PRISMA diagrams

Most of the relevant numbers for your PRISMA diagrams can easily be found using *Frequency Reports*.

As you go through each stage of the review, you'll usually be following the standard steps of importing your references, checking for duplicates, initial screening on title & abstract, in-depth screening on full text, data extraction, reporting and writing up…

So you'll want to record the number of items you found in your initial searches and imported into EPPI Reviewer, the number of duplicates found within the items imported, and the numbers of items found to be relevant or irrelevant at each of the two screening stages.

You can see all your imported sources and the associated numbers under the *Sources* panel on the *Review Home* tab; you can save a *Report* of this info e.g.

Name	Items	Deleted Items	Duplicates
CENTRAL	263	0	22
AMED	5	0	5
EMCARE	150	0	50
EMBASE	498	0	264
MEDLINE	168	0	122
APA - APA PsycInfo	89	0	52
CINAHL	96	0	92
	1269	**0**	**607**

You can get the main numbers from the **Review Home** tab – number of items currently under consideration in the review & number of duplicates (662 and 607 respectively).

You can see the distribution of items across a codeset via a **Frequency Report** – so you can see how many were screened and made it through to the next stage (how many were given an include code).

Again, these reports can be exported.

e.g. Screen on Title & Abstract -:

Code	Count
EXCLUDE on title and abstract	537
INCLUDE on title & abstract	125
None of the codes above	0

Screen on Full Text -:

Code	Count
EXCLUDE NOT RCT	3
EXCLUDE NOT VITAMIN D	3
EXCLUDE NOT ENGLISH	1
EXCLUDE - CONFERENCE ABSTRACT	14
EXCLUDE NOT BAME	7
EXCLUDE NO MEASURE OF BONE HEALTH	5
EXCLUDE - EDITORAL	5
EXCLUDE - ABSTRACT	2

EXCLUDE - COMMENTARY	1
EXCLUDE - CALCIUM SUPPLEMENTATION	1
EXCLUDE - NOT OUTCOME MEASURES	35
EXCLUDE - unavilability of article	8
EXCLUDE - feasibility studies	1
EXCLUDE - unspecified results	7
EXCLUDE - dissertation	2
EXCLUDE - poster presentations	1
INCLUDE on full study	20
EXCLUDE - no placebo	3
None of the codes above	544

You can see how many of items were screened at each stage via the **Coding Progress** figures on the **Review Home** tab.
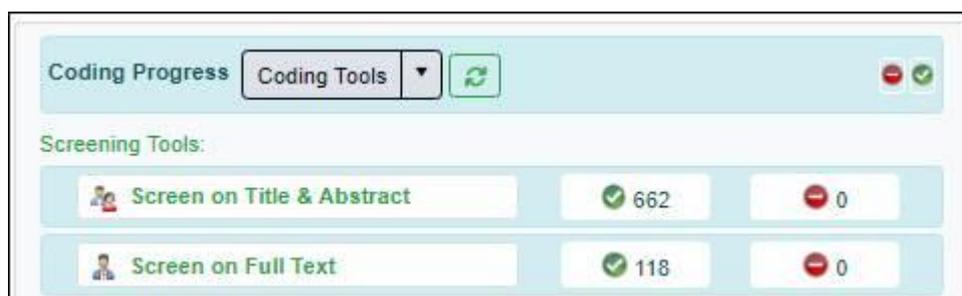
Note that you can use EPPI Reviewer 4 (ER 4) to create PRISMA diagrams. See https://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=3848#ER4SetUp for a guide to using it. See https://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Portals/35/ER4_8_0%20user%20manual.pdf#page=131 for link to info about the diagram.

However, we have not yet ported this function to our current version of EPPI Reviewer (ER Web)

(You can open your reviews in either version of EPPI Reviewer without issue. Both use the same underlying databases.)

