

This scoping review protocol is based on the [template](#) available in the [PROSPERO database](#).

1. Review title.

Interventions for African American Male Youth with Internalizing Symptoms of Depression, Anxiety, and Traumatic Stress: A Comprehensive Review Protocol

2. Original language title.

N/A

3. Anticipated or actual start date.

07 June 2023

4. Anticipated completion date.

20 March 2024

5. Stage of review at the time of this submission.

Funded proposal: Yes

The review has not yet started: Yes

Review stage	Started	Completed
Preliminary searches	Yes	Yes
Piloting of the study selection process	No	No
Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria	No	No
Data extraction	No	No
Risk of bias (quality) assessment	No	No
Data analysis	No	Nocontact

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12. Funding sources/sponsors.

Provost and Vice President of Research Office, University of Maryland, College Park

13. Conflicts of interest.

The other authors declare that they have no known conflicts of interest.

14. Collaborators.

None

15. Review questions.

Among African American male youth aged 8-23 who experience trauma in the United States, what are the most effective interventions for depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress?

16. Searches.

We will follow the [JBI Manual for Evidence Synthesis](#) (Chapter 11, Scoping Reviews, 2020 version) to guide the process of this scoping review.

We will search the following electronic bibliographic databases: EBSCO platform (Academic Search Ultimate, CINAHL, ERIC, MEDLINE, PsycARTICLES, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection, PsycINFO, SocINDEX), and Scopus. We will also search reference lists and hand-search key journals. Peer reviewed studies conducted in the United States and published in English will be included in this review. No restriction to publication year will be applied. To identify additional relevant studies and to obtain missing data, we will also reach out to subject experts and authors of included studies.

The searches will be updated before manuscript submission, and any further relevant studies that meet the inclusion criteria will be included in the comprehensive review.

We will use the [PRISMA-ScR](#) (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews) by [Tricco et al. \(2018\)](#) for presenting the overview of the full study selection in this comprehensive review.

17. URL to search strategy.

Search terms will include free keywords and controlled vocabulary terms representing the Population, Intervention, Comparison and Outcome (PICO) framework:

- **Population:** African American male youth, aged 8-23 years living in the United States
- **Interventions:** Clinical, school-based, community-based, church-based, etc.
- **Comparison:** Not compared to any other groups
- **Outcomes:** Depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress

18. Condition or domain being studied.

Interventions for internalizing symptoms: depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress.

19. Participants/population.

Black cisgender male youth and young men (between 8 and 23 years of age) living in the United States.

20. Intervention(s), exposure(s).

This review will focus on the methods, efficacy and effectiveness, findings, and dissemination of mental health interventions that identify how African American male youth and young men are diagnosed and treated in therapeutic settings for symptoms of depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress.

21. Comparator(s)/control.

N/A

22. Types of study to be included.

We will include both qualitative and quantitative studies regardless of study design. The references of review articles will be checked for relevant studies that fit the inclusion criteria, but review articles themselves will be excluded.

23. Context.

Regardless of the setting, all studies will be included (e.g. community or domestic violence; classroom environment; clinical setting; economic hardship; emotional bias or abuse; hostile environment or intent; interparental conflict; lack of safe spaces; parental influence, involvement, or behavior; physical abuse; prejudice; provocation; psychic assault; punishment; racism; social injustice; socioeconomic status; stigma; toxic family environment, etc.). Research, interventions, education, lessons, programs, and the like on African American male youth and young men using community-based participatory research will be included.

24. Main outcome(s).

Summarize and critique existing interventions and develop a framework to provide guidance for clinicians and scholars in their work with African American male youth and young men.

25. Additional outcome(s).

None

26. Data extraction (selection and coding).

The review process will be conducted in three stages:

1. Searches

a. **Preliminary searches** to identify proper terms for building the search strategies.

b. Database searches

2. **Title/abstract screening.** The records from the searches will be exported in [Zotero](#) for managing records. Using [Rayyan](#), two reviewers will independently apply the eligibility criteria and select studies for full-text review.

