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Patients' perceptions and experiences of cardiovascular disease and diabetes prevention programmes: a systematic review and framework synthesis using the Theoretical Domains Framework

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- 1 Patients' perceptions and experiences of cardiovascular disease and diabetes prevention
- 2 programmes: a systematic review and framework synthesis using the Theoretical
- **3 Domains Framework**

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**Background:** This review provides a worked example of 'best fit' framework synthesis using the Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF) of health psychology theories as an a priori framework in the synthesis of qualitative evidence. Framework synthesis works best with 'policy urgent' questions. **Objective:** The review question selected was: what are patients' experiences of prevention programmes for cardiovascular disease (CVD) and diabetes? The significance of these conditions is clear: CVD claims more deaths worldwide than any other; diabetes is a risk factor for CVD and leading cause of death. Method: A systematic review and framework synthesis were conducted. This novel method for synthesizing qualitative evidence aims to make health psychology theory accessible to implementation science and advance the application of qualitative research findings in evidence-based healthcare. Results: Findings from 14 original studies were coded deductively into the TDF and subsequently an inductive thematic analysis was conducted. Synthesized findings produced six themes relating to: knowledge, beliefs, cues to (in)action, social influences, role and identity, and context. A conceptual model was generated illustrating combinations of factors that produce cues to (in)action. This model demonstrated interrelationships between individual (beliefs and knowledge) and societal (social influences, role and identity, context) factors. Conclusion: Several intervention points were highlighted where factors could be manipulated to produce favourable cues to action. However, a lack of transparency of behavioural components of published interventions needs to be corrected and further evaluations of acceptability in relation to patient experience are required. Further work is needed to test the

- comprehensiveness of the TDF as an a priori framework for 'policy urgent' questions using
- 26 'best fit' framework synthesis.
- 27 **Keywords:** Cardiovascular diseases; diabetes; health check; behaviour change intervention;
- theoretical domains framework

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### Introduction

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2 Substantial advances in methodology for reviewing and synthesizing qualitative evidence have been made (e.g. Pope, Mays & Popay, 2007; Shaw, 2010) and clear arguments exist for 3 4 including non-trial, context-sensitive evidence within reviews of effectiveness; this offers a route for patient perspectives to be incorporated into good practice guidance if methods for 5 qualitative evidence synthesis are taken up (Kelly, Stewart, Morgan et al., 2009; Shaw, 6 Larkin & Flowers, 2014; SIGN, 2011). However, qualitative evidence synthesis can be labour 7 intensive and requires a high level of expertise in qualitative methodology. The recent 8 development of 'best fit' framework synthesis (Carroll, Booth & Cooper, 2011; Carroll, 9 10 Booth, Leaviss & Rick, 2013) offers an alternative systematic methodology based on framework analysis (Ritchie & Spencer, 1994). It adopts an a priori theoretical framework to 11 guide data extraction and synthesis making it more efficient and accessible as an approach for 12 13 reviewing and synthesizing 'policy-urgent' questions without sacrificing theory. This paper offers a novel application of framework synthesis using the Theoretical Domains 14 15 Framework (TDF; Cane, O'Conner & Michie, 2012; Michie, Johnson, Abraham et al., 2005). The TDF was chosen as the theoretical framework for this review because it was developed 16 following a systematic review and synthesis of health psychology theories (Michie et al., 17 2005), thus completing the initial step in 'best fit' framework synthesis (Booth & Carroll, 18 2015). The review identified 14 theoretical domains and 84 component constructs (Michie et 19 al., 2005). These were then validated (Cane et al., 2012) and have been used to explain 20 implementation problems, to develop theory-informed behaviour change interventions, and to 21 assess which theoretical domains are relevant to particular interventions (e.g. French et al., 22 23 2012; Francis, Stockton, Eccles et al., 2009; McKenzie, O'Connor, Page et al., 2010). Using the TDF as an a priori framework to guide the synthesis enabled insights from a wider range 24 of theoretical constructs than using one theory alone. This is the first review of which we are 25

