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Topic: Food and nutrition security

Title: Systematic review, Process evaluation and Knowledge translation of community interventions to tackle a 'wicked problem' Food Insecurity

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Background: Food security is an important social determinant of health and basic human right. Although the prevalence of food insecurity in high income countries (HICs) is less than in low and middle-income countries, millions of people nevertheless suffer from food insecurity there, impacting individual and societal health. Community Food Security (CFS) interventions aim to tackle food insecurity in HICs, however, their effectiveness is uncertain. Evidence synthesis from such interventions is essential to evaluate effectiveness and identify insights for future development. Herein, we report on a systematic review and process evaluation of CFS interventions. This project involves 20 experts from academia and public and health policy from Canada, Scotland, Australia.

Objectives: 1) Conduct a systematic review and process evaluation of interventions for CFS. 2) Work with KU to disseminate evidence widely.

Methods: Knowledge users (KU) helped shape review questions, PICO, search and KT strategy. Primary outcomes are household food security, dietary intake and physical,

mental and social health. We searched thirteen electronic databases to July 2015. We conduct meta-analyses where possible. The process evaluation is ongoing.

Results: We identified 24,213 records. After screening titles and abstracts, we included 353 papers to review full text. Studies of food subsidies, pricing incentives, healthy corner stores, collective kitchens, community gardens and farmer's market vouchers are included. We report the effects of each intervention and assess explanatory factors.

Conclusion: This review has important implications for food security policy and programs. Our team, including KUs, will ensure wide dissemination through list serves, seminars, conferences, webinars, newsletters.