3. **Full-text screening.** Full-text records will be assigned to two reviewers for data extraction. A third reviewer will continuously update the data charting form when necessary and verify the data in full.

Any discrepancies between reviewers will be resolved through discussions and in consultation with a third reviewer. The data charting form will be developed in Excel and tested by the team before use. The data will be presented in a tabular or diagrammatic form that corresponds to the research question of this comprehensive review. The extracted information will include the study setting and study population, participant demographics and baseline characteristics, details of the intervention and control conditions used, study methodology, recruitment and study completion rates, and outcomes. The comprehensive review results will be collated, narratively summarized, and thematically analyzed using [NVIVO](#) (based on the methodology created by [Min, Anderson, & Chen, 2017](#)).

27. Risk of bias (quality) assessment.

The aim of this comprehensive review is to provide an overview of the existing interventions regardless of methodology quality or risk of bias. Therefore, a risk of bias (quality) assessment of the included studies will not be performed.

28. Strategy for data synthesis.

The search terms were chosen not only to speak to the direct psychological symptoms of interest but also to those terms that are most often used in the field of psychology regarding the mental health of Black male youth and young men. If we focus only on keywords of anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), we expect to yield little results because the field is heavily focused on African American male youth externalizing behaviors and disorders. By searching for interventions that use key terms like emotional disorders or behavioral disorders, we expect to find overlapping symptomology with anxiety,

depression, and PTSD. This process is flexible. As we search, we may find that we need to add search terms to broaden the scope or eliminate them to narrow it. We will provide a narrative synthesis of the findings from the included studies, arranged around the different interventions found in literature, the target population characteristics, types of outcomes, and the intervention content.

29. Analysis of subgroups or subsets.

N/A

30. Type and method of review.

Type of review	
Cost-effectiveness	No
Diagnostic	No
Epidemiologic	No
Individual patient data (IPD) meta-analysis	No
Intervention	Yes
Meta-analysis	No
Methodology	No
Narrative synthesis	Yes
Network meta-analysis	No
Pre-clinical	No
Prevention	Yes
Prognostic	No
Prospective meta-analysis (PMA)	No
Review of reviews	Yes
Service delivery	No
Synthesis of qualitative studies	Yes
Systematic review	Yes
Other	No
Health area of the review	
Alcohol/substance misuse/abuse	No
Blood and immune system	No
Cancer	No
Cardiovascular	No
Care of the elderly	No
Child health	No
Complementary therapies	No
Crime and justice	No
Dental	No
Digestive system	No
Ear, nose and throat	No
Education	No
Endocrine and metabolic disorders	No
Eye disorders	No

General interest	No
Genetics	No
Health inequalities/health equity	No
Infections and infestations	No
International development	No
Mental health and behavioral conditions	Yes
Musculoskeletal	No
Neurological	No
Nursing	No
Obstetrics and gynecology	No
Oral health	No
Palliative care	No
Perioperative care	No
Physiotherapy	No
Pregnancy and childbirth	No
Public health (including social determinants of health)	No
Rehabilitation	No
Respiratory disorders	No
Service delivery	No
Skin disorders	No
Social care	No
Surgery	No
Tropical Medicine	No
Urological	No
Wounds, injuries and accidents	No
Violence and abuse	Yes

31. Language.

English

32. Country.

United States of America

33. Other registration details.

N/A

34. Reference and/or URL for published protocol.

N/A

35. Dissemination plans.

This review will result in a peer-reviewed publication that will provide an integrative framework for planning a clinical mental health treatment intervention for Black male youth who experience symptoms of depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

36. Keywords.

Scoping review, African Americans, Black, boys, young black men (YBM), adolescents, internalizing disorders, emotional disorders, behavioral disorders, serious emotional disturbances, depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress symptoms (PTSS).

37. Details of any existing review of the same topic by the same authors.

N/A

38. Current review status.

We are in the preliminary stages of this review.

39. Any additional information.

N/A

40. Details of final report/publication(s) or preprints if available.

N/A

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