Keeping up to date with Information Retrieval research:
Summarized Research in Information Retrieval for HTA (SuRe Info)

SuRe Info

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Background

- There is an increasing amount of research underpinning information retrieval for systematic reviews, health technology assessments and evidence synthesis.

- The identification of the current best practice methods is challenging.
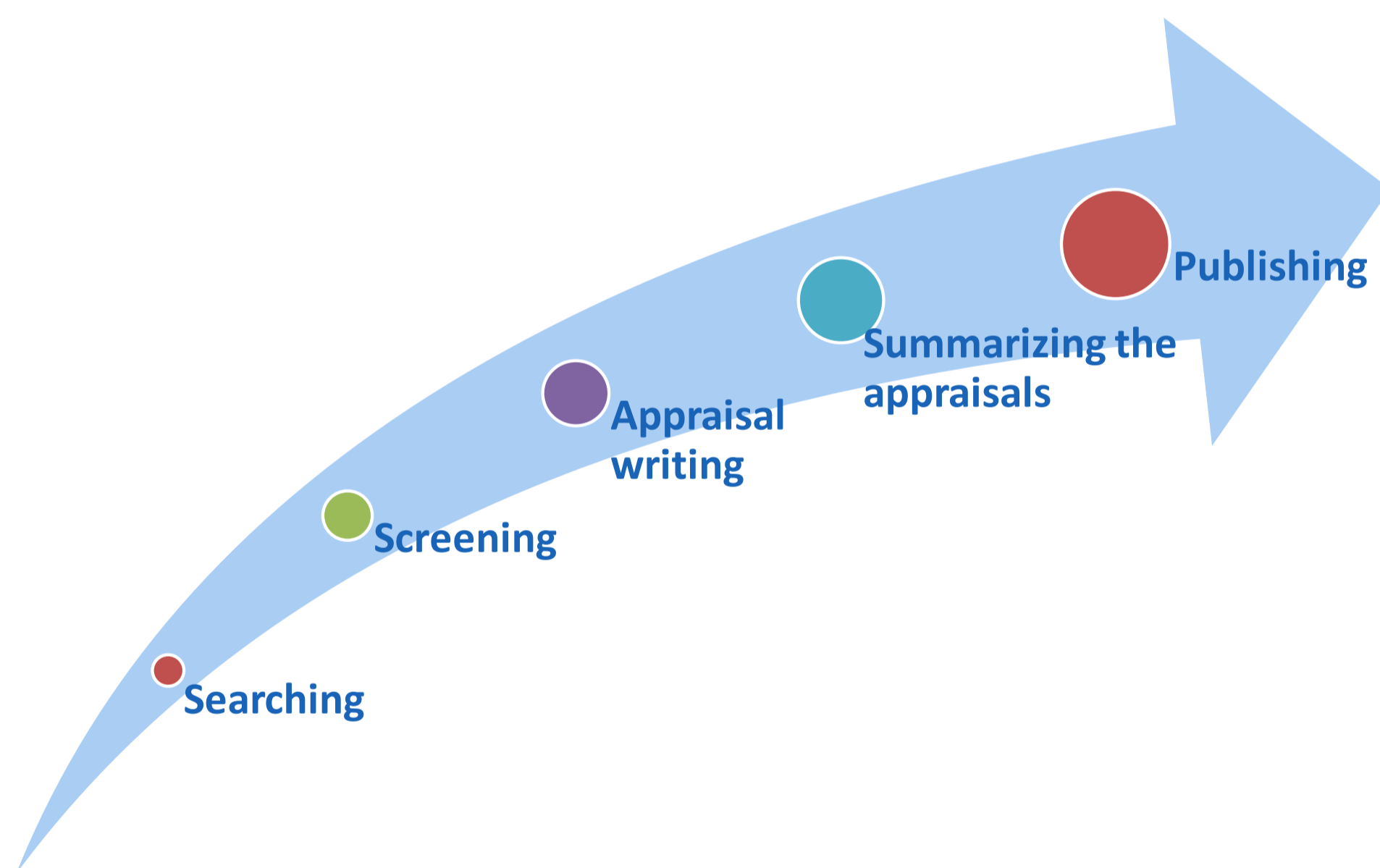
Objective

Summarized Research in Information Retrieval for HTA (SuRe Info) aims to develop and present an open web based resource which:

- identifies and summarises information retrieval methods publications.

- provides guidance on sources to search and designing search strategies.

Methods

A group of information specialists have defined the topic areas for the website and written a "how-to" manual to develop each topic area into a chapter.

Figure 1: How the content of SuRe Info is created chapter by chapter

Chapter writing (prepared by one project member, checked by another)

Searching = methods publications are identified by running topic-specific search strategies in selected relevant databases.

Screening = fulfilling the SuRe Info inclusion criteria.

Appraisal writing = drafting a structured abstract along with a brief critical appraisal.

Summarizing the appraisals = key messages from the appraisals are summarized into topic-specific chapters.

Publishing = uploading the summary and corresponding appraisals.

Sure Info is produced by the Interest Sub-Group on Information Resources (IRG) of the Health Technology Assessment international (HTAi)

Results

SuRe Info structure

1. Chapters on general search methods common across all health technologies	***Sources to search*** • How many sources to search? • Value of searching different sources • Value of searching for different publication types/ formats • Service providers and search interfaces ***Designing search strategies*** • Strategy development • Search filters • Other limits: language, date ***Peer reviewing search strategies*** ***Documenting and reporting the search process***
2. Chapters describing the methods to use when searching for specific aspects of health technologies (adapted from the EUnetHTA Core Models®)	*Health problem and current use of technology* *Description and technical characteristics of technology* *Safety* *Diagnostic accuracy* *Clinical effectiveness* *Costs and economic evaluation* *Ethical analysis* *Organisational aspects* *Social aspects* *Legal aspects*

Chapter structure

1. Publications are listed with critical appraisal
2. Key messages from the appraisals are summarized

Web resource publishing SuRe Info:
Health Technology Assessment international (HTAi) Vortal

Summary points

- **SuRe Info** was officially launched in June 2013.
- A number of **SuRe Info** chapters have been completed.
- **SuRe Info** will be updated twice a year.
- Further **SuRe Info** chapters are in progress.
- Aim is to publish all **SuRe Info** chapters by mid 2015

http://www.sure-info.org