

## Supplementary References

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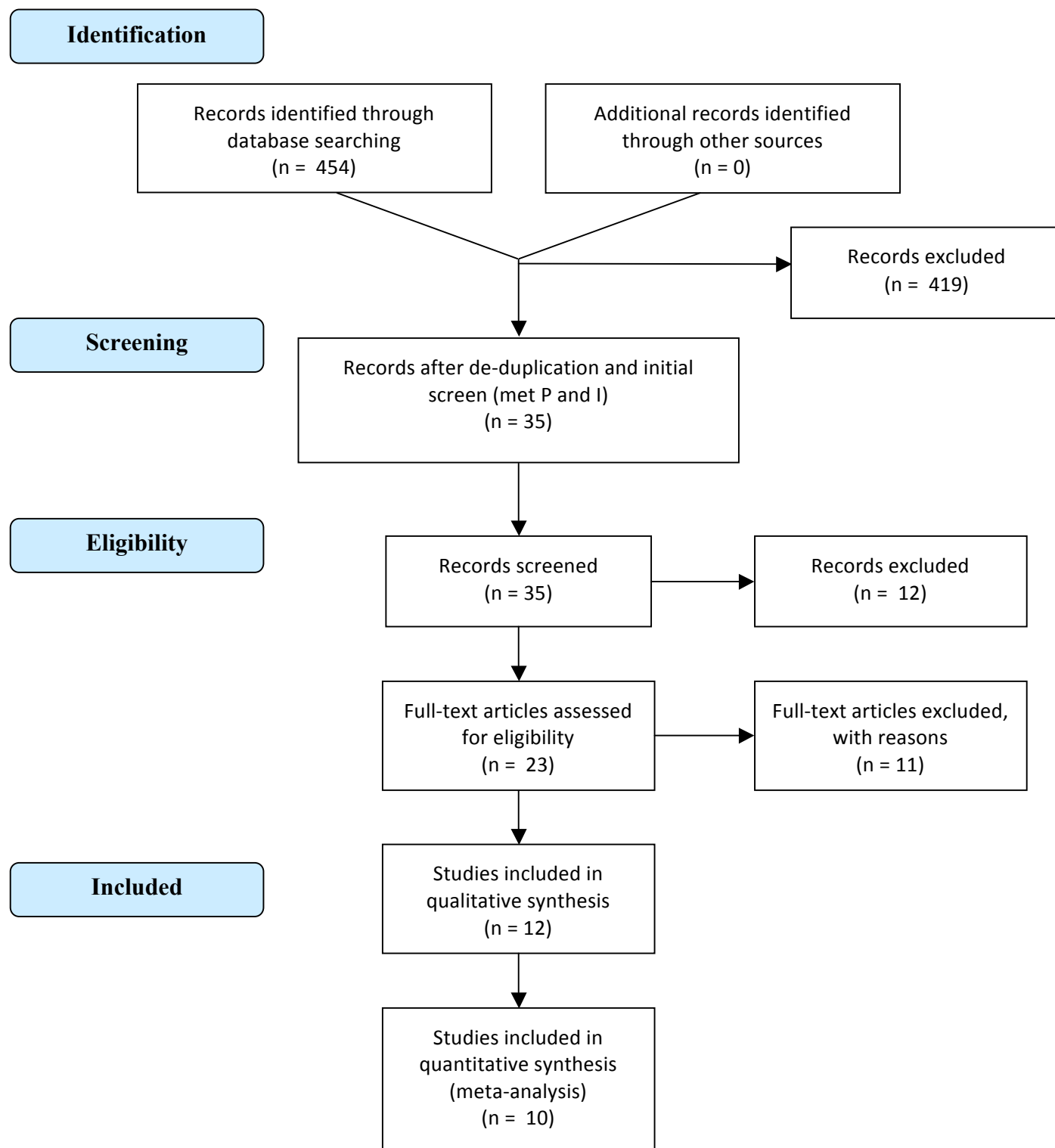
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Supplementary Figure 1  
Decision Tree



Adapted from: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009).

Supplementary Table 1  
*Appraisal Point System*

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Yes = 1 or 2</b>	<b>No or NR (Not Reported) = 0</b>
<b>1. Rationale (1)</b>	Focused and complete PICO, Unbiased review of the literature	One or more part of PICO is missing, review of literature is biased
<b>2. Comparison/Control (2)</b>	Appropriate comparison, including between-subject designs and within-subject design, counterbalancing stimuli, or pre- and post- testing	Insufficient Comparison: Case Studies or Case Series that are descriptive in nature, or questionable comparison group
<b>3. Random Assignment (2)</b>	Participants randomly assigned to treatment conditions	No Random Assignment
<b>4. Participants (1)</b>	All three criteria adequately described: 1. Diagnosis: Progressive degenerative dementia with (declarative) memory as the primary impairment, including mixed dementia, Dementia of the Alzheimer's Type, and Vascular Dementia 2. Severity 3. Demographics described: i.e. age and/or education level	Does not describe one of the criteria, or includes other populations (e.g., Pick's disease, HIV/AIDS, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's Chorea)
<b>5. Measures and Materials (2)</b>	Rationale described for selection of outcome measures, Clearly define how “goal mastery” will be measured	No or poor explanation of how outcome is measured, outcome measure invalid
<b>6. Procedures (2)</b>	Study procedures are well articulated and implemented as described (preferable to describe some measure of adherence/fidelity to protocol)	Study procedures deviate from protocol or authors do not report on adherence



<b>7. Statistical Reporting (2)</b>	<p>Internal Validity (minimum 2):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appropriate use of statistical procedures or analyses for sample size, distribution and design (parametric or non-parametric);</li> <li>2. Provides descriptive statistics (means and SD);</li> <li>3. Effect size reported (e.g., d values, odds ratios, or eta squared)</li> </ol>	Does not meet 2 of the internal validity inclusion criteria
<b>8. Clinical Significance (1)</b>	<p>External Validity (minimum 2):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. report generalization (of procedure or stimuli)</li> <li>2. maintenance post-treatment</li> <li>3. study carried out in real-world settings</li> <li>4. use of functional stimuli</li> </ol>	Does not meet 2 of the external validity inclusion criteria
<b>9. Discussion/Interpretation (1)</b>	<p>Linked to PICO, Appropriate conclusions in relation to study design and results, unexpected findings addressed and alternative explanations offered, study limitations acknowledged</p>	Does not link to PICO, draws inappropriate conclusions based on design and results

## Supplementary Table 2

*Levels of Evidence*

Level	Description
Ia	Well designed meta-analysis of > 1 randomized controlled trial
Ib	Well designed randomized controlled trial
IIa	Well designed controlled trial without randomization
IIb	Well designed quasi-experimental studies
III	Well designed non-experimental studies i.e. correlations and case studies
IV	Expert committee report, consensus conference, clinical experience of respected authorities
Levels of evidence for studies of treatment efficacy, ranked according to quality and credibility from most credible (Ia) to least credible (IV).	

*Adapted from the [Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network www.sign.ac.uk](http://www.sign.ac.uk).*