

Clinical and Epidemiological Characteristics of ICU-Acquired Weakness in Latin America: A Scoping Review Protocol

INPLASY202530135

doi: 10.37766/inplasy2025.3.0135

Received: 31 March 2025

Published: 31 March 2025

Fuentes-Aspe, R; Najum-Flores, J; González-Seguel, F; Seron, P.

Corresponding author:

Rocío Fuentes-Aspe

rocio.fuentes@ufrontera.cl

Author Affiliation:

Universidad de La Frontera.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**Support** - Universidad de La Frontera.**Review Stage at time of this submission** - Data analysis.**Conflicts of interest** - None declared.**INPLASY registration number:** INPLASY202530135**Amendments** - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 31 March 2025 and was last updated on 9 May 2025.**INTRODUCTION**

Review question / Objective The objective of this scoping review is to synthesize available evidence on clinical and epidemiological characteristics (Concept) of adult patients with ICU-acquired weakness hospitalized in intensive care units (Population) within Latin America (Context), identifying reported incidence, risk factors, diagnostic methods, and management strategies.

Background Despite extensive international research, particularly in regions such as Europe, North America, and Asia, specific data on ICUAW in Latin America remain scarce.

Rationale This scoping review aims to provide a comprehensive synthesis of available evidence on ICUAW in Latin America, addressing aspects such as reported incidence, demographic and clinical characteristics of affected patients, hospitalization details, risk factors, diagnostic and evaluation methods, as well as the preventive and therapeutic strategies currently implemented.

METHODS

Strategy of data synthesis A systematic approach was implemented following the JBI guidelines to ensure a comprehensive and rigorous data synthesis and in line with the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and MetaAnalyses extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA ScR). The search strategy aimed to locate both published and unpublished primary studies, reviews, and gray literature relevant to ICUAW in Latin America. An initial limited search was conducted in PubMed (MEDLINE), LILACS (BVS), and EMBASE (Elsevier) to identify relevant articles on the topic.

Eligibility criteria

The review focused on adult patients (≥ 18 years) hospitalized in intensive care units (Population) in Latin America (Context), addressing ICUAW (Concept) in any diagnostic form. Eligible studies reported on clinical and sociodemographic characteristics, hospitalization details, risk factors, and strategies for prevention or management. Studies involving patients with pre-existing

neuromuscular or neurological conditions, lacking explicit ICUAW data, or without accessible full texts were excluded.

Source of evidence screening and selection

The search results will be fully reported in the final scoping review and presented in a PRISMA flow diagram.

Data management The extraction process adhered to the Population, Concept, and Context (PCC) framework guiding this scoping review.

Reporting results / Analysis of the evidence A descriptive and narrative synthesis will be conducted.

Presentation of the results Findings will be presented in multiple tables to enhance clarity and systematic organization of results.

Language restriction None.

Country(ies) involved Chile.

Keywords Critical illness; Epidemiological trends; Intensive care outcomes; Neuromuscular complications; Rehabilitation strategies.

Contributions of each author

Author 1 - Rocío Fuentes-Aspe - Contributed to the conceptualization of the research, supervised the research process and methodology, conducted the literature search and data collection, validated the extracted data and resolved reviewer discrepancies, contributed to the interpretation of results, to writing and revising the protocol, review and approval of the final document.

Email: rocio.fuentes@ufrontera.cl

Author 2 - Jasim Najum-Flores - Contributed to the conceptualization of the research, conducted the literature search and data collection, contributed to the interpretation of results, contributed to writing and revising the protocol, contributed to the final review.

Email: jasim.najum@gmail.com

Author 3 - Felipe González-Seguel - Contributed to writing and revising the protocol, critically reviewed and edited the manuscript for accuracy and clarity, contributed to the final review and approval of the document.

Email: [feligonalezs@udd.cl](mailto:feligonzalezs@udd.cl)

Author 4 - Pamela Seron - Provided critical feedback on the study design and execution, supervised the research process and methodology, provided expert revisions and final approval for submission.

Email: pamela.seron@ufrontera.cl