

CSO-ENGAGED INTERVENTIONS FOR CANCER MANAGEMENT IN CHINA 2002-2022

Introduction:

China is currently facing a significant challenge in terms of the high incidence and mortality rates of cancer, and this trend is on the rise. To address this issue, the 12th Five-Year Plan and the 13th National Conference on Civil Affairs have called for the involvement of non-state stakeholders in cancer management. Despite this call for action, there has been a lack of systematic reviews on the effectiveness of civil society organizations (CSOs) in cancer management in China. To bridge this gap, this article aims to conduct a comprehensive review of CSO-engaged multisectoral interventions for cancer prevention and treatment in China.

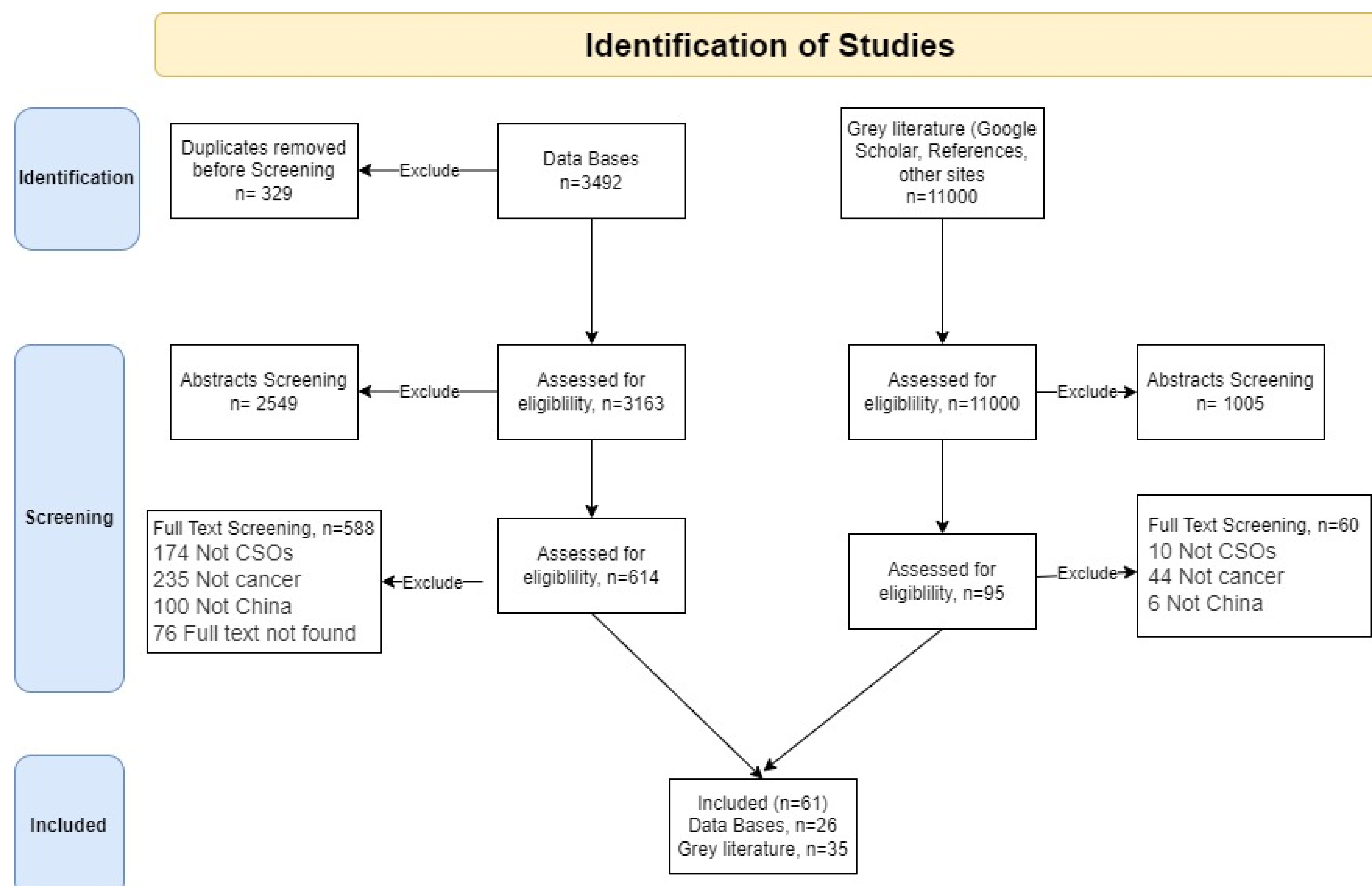
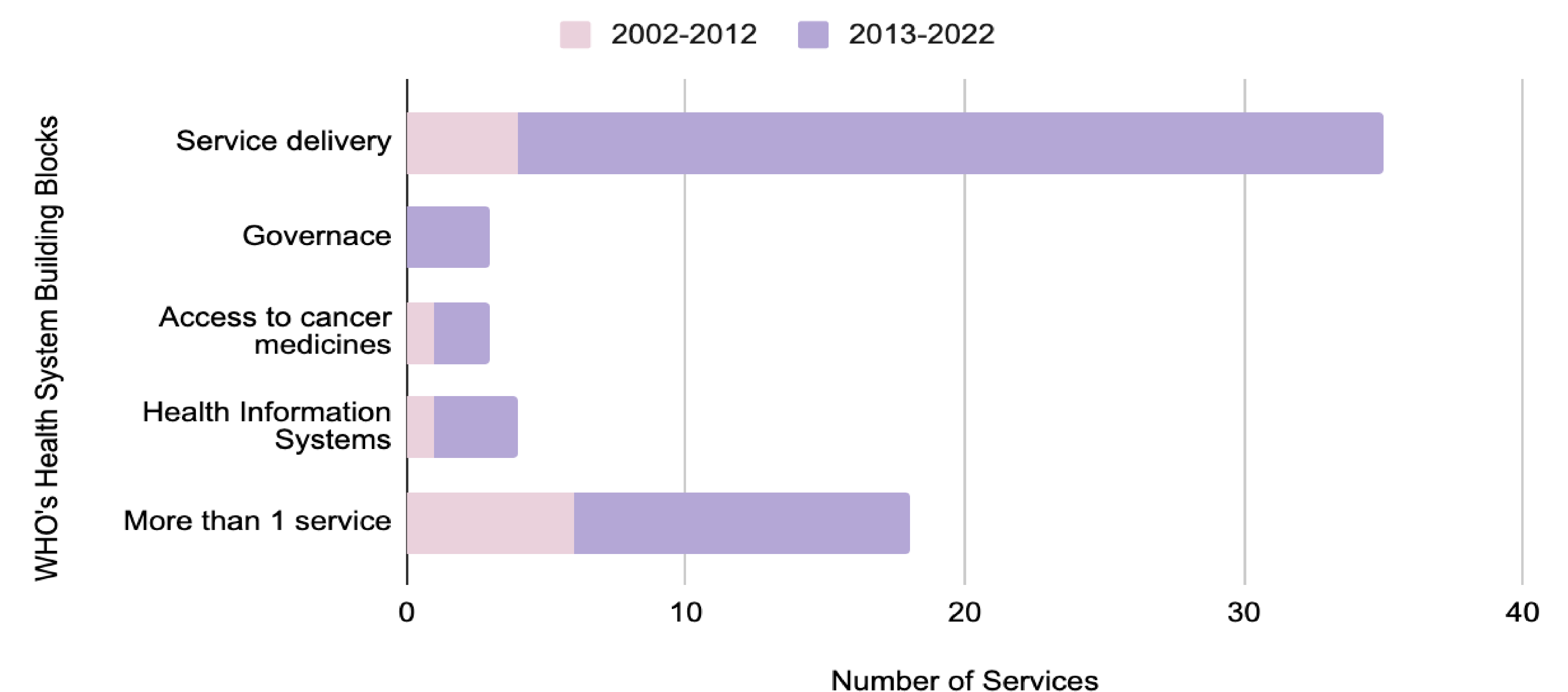
Methods:

