Develop search equation using relevant terms
Conduct search in databases PubMed, Cochrane, and EMBASE
Identify powerful articles providing data on the impact of DCTs

Recruitment

• Survey finds remote interventions to be associated with 60-85% increase in likelihood to enroll
• Social media recruitment dramatically improves recruitment speed
• Decentralized recruitment via teleconsultation found to be more beneficial than conventional recruitment via health clinics

Retention

• Rewards-based system in response to ePRO found to improve retention
• Study employing virtual companion application found to have 92% retention
• Retention in participants recruited with online methods may be higher due to those participants self-seeking trials

Diversity

• Virtual studies able to enroll patients from rural areas with low physician coverage
• Mobile health applications coupled with proper training able to reach older population and those with limited health literacy
• Partnering rural satellite facilities with large academic centers may help with reaching underrepresented minorities

Conclusions

Related reviews have stated a lack of published comparable data to determine if DCTs (Decentralized Clinical Trials) improved recruitment and retention. Results suggest this review addresses such a gap, by providing data on how decentralized methods can benefit recruitment, retention, and diversity, potentially highlighting a new standard for clinical trials moving forward.