

Additional file 3. List of individual characteristics of included studies.

Study	Country	Total	Age (median, mean or categorized)	Education	Tools	Sex	High HL	Intermediate HL	Low HL	Idiom	Tools validation	Setting	Target population
Abbott et al., 2018	Bolivia	643	53 ± 15	<9 years: 269 9-11: 177 12 or more: 187	a single question based on the work of Wallace, Rogers, Roskos, Holliday, & Weiss (2006)	Male+female: 651* Male: 241 Female: 410		271	372	Spanish	Not validated in the country of application	Health services and others	Other pathologies
Aguayo-Verdugo et al., 2019	Chile	175	65.1 ± 11.0	9,3 ± 4,2	SAHLSA-50	Male+female: 175 Male: 52 Female: 123	140		35	Spanish	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Almeida et al., 2019	Brazil	80	54.6±11.7	1-4 years: 19 5-8 years: 15 9-11 years: 17 ≥12 years: 29	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 80 Male: 10 Female: 70	58	10	12	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Caregivers and parents
Apolinario et al., 2012	Brazil	226	74.4 ± 6.9	5.3 ± 4.0	SAHLPA-50	Male+female: 226 Male: 64 Female: 162	77		149	Portuguese	Validation study	Health services and others	Older people
Apolinario et al., 2015	Brazil	322	47.2 ± 16.8	9.6 ± 5.2	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 322 Male:11	220	28	74	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Health service users

						8 Female: 204							
Bartolazi et al., 2021	Brazil	100	68.8±13.8	Elementary school 74 High school 20 Beyond high school 6	SAHLPA-18	Male+female: 100 Male: 46 Female: 54	21		79	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Heart disease patients
Batista et al., 2020	Brazil	143	23 - 48 years: 68 49 - 69 years: 75	> 11 years: 78 5 - 10 years: 34 < 4 years: 31	HLS-14	Male+female: 143 Male: 103 Female: 40	77		66	Portuguese	Validation study	Households	General population
Bezerra et al., 2019	Brazil	42	23 - 40 years: 17 41 - 59 years: 15 > 60 years: 10	< 4 years: 2 4 - 7 years: 10 8 - 10 years: 10 > 11 years: 20	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 42 Male: 16 Female: 26	8		34	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Patients with nephropathies
Bhawra et al., 2023	Mexico	4044	18–29 years: 1204 30–44 years: 1305 45–59 years: 1155 60+ years: 380	Low 789 Medium 535 High 2720	adapted version of the NVS	Male: 1925 Female: 2119	1549	1261	1234	Spanish	Not validated	web-based surveys	General population
Bolivar et al., 2017	Argentina	156	62.6 ± 12.3	≤ 7 years: 79 8 - 12 years: 61 > 12 years:	SAHLSA-50	Male+female: 156 Male: 65	62		94	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Diabetic patients

				14 Missing 2 (		Female: 91							
Borges et al., 2019	Brazil	357	18-39 years:158 40-60 years: 146 >60 years:53	Incomplete elementary school 119 (33,8%) Elementary school 65 (18,4%) High school 135 (38,2%) Higher education 34 (9,6%)	S- TOFHLA	Male+fe male: 357 Male: 97 Female: 260	126	45	18 6	Portug uese	Validate d in the country	Health services and others	General populatio n
Borges et al., 2022	Brazil	251	20-40 years: 32 40-60 years: 219	Incomplete Elementary School 96 Complete Elementary School 37 Complete High school 90 Complete higher education 24	S- TOFHLA	Female: 185 Male: 66	45		20 6	Portug uese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Hyperten sive patients
Bourne et al., 2010	Jamaica	355	438 men were ages 75 years and older; 712 men were ages 64.5 to 74 years and 852 men reported	No formal education 200 Primary and infant 1661 Secondary 102 Tertiary 37	Not reported	Male+fe male: 355 Male: 355 Female: 0	184		17 1	English	Not validated	Househo lds	General populatio n

