

Gambling addiction, gambling related harm and gambling problems

A knowledge synthesis and research agenda

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Disclosure of interests

- **This work** was supported by a grant from The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw).
- **The authors** report research funding from Dutch governmental departments and Dutch scientific grant agencies in various projects to study and address the negative and positive effects of games, gambling, and media use.

No direct financial links to gambling industry or gambling affiliates:

- **Trimbos Institute and the current authors do not receive direct funding from the gambling industry** for gambling related research, prevention, and education.
- **Trimbos Institute** occasionally receives honoraria for speaking engagements by the authors on gambling-gaming-digital balance, but **not from the gambling industry** itself.

Core team:

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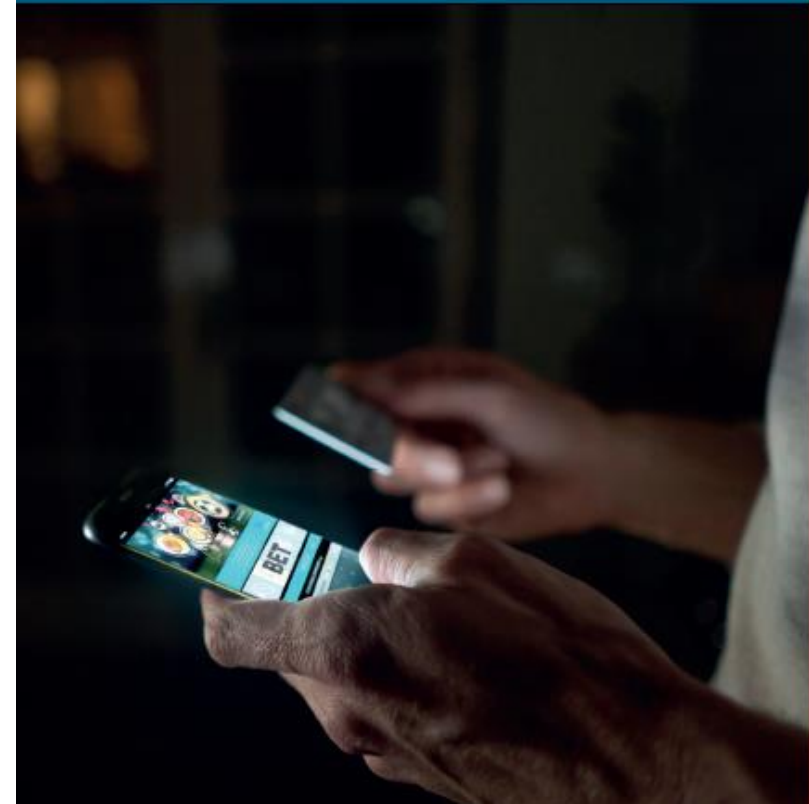
*Antonius J. (Tony)
Van Rooij*

Project origin

- **On April 1st, 2021, online gambling was legalized in the Netherlands.**
- The updated legislation states that gambling companies should contribute to research on prevention and treatment of gambling addiction via a percentual gambling tax.
- **This study drafts a knowledge synthesis and research agenda to feed the content of the Dutch 'problem gambling' research fund.**

