PRISMA-Children and Adolescents (PRISMA-C) 2026 Fillable Checklist

From: Baba A, Farid-Kapadia M, Smith M, Hartling L, Moher D, Hooft L, Offringa M. PRISMA-Children and Adolescents (PRISMA-C) 2026 extension statement and explanation: enhancing the reporting and utility of systematic reviews of interventions in paediatrics. *BMJ* 2026;393:e088561. doi: 10.1136/bmj-2025-088561

Section and Topic	#	PRISMA 2020 items	#	PRISMA-C 2026 extension items‡	Location reported
TITLE					
TITLE	1	Identify the report as a systematic review.	1a	Identify that it is a paediatric systematic review	
ABSTRACT					
ABSTRACT	2	See the PRISMA 2020[1] for Abstracts checklist. (**Table 2**)	2a	See Abstract items for PRISMA-C 2026 (**Table 2**)	
INTRODUCTION					
RATIONALE	3	Describe the rationale for the review in the context of existing knowledge.	3a*	Provide justification for included age groups, ranges, or developmental stages	
			3b*	Describe potential differences and similarities in treatment effects related to age or development	
OBJECTIVES	4§	Provide an explicit statement of the objective(s) or question(s) the review addresses.		Ontogeny statement item	
METHODS					
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	5§	Specify the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the review and how studies were grouped for the syntheses.		Ontogeny statement item	
			5a*	If multiple age groups or ranges are eligible and require variable delivery of interventions, comparators, or the choice of outcomes or measurement methods differ, detail these	
INFORMATION SOURCES	6	Specify all databases, registers, websites, organisations, reference lists and other sources searched or consulted to identify studies. Specify the date when each source was last searched or consulted.			
SEARCH STRATEGY	7	Present the full search strategies for all databases, registers and websites, including any filters and limits used.			
SELECTION PROCESS	8	Specify the methods used to decide whether a study met the inclusion criteria of the review, including how many reviewers screened each record and each report retrieved, whether they worked independently, and if applicable, details of automation tools used in the process.			
DATA COLLECTION PROCESS	9	Specify the methods used to collect data from reports, including how many reviewers collected data from each report, whether they worked independently, any processes for obtaining or confirming data from study investigators, and if applicable, details of automation tools used in the process.			
DATA ITEMS	10a§	List and define all outcomes for which data were sought. Specify whether all results that were compatible with each outcome domain in each study		Ontogeny statement item	

PRISMA-Children and Adolescents (PRISMA-C) 2026 Fillable Checklist

Section and Topic	#	PRISMA 2020 items	#	PRISMA-C 2026 extension items‡	Location reported
		were sought (e.g. for all measures, time points, analyses), and if not, the methods used to decide which results to collect.			
	10b	List and define all other variables for which data were sought (e.g. participant and intervention characteristics, funding sources). Describe any assumptions made about any missing or unclear information.			
STUDY RISK OF BIAS ASSESSMENT	11	Specify the methods used to assess risk of bias in the included studies, including details of the tool(s) used, how many reviewers assessed each study and whether they worked independently, and if applicable, details of automation tools used in the process.			
EFFECT MEASURES	12	Specify for each outcome the effect measure(s) (e.g. risk ratio, mean difference) used in the synthesis or presentation of results.			
SYNTHESIS METHODS	13a	Describe the processes used to decide which studies were eligible for each synthesis (e.g. tabulating the study intervention characteristics and comparing against the planned groups for each synthesis (item #5)).			
	13b	Describe any methods required to prepare the data for presentation or synthesis, such as handling of missing summary statistics, or data conversions.			
	13c	Describe any methods used to tabulate or visually display results of individual studies and syntheses.			
	13d	Describe any methods used to synthesise results and provide a rationale for the choice(s). If meta-analysis was performed, describe the model(s), method(s) to identify the presence and extent of statistical heterogeneity, and software package(s) used.	13d.a	Describe how data was synthesised separately by relevant age groups or ranges. If not feasible, provide an explanation	
	13e§	Describe any methods used to explore possible causes of heterogeneity among study results (e.g. subgroup analysis, meta-regression).		Ontogeny statement item	
	13f	Describe any sensitivity analyses conducted to assess robustness of the synthesised results.			
REPORTING BIAS ASSESSMENT	14	Describe any methods used to assess risk of bias due to missing results in a synthesis (arising from reporting biases).			
CERTAINTY ASSESSMENT	15	Describe any methods used to assess certainty (or confidence) in the body of evidence for an outcome.			