			ages 55 to 64 years										
Cajita et al., 2017	Brazil	98	45.2 ± 13.2	Primary 25 Secondary 50 University 20	single-item variant of the Subjective Health Literacy Screener (SHLS)	Male+fe male: 98 Male: 65 Female: 33	36		62	Portug uese	Not validated in the country of applicati on	Health services and others	Heart disease patients
Campos et al., 2020	Brazil	439	42.5 ± 10,6	8 years	S- TOFHLA	Male+fe male: 439 Male: 0 Female: 439	204		23 5	Portug uese	Validate d in the country	Health services and others	General populatio n
Cangus sú et al., 2021	Brazil	372	≤30 years: 62 31-59 years: 217 ≥60 years: 93	Incomplete Elementary School 146 Complete Elementary School 27 Incomplete High school 29 Complete High school 124 Incomplete higher education 10 Complete higher education 36	S- TOFHLA	Male: 271 Female: 101	142	42	18 8	Portug uese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Health service users

Cardoso et al., 2021	Brazil	125	35.7±9.2	Elementary school 57 High school 65 Higher education 3	SAHLPA-18	Male+female: 125 Male: 64 Female: 61	51		74	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Caregivers and parents
Carrilho et al., 2022	Brazil	326	61.22 ± 10.32		SAHLPA-18	Male: 110 Female: 216	101		225	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Hypertensive patients
Carthery - Goularte et al., 2009	Brazil	312	47.3 ± 16.8	9.9 ± 5	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 312 Male: 114 Female: 198	211	28	73	Portuguese	Validation study	Health services and others	Health service users
Carvalho and Ribeiro, 2020	Brazil	340	0 - 49 years: 35 50 - 89 years: 301	Illiterate: 40 Elementary School: 266 High school, incomplete e complete higher education: 33	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 340 Male: 107 Female: 233	67		273	Portuguese	Not validated	Households	Hypertensive patients
Cavalcante et al., 2020	Brazil	286	24 to 59 years:160 60 to 92 years: 126	Over 8 years: 106 Up to 8 years: 180	Rapid Estimate of Adult Literacy in Medicine (REALM)	Male+female: 286 Male: 51 Female: 235		129	157	Portuguese	Not validated in the country of application	Health services and others	Hypertensive patients
Chehuen Neto et al., 2019	Brazil	345	55 ± 12.5	< 4 years: 153 > 4 years: 192	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 345 Male:	170	71	104	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Heart disease patients

						112 Female: 233							
Coelho et al., 2014	Brazil	176	44.4 (19-59)	73 had finished high school and 59 had not finished elementary school	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 176 Male: 43 Female: 133	74	16	86	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Health service users
Costa et al., 2021	Brazil	76	± 63 years	Illiterate 12 Incomplete Elementary School 40 Complete Elementary School 13 Incomplete High school 4 Complete High school 6 Complete higher education 1	SAHLPA-18	Male: 48 Female: 28	11		65	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Heart disease patients
de Castro, 2014	Brazil	150	≤ 45 years: 21 46 – 60 years: 62 ≥ 61 years: 67	Less than 10 years: 74 10 to 12 years: 61 College or higher: 15	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 164* Male: 78 Female: 86	110	17	23	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Diemer et al., 2017	Suriname	99	44.9 ± 13.4	<8 years: 32 8–12 years: 35 >12 years: 32	Rapid Estimate of Adult Literacy in Medicine in Dutch	Male+female: 99 Male: 51 Female: 48	35	30	34	Dutch	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	General population

(REALM-D)													
Dingemans et al., 2018	Honduras	22	NR	At least high school education 3	BRIEF Health Literacy Screen	Male+female: 22 Male: 14 Female: 8	3		19	Spanish	Not validated in the country of application	Health services and others	Caregivers and parents
Doubova et al., 2019	Mexico	778	62.3 ± 10.9	Without schooling or incomplete elementary school 170 Complete elementary school, with or without secondary school 374 High school or higher 234	HLS-EU-Q47	Male+female: 778 Male: 253 Female: 525	137	462	179	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Durán et al., 2021	Chile	733	67(61-73)	Basic 311 Highschool 324 Superior 76	SAHLSA-50	Male+female: 733 Male: 147 Female: 586	611		122	Spanish	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Health service users
Figuerosa Saavedra et al., 2020	Chile	119	71 (60-88)	NR	SAHLSA-50	Male+female: 119 Male: NR Female: NR	91		28	Spanish	Validated in the country	NR	Older people

