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| **Table 1.** Search strategies | | |
| **Database** | **Search string** | **Number of records** |
| PubMed | (“grounded theory” OR hermeneutic\* OR “content analysis” OR ethnograph\* OR phenomenolog\* OR qualitative OR qualitative research[MeSH Terms] OR “qualitative research”) AND (“bedside handover\*” OR “bedside handoff\*” OR “bedside shift report\*” OR “shift report\*” OR "Patient Handoff"[Mesh] OR Patient Handoff\* OR Patient Signout\* OR Patient Signover\* OR Nursing Handover\*) | 434 |
| CINHAL  Complete | (MH "Hand Off (Patient Safety)" OR MH "Shift Reports" OR “bedside handover\*” OR “bedside handoff\*” OR “bedside shift report\*” OR “shift report\*” OR Patient Handoff\* OR Patient Signout\* OR Patient Signover\* OR Nursing Handover\*) AND (MH "Qualitative Studies" OR ethnograph\* OR hermeneutic\* OR phenomenolog\* OR qualitative OR “grounded theory” OR “content analysis”) | 482 |
| Scopus | TITLE-ABS-KEY (Ethnograph\* OR qualitative OR phenomenolog\* OR hermeneutic OR “grounded theory” OR “content analysis”) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (“bedside handover\*” OR “bedside handoff\*” OR “bedside shift report\*” OR “shift report\*” OR "Patient Handoff" OR Patient Handoff\* OR Patient Signout\* OR Patient Signover\* OR Nursing Handover\*) | 175 |
| Embase | ('clinical handover'/exp OR 'clinical handover') AND  ('phenomenology'/exp OR 'phenomenology' OR 'ethnographic research'/exp OR 'ethnographic research' OR 'content analysis'/exp OR 'content analysis'  OR 'hermeneutics'/exp OR 'hermeneutics' OR 'grounded theory'/exp OR 'grounded theory'  OR 'qualitative research'/exp OR 'qualitative research') AND [embase]/lim | 276 |
| PsycINFO | (DE "Qualitative Methods" OR DE "Grounded Theory" OR DE "Hermeneutics" OR DE "Content Analysis" OR DE "Ethnography" OR DE "Phenomenology" OR ethnograph\* OR qualitative OR phenomenolog\* OR hermeneutic OR “grounded theory” OR “content analysis”) AND (“bedside handover\*” OR “bedside handoff\*” OR “bedside shift report\*” OR “shift report\*” OR Patient Handoff\* OR Patient Signout\* OR Patient Signover\* OR Nursing Handover\*) | 73 |
| Web of Science | TS= (Ethnograph\* OR qualitative OR phenomenolog\* OR hermeneutic OR “grounded theory” OR “content analysis”) AND TS= (“bedside handover\*” OR “bedside handoff\*” OR “bedside shift report\*” OR “shift report\*” OR "Patient Handoff" OR Patient Handoff\* OR Patient Signout\* OR Patient Signover\* OR Nursing Handover\*) | 293 |
| Limitations: Published from inception to 30-06-2020 | | |