Kansspelverslaving, gokgerelateerde schade en gokproblematiek

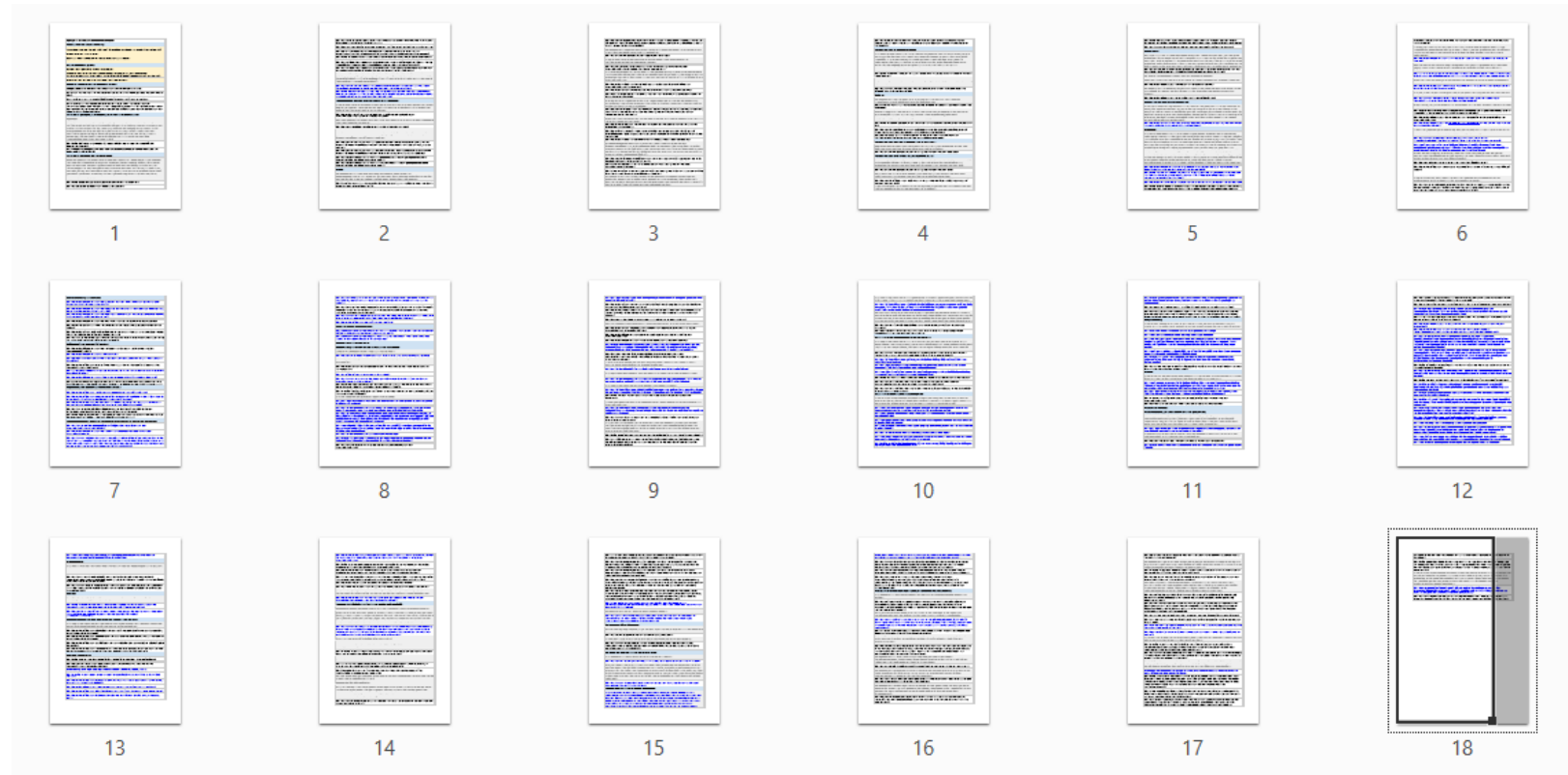
Kennissynthese en onderzoeksagenda



Method

- **A systematic search of the scientific literature on gambling was executed (N = 8,614).**
- **Interviews** with national and international research and local addiction care experts & people with lived experience.
- **Separate expert meetings** with stakeholders from industry, from healthcare practice, and a combined session.

Preview of result: full list of research questions: 212 questions



**List is too long to fully present here!
Instead: impression of highlights & method**

Literature review target groups

Vulnerable groups:

- Youth
- Migrants
- Elderly
- Low social economic status
- Intellectual disability
- Delinquents

- **Prevention**
- **Intervention & Treatment**

- *Special cases in the literature review:*
 - **Product characteristics / environment** (context & marketing)
 - **Independent access to digital data & research infrastructure**
 - **Prevalence estimates** (*out of scope for lit review*)