Flower et al., 2016	Barbados	106	42.6	13.7 years	Rapid Estimate of Adult Literacy in Medicine—Short Form (REALM-SF)	Male+female: 106 Male: 0 Female: 106	85		21	English	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Other pathologies
França et al., 2020	Brazil	86	23 (17-25)	NR	SAHLPA-18	Male+female: 86 Male: 0 Female: 86	23		63	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	General population
Ghisi et al., 2022	Brazil	159	62.7±10.1	Elementary School or less 57 High school 65 Higher education 37	BRIEF Health Literacy Screening Tool	Male: 96 Female: 62 NR: 1	15 NR:1	56	87	Portuguese	Not validated in the country of application	web-based surveys	Heart disease patients
Gordon Singh and Aiken, 2017	Jamaica	88	18-30 years: 0 31-50 years: 17 51-70 years: 54 >70 years: 17	None 0 Primary 16 All Age/Junior High 34 Secondary 28 Technical/Vocational 8 College/University 2	NVS	Male+female: 88 Male: 20 Female: 68	12	52	24	English	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Hadden et al., 2018	Puerto Rico	751	46.1± 11.2	Less than HS 227 Graduate equivalency degree 213 High school	NVS	Male+female: 751 Male: 640	303		448	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	General population

				graduate 121 Some college/colleg e graduate 184 Unknown 6		Female: 111							
Hagger et al., 2018	Brazil	100	48.73 ± 15.57	Lower education 62 Higher education 38	Health literacy screening questions (HLSQ)	Male+fe male: 100 Male: 39 Female: 61	78		22	Portug uese	Not validated in the country of applicati on	Health services and others	Health service users
Hoffman et al., 2017	Guate mala	210	12.6 ± 1.01	junior high schools	NVS	Male+fe male: 210 Male: 115 Female: 95	59	116	35	Spanis h	Validate d in the country	Schools	Children and adolesce nts
Inés and Rosa, 2018	Peru	200	51.36 ± 16.49	Incomplete elementary school 40 Elementary school 36 Incomplete high school 34 High school 50 Incomplete higher education 18 Higher education 22	SAHLSA- 50	Male+fe male: 200 Male: 66 Female: 134	114		86	Spanis h	Validate d in language but not country	Health services and others	Other pathologi es

Konfino et al., 2009	Argentina	229	19-50 years: 95 51-64 years: 49 65-93 years: 85	< 8 years: 92 8-12 years: 85 >12 years: 51	SAHLSA-50	Male+female: 229 Male: 104 Female: 125	160		69	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Health service users
León-Landa et al., 2019	Mexico	90	59.4 ± 11.3	No formal education 27 Elementary School 25 High school 25 Higher education or more 13	HLS-EU-Q47	Male+female: 90 Male: 25 Female: 65	6	43	41	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Lima et al., 2019	Brazil	350	High HL: 65.6 ± 4.1 Intermediate HL: 66.9 ± 5.6 Low HL: 69.8 ± 6.4	High HL: 7.4 ± 3.1 Intermediate HL: 5.8 ± 2.6 Low HL: 3.8 ± 2.1	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 350 Male: 114 Female: 236	86	58	206	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Households	Older people
Lima et al., 2020	Brazil	60	60-69 years: 36 70-79 years: 21 >80 years: 3	≤ 4 years: 35 >4 years: 25	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 60 Male: 38 Female: 22	17		43	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Older people
Lima et al., 2022	Brazil	400	33.5 ± 11.85	Incomplete Elementary School 81 Complete Elementary School 49 Incomplete	S-TOFHLA	Male: 82 Female: 318	236	66	98	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Health service users