You can see what the PRISMA diagrams from EPPI Reviewer 4 look like from the example below.
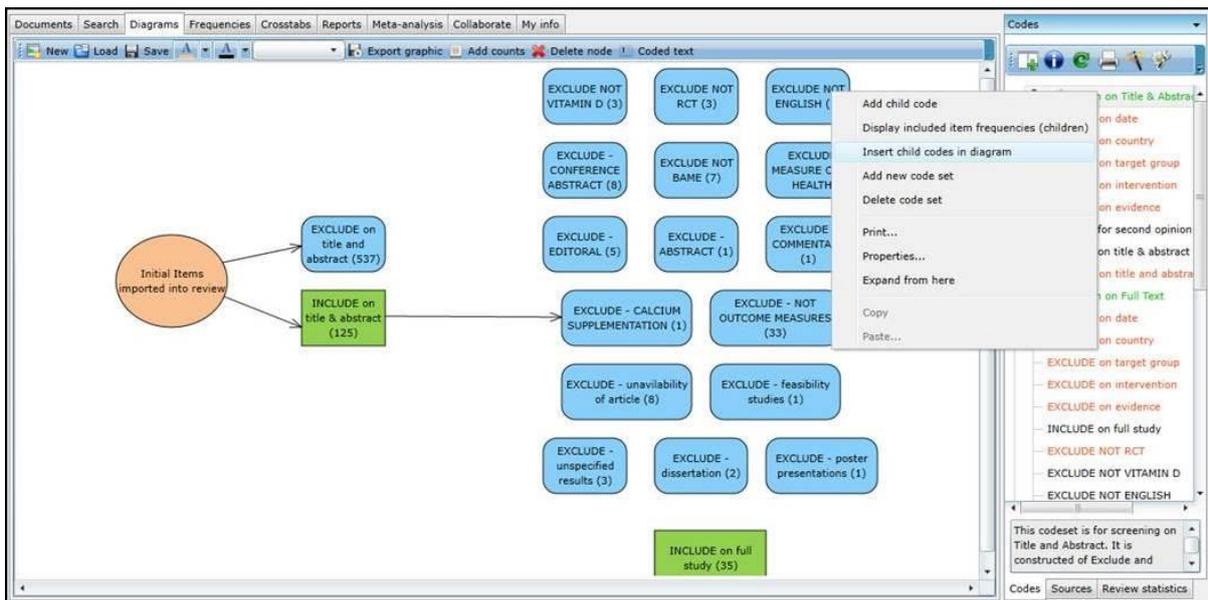

You can export the diagrams as graphics that you can reuse as you wish. (You can then edit the graphic files in Windows Paint or similar, copy and paste them into your write up, etc.)
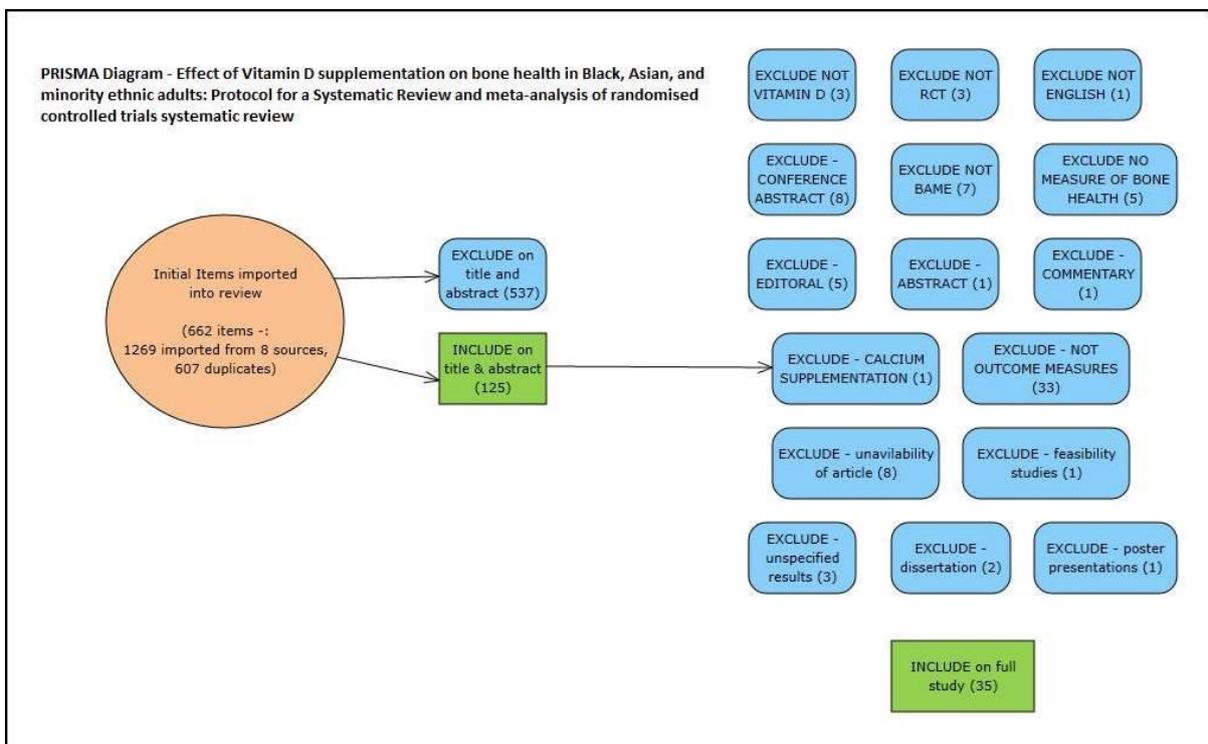
Alternatively, you can easily create new diagrams using the numbers from your review, using PowerPoint, Excel or even Word or any graphics program.

