A scoping review was conducted of the following databases: GlobalHealth, HealthStar, HealthSource Consumer Edition, New York Times, and Canadian News Stand, using the keyword “health consumer”.

Databases searches were organized into 4 time periods: 1900-1930, 1930-1960, 1960-1990, 1990-2011, as were limited to English full text articles only.

Articles had to contain the keyword, as well as have health in the title or abstract. Articles had to address the research questions explicitly within and/or one item of a list of additional relevancy criteria.

Articles included were coded using NVIVO 9. Node structure and coding were reviewed throughout.

This research was made possible through the generous support of...