				High school 49 Complete High school 166 Incomplete higher education 30 Complete higher education 25									
Macha- Quillam a et al., 2017	Peru	363	43.69 ± 14.43	No formal education 1 Incomplete Elementary School 24 Elementary School 41 Incomplete High school 77 High school 114 Incomplete Higher education 62 Higher education 44	SAHLSA- 50	Male+fe male: 363 Male: 97 Female: 266	238		12 5	Spanis h	Validatio n study	Health services and others	Health service users
Manola et al., 2020	Brazil	30	18 years:7 19-25 years:20 26-40 years:3	Incomplete Elementary School 3 Elementary School 5 Incomplete High school 6 High school	S- TOFHLA	Male+fe male: 30 Male: 0 Female: 30	23	1	6	Portug uese	Not validated	Health services and others	General populatio n

				12 Incomplete Higher education 3 Higher education 1									
Maragno et al., 2019	Brazil	302	46.6	1 - 3 years:58 4 - 7 years:112 8 - 11 years:103 ≥ 12 years: 27	TOFHLA	Male+fe male: 302 Male: 83 Female: 219	165	58	79	Portug uese	Validatio n study	Health services and others	Health service users
Marques and Lemos, 2018	Brazil	368	37.0 ± 11.0	11.0 ± 3.8	SAHLPA- 18	Male+fe male: 368 Male: 177 Female: 191	94		27 4	Portug uese	Validate d in the country	Health services and others	Health service users
Martins et al., 2017	Brazil	422	62.1 (53.9; 71.8)	5.0 (4.0; 8.0)	SAHLPA- 18	Male+fe male: 422 Male: 174 Female: 248	117		30 5	Portug uese	Validate d in the country	Health services and others	Other pathologi es
McNaughton et al., 2015	Guyana	228	43(interqua r- tile range [IQR] 38 to 53)	None 12 Primary 83 Secondary 108 Tertiary 23	Single Item Literacy Screener (SILS)	Male+fe male: 228 Male: 103 Female: 125	125		10 3	English	Validate d in language but not country	Health services and others	Health service users

Medina et al., 2022	Brazil	196	57 ± 8.39	130 had less than 9 years of study	TOFHLA	Male+female: 196 Male: 94 Female: 102	112	46	38	Portuguese	Not validated	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Mialhe et al., 2021	Brazil	783	38.6 ± 14.5	Elementary school 262	European Health Literacy Survey Questionnaire short-short form (HLS-EU-Q6)	Male+female: 783 Male: 250 Female: 533	16	405	362	Portuguese	Validation study	Households	Health service users
Mora Vicarioli et al., 2021	Costa Rica	51	34	No formal education 39 Elementary school 8 Incomplete elementary school 4	SAHL-S&E	Male+female: 51 Male: 22 Female: 29	0		51	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Health service users
Moraes et al., 2017	Brazil	60	< 60 anos 25 (41,7) ≥ 60 anos 35 (58,3)	Alfabetizado (< 1 ano de estudo) 17 (28,3) < 9 anos de estudo 26 (43,4) ≥ 9 anos de estudo 17 (28,3)	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 60 Male: 23 Female: 37	0		60	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Patients with nephropathies
Oliveira et al., 2014	Brazil	148	HC: 70.66 MCI: 72.64 AD: 75.80	HC: 8.72 MCI: 7.14 AD: 6.96	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 148 Male: 60	52	23	73	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Other pathologies

						Female: 88							
Oscalice s et al., 2019	Brazil	100	63.3 ±15.2	0 a 4.9 years: 40 5 a 8.9 years: 36 >9 a 11.9 years: 24	NVS	Male+fe male: 100 Male: 43 Female: 57	11	21	68	Portug uese	Validate d in the country	Health services and others	Heart disease patients
Paes et al., 2022	Brazil	33	57.0±8.08	≤4 years: 6 >4 years: 26	Eight-Item Health Literacy Assessme nt Tool (HLAT-8)	Male: 23 Female: 10	19		14	Portug uese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Diabetic patients
Pasklan et al., 2021	Brazil	121	60 to 64 years: 48 65 to 69 years: 30 70 to 74 years: 19 75 to 79 years: 16 ≥80 years: 8	No formal education 5 Elementary School 91 High school 20 Incomplete higher education 2	S- TOFHLA	Male: 47 Female: 74	20	28	73	Portug uese	Not validated	Health services and other	Health service users
Pavão et al., 2021	Brazil	107	57.8±14.2	<8 years: 55 > 8 years: 52	HLS-EU- BR	Male: 30 Female: 77	5	57	40	Portug uese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Diabetic patients
Penaloz a et al., 2019	Peru	272	39 (29–52)	None/primary 59 Secondary 125 Technical 40 University 48	SAHL- S&E	Male+fe male: 272 Male: 92 Female: 180	193		79	Spanis h	Validate d in language but not country	Health services and others	General populatio n