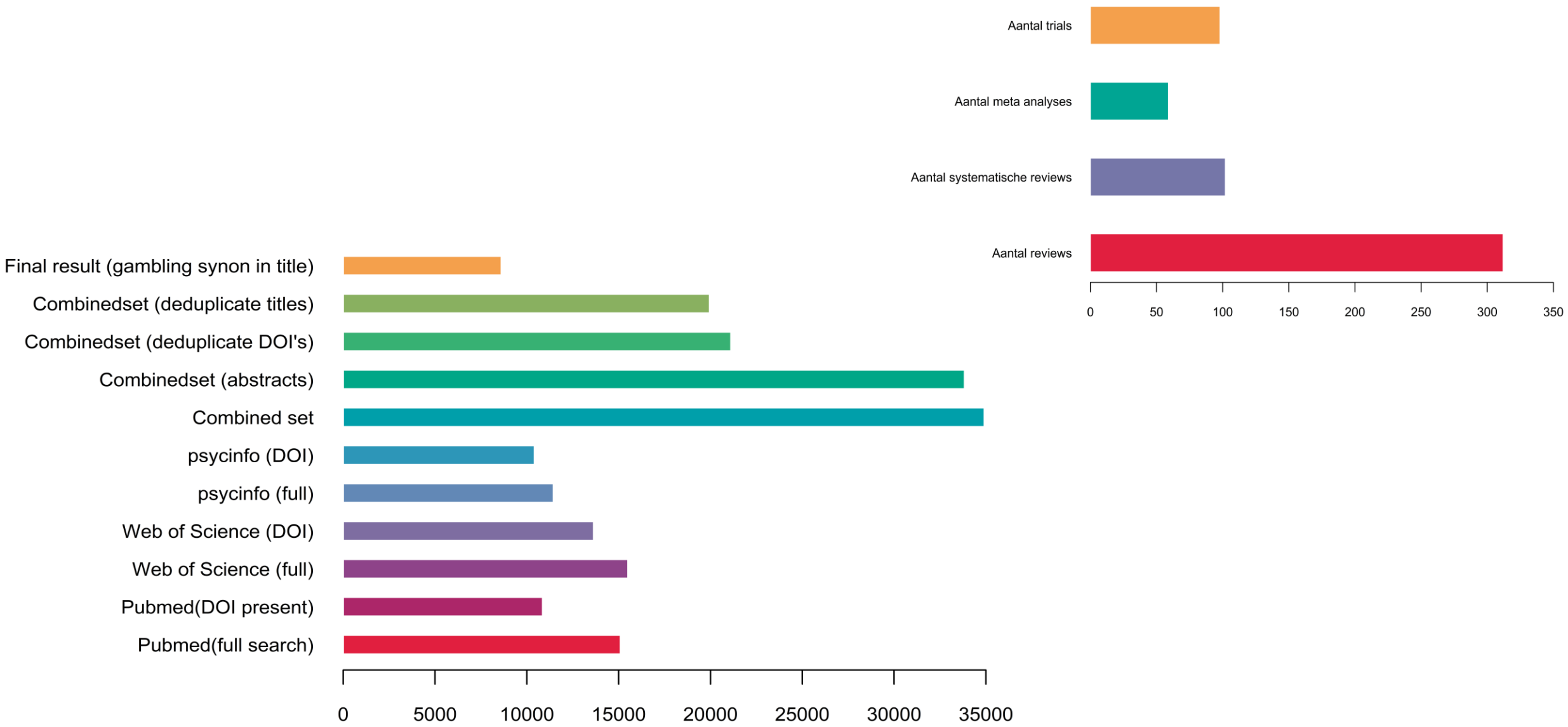
Gambling terminology: synonyms & variants

Download the entire literature via Pubmed, Web of Science, and PsycInfo, via *gamb search

- Entries in download, combined: *gamb search: N =19.953
- Words from titles split apart: N =243.566.
- Unique words: N = 11.065
- Reduce to those mentioned 50 or more times, to find variants of gambling: N=621
- We add: [gambl]
- Result:

Betting, Casino, Casinos, Electronic, Gamble, Gamblers, Gambles, Gambling, Gambling-Related, Game, Games, Gaming, Loss, Losses, Lottery, Machine, Machines, Play, Players, Playing, Poker, Probabilistic, Probability, Risk-Taking, Slot, Video and [Gambl]

Broad search, dataset impression (N=8614)



Literature review example: Youth

Route 1: Specific search

For Web of Science, Pubmed, and PscyInfo:

("problem gambl" OR "gambling addiction" OR "gambling disorder" OR "pathological gambling")*

AND

("youth" OR "young adults" OR "children" OR "adolescents" OR "young people")