Six databases (PubMed, CNKI, Scopus, Web of Science, Global Health, and Embase) and grey literature from Google Scholar, and government websites were searched up to December 2022. Articles published in English and Chinese from 2002 to 2022 were eligible if they describe CSOs and their involvement in multisectoral cancer control service provision in China. The WHO health system building blocks were used to categorize the CSO-engaged cancer control interventions in China.

Results:

Our search yielded 4592 results. Out of these, 61 papers were included in the final review. Among them, 134 CSOs were engaged, which include self-help organizations, academy-affiliated hospitals, and cancer-related treatment NGOs. Typical examples of involved CSOs include the Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology (CSCO), US Chinese Anti-Cancer Association (USCACA), and Sun Yat-sen University Cancer Center. In relation to the WHO Framework Six Building Blocks of Health Systems, 35 (58.33%) of the CSOs were involved in service delivery activities such as cancer prevention and 18 (30%) provided more than one service. These other services included health information, access to cancer medicines, and governance. The programs targeted cancers of all types serving 351,046,107 people in China, in which 29 different cancer types were identified. Cervical cancer, breast cancer and lung cancer were the three leading cancer types in which the CSOs were involved.

Civil Society Organizations' services according to the WHO's Health System Building Blocks



Conclusions:

Our findings show that CSOs provide services for more than 351 million people in China, which is significant for patients who otherwise would have restricted access to cancer management. As such CSOs are integral to providing cancer care, and yet their information is limited. More publications to peer reviewed journals are needed to provide insight on how to better support their work in cancer management in China.