ebhc CONFERENCE 2026

THE ECOSYSTEM OF EVIDENCE

Navigating the future of the ecosystem of evidence

Artificial intelligence and digital transformation in research and healthcare

11th EBHC International Conference
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#EBHC2026

Best Practice Methods for Living Evidence Synthesis in Health Care

An International Modified Delphi Survey

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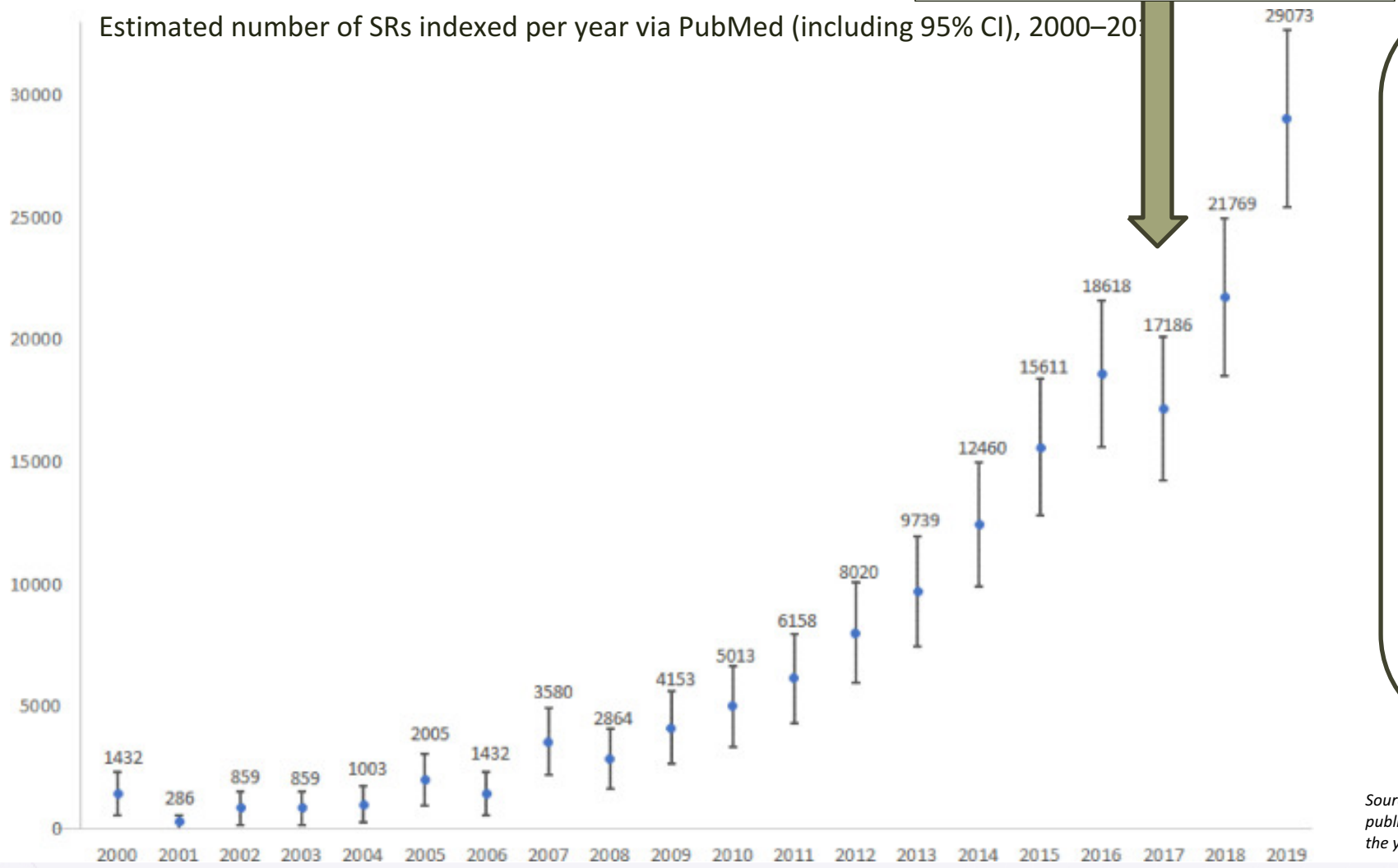
GIMBE EVIDENCE FOR HEALTH

International Society for Evidence-Based Health Care

Disclosures

- DPhil research focuses on living evidence synthesis methodologies
- Professional experience in HTA has informed aspects of this presentation
- Views expressed are my own and do not represent those of my employer
- No financial conflicts

Background

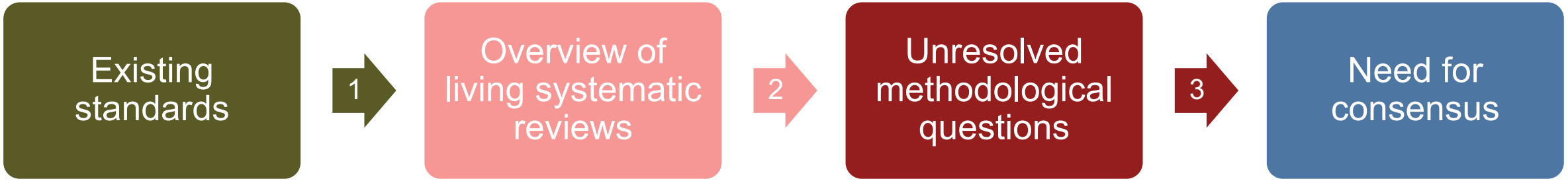


No one wants clinical policy or practice informed by out-of-date evidence

- New research is continually published
- Keeping evidence up to date is increasingly difficult

Source: Hoffmann F, Allers K, Rombey T, et al. Nearly 80 systematic reviews were published each day: Observational study on trends in epidemiology and reporting over the years 2000-2019. J Clin Epidemiol. 2021;138:1-11. doi:10.1016/j.jclinepi.2021.05.022

Background


Existing standards
1
Overview of living systematic reviews
2
Unresolved methodological questions
3
Need for consensus

Aims

Living Systematic Review Overview

Stakeholder Survey

Workshop

Delphi process

CONSENSUS STATEMENTS

Methods

Interpretive synthesis + Survey & workshop + Living systematic review overview



Draft statements

- 29 panelists
- Response rate ≥80%
- Agreement ≥85%

Methods



29 international experts

3 rounds

Unpublished data

Results

19 of 22 statements reached consensus

- Conduct (n=12)
- Reporting (n=2)
- Publishing (n=4)
- Implementation (n=1)

Results

Conduct

- Planning the living process
- Maintaining living mode
- Resources and collaboration

Reporting

- Unit of update
- Version history

Publishing

- Publication model
- Communication of updates

Implementation/appraisal

- End-user feedback

Results



More agreement

- Planning
- Transparency
- Communication
- Version history

Less agreement

- Interoperability
- Digital infrastructure
- Appraisal
- Automation

Limits



Different living evidence synthesis types



LMIC



Expert consensus

Conclusions



Achieved international consensus

Strong agreement on foundational principles

Next challenge:

Operationalizing living evidence synthesis

Questions



Thank you

Publications

Living systematic review overview

Delphi survey

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