There's a template on the PRISMA website (http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/FlowDiagram); it just needs the numbers putting into it. You'll find more information on PRISMA diagrams at http://prisma-statement.org/.

There is also a tool available at https://estech.shinyapps.io/prisma_flowdiagram/, which you may find useful -:
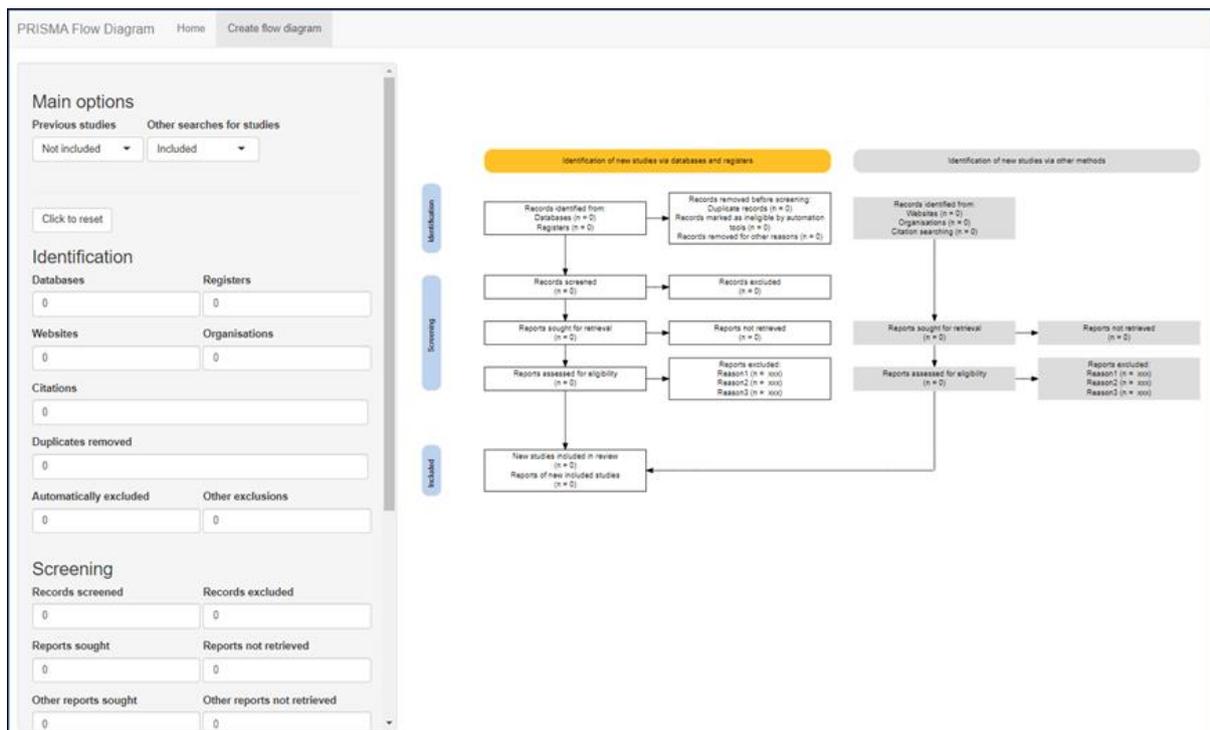
You may also find the following documentation & checklists useful.

- PRISMA Checklist -: http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/Checklist
- PRISMA Abstracts Checklist -: http://prisma-statement.org/Extensions/Abstracts

- ShinyApp version -: https://prisma.shinyapps.io/checklist/

Other links / info / notes -:

- https://www.covidence.org/blog/what-is-prisma-whats-new-in-the-2020-guideline-2/
- https://www.bmj.com/content/372/bmj.n71
- https://www.bmj.com/content/372/bmj.n160
- https://www.bmj.com/content/372/bmj.n160/related#datasupp

Very good thread by one of our frequent collaborators -:
https://twitter.com/mjpages/status/1376480843921694725