26	aware that brings together the TDF with 'best fit' framework synthesis to offer a rigorous and
27	theoretically informed method for synthesizing qualitative research studies.
28	The 'policy urgent' review question selected was: What are patients' experiences of
29	prevention programmes for cardiovascular disease (CVD) and diabetes? These conditions
30	were selected because they feature in many public health programmes around the world (see
31	for example: Holland, Cooper, Shaw, Pattison & Cooke, 2013). One reason for both
32	conditions being the focus of prevention programmes is that they are related. CVD, including
33	coronary heart disease and stroke, account for more deaths globally than any other diseases
34	(WHO, 2011a); in 2008, 30% of deaths worldwide were attributed to CVD (WHO, 2011b).
35	Diabetes is a risk factor for CVD and the World Health Organisation (WHO) predicts
36	diabetes will be the seventh leading cause of death globally by 2030 (WHO, 2011a).
37	Furthermore the incidence of type 2 diabetes mellitus globally is rising, specifically in
38	younger age groups (Alberti, Zimmet, Shaw, Bloomgarden, Kaufman & Silink, 2004).
39	Lifestyle changes can reduce the risk and prevent further complications of CVD and diabetes
40	and evidence suggests that early detection may lead to better health outcomes (NICE, 2010;
41	WHO, 1999).
42	Previous reviews of prevention programmes have considered reduction in risk measurements
43	and cost-effectiveness or years of life added as outcomes (Ebrahim, Taylor, Ward et al.,
44	2011) but have not considered behavioural aspects. A recent review by Holland et al. (2013)
45	focused on behaviour change elements within coronary heart disease (CHD) and diabetes
46	prevention programmes and revealed mixed benefits. They found that feedback regarding risk
47	level, an evidence-based behaviour change technique (Michie, Ashford, Sniehotta et al.,
48	2011), prompts successful behaviour change (e.g. Robertson, Phillips & Mant, 1992).
49	Furthermore, those at higher risk have been shown to be more likely to change their
50	behaviour following dialogue (Craigie, Barton, Macleod et al., 2011; Koelewijn-van Loo, van

51 der Weijden, Ronda et al., 2010). Nevertheless, despite ongoing research in the field, it is not clear why prevention programmes do not have more reliable effects on behaviour change. A 52 review of patient perspectives and experiences of such programmes may help to answer this 53 question. 54 Method 55 This review adopted the methodology endorsed by the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items 56 for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) Statement (Moher, Liberati, Tetzlaff & Altman, 57 2009) and followed the step-by-step procedure for 'best fit' framework synthesis (Booth & 58 Carroll, 2015). 59 Study inclusion criteria and search strategy 60 Inclusion criteria. Qualitative research studies reporting evaluations of existing early 61 detection or prevention or screening programmes for CVD or diabetes; in primary care or in 62 the community; for adults; including patients' perspectives; using qualitative methods; since 63 64 1990; in English. Search terms were adapted from Holland et al. (2013) and included the qualitative methods filter (qualitative, findings, interview\*; Grant, 2004) identified as an 65 efficient method for identifying qualitative research (within the restraints of limited subject 66 headings in bibliographic databases for qualitative methods; Shaw, Booth, Sutton et al., 67 2004). Web of Knowledge and PubMed were searched and reference chaining of relevant 68 studies conducted. The full search strategy is included in Additional File 1. 69 Quality assessment of studies 70 Studies were appraised using prompts (Dixon-Woods, Shaw, Agarwal & Smith, 2004) 71 devised specifically to determine the quality of qualitative research which focus on 72 transparency, a key indicator of trustworthiness (Carroll, Booth & Lloyd-Jones, 2012; 73 Lincoln & Guba, 1985). A rating system, adapted from Dixon-Woods, Sutton, Shaw et al. 74

75 (2007), was then used to categorise original studies. In the revised system only studies to be included were appraised; no studies were excluded on grounds of quality. 76 Data extraction and synthesis 77 78 Data were extracted from the results sections of included studies directly into the a priori framework, i.e. the TDF, using a deductive process. This included themes or categories of 79 findings presented by authors, primary data extracts, and author commentary about those 80 data. Subsequently, an inductive (data-driven) thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006) was 81 conducted in order to code any data that did not fit into the TDF to ensure nothing was 82 missed. 83 84 Concepts from the TDF and inductive thematic analysis were then clustered and synthesized into a final set of themes representing the whole dataset. This involved interpretative work to 85 identify relationships between themes and mediating factors between individual-societal-86 organisational based aspects within them. All stages of analysis were discussed within the 87 review team until consensus was reached. 88 Sensitivity analysis 89 It has been argued that the transparency of reporting of qualitative studies is crucial to their 90 utility in secondary analysis (Carroll et al., 2012). 'Thin' descriptions of people's views, with 91 inadequately reported research questions or methods, cannot be relied upon and so the 92 93 strength of secondary analyses rests on the quality of included studies (Harden, Garcia, Oliver et al., 2004). A sensitivity analysis (Carroll et al., 2012) was conducted with and 94 without the poorer quality studies to determine the impact on coding against the TDF and the 95 96 generation of inductive themes. Further analysis was conducted to examine whether the presence/absence of (a) the theoretical domains from the TDF and (b) the inductively 97 generated themes affected the final set of themes and conceptual model in order to ensure the 98

99	synthesis of findings was not skewed in favour of either the TDF or the inductive thematic
100	analysis.

