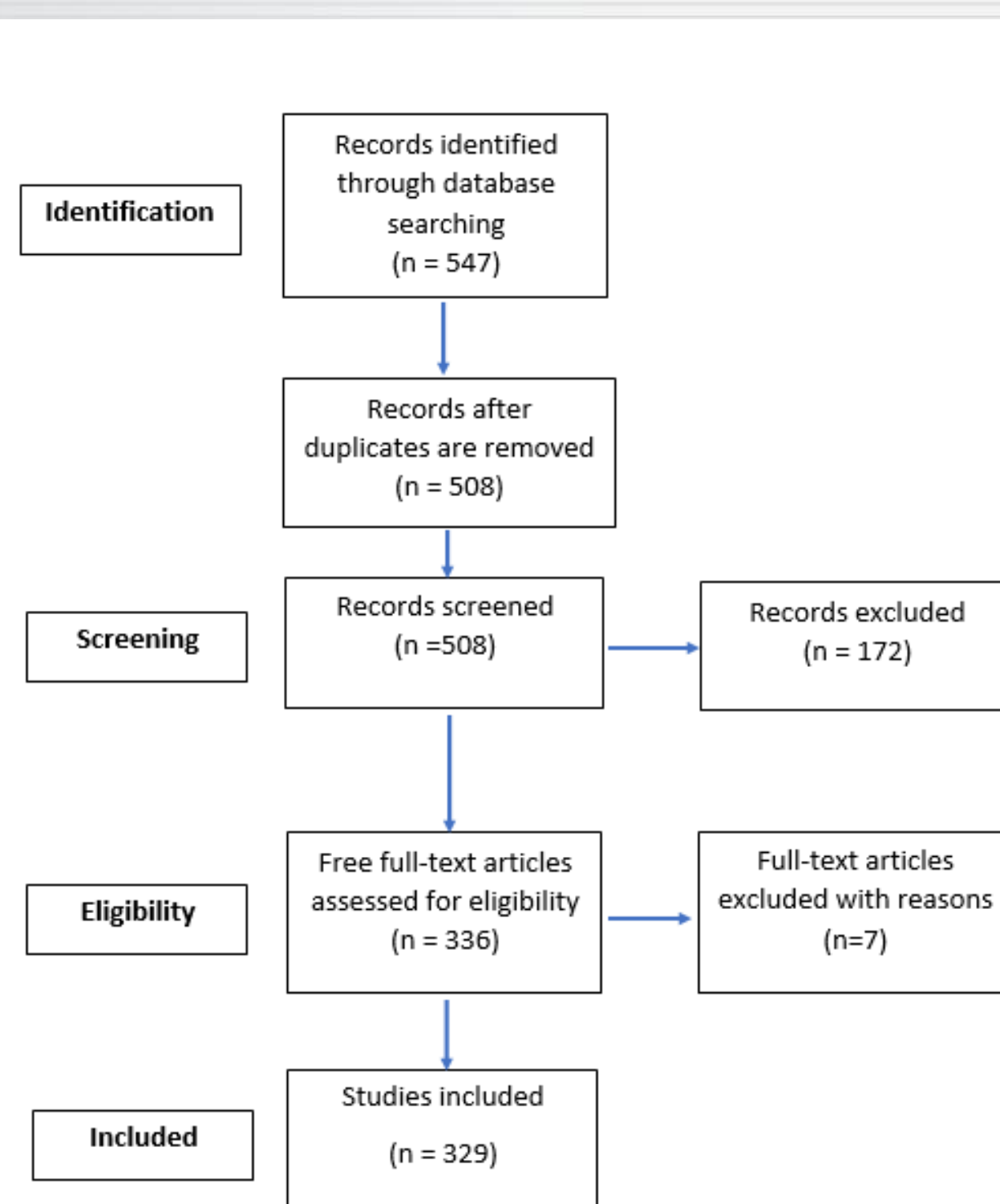
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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

