

Use of podcasts in healthcare: a literature review

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Background

- There are different dissemination tools used in academic or continuing education.
- Podcasts are increasingly used as a broadcasting tool.
- Healthcare podcasts, including pharmacy practice podcasts represent an interesting avenue for continuing education.

Objectives

- To describe the use of podcasts in healthcare.

Methods

Design

- Literature review

Search strategy

- PubMed search strategy:
 - "podcast" alone
 - combination "podcast AND medicine", "podcast AND healthcare", "podcast AND pharmacy"
- Embase search strategy:
 - "podcast" alone
 - combination "podcast.mp. or podcast/ AND medicine.mp. or medicine/", the combination "podcast.mp. or podcast/ AND healthcare.mp. or healthcare/", "podcast.mp. or podcast/ AND pharmacy.mp. "
- Inclusion:
 - Articles published in English or French
 - Topic: design and/or use of podcasting in the field of health
- Exclusion:
 - Articles citing podcasts without describing or evaluating their impact

Conclusion

- There is little data on the use of podcasts in the field of health including pharmacy.
- Podcasts were used as training tools but also as an evaluation tool
- Further work is needed to confirm the usefulness and impact of health podcasts.

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Results

Inclusion

- 19 articles were included (Fig1)

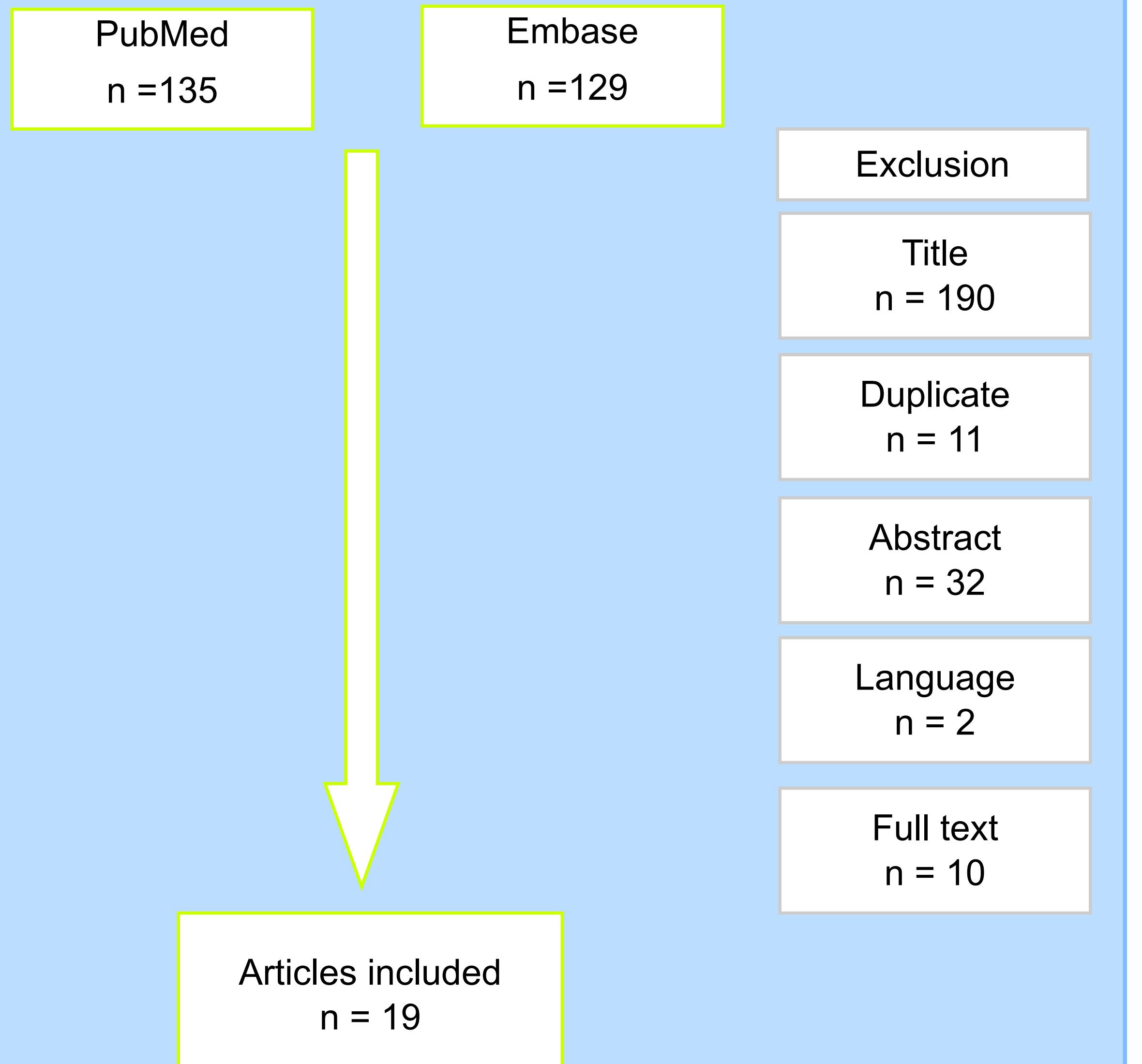


Fig 1. Article inclusion

- Most studies were conducted in the United States (Fig2)