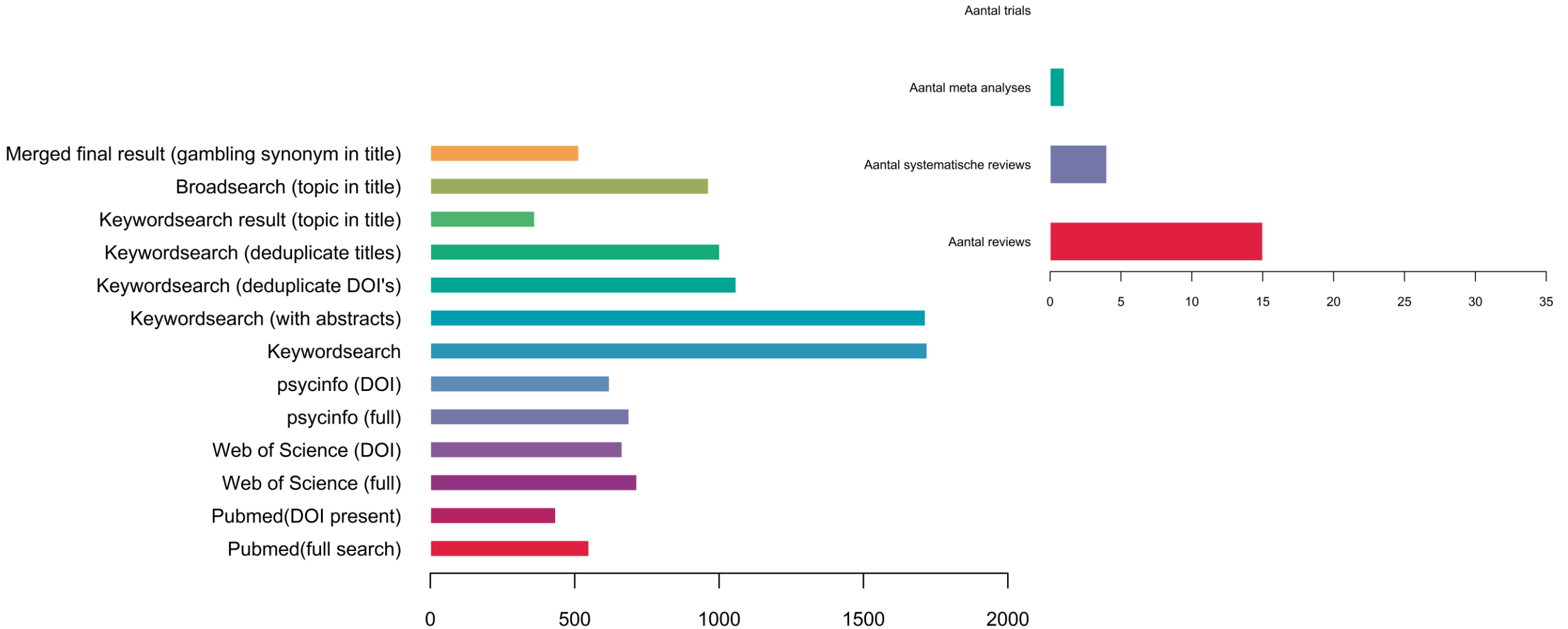
Route 2: Broad search:

- For Web of Science, Pubmed, and PscyInfo:
 1. Download full literature via *gamb search
 2. Specific search for specific topic in title:
 - *E.g. Youth, Children, Adolescents, Young Adults and Young People).*

Literature review example: Youth

	Frequentie
Pubmed(full search)	550
Pubmed(DOI present)	435
Web of Science (full)	716
Web of Science (DOI)	665
PsycInfo (full)	689
PsycInfo (DOI)	621
Keywordsearch	1721
Keywordsearch (with abstracts)	1715
Keywordsearch (de duplicate DOI's)	1060
Keywordsearch (deduplicate titles)	1003
Keywordsearch result (topic in title)	362
Broadsearch (topic in title)	964
Merged final result (gambling synonym in title)	515

Literature review example: Youth



Literature review example: Youth

Section Youth writing
in report:

Starts with the high quality
identified studies:

Selected titles (meta analyses, Youth, N = 1)

PY	title	DI
2018	Prevalence of Internet Gaming Disorder in Adolescents: a Meta-Analysis Across Three Decades	10.1111/sjop.12459

Selected titles (systematic reviews, Youth, N = 4)