Pereira Cruvinel et al., 2018	Brazil	250	37.52 ±15.01	8th grade: 59 9–12th grade: 90 College: 70 Postgraduation: 31	NVS	Male+female: 250 Male: 90 Female: 160	67	58	125	Portuguese	Validation study	Oral health services and others	General population
Pinhati et al., 2019	Brazil	485	62 ± 12.6	4.9 ± 3.8	SAHLPA-18	Male+female: 485 Male: 212 Female: 273	141		344	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Hypertensive patients
Ribeiro et al., 2021	Brazil	49	58.4 ± 16.8	Incomplete Elementary School to Incomplete High school 25 High school to higher education 24	SAHLPA-18	Male: 16 Female: 33	23		26	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Other pathologies
Rivero-Méndez et al., 2015	Puerto Rico	199	46.6± 9.54	Less than high school: 68 High school: 67 More than high school: 65	Test of Functional Health Literacy in Adults-Spanish – Puerto Rico version (TOFHLS-SPR)	Male+female: 200* Male: 98 Female: 102	105	43	51	Spanish	Validated in the country	Health services and others	HIV patients
Rocha and	Brazil	138	52.0±15.5	Incomplete elementary school 23	SAHLPA-18	Male+female: 138	67		71	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services	Patients with

Figueiredo, 2019

Elementary school 28
Incomplete high school 11
High school 59
Higher education 17

Male: 80
Female: 58

and nephropathies

Rocha et al., 2017	Brazil	384	17.1 ±15-19	attending high school	10 self-reported questions to assess the functional health literacy	Male+female: 384 Male: 114 Female: 270	198		186	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Schools	Children and adolescents
Rocha et al., 2019	Brazil	78	58.15±11.44	8.81±5.29	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 78 Male: 22 Female: 56	25	13	40	Portuguese	Not validated in the country of application	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Rodrigues et al., 2017	Brazil	189	42.1 ± 10	Incomplete primary education 50 Complete primary education 85 Complete college 34 Postgraduate 20	NVS	Male+female: 189 Male: 63 Female: 126	92	49	48	Portuguese	Validation study	Health services and others	General population

Rodriguez et al., 2021	Puerto Rico	1911	18–29 years: 481 30–39 years: 361 40–49 years: 426 ≥50 years: 643	High school graduate or less 70 Associate degree 168 Some college 101 Undergraduate degree 691 Masters 537 Doctoral degree 344	asking about the participants' confidence in filling out medical forms by themselves	Female: 1444 Male: 451	1408	404	99	Spanish	Not validated in the country of application	online questionnaire	General population
Romero et al., 2018	Brazil	175	70.73 ±7.64	1 - 4 years: 89 5 - 8 years: 66 > 8 years: 20	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 175 Male: 64 Female: 111	40	66	69	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Households	Older people
Rosas-Chavez et al., 2019	Peru	276	18-29 years: 3 30-59 years: 82 >60 years: 91	Elementary school 116 Incomplete Elementary school 4 Incomplete high school 2 High school 133 Higher education 21	SAHLSA-50	Male+female: 276 Male: 92 Female: 184	177		99	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	Hypertensive patients
Sá et al., 2022	Brazil	150	18-39 years: 31 40-59 years: 74 >59 years: 45	Elementary school 70 High school 56 Higher education 24	S-TOFHLA	Male: 27 Female: 123	71	17	62	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Other pathologies