PRISMA-Children and Adolescents (PRISMA-C) 2026 Fillable Checklist

Section and Topic	#	PRISMA 2020 items	#	PRISMA-C 2026 extension items‡	Location reported
RESULTS					
STUDY SELECTION	16a	Describe the results of the search and selection process, from the number of records identified in the search to the number of studies included in the review, ideally using a flow diagram (see Fig 1 in PRISMA 2020[1]).			
	16b	Cite studies that might appear to meet the inclusion criteria, but which were excluded, and explain why they were excluded.			
STUDY CHARACTERISTICS	17	Cite each included study and present its characteristics.	17a	Report number of children/adolescents by age groups or ranges	
RISK OF BIAS IN STUDIES	18	Present assessments of risk of bias for each included study.			
RESULTS OF INDIVIDUAL STUDIES	19§	For all outcomes, present, for each study: (a) summary statistics for each group (where appropriate) and (b) an effect estimate and its precision (e.g. confidence/credible interval), ideally using structured tables or plots.		Ontogeny statement item	
RESULTS OF SYNTHESES	20a	For each synthesis, briefly summarise the characteristics and risk of bias among contributing studies.			
	20b§	Present results of all statistical syntheses conducted. If meta-analysis was done, present for each the summary estimate and its precision (e.g. confidence/credible interval) and measures of statistical heterogeneity. If comparing groups, describe the direction of the effect.		Ontogeny statement item	
	20c§	Present results of all investigations of possible causes of heterogeneity among study results.		Ontogeny statement item	
	20d	Present results of all sensitivity analyses conducted to assess the robustness of the synthesised results.			
REPORTING BIASES	21	Present assessments of risk of bias due to missing results (arising from reporting biases) for each synthesis assessed.			
CERTAINTY OF EVIDENCE	22§	Present assessments of certainty (or confidence) in the body of evidence for each outcome assessed.		Ontogeny statement item	
DISCUSSION					
DISCUSSION	23a§	Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence.		Ontogeny statement item	
	23b	Discuss any limitations of the evidence included in the review.	23b.a*	Comment on the appropriateness of outcome measurement, including aspects such as validity, feasibility, reliability, and	

PRISMA-Children and Adolescents (PRISMA-C) 2026 Fillable Checklist

Section and Topic	#	PRISMA 2020 items	#	PRISMA-C 2026 extension items‡	Location reported
				responsiveness of measurement instruments, for each age groups or ranges	
	23c	Discuss any limitations of the review processes used.			
	23d§	Discuss implications of the results for practice, policy, and future research.		Ontogeny statement item	
OTHER INFORMATION					
REGISTRATION AND PROTOCOL	24a	Provide registration information for the review, including register name and registration number, or state that the review was not registered.			
	24b	Indicate where the review protocol can be accessed, or state that a protocol was not prepared.			
	24c	Describe and explain any amendments to information provided at registration or in the protocol.			
SUPPORT	25	Describe sources of financial or non-financial support for the review, and the role of the funders or sponsors in the review.			
COMPETING INTERESTS	26	Declare any competing interests of review authors.			
AVAILABILITY OF DATA, CODE, AND OTHER MATERIALS	27	Report which of the following are publicly available and where they can be found: template data collection forms; data extracted from included studies; data used for all analyses; analytic code; any other materials used in the review.			

‡ Elements for each reporting item can be found in the PRISMA-C 2026 Statement and Supplementary Materials (eAppendix 7).
*Report item if applicable/done, or state explicitly that it is not applicable/done.
§ Ontogeny statement: For PRISMA 2020 items with §, authors should consider reporting the information separately for all included paediatric age group(s) or range(s) where applicable and relevant as determined by the investigators.
1. Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. BMJ 2021;372:n71. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n71