

Intervention Now To Eliminate Repeat Unintended Pregnancy in Teenagers (INTERUPT): multiple integrated review method exemplar

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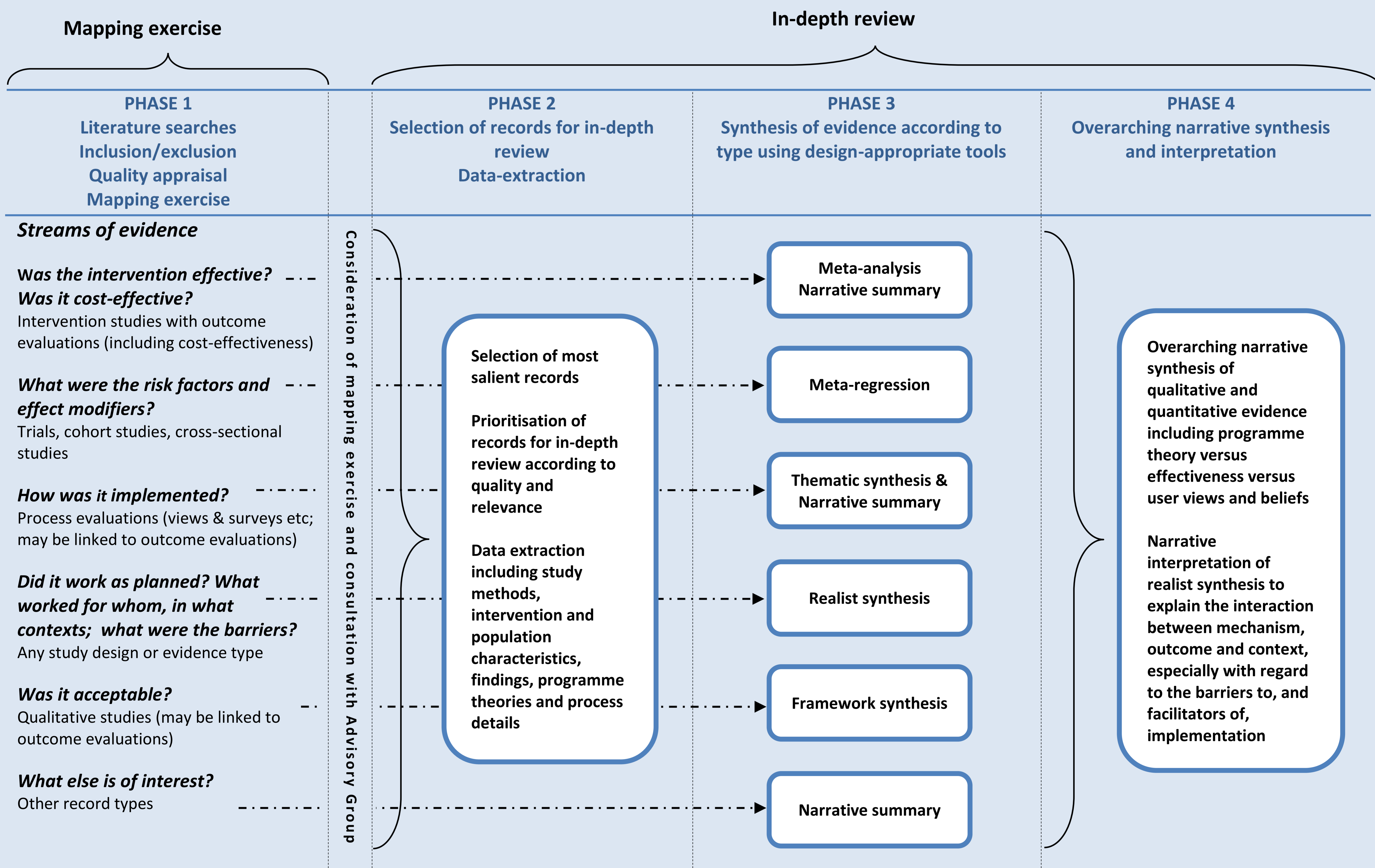
Background and aims

The UK has the highest rate of teenage pregnancies in Western Europe. A fifth of these are repeat pregnancies. Unintended conceptions can do substantial emotional, psychological and educational harm to young girls, often with enduring implications for their life chances. Babies of teenage mothers have increased mortality in their first year and a significantly increased risk of poverty, educational under-achievement and unemployment later in life, with associated costs to society. The aims of this review are to identify and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions for reducing repeat teenage pregnancies, and to investigate the barriers and facilitators for their implementation and uptake.

Methods

This review deploys a structured, 4-phase approach: after conducting extensive literature searches, screening the evidence against explicit inclusion and exclusion criteria and appraising study quality, a mapping exercise is undertaken so as to give a clear picture of the body of research. From this, the scope of the review can be refined in order to focus in depth on specific research questions. The review will be guided by an expert panel, and we will present our findings for feedback and discussion to a consultation group of young people who have experience of teenage pregnancy and early parenthood. The title is registered as a Cochrane review (Cochrane Fertility Regulation Review Group).

Overview of review methods



Discussion

Interventions in the field of teenage pregnancy prevention are diverse and complex. We draw on a number of methodological sources to meet the challenges of this review. The findings, authenticated by client-group feedback, will be of interest to policy makers and those who design and commission services. The methods will be of interest to authors of systematic reviews of complex interventions.



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