Dildora et al, Health Promotion Perspectives 2026;16(3): 296-S1
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Supplementary Data File: Search Strategies for Electronic Databases

PubMed (MEDLINE)

Date Range: 2000 – 2025

Language: English

Search Strategy:

((((("Social Cognitive Theory"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("Social Cognitive Theory" [Title/Abstract])) OR (SCT [Title/Abstract])) OR ("self-efficacy" [Title/Abstract])) OR ("observational learning" [Title/Abstract])

AND

((((("school"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("schools"[MeSH Terms])) OR ("school" [Title/Abstract])) OR ("primary school" [Title/Abstract])) OR ("elementary school" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("secondary school" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("high school" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("middle school" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("student" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("adolescent" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("child" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("youth" [Title/Abstract])

AND

((((("health education"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("health promotion"[MeSH Terms])) OR ("primary health education" [Title/Abstract])) OR ("health education" [Title/Abstract])) OR ("health promotion" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("health behavior" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("health intervention" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("nutrition" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("physical activity" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("obesity prevention" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("hygiene" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("handwashing" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("substance use prevention" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("mental health" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("bullying prevention" [Title/Abstract])

AND

(((("randomized controlled trial" [Publication Type]) OR ("controlled clinical trial" [Publication Type])) OR ("randomized controlled trial" [Title/Abstract])) OR ("cluster randomized controlled trial" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("quasi-experimental" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("controlled before-and-after" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("non-randomized controlled trial" [Title/Abstract])

NOT

((("preschool" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("university" [Title/Abstract])) OR ("college" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("adult" [Title/Abstract]) OR ("teacher" [Title/Abstract] AND NOT "student" [Title/Abstract]))

2. Scopus

Date Range: 2000 – 2025

Language: English

Search Strategy:

TITLE-ABS-KEY(("social cognitive theory" OR "social cognitive theory" OR sct OR "self-efficacy" OR "self efficacy" OR "observational learning" OR "behavioral capability" OR "outcome expectations" OR "goal setting" OR "self-regulation" OR "self control"))

AND TITLE-ABS-KEY(("school" OR "primary school" OR "elementary school" OR "secondary school" OR "high school" OR "middle school" OR "student" OR "adolescent" OR "child" OR "youth" OR "classroom"))

AND TITLE-ABS-KEY(("health education" OR "health promotion" OR "primary health education" OR "health behavior" OR "health intervention" OR "nutrition" OR "physical activity" OR "physical education" OR "obesity prevention" OR "hygiene" OR "handwashing" OR "hand washing" OR "substance use prevention" OR "mental health" OR "bullying prevention" OR "smoking prevention" OR "healthy eating"))

AND TITLE-ABS-KEY(("randomized controlled trial" OR "randomised controlled trial" OR "rct" OR "cluster randomized controlled trial" OR "quasi-experimental" OR "quasi experimental" OR "controlled before-and-after" OR "controlled before and after" OR "non-randomized controlled trial" OR "nonrandomized controlled trial" OR "intervention study" OR "controlled trial"))

AND NOT TITLE-ABS-KEY(("preschool" OR "kindergarten" OR "university" OR "college" OR "adult" OR "teacher training" OR "teacher" AND NOT "student"))

AND (LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR, 2000-2025))

AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE, "English"))

AND (LIMIT-TO (DOCTYPE, "ar"))

3. Web of Science Core Collection

Date Range: 2000 – 2025

Language: English

Search Strategy:

TOPIC: (("social cognitive theory" OR "social cognitive theory" OR sct OR "self-efficacy" OR "self efficacy" OR "observational learning" OR "behavioral capability" OR "outcome expectations" OR "goal setting" OR "self-regulation" OR "self control"))

AND TOPIC: (("school" OR "primary school" OR "elementary school" OR "secondary school" OR "high school" OR "middle school" OR "student" OR "adolescent" OR "child" OR "youth" OR "classroom"))

AND TOPIC: (("health education" OR "health promotion" OR "primary health education" OR "health behavior" OR "health intervention" OR "nutrition" OR "physical activity" OR "physical education" OR "obesity prevention" OR "hygiene" OR "handwashing" OR "hand washing" OR "substance use prevention" OR "mental health" OR "bullying prevention" OR "smoking prevention" OR "healthy eating"))

AND TOPIC: (("randomized controlled trial" OR "randomised controlled trial" OR "rct" OR "cluster randomized controlled trial" OR "quasi-experimental" OR "quasi experimental" OR "controlled before-and-after" OR "controlled before and after" OR "non-randomized controlled trial" OR "nonrandomized controlled trial" OR "intervention study" OR "controlled trial"))

NOT TOPIC: (("preschool" OR "kindergarten" OR "university" OR "college" OR "adult" OR "teacher training" OR "teacher" NOT "student"))

4. Embase (via Ovid)

Date Range: 2000 – 2025

Language: English

Search Strategy:

1. exp Social Cognitive Theory/

2. (social cognitive theory or SCT).mp.

3. self-efficacy.mp. or exp self-concept/ or exp self-perception/

4. "observational learning".mp.

5. "behavioral capability".mp.

6. "outcome expectations".mp.

7. "goal setting".mp.

8. "self-regulation".mp.

9. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8

10. exp school/ or exp elementary school/ or exp secondary school/ or exp high school/ or exp middle school/

11. (school or primary school or elementary school or secondary school or high school or middle school).mp.

12. student.mp. or exp student/
13. adolescent.mp. or exp adolescent/
14. child.mp. or exp child/
15. youth.mp.
16. classroom.mp.
17. 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16
18. exp health education/ or exp health promotion/
19. (health education or health promotion or primary health education).mp.
20. health behavior.mp. or exp health behavior/
21. health intervention.mp.
22. nutrition.mp. or exp nutrition/
23. physical activity.mp. or exp physical activity/
24. physical education.mp. or exp physical education/
25. obesity prevention.mp.
26. hygiene.mp. or exp hygiene/
27. handwashing.mp. or exp handwashing/
28. substance use prevention.mp.
29. mental health.mp. or exp mental health/
30. bullying prevention.mp.
31. smoking prevention.mp.
32. healthy eating.mp.
33. 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32
34. randomized controlled trial.mp. or exp randomized controlled trial/
35. controlled clinical trial.mp. or exp controlled clinical trial/
36. cluster randomized controlled trial.mp.
37. quasi-experimental.mp.
38. controlled before-and-after.mp.
39. non-randomized controlled trial.mp.

40. intervention study.mp.

41. 34 or 35 or 36 or 37 or 38 or 39 or 40

42. 9 and 17 and 33 and 41

43. limit 42 to (year="2000 – 2025" and english language and humans)

44. (preschool or kindergarten or university or college or adult).mp.

45. (teacher training or teacher).mp.

46. 43 not 44 not 45

Search Syntax Notes:

- `.mp.` = searches Title, Abstract, Subject Headings, Name of Substance, Registry Word
- `/exp` = Exploded Emtree heading (searches all narrower terms)
- `/` = Emtree heading only (no explosion)
- `` = truncation (e.g., school = school, schools, schooling)
- `$` = wildcard for zero or one character (e.g., behavior$r = behavior or behaviour)
- Exclusions: Preschool, kindergarten, university, college, adult, teacher training