

Supplementary file 2: Literature searching strategy

<i>Databases</i>	<i>Search performed</i>	<i>The process performed</i>
PubMed	11 February 2025	1 handover 2 handoff 3 hand-off* 4 1 OR 2 OR 3 5 injur* 6 trauma* 7 wound* 8 5 OR 6 OR 7 9 prehospital 10 "out of hospital" 11 "emergency medical service*" 12 ambulance* 13 paramedic* 14 "emergency medical technician*" 15 9 OR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR 13 OR 14 16 "emergency department*" 17 "trauma centre*" 18 "trauma room*" 19 "emergency room*" 20 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19 21 4 AND 8 AND 15 AND 20 22 Limited to Language: English, Date: 1 January 2015 to 11 February 2025, Text availability: available full-text papers
CINAHL via EBSCO	12 January 2025	1 handover 2 handoff 3 hand-off* 4 1 OR 2 OR 3 5 injur* 6 trauma* 7 wound* 8 5 OR 6 OR 7 9 prehospital 10 "out of hospital" 11 "emergency medical service*" 12 ambulance* 13 paramedic* 14 "emergency medical technician*" 15 9 OR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR 13 OR 14 16 "emergency department*" 17 "trauma centre*" 18 "trauma room*" 19 "emergency room*" 20 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19 21 4 AND 8 AND 15 AND 20 22 Limited to Language: English, Date: 1 January 2015 to 12 February 2025, Text availability: available full-text papers, and academic journal articles

Web of Science	13 February 2025	1 Choosing "advanced search" 2 handover OR handoff OR hand-off* 3 injur* OR trauma* OR wound* 4 prehospital OR "out of hospital" OR "emergency medical service*" OR ambulance OR paramedic* OR "emergency medical technician*" 5 "emergency department*" OR "trauma centre*" OR "trauma room*" OR "emergency room*" 6 2 AND 3 AND 4 AND 5 limiting the search to Language: English, Date: 1 January 2015 to 13 February 2025, Text availability: journal articles & literature reviews 7 Pressing: Search
Scopus	12 February 2025	1 handover 2 handoff 3 hand-off* 4 1 OR 2 OR 3 5 injur* 6 trauma* 7 wound* 8 5 OR 6 OR 7 9 prehospital 10 "out of hospital" 11 "emergency medical service*" 12 ambulance* 13 paramedic* 14 "emergency medical technician*" 15 9 OR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR 13 OR 14 16 "emergency department*" 17 "trauma centre*" 18 "trauma room*" 19 "emergency room*" 20 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19 21 4 AND 8 AND 15 AND 20 22 Limiting the search to full-text, English, and Date: 1 January 2015 to 12 February 2025 23 Limiting the search to Peer-reviewed journals, and subjects: emergency medical care OR communication OR trauma OR emergency services OR emergency medical services OR critical care OR injuries OR paramedics
Cochrane library	12 February 2025	1 Choosing "advanced search" 2 handover OR handoff OR hand-off* AND injur* OR trauma* OR wound* AND prehospital OR "out of hospital" OR "emergency medical service*" OR ambulance* OR paramedic* OR "emergency medical technician*" AND "emergency department*" OR "trauma centre*" OR "trauma room*" OR "emergency room*" 3 Pressing: Search. 4 Limiting the search to Language: English and Date: 1 January 2015 to 12 February 2025