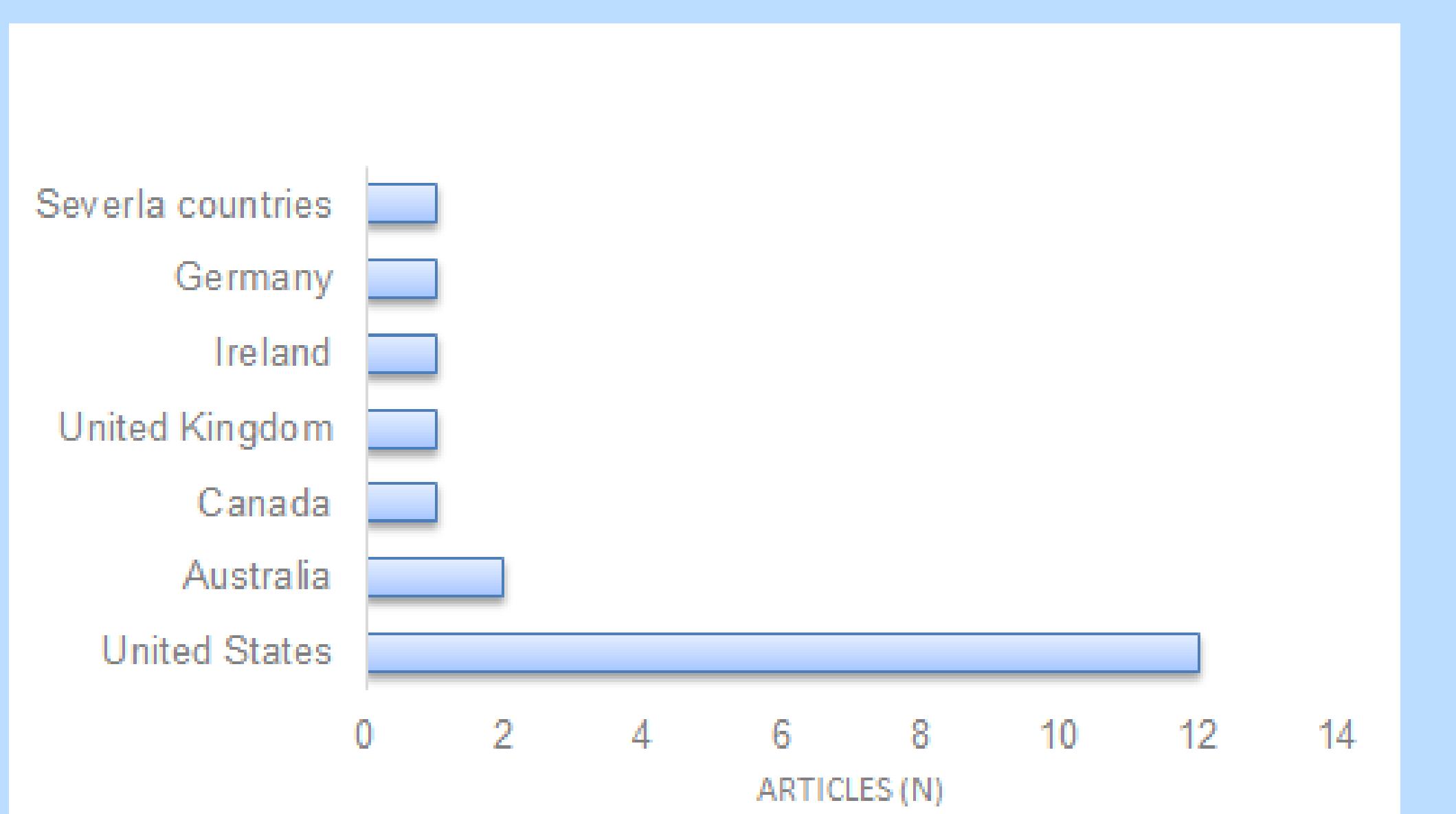


Fig 2. Origin of study

- Six articles were aimed at drug-related content or targeted pharmacy students or pharmacists. Some studies offered a list of relevant podcasts. Some specifically described the use of podcasts in oncology, obstetrics-gynecology, dermatology and rheumatology.

- Six studies presented surveys (Tab I)

Tab I. Articles presenting surveys about podcasts

Reference	Design	Results
Lin, 2015 United States	Survey with modified Delphi, 44 healthcare teachers	13/151 quality indicators classified in 3 domains: credibility, content and conception
Lomayesva, 2020 United States	Survey. Medicine and nursing students	5 key medicine podcasts identified
Bossaer 2020 United States	Survey. Readership of OncoPharm	Podcasts aimed at oncology pharmacists in 5 categories: foundational topic, others, new approval, updates, landmark study
Kartochwill 2016 United States	Survey. 193 pharmacy students	91% found podcasts to be an effective learning tool
Ro 2018 United States	Survey. Nursing students	Podcast created by a nurse and a pharmacist. 13 students responded and found it useful.

- Five studies presented reviews (Tab II)

Tab II. Articles presenting reviews about podcasts

Reference	Design	Results
Chen 2017 Australia	Literature review. Podcasts in gynecology	Availability of gynecology podcasts from 3 official organizations. Efficacy as a teaching tool differs between studies
Alikhan 2010 United States	Literature review. Podcasts in dermatology	5 podcasts identified, duration between 5-30 minutes
Rodman 2020 United States	Evolution of medical podcasts	First generation was used as a training content and used by medical journals. Second generation transitioned into democratization of content and dialogue.
Wilson 2009 United Kingdom	Review of podcasts by medical journals	8 medical journals offer podcasts, duration 3-47 minutes
