

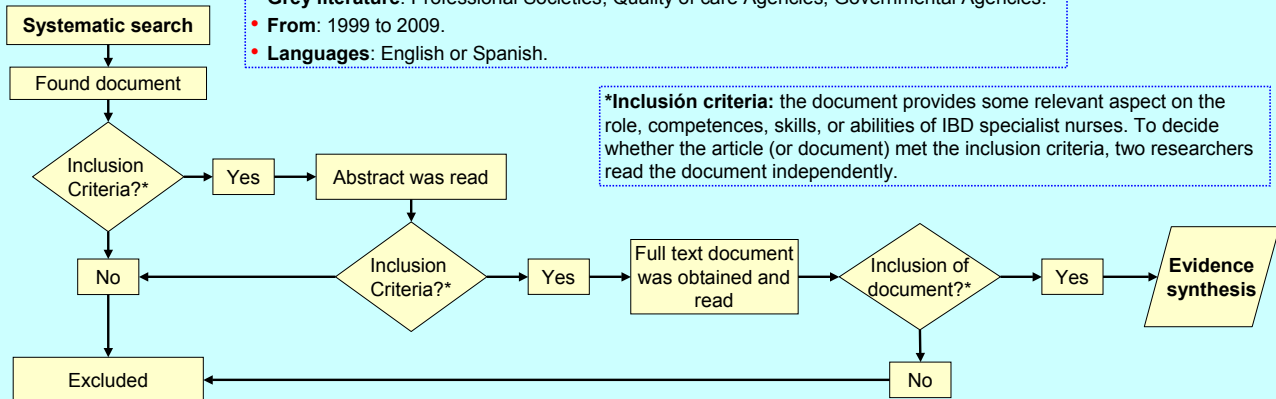
## An attempt to identify relevant competences and skills of specialist nurses in the management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease.

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**Purpose:** To identify, from the available scientific evidence, competences, skills, and abilities of specialist nurses that help to improve the management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD).

### Methods:



- **Data bases:** Medline, Embase, Spanish Medical Index (SMI), and the Cochrane Library.
- **Grey literature:** Professional Societies, Quality of care Agencies, Governmental Agencies.
- **From:** 1999 to 2009.
- **Languages:** English or Spanish.

\***Inclusión criteria:** the document provides some relevant aspect on the role, competences, skills, or abilities of IBD specialist nurses. To decide whether the article (or document) met the inclusion criteria, two researchers read the document independently.

### Results:

Articles found	
Database	Titles
• Medline	232
• Embase	33
• SMI	6
• Cochrane Library	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>272</b>

➔ 8 articles met the inclusion criteria

Institutions found (Grey literature)	
Institution type	N
• National level	34
• International institutions	3
• Quality of care agencies	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>

➔ 5 documents selected

Studies design	
Design	N
• Qualitative methodology	6
• Systematic review	2
• Non-systematic review	2
• Quality standards	1
• Observational	1
• Opinion	1

\*Studies may have more than one type of design

- #### Reported nurses competences
- Integration in the multidisciplinary team.
  - Liaison with the patient, The team and primary care.
  - Disease control.
  - Adherence to treatment control.
  - Early detection of adverse effects.
  - Health education to patients and their families.
  - Physical and emotional support.
  - Being accessible when patients require.
  - Organization of support groups.

- #### Reported nurses skills
- Availability.
  - Communication skills.
  - Kindness.
  - Sympathy.
  - Giving confidence to cope with the disease.

### Discussion/conclusions:

Numerous conceptual and operational competences have been identified. They usually refer to roles within the multidisciplinary team, with the patient, and in the relationship between patient, team, and even with primary care. Nurse competences aim not only to improve the physical condition of patients, but also emotional aspects affecting personal, family, social, and labour areas. Studies for understanding the relationship between competences and skills of nurses, and the quality of care and the efficient use of resources in managing IBD, would be desirable.