#### **Results**

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Included studies

Following removal of duplicates 585 potentially relevant records were identified. These were screened at title and abstract level to leave 50 studies to be assessed for eligibility. After further exclusions against inclusion criteria 42 studies were excluded, leaving eight included studies. Reference chaining identified six additional studies, resulting in 14 studies judged relevant for inclusion (see Figure 1 for the PRISMA flow diagram). Full details of studies are available in Table 1. Six studies were conducted in the United Kingdom (UK), three studies reported findings from one Danish study, two were based in the United States (US), one in Australia, one in Sweden, and one in Thailand. Six studies described prevention programmes for diabetes and pre-diabetes; five of which involved prevention programmes for CVD. Two studies focused on the UK National Health Service (NHS) Health Check, a prevention programme targeting cardiovascular disease, diabetes, stroke and kidney disease; one focused on CHD and the other on CHD risk. Four studies collected data from healthcare professionals as well as patients; the remaining ten included patients only. Individual interviews were the dominant method of data collection (n=12) with some using focus groups (n=3) and one study used both; analysis methods included Content Analysis (n=1), Framework Analysis (n=3), Grounded Theory (n=2), Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (n=1), Thematic Analysis (n=5) and two were unstated.

### [INSERT FIGURE 1 ABOUT HERE]

### [INSERT TABLE 1 ABOUT HERE]

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Quality of included studies

Studies were appraised and rated independently by the first and last author. Any differences were discussed in full, and a rating agreed (see Table 2 for ratings). Overall, study quality was good with good levels of transparency and detailed discussion of data included. Using an adaptation of Dixon-Woods et al. (2007), *key papers* were those which fitted the review question and met all quality criteria; *satisfactory* studies fitted the review question and met most criteria. Studies categorised as *unsure* did not meet all the quality criteria and were treated cautiously because we were unsure about their trustworthiness. Studies rated *poor* did not include sufficient data extracts to judge whether conclusions were evidenced and some omitted their method of analysis.

### [INSERT TABLE 2 ABOUT HERE]

Sensitivity analyses

Sensitivity analyses confirmed that no final theme was reliant on a single original study and excluding those of rated unsure did not affect the results; they acted to support higher quality studies which reported 'thick descriptions' (Geertz, 1973) of findings. None of the studies rated unsure was represented in the inductive thematic analysis because of the lack of data included. One theme (Cue to (in)action; see below) was generated largely from the inductive analysis alone but others were representative of both.

Findings from included studies supported the theoretical constructs included in the TDF which demonstrated the utility of the framework (see Table 3 for full descriptions of theoretical domains and constructs in the TDF and in which studies they were identified). However, some elements of original findings were not addressed in the TDF which meant additional themes were identified in the inductive thematic analysis. Furthermore, some

147	original studies cited theories not in the TDF, suggesting further development of the
148	framework may be necessary: the Common Sense Model of Illness Representations
149	(Leventhal, Nerenz, Steele, Taylor & Singer, 1984) and the Health Promotion Model (Pender,
150	1996) (see Table 4 for additional theoretical constructs and in which studies they were
151	identified). Related to illness representations, the thematic analysis highlighted the
152	physiological signs of illness which were related to people's confidence in their (in)ability to
153	identify CVD or diabetes through their bodily sensory perceptions, i.e., their impact on self-
154	efficacy (Bandura, 1977). Self-efficacy is described in the TDF as beliefs about an
155	individual's self-confidence, perceived behavioural control and empowerment regarding
156	behaviour.
157	[INSERT TABLE 3 ABOUT HERE]
158	[INSERT TABLE 4 ABOUT HERE]
159	
160	Framework synthesis
161	Below, the final set of themes is presented followed by a summary of the conceptual model.
162	Vnoveledge
162	Knowledge.
163	This theme represents what is often considered the starting point for behaviour change;
164	knowing what the prevention programme entails and why it is important to reduce risk for
165	CVD and diabetes. Original studies reported a range of knowledge levels in their patients and
166	one paper reported low levels of knowledge among healthcare professionals
167	(Sranacharoenpong & Hanning, 2011).
168	In general, there was a lack of awareness of prevention programmes for CVD and diabetes
169	prior to being invited to attend one (Burgess, Wright, Forster et al., 2014; Chipchase,
170	Waterall & Hill, 2013; Harkins, Shaw, Gillies, Sloan et al., 2010). However, a common

