



REPRODUCIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

Dear Editor,

I recently came across the article titled “Treating asthma patients with probiotics: a systematic review and meta-analysis” by Xie, Yuan and Wang (1). The study provides a thorough evaluation of the role of probiotics in the treatment of asthma. I commend the authors for their comprehensive analysis, which offers valuable insights into a topic of increasing importance in the field.

However, I noticed that the authors did not provide the details of their search strategy in the main text or supplementary material. A systematic review’s literature search is a crucial component, as it forms the foundation for the entire analysis. The search strategy is not only key to identifying eligible studies, but it also plays a critical role in minimizing bias and ensuring the robustness and reproducibility of the review. Without access to the search strategy, the transparency and reproducibility of this study are significantly compromised. In conclusion, the authors’ work represents a significant contribution to the literature on asthma management. However, I encourage them to provide the full search strategy to maintain the integrity of their systematic review (2,3).

Lastly, I recommend that future authors submitting to *Nutrición Hospitalaria* consult the PRISMA-Search (PRISMA-S) Extension (2), which offers detailed guidance on reporting search strategies for systematic reviews. Adopting such guidelines will further enhance the transparency and reproducibility of systematic reviews in the journal.

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