

INPLASY

Social integration and the health outcomes of the migrant populations in China: a systematic review

INPLASY2024110085

doi: 10.37766/inplasy2024.11.0085

Received: 20 November 2024

Published: 20 November 2024

Yang, X; Tang, K.

Corresponding author:

Xiao Yang

xyang97@jh.edu

Author Affiliation:

Johns Hopkins University
Bloomberg School of Public Health.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Support - No fund is available for this study.

Review Stage at time of this submission - Completed but not published.

Conflicts of interest - None declared.

INPLASY registration number: INPLASY2024110085

Amendments - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 20 November 2024 and was last updated on 20 November 2024.

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective This systematic review aims to synthesize existing studies to explore the association between social integration and health outcomes, including healthcare service utilization, self-reported health (SRH), and noncommunicable disease (NCD) management, among internal migrants in China.

Condition being studied Health service utilization, self-reported health, noncommunicable disease.

METHODS

Participant or population The internal migrant population in Mainland China.

Intervention Social integration.

Comparator Not applicable.

Study designs to be included Cross-sectional studies, cohort studies, case-control studies.

Eligibility criteria Quantitative studies published in English focusing on the migrant population in Mainland China of both sexes were considered for inclusion. Studies published between January 2014 and October 2024 that met the inclusion criteria were included. Studies in other languages and have a focus on the Chinese immigrants abroad were excluded. Studies on migrant children participants who are under 18 years old were excluded from the review, as their social networks are mainly regulated by their parents. Qualitative studies, reviews, meta-analyses, case reports, and studies with only abstracts or protocols available were also excluded.

Information sources Electronic databases.

Main outcome(s) Results: A total of sixteen eligible cross-sectional studies were identified, focusing on the multidimensional aspects of social

integration, including economic integration, acculturation, social networks and self-identity and their influence on health outcomes. Eleven of the papers focused on health service utilization, 4 concentrated on SRH and 1 discussed both NCD and SRH. The majority of included studies indicated a significantly positive association between social integration and health outcomes of the migrants.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis The JBI assessment tool was used to assess the quality of the included studies.

Strategy of data synthesis Once a specific study was selected, the information was synthesized into a chart as follows: author information, publication year of the research, type of research, study population, sample size, type of health outcome and the strength of the association.

Subgroup analysis The outcomes are analyzed according to different sets of health outcomes, including health service utilization, self-reported health and noncommunicable disease.

Sensitivity analysis Not applicable.

Language restriction English.

Country(ies) involved China.

Keywords migrant population, China, health service utilization, self-reported health, noncommunicable disease, social integration, social network, acculturation.

Contributions of each author

Author 1 - Xiao Yang.

Author 2 - Kun Tang.