PY	title	DI
2021	Gambling Patterns and Problem Gambling among Youth in Sub-Saharan Africa: a Systematic Review	10.1007/s10899-021-10001-w
2021	Exposure of Adolescents and Youth to Gambling Advertising: a Systematic Review	10.6018/analesps.428921
2020	Systematic Review of Preventive Programs for Reducing Problem Gambling Behaviors among Young Adults	10.1007/s10899-019-09866-9
2016	Parent Problem Gambling: a Systematic Review of Prevention Programs for Children	10.4309/jgi.2016.33.2

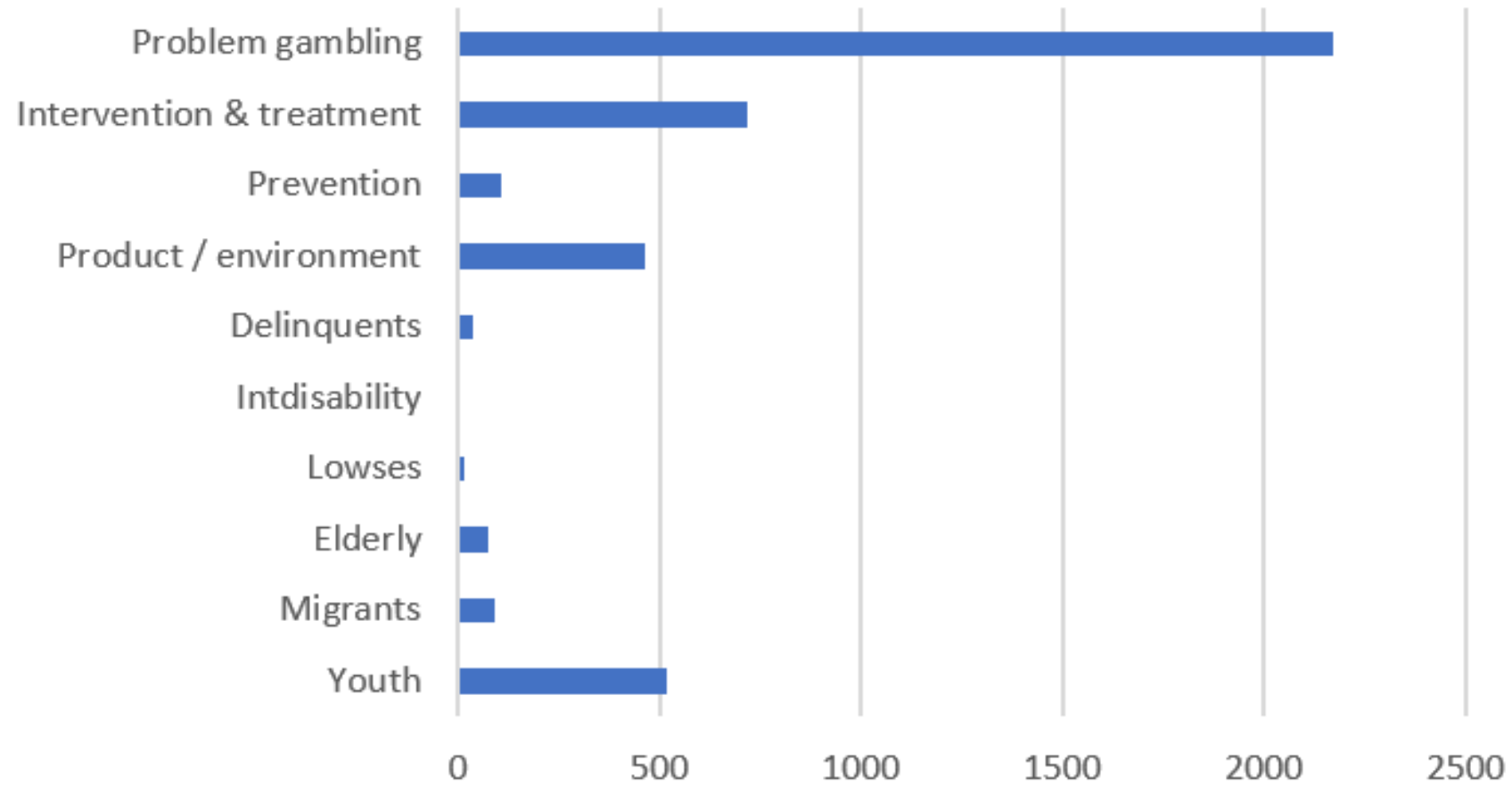
Selected titles (reviews, Youth, N = 11)