Mobasheri 2021 Multiple countries	Review of podcasts for osteoarthritis	2 podcasts identified

- Nine studies presented content analysis of interventions (Tab III)

Tab III. Articles presenting content analysis or interventions about podcasts

Reference	Design	Results
Kane 2018 United States	Analysis of content 125 podcasts about drugs	Most podcasts are hosted by doctors, have a mean duration of 27 minutes and were aimed at clinicians
Kerrigan 2022 Australia	Doctors listened to a cultural podcast during 7 weeks	Culture exchange was appreciated by doctors
Miesner 2017 United States	Pharmacy students created podcasts for medicine residents	8 podcasts created. Knowledge increased after listening to podcasts
Maher 2020 Ireland	Pharmacy students received a feedback by podcast	30 minutes required to create a 2-5 minute podcast. Students found it useful.
Thoma 2018 Canada	Compare control articles with those shared by podcasts and infographic, for emergency medicine journal	Articles accompanied by podcast or infographic were more consulted. However, there was a selection bias.
Baecker 2020 Germany	Pharmacy students created a pilot podcast	17 teams of pharmacy students created podcast of a mean duration of 5 minutes. They enjoyed the activity but judged it less appropriate for complex topics
Moeller 2021 United States	Pharmacy students listened to a podcasts as part of classes about urinary drug testing	120 students. Knowledge increased after class and they appreciated the class.
Zumach 2020 United States	Pharmacy teachers created podcasts	Podcasts had a 12-15 minutes duration. People enjoyed the cohesive content and the frequency of publication
Matulewicz 2020 United States	Second year pharmacy students listened to a podcast to challenge personal beliefs	122 students filled out a survey before and after listening to the podcast.

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