171	conceptualisation of prevention programmes once they have been introduced is that they are
172	like a general health check.
173	My perception of reading through things was that it was going to be a good overhaul.
174	You know, overall body check for everything, so I don't think it was as in-depth as I
175	thought it was going to be. (Rachel; participant; Chipchase et al., 2014, p.24)
176	Although perceived as a <i>general</i> health check there was an expectation that the tests would be
177	tailored to individuals.
178	I thought it was more particular to me, you know trying to sort out just how bad I was
179	whatever, didn't realise it was a separate little screening as opposed to just for myself.
180	(Patient 43; participant; Goyder, Carlisle, Lawton & Peters, 2009, p. 88)
181	That the programme was a public health intervention aimed at the whole population seemed
182	to undermine patients' perceptions of its importance to them as individuals; "a separate little
183	screening". Not knowing what the tests involved was also likely to dissuade patients from
184	attending.
185	Lack of awareness emerged as a general theme across both those who accepted and
186	those who declined the health check. It may be that lack of clarity and understanding of
187	what the health check involved had discouraged attendance. (authors; Burgess et al.,
188	2014, p. 4)
189	I didn't know what it was about, I didn't know if they'd have me on a treadmill or
190	anything like that and I wasn't wanting that. (Respondent 1, Group 1; participant;
191	Harkins et al., 2010, p. 5)
192	As well as indicating limited knowledge about the tests themselves, included studies revealed
193	poor knowledge about CVD and diabetes (Goyder et al., 2009; Harkins et al., 2010; Lanza,

194	Albright, Zucker & Martin, 2044; Sranacharoenpong & Hanning, 2011; Williams, Mason &
195	Wold, 2001). Some participants perceived screening as an opportunity to provide information
196	and thereby improve knowledge about risk factors and disease prevention among patients
197	(Goyder et al., 2009) and healthcare staff (Sranacharoenpong & Hanning, 2011).
198	Beliefs.
199	This theme demonstrates the complexity of beliefs and how they play out in people's
200	perceptions of lifestyle related diseases, risks and their own capacity to make lifestyle
201	changes. The original studies revealed a range of beliefs about different aspects of prevention
202	programmes which sometimes interacted with knowledge levels. Sometimes beliefs can
203	change with increased knowledge; equally, one's knowledge may be stunted by a belief that
204	acts as a barrier to information provision. Sometimes this meant that patients did not believe
205	test results which indicated an elevated risk.
206	I don't know what they found to make them think I am at risk in the futurewhat
207	would make them believe that I will develop diabetes. I don't know why. (N13;
208	participant; Troughton, Jarvis, Skinner et al., 2008, p. 90)
209	Others actively avoided obtaining new knowledge specific to their own risk in response to
210	their belief that getting high risk results from the tests would elicit negative feelings,
211	something to be avoided.
212	Negative beliefs about the consequences of having a health check included potentially
213	being given bad news or being 'told off'. Non-attendance was sometimes linked to a
214	belief that it might be better not to know that one might have an undiagnosed condition
215	or be at risk of developing one. (authors; Burgess et al., 2014, p. 8)
216	Patients' beliefs about capabilities were cited in relation to their perceived ability to make
217	lifestyle changes if they were found to be at risk of CVD or diabetes. These reflected internal

beliefs about their "self-motivation and self-concept" and were split into negative beliefs
about themselves, e.g. "lack of self-discipline" and "no willpower to exercise" and positive
beliefs about themselves being "able to do more" and "looking better" as a result of
beginning to make lifestyle changes which encouraged them to continue (Ray, 2001). The
link to self-efficacy is clear; one needs to feel able to make a change and be encouraged by
initial steps toward change for it to be initiated.
Some beliefs acted as barriers to prevention programmes. One was a belief in a connection
between the mind and illness (Nielsen, Dyhr, Lauritzen & Malterud, 2009). For the patient in
this study a prevention programme was not necessary because she believed that a strong and
positive mind would protect her against lifestyle related conditions. For her, this rationalised
abstinence from the prevention programme and any health behaviour change.
[Patients] discussed the mind as a powerful tool to maintain good health. The mind can
make you ill, cure you, keep you well or kill you. A woman stated that someone who
feels well, is not so likely to catch a disease. It is important to avoid stress and be
positive. This makes you stronger and gives you a chance of a better and longer life.
(authors; Nielsen et al., 2004, p. 30)
A second belief that acted as a barrier to prevention programmes was a national sense of
pride in health that was closely associated to perceptions of citizenship. In the Danish studies
being a good citizen was linked to the ability to work and poor health perceived as a
weakness which would bring into question one's ability to work. Thus, accessing healthcare
services was perceived as a weakness which would prohibit participation in prevention
programmes.
The traditional strong connection between health and work influenced both attitudes
and feelings. One informant described her mother saving: "She never complained even