PY	title	DI
2021	Attitudes, Risk Factors, and Behaviours of Gambling among Adolescents and Young People: a Literature Review and Gap Analysis	10.3390/ijerph18030984
2020	Digital Game Interventions for Youth Mental Health Services (Gaming My Way to Recovery): Protocol for a Scoping Review	10.2196/13834
2019	Perceptions, People and Place: Findings from a Rapid Review of Qualitative Research on Youth Gambling	10.1016/j.addbeh.2018.10.008
2018	Problem Gambling and Delinquent Behaviours among Adolescents: a Scoping Review	10.1007/s10899-018-9754-2
2017	a Review of Educational-Based Gambling Prevention Programs for Adolescents	10.1186/s40405-017-0024-5
2015	Relationship of Gambling with Tobacco, Alcohol, and Illicit Drug Use among Adolescents in the Usa: Review of the Literature 2000-2014	10.1111/ajad.12214
2014	Gambling-Related Problems among Youths: a Critical Review of Current Screening Instruments	10.1026/0942-5403/a000143
2013	Prevention Programmes for Youth Gambling: a Review of the Empirical Evidence	10.1080/14459795.2012.740496
2009	Youth Gambling Advertising: a Review of the Lessons Learned from Tobacco Control	10.1080/09687630701838026
2005	Review of Gambling Problems in Youth: Theoretical and Applied Perspectives	10.1037/h0088051
2001	Children of Parent(s) Who Have a Gambling Problem: a Review of the Literature and Commentary on Research Approaches	10.1046/j.0966-0410.2001.00302.x

Selected titles (trials, Youth, N = 0)

PY	title	DI
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Final literature dataset, overall impression:



Interviews & expert meeting:

1. Exploratory interviews:

- Two interviews with people with lived experience
- Two interviews with treatment professionals, working with people with gambling problems.

2. Prior to the expert meeting &

3. Interviews with international experts:

- **Prof. Per Binde (Zweden)**
- **Prof. Luke Clark (Canada)**
- **Prof. Alexander Blaszczynski (Australië)**

Expert meeting attendance

3 meetings:

1 industry, 1 independent, 1 combined

- Researchers & academics
- Addiction treatment / healthcare
- Twelve step groups (gamblers & environment anonymous)
- People with lived experience
- Gambling industry: lotteries
- Gambling industry: casino gambling & online casino gambling
- Gambling authority
- Ministries: Healthcare (VWS), Justice (JenV)
- Research grant agencies: ZonMw
- Public health / research institution

- **Non-industry:**
"What are important themes for the problem gambling research fund?"



- **Industry:**

"What are important themes for the problem gambling research fund?"



Priorities for the research fund:

- **Expertmeeting:**
 1. Vulnerable groups (youth, intellectual disability)
 2. Effectiveness of interventions
 3. Interventions within the gambling company products/context
- **International experts:**
 1. Use a 'gambling harms' perspective
 2. Attention for three factors: individual risk factors, structural characteristics, and gambling context (including marketing)
 3. Online gambling and using online gambling data
- **Attention points (international researchers):**
 - Longitudinal research,
 - Aggressive marketing,
 - Causality between poverty, low SES, psychological issues, and gambling
 - Division gambling damage & harms across the population

Discussion

- **The exploration of the literature, practice and international situation showed that there are still many unanswered (applied) questions in gambling research.**
- Moreover, there is room for improvement in the Netherlands in terms of **the infrastructure for gambling research** (independent access to data, disclosure of paid relationships, etc.)
- Finally, the Dutch vision on gambling problems could be expanded by joining the international movement towards a **harm related perspective.**

Full report [in Dutch], Read more at:

Van Rooij, A. J., Tuijnman, A., & Kleinjan, M. (2021). *Kennissynthese en Onderzoeksagenda Kanssperverslaving, gokgerelateerde schade en gokproblematiek*. Trimbos-instituut i/o ZonMw.

<https://www.trimbos.nl/aanbod/webwinkel/product/af1959-kanssperverslaving-gokgerelateerde-schade-en-gokproblematiek>

Literature review appendix @:
<https://osf.io/w89k4/>

Kanssperverslaving, gokgerelateerde
schade en gokproblematiek
Kennissynthese en onderzoeksagenda