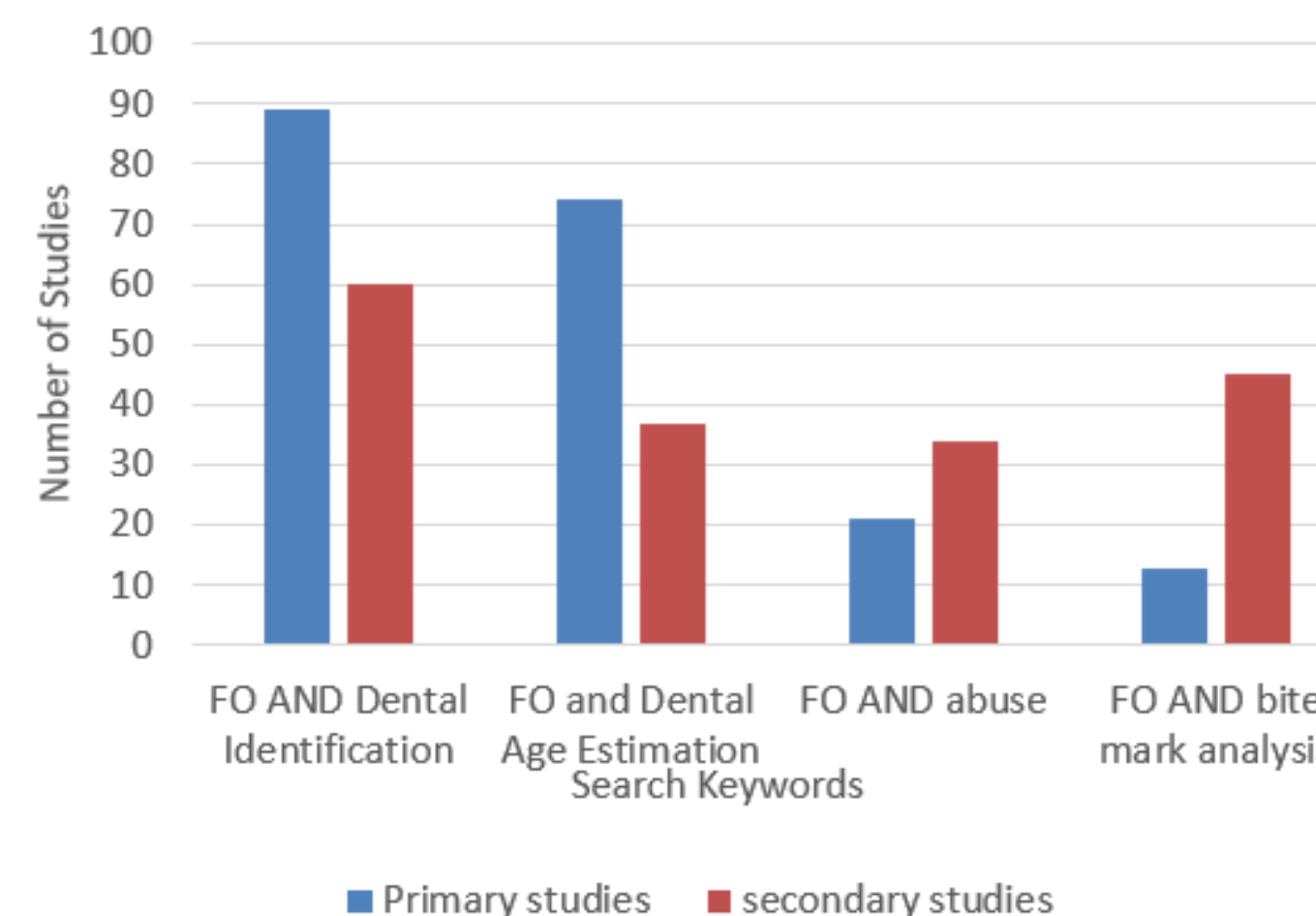
There are no conflicts of interest for this project.

OBJECTIVES

- A. Evaluate validity of current research in forensic odontology
- B. Discern areas that may require further research



Difference in Number of Primary and Secondary Studies Based on Differing Keywords



FOUR ELEMENTS OF FORENSIC ODONTOLOGY

