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Pei, R; Zhou, Y; Zhang, S; Chen, Y.

**Corresponding author:**  
Ruqing Pei

2675040935@qq.com

**Author Affiliation:**  
Linyi Mental Health Center (Linyi Fourth People's Hospital).

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Support -** National Natural Science Foundation of China (72074063).

**Review Stage at time of this submission -** Preliminary searches.

**Conflicts of interest -** None declared.

**INPLASY registration number:** INPLASY202570081

**Amendments -** This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 20 July 2025 and was last updated on 20 July 2025.

**INTRODUCTION**

**Review question / Objective** The relapse rate of schizophrenia is increasing year by year.To explore the relapse rate and influencing factors of schizophrenia in China through meta-analysis, and to provide an evidence-based basis for clinical intervention.  
P Chinese patients with schizophrenia  
I Relapse  
C No relapse  
O Relapse rate, factors affecting relapse  
S Cross-sectional studies, case-control studies, cohort studies.

**Condition being studied** Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder of undetermined etiology and high relapse, with a global prevalence of 0.5% to 1.0% and a lifetime prevalence of 0.7% in China. Studies have shown that the one-year relapse rate is 20% to 50%, and the five-year relapse rate reaches 80%, with recurrent episodes aggravating disability, impairing social functioning, and increasing the burden of medical care.

**METHODS**

**Search strategy** schizophrenia/schizophrenic disorders/schizophrenic disorder/schizophrenias/schizophreniform/schizo\*/Schizoaffective Disorder\*/relapse/recurrence/ readmission/recurr\*/reoccur\*/reappear\*/resurg\*/influencing factor/ contributing factor/related factor/impact factor/ relevant factor/China/Chinese.

**Participant or population** Chinese patients with schizophrenia.

**Intervention** Relapse.

**Comparator** No relapse.

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

**Eligibility criteria** Inclusion criteria: (1) patients' age ≥18 years; (2) meeting the diagnosis of schizophrenia; (3) referring to Hough et al. relapse criteria; (4) type of literature: cross-sectional study,

cohort study, case-control study; (5) statistical method using multifactorial non-conditional logistic regression; and (6) quality of the literature evaluated to be of high quality.

Exclusion criteria: (1) the study area was not China; (2) duplicate publication; (3) data that could not be extracted; (4) not in Chinese or English.

**Information sources** CNKI, Wanfang, Wip, CBM, PubMed, Embase, Cochrane Ovid MEDLINE and Web of Science.

**Main outcome(s)** Relapse rate.

**Additional outcome(s)** Influencing factors.

**Data management** EndNote.

### **Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis**

Newcastle-Ottawa scale, NOS

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, AHRQ.

**Strategy of data synthesis** Meta-analysis was performed using Stata 16.0 software, and studies with no heterogeneity ( $I^2$  0.1) used a fixed-effects model; conversely, a random-effects model was used, and the sources of heterogeneity were explored by sensitivity analysis and subgroup analysis. Publication bias was evaluated by Egger and Begg tests with a test level of  $\alpha=0.05$ .

**Subgroup analysis** Subgroup analysis based on different sample sources.

**Sensitivity analysis** Sensitivity analyses were conducted using a model transformation approach, whereby individual studies were analyzed by removing them one by one, and stable results were passed as sensitivity analyses.

**Country(ies) involved** China.

**Keywords** schizophrenia; relapse.

### **Contributions of each author**

Author 1 - Ruqing Pei.

Author 2 - Zhou Yuqing.

Email: hlzzyq@126.com

Author 3 - zhang siyu.

Author 4 - chen yubing.