



# Hypertension among adults living in Haiti: An integrative review

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- To discuss results of an integrative review performed to explore the scientific literature about hypertension among adults living in Haiti after the earthquake of 2010

- An estimated 972 million adults are living with hypertension (HTN) worldwide
- HTN projected to reach to 29.2% or 1.56 billion by the year 2025
- HTN disproportionately affects those in middle and low-income countries

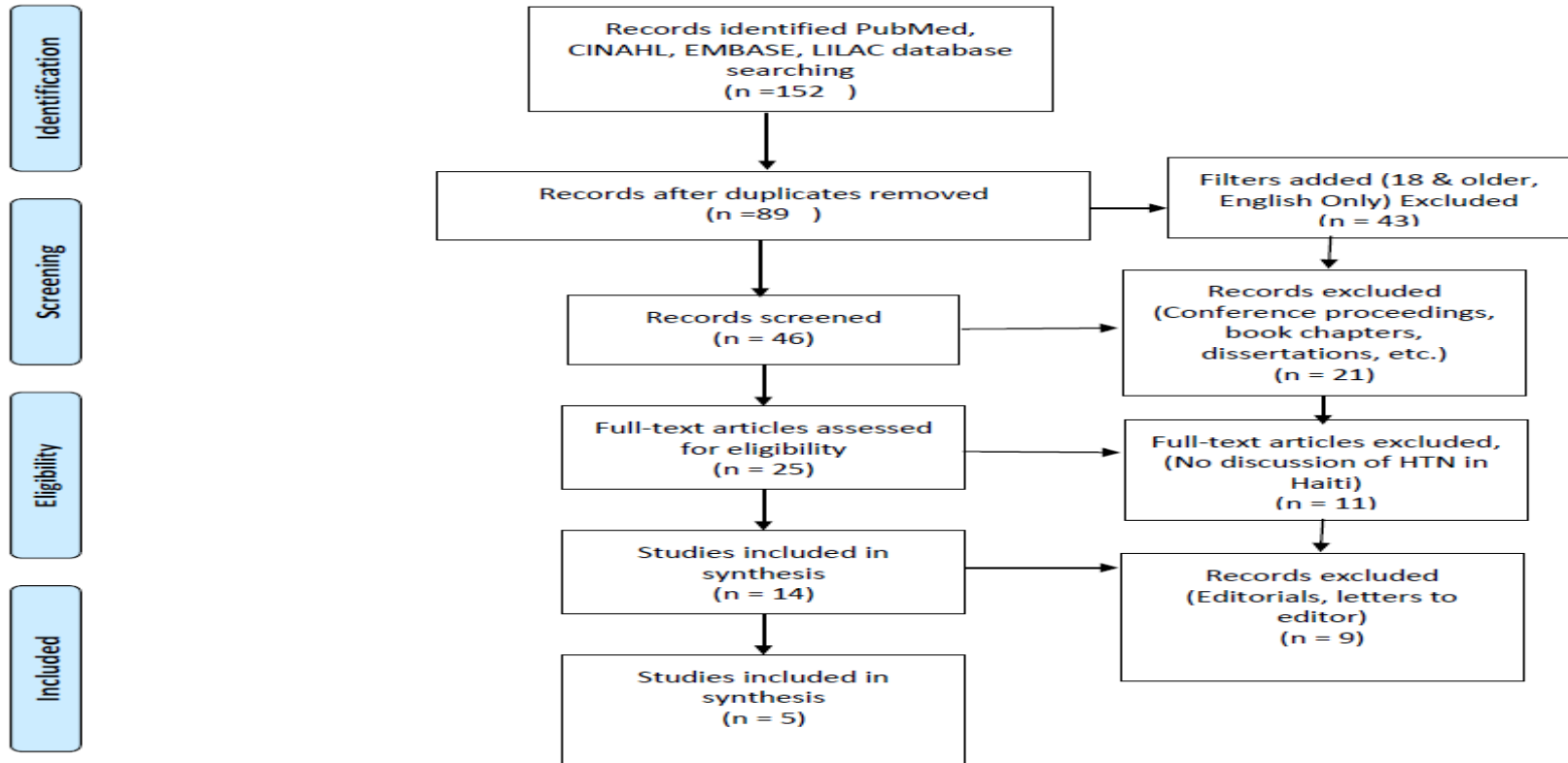


- Hypertension (HTN) is the greatest cause of morbidity in Haiti
- HTN is an identified cause of heart failure for 45% of patients
- Primarily associated with more than 70% of cardiovascular disease-related hospital admissions
- HTN and related complications are responsible for an estimated 20% of deaths in Haiti



A review of published English-language peer reviewed articles in PubMed, Embase, CINAHL, and LILAC databases; published since 2010.

Figure 1. Search Strategy.



From: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097

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**Table 2.** Themes identified.

	<b>Prevalence</b>	<b>Public Health Challenges</b>	<b>Knowledge or Awareness</b>	<b>Barriers to Effective Management</b>
Dicksein <i>et al.</i> , 2014	√	√	x	x
Kenerson, 2014	√	√	√	√
Malino <i>et al.</i> , 2014	√	√	x	x
Niska & Sloand, 2010	√	√	√	√
Pierce <i>et al.</i> , 2014	√	√	√	√

- HTN was confirmed as the most frequent diagnosis in rural health clinics, associated with 82/100,000 or 5.4% of deaths.<sup>10</sup>
- HTN among Haitians aged >40 is reported at up to 45% of women and 39% of men residing in rural Haiti.<sup>10,11</sup>



- 75% of its population living on less than \$2 per day<sup>10</sup>
- The majority of adults living in Haiti (53%) reside in rural areas <sup>10-14</sup>
- Access to health care is distant and sporadic <sup>10-14</sup>
- Public health indicators in Haiti are the worst in the Western Hemisphere<sup>12</sup>



- 61% of patients that were identified as having HTN were unaware<sup>12</sup>
- Knowledge of disease was unclear
- Low awareness of HTN as a disease
- Lack of understanding about HTN as a disease may serve as a barrier to treatment.<sup>11,12</sup>

- lack of medical follow-up <sup>11,12</sup>
- absence of ongoing health care education programs <sup>10-12</sup>
- unstable medication supply <sup>12,13</sup>
- difficulty accessing care <sup>12,13</sup>
- The influence of cultural beliefs and practices<sup>10</sup>

- Literature highlights broad recommendations
- Need for reliable medical follow-up
- Community-based health education programs
- Culturally relevant approaches needed
- Lack of health care and resources





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