Sampaio et al., 2015	Brazil	82	42.4 ± 11.5	<8 years: 41	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 82 Male: 19 Female: 63	28		54	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Diabetic patients
Santos Júnior et al., 2021	Brazil	62	60.4 ± 9.5	until 4 years: 5 5 to 8 years: 25 9 to 11 years: 21 12 years or more: 11	S-TOFHLA	Male: 16 Female: 46	31		31	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Diabetic patients
Santos and Portella, 2016	Brazil	114	67.4 ± 5.28	1 - 4 years: 71 5 - 8 years: 30 > 9 years: 13	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 114 Male: 41 Female: 73	18	12	84	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Older people
Santos et al., 2017	Brazil	63	66.21 ± 12.1	≤ 9 years: 40 > 9 years: 23	SAHLPA-50	Male+female: 63 Male: 30 Female: 33	32		31	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Heart disease patients
Scortegagna et al., 2021	Brazil	78	60-69 years: 47 70-79 years: 27 80-89 years: 4	1-4 years: 43 4-8 years: 24 >8 years: 11	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 78 Male: 24 Female: 54	11	24	43	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Older people
Silva et al., 2019	Brazil	34	26 - 45 years: 8 46 - 59 years: 12 > 60 years: 14	Elementary school incomplete/complete 15 High school incomplete/co	S-TOFHLA	Male+female: 34 Male: 14 Female: 20	10	4	20	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Patients with nephropathies

				complete 16 Higher education incomplete/co mplete 3									
Silva et al., 2022	Brazil	234	50 + 10.6	Elementary school 20 High School 102 Higher education 57 Post-graduation 55	S-TOFHLA	Female: 206 Male: 28	231	3		Portuguese	Validated in the country	web-based surveys	Hypertensive patients
Silva-Junior et al., 2021	Brazil	137	49–69 years: 71 23–48 years: 66	NR	HLS-14	Male+female: 137 Male: 37 Female: 100	77		60	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Households	General population
Souza et al., 2014^a	Brazil	114	75.9 ± 6.2	4 (2–8) years	SAHLPA-18	Male+female: 129 Male: 38 Female: 76	56	0	58	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and others	Older people
Stonbraker et al., 2018	Dominican Republic	107	40.8 ± 11.2	No formal education 12 Primary school or less 61 High school or less 28 All or some university 6	SAHL-S&E	Male+female: 107 (Transgender 2) Male: 41 Female: 64	33		74	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	HIV patients

Tenani et al., 2021	Brazil	238	62.7±10.55	Less than 4 years: 86 Up to 4 full years: 101 5 years or more: 51	HLS-14	Female: 165 Male: 73	69	85	84	Portuguese	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Health service users
Torrejón-Peces et al., 2021	Chile	215	72.7±5.9	No formal education 4 Basic 142 Medium 57 High 12	SAHLA-50	Male: 63 Female: 152	171		44	Spanish	Validated in the country	Health services and other	Health service users
Vílchez-Román et al., 2009	Peru	49	27.7 ± 8.27	10.6 ± 2.32	SAHLA-50	Male+female: 49 Male: 0 Female: 49	28		21	Spanish	Validated in language but not country	Health services and others	General population

Test of Functional Health Literacy in Adults (TOFHLA); Brazilian version of Short Test of Functional Health Literacy in Adults (S-TOFHLA); Short Assessment of Health Literacy for Portuguese-speaking Adults (SAHLPA); Short Assessment of Health Literacy for Spanish-speaking Adults (SAHLA-50); Newest Vital Sign (NVS); Spanish version of the European Health Literacy questionnaire (HLS-EU-Q47); 18-item Short Assessment of Health Literacy Spanish and English (SAHL-S&E); 14-item Health Literacy Scale (HLS-14); Not reported (NR)

*Males and females were the total of participants and not only the participants evaluated for the HL: Abbott et al., 2018 (+8 participants); De Castro, 2014 (+14 participants); Diemer et al., 2017 (+1 participant); Ghisi et al., 2022 (-1 participant); Rivero-Méndez, 2015 (+1 participant) and Rodríguez et al., 2021 (-16 participants).

^a 15 patients were considered illiterates if the SAHLPA-18 score was 0 or if individuals did not attempt to complete the test alleging being unable to read at all.