A scoping review to explore the materialisation of health system resilience across three Caribbean countries, Saint Lucia, Dominica, and Haiti

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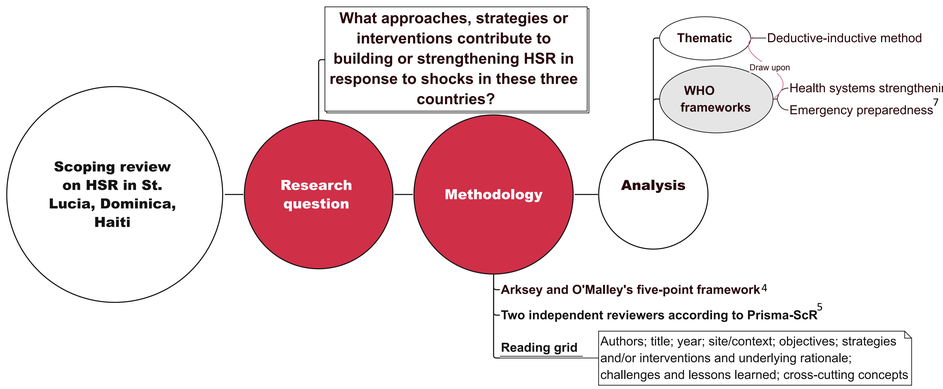
Background

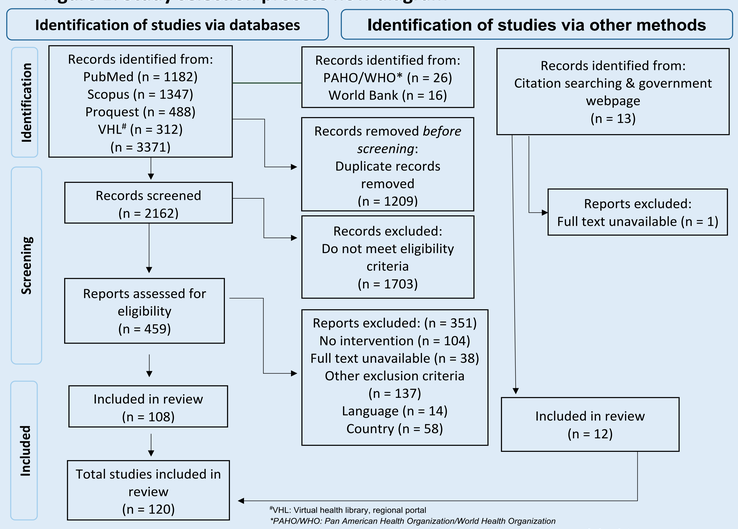
- The COVID-19 pandemic presented an opportunity for building resilient health systems. Health system resilience (HSR) becomes even more critical in Caribbean countries, which face health, environmental, and economic shocks and, in certain cases, political and social upheavals.[1,2,3]
- This study aims to identify interventions, strategies, plans, and policies implemented as part of the HSR building effort in three Caribbean countries: Haiti, Dominica, and Saint Lucia.

Methods

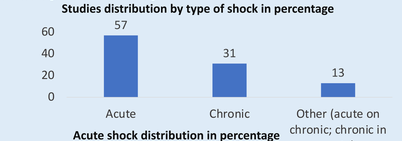


Results

Figure 1: Study selection process flow diagram



- All three countries are facing a specific situation of "acute over chronic shocks" according to some authors (12%).
- Most studies focused on acute shocks (57%), Haiti (85%) and the 2010 earthquake (30%).



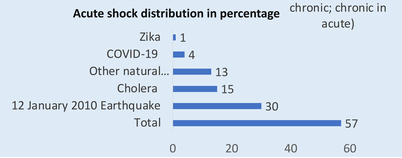


Fig 2: Results overview

Discussion

- This study reveals that all three countries exhibit HSR attributes. Dominica and Saint Lucia display a readiness to practise planned resilience, whereas Haiti, essentially its private sector, demonstrates adaptive and organisational resilience.

Much remains to be achieved in ensuring HSR and sustainability of ongoing initiatives. An initial step would be rethinking current funding mechanisms and developing greater awareness of power imbalances, which further erode local authorities' governance capacity.

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