242	if she was in pain. She struggled for a long time and was extremely enduring and I am
243	proud of that". This pride in being strong was still there today. (authors and participant
244	Emmelin, Weinhall, Stenlund, Wall & Dahlgren, 2007, p. 8)
245	Although the authors observed a change among the younger generation, the legacy of this
246	underlying societal belief of illness as a weakness remained a powerful influence. This is an
247	example of how societal beliefs can impact on individuals' decision-making and readiness to
248	engage in prevention programmes.
249	Cue to (in)action.
250	The focus of the prevention programmes in the included studies was twofold: to identify risk
251	levels; and to foster positive health behaviour change and thereby prevent the risk of CVD or
252	diabetes from increasing further. The first part was reported in terms of CVD risk scores or
253	the detection of pre-diabetes; the second part was not always clearly described but involved
254	advice about nutrition, physical activity, and smoking cessation. This theme demonstrates
255	that sometimes the prevention programme was perceived as a cue to action, i.e. to make
256	lifestyle changes, but sometimes it was perceived as reinforcement of good health which did
257	not require action. In the Danish Ebeltoft Project (reported in: Nielsen et al., 2009; Nielsen,
258	Dyhr, Lauritzen & Malterud, 2005; Nielsen, Dyhr, Lauritzen & Malterud, 2004) it was clear
259	that patients' beliefs that they were in good health had been confirmed following a test result
260	which indicated a low or medium risk profile.
261	The screening confirmed the participants' feeling of being in good health and they put
262	emphasis on this acquired peace of mind. Participants used the results to eliminate
263	worries and confirm their lifestyle up to now [] though others remarked on the risk of
264	becoming over-complacent. (authors; Nielsen et al., 2009, p.113-4)

265	That this reinforcement of good health acted as a cue to inaction reveals a belief that
266	preventative action, i.e. changes in lifestyle, was only necessary if risk was already elevated.
267	This belief undermines the essence of prevention programmes; preventative action can
268	always be taken even in the absence of risk. There was an awareness of this however in the
269	concern about over-complacency; clearly some participants were aware that their risk profile
270	may change over time and that taking preventative action may be required further down the
271	line. Of greater concern, was that the same kind of reaction was observed by those in higher
272	risk categories (Nielsen et al., 2005). If an elevated CVD risk score was identified but other
273	tests proved normal (e.g. lung capacity), those normal results tended to overshadow the fact
274	that they were a member of a high risk group.
275	It was great to get the "all-clear" on a whole lot of things I'd been wondering about. I
276	wasn't in quite such bad shape as I'd thought. (J3-1; participant; Nielsen et al., 2005, p
277	236)
278	These findings demonstrate a tendency toward unrealistic optimism which cued patients
279	toward inaction. Further consolidation of this perceived confirmation of good health came
280	from patients' fundamental belief that illness was always symptomatic (Burgess et al., 2014;
281	Harkins et al., 2010).
282	I just didn't feel I needed it (screening) I just didn't feelill. (Respondent 4, Group 2;
283	participant; Harkins et al., 2010, p. 5)
284	There was a clear belief that signs of CVD or diabetes would be felt in the body as
285	symptoms; this expectation to feel the illness or to feel it coming was found to influence
286	participants' perceptions of whether they were at risk and their decisions about the necessity
287	of lifestyle change. Thus, the lack of embodied symptoms was often perceived as a cue to
288	inaction (Burgess et al., 2014) illustrating the significance of the physiological or the 'felt

289	sense' (Gendlin, 1996) of illness within the body and patients' perceptions of their illness
290	(Leventhal et al., 1984).
291	Social Influences.
292	This theme describes the impact of social influences—cultural, economic, political, social—
293	on patients' decisions to engage in prevention programmes and any subsequent lifestyle
294	changes. One study explicitly drew upon social networks to test different methods of
295	invitation (Harkins et al., 2010): the first was a social media campaign which depended on
296	'glossy' information leaflets sent to postal addresses requesting that local residents phone the
297	GP surgery to make an appointment; the second a community development project which
298	employed community outreach workers to invite local residents by word of mouth to a drop-
299	in clinic. There was resistance to being accessed by post for a number of reasons (including
300	letters being perceived as junk mail, frequent changes of address, escaping debt or benefit
301	fraud). In contrast, positive responses to face to face interactions with the outreach workers
302	were reported.
303	Meeting the woman (community outreach worker) she was great, I wouldn't have
304	bothered otherwise. (Respondent 3, Group 2; participant; Harkins et al., 2010, p. 4)
305	Other ways that social networks influenced patients was in their knowledge of CVD and/or
306	diabetes. Some were influenced by their friends' experience of having diabetes, which to
307	them did not appear to be serious (Eborall, Davies, Kinmouth, Griffin & Lawton, 2007).
308	Among those declining screening in the Ebeltoft project (Nielsen et al., 2009, 2005, 2004)
309	social comparisons provided legitimacy to a fatalist view which justified a passive approach
310	to health.
311	Several informants gave the example of people who had become ill or died young
312	despite giving up smoking, alcohol or unhealthy food. They told stories about people

313 who had been drinking, smoking and eating whatever they liked and yet enjoyed good health and lived to a ripe old age. Thus, the informants questioned whether too many 314 restrictions were a good thing, hinting that they might be unhealthy or spoil one's 315 happiness. (authors; Nielsen et al., 2004, p.30) 316 This position relates to beliefs about health but also whether health – or preventative 317 behaviour to reduce risk - is prioritised when set in the context of quality of life. Enjoyment 318 of risky behaviours or the threat to happiness created by knowing one's risk in these cases 319 outweighed the benefits of engaging in a prevention programme. The example described 320 above of the pride associated with good health and the close link between health and ability 321 to work demonstrates how social influences can impact on individuals' decision-making 322 processes and health behaviours (Emmelin et al., 2007). In these cases, public health 323 324 campaigns must also seek to change perceptions of health if prevention programmes are going to be taken up and make a difference in disease incidence on a national level. 325 Role and identity. 326 Factors related to social influence, and context, were aspects of role and identity attributed by 327 patients to themselves and healthcare professionals. This theme describes how for some 328 patients identity was a key factor that influenced their readiness to take up a healthier 329 lifestyle. The extract below demonstrates how a person's belief about their quality of life can 330 reflect their identity, in this case as a smoker/ex-smoker, and prevent them from taking 331 preventative action because the costs outweigh the benefits. 332 My life was better when I smoked, took five minutes off to sit and relax...I couldn't sit 333 still [when I gave up smoking], I couldn't relax enough to drink a cup of coffee with 334 my wife. I've really thought about this a lot; we only live once, I've almost made up my 335

336	mind that I'm going to take a gamble and smoke rather than torment myself. (J3-14;
337	participant; Nielsen et al., 2005, p. 236)
338	For this participant, the sense of wellbeing from engaging in a risky behaviour was perceived
339	as more important than denying such pleasures in order to reduce risk. There was a sense in
340	some accounts that population-level prevention programmes were badly received because
341	they challenged participants' sense of autonomy.
342	They [participants] stressed the importance of autonomy and the individual's
343	incontestable right to determine his [sic] own lifestyle himself [sic] and even to enjoy
344	risky habits. (authors; Nielsen et al., 2004, p. 30)
345	Some expressed trust toward healthcare professionals and readily accepted the need to rely on
346	the healthcare system to identify risk levels because they were unable to measure their own
347	blood pressure, blood glucose or cholesterol (Goyder et al., 2009; Nielsen et al., 2004).
348	Others reacted negatively toward being invited to a prevention programme and receiving
349	reminders if they did not attend. This was coupled with a rebellion against being told what to
350	do by the state.
351	Receiving more than one invitation made some feel that the authorities were being
352	over-officious. They also underlined the risk of giving people a guilty conscience and
353	the negative effects on one's quality of life. The informants neither wanted nor needed
354	the doctor to ask them to cut down on smoking or lose weight unless they had asked for
355	advice. Telling them to do so might simply irritate them and make them more reluctant
356	to try. (authors; Nielsen et al., 2004, p. 30)
357	This emphasizes the challenge of getting the balance right between information provision and
358	encouragement to make lifestyle changes and the sensitivities people feel about their health
359	which is bound up with their sense of identity. This means that having one's health criticised

may be perceived as an assault on the self. These emotional responses related to the role of the healthcare system and the individual in prevention programmes were summarised in one paper which categorised the different positions taken up by participants (Emmelin et al., 2007). Some participants were reported to perceive the programme as a "disappointment" because they felt they did not belong to the risk groups identified which meant their high expectations of the programme were not met. Others felt the programme as an "insult".

They expressed ambivalence towards the programme even if they may have applauded it at the start. Their participation was more based on feelings than on their own health problems. However, they may have had the targeted risk factors but felt that they could not meet the demands from the programme. They felt criticised and worried over not being able to do something about it. In this group there was also a greater suspicion about the collective ambition of the programme. (authors; Emmelin et al., 2007, p. 9)

The embedded emotion in these reactions implies that prevention programmes were not always evaluated rationally. There was also an underlying sense of moralisation, as demonstrated above with the belief that health is something good, an indicator of citizenship or "civic responsibility" (Burgess et al., 2014, p. 6). This notion of 'doing good' was also observed in the perceived role of healthcare professionals who were described or described themselves as educators or facilitators (Govder et al., 2009).

### Context.

This final theme brings together the impact of social influences and role and identity to focus on the context of interactions between healthcare professionals and patients within prevention programmes. This includes micro-contextual factors such as whether interactions were face-to-face up to macro-contextual factors such as whether the programme received governmental support. It was clear that patients valued face-to-face interactions or

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conversations on the telephone (Goyder et al., 2009; Harkins et al., 2010; Lanza et al., 2007; Srarancharoenpong & Hanning, 2011; Troughton et al., 2008). This enabled patients to ask questions and gave healthcare professionals the opportunity to explain to patients the process and benefits of knowing their risk level. As stated above, letters and written information were often ignored, negating their utility in this context but there was little imagination about how else to communicate with the public about such programmes and about the risks of CVD and diabetes (Goyder et al., 2009; Harkins et al., 2010; Troughton et al., 2008). The benefits of face-to-face interactions were also highlighted in the comparison between social media based invitations and community based verbal invitations (Harkins et al., 2010). Setting these conversations in a community context rather than in a healthcare setting was preferable to some because it prevented a feeling of "getting lectured to" (Respondent 3, Williams et al., 2001) with the intention of boosting attendance and breaking down the barrier of asking people to make a special trip to a clinic for the tests. Whether such time intensive resources were available was related to the level of organisational commitment to the programme. In almost all studies there was a clear indication of support both in terms of financial investment and infrastructure. Furthermore, some participants appreciated the community spirit and enjoyed feeling part of something larger (Emmelin et al., 2007; Nielsen et al., 2004; Nielsen et al., 2009). A striking exception to this was the lack of organisational and governmental commitment evident in the Thai study (Srarancharoenpong & Hanning, 2011) which raised significant questions regarding the sustainability of the programme. The conceptual model. The themes reported above were combined to create a conceptual model of patients' perceptions and experiences of prevention programmes (represented in Figure 2). This conceptual model of prevention programmes brings together what were identified as active components in the prevention programmes evaluated in the original studies. Synthesizing this

409	evidence with theoretical constructs from the a priori framework and other health psychology
410	theories cited in the original studies has informed the development of this model particularly
411	with respect to the relationships between the themes generated.
412	The diagram depicts social influences feeding into knowledge and beliefs. Social influences
413	included social constructions of health in terms of citizenship which influenced patients'
414	sense of identity in relation to judgements about risky behaviours and quality of life.
415	Similarly, some patients' sense of autonomy led them to rebel against a population level
416	prevention programme designed to help them manage their health, because they felt that was
417	their own responsibility. Knowledge and beliefs were often described as interconnected and
418	sometimes interdependent, hence the two-way arrow. Knowledge can be targeted through
419	educational programmes, but we know that knowledge alone does not predict behaviour.
420	Indeed, most health psychology theories of behaviour—Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen,
421	1991), Protection Motivation Theory (Rogers, 1983), the Health Action Process Approach
422	(Schwarzer, 1992)—argue that knowledge informs beliefs, which in turn, influence more
423	proximal predictors of behaviour such as self-efficacy and intentions. Furthermore, the
424	synthesis suggested that beliefs could manifest as barriers to education confirming that
425	changes in beliefs may be required for prevention programmes to be successful.
426	On the right hand side of the diagram is <i>context</i> . Some patients conceptualized healthcare
427	professionals as educators and associated them with a formal consultation in which
428	information and advice were provided to increase patients' knowledge and understanding of
429	CVD and/or diabetes. Setting the prevention programme within a community context altered
430	the <i>role</i> played by community workers or healthcare professionals involved in delivering the
431	intervention; face-to-face contact in a non-health setting deformalized the programme and
432	facilitated access.

Together, social influences, knowledge and beliefs, context, and role and identity fed into cues to (in)action. The nature of participants' beliefs and their level of understanding of risk factors and CVD or diabetes influenced their readiness to act. Likewise, the setting, the role adopted by healthcare professionals, the perceived role of the programme itself, individuals' sense of identity, and societal factors worked together to influence readiness to engage in prevention programmes and associated behaviour change. Each interconnected theme on the right hand side manifested as either a barrier or facilitator of action and competed with the factors on the left to produce a cue to action or inaction. Together, they were all related to social influences, which cuts across the model as a foundational factor. There was limited evidence to suggest prioritisation of any one factor over another which is why they are presented as equivalent in this model. Nevertheless, the evidence suggests that the significance of each factor is not fixed and that different combinations of factors will play out differently on different occasions.

### [INSERT FIGURE 2 ABOUT HERE]

### **Discussion**

The conceptual model generated from themes identified in included studies illustrates the complex interactions at play between the individual and their social context and between healthcare professionals and organisational structures. These complex factors combine to generate a cue to action or inaction. There are number of entry points within this model where healthcare interventions could manipulate factors affecting (in)action. For these entry points to work as active ingredients they need to be targeted within a supportive context, i.e. through government policy and funding at both national and local levels. An initial entry point might be through *knowledge* and information provision. There is an urgent need to move away from written materials and to invest in resources to facilitate face-to-face

healthcare professional-patient interactions through <i>role and identity</i> . Secondly, a move
toward focusing more strongly on smaller communities may work to produce productive
social influences. Although prevention programmes are often delivered at the population
level, there is a need to make them more accessible for the local community which may
involve taking them out of the healthcare setting and putting them into workplaces or
community centres with additional support available by telephone. Indeed, prevention
programmes delivered in primary care or in the community may need to be accompanied by
large scale public health messages focusing on lifestyle related to specific behaviours that
help to reduce CVD and diabetes risk, e.g. stop smoking, eat well, engage in physical
activity. There would then be a foundation on which to build better understanding in
individual consultations when tests are conducted.
In terms of the content of the programmes evaluated as potential cues for (in)action, there
was a marked absence of discussion of goals in the included studies; healthcare professionals
gave advice about nutrition and physical activity but it was not clear from the way they were
reported whether efforts were made to tailor this advice to the individual or indeed to engage
in goal-setting. These findings resonate with empirical work published following the
completion of this review (Shaw, Pattison, Holland & Cooke, 2015). The lack of tailored
advice identified was disappointing because there is evidence to demonstrate that making
specific plans to reach a goal is a successful behaviour change technique for promoting
adoption of healthy behaviours (Michie et al., 2011; Sniehotta, Scholtz & Schwarzer, 2006).
Furthermore, there is a need to change people's beliefs about symptoms in relation to lifestyle
related conditions. The absence of symptoms, and feeling well, were common reasons for
non-engagement with programmes which justified inaction or confirmed participants'
perceptions that their current lifestyle did not need to be changed. This link between a 'felt
sense' of illness in the body is not included in the TDF but discussed in the original studies

483	with reference to Leventhal et al.'s (1984) Common Sense Model of Illness Representations
484	and physiological factors contributing to self-efficacy (Bandura, 1977). It is clear from these
485	qualitative studies that illness perceptions are a significant contributor to beliefs which then
486	help to formulate cues to (in)action, i.e. whether individuals take up invitations to prevention
487	programmes.
488	Of course taking action is not only the responsibility of the patient; the behaviour of
489	healthcare professionals is also important and should be considered a proximal determinant
490	for the quality of care that patients receive (French et al., 2012). Thus, in reviewing the
491	effectiveness of interventions, especially in terms of context and acceptability, it is necessary
492	to examine patient and healthcare professional perspectives regarding the reception and
493	delivery of interventions, their impact on patients' everyday lives, and the training and
494	support required to enable healthcare professionals to follow protocols faithfully and deliver
495	them competently (Bellg et al., 2004; Shaw et al., 2014). Unfortunately few studies included
496	accounts from healthcare professionals which means there is insufficient evidence on which
497	to draw conclusions about their role in CVD and diabetes prevention programmes.
498	Finally, these qualitative studies made clear that people's perceptions and reactions to
499	prevention programmes may not always be rational. This highlighted the need to strike a
500	careful balance between information provision and encouragement from healthcare
501	organisations to make lifestyle changes so as not to cause insult or prompt a rebellious denial.
502	Each element of the prevention programme needs to be carefully crafted to ensure it is
503	positively received. The best way to achieve this is to work together with patients and
504	families. Using rigorous qualitative research can be vital in formulating an intervention that
505	will be acceptable and feasible within a specific context (for an example of intervention
506	development using qualitative methods, see: Hudson, Duncan, Pattison & Shaw, 2015).

507 Strengths and limitations of original studies Limitations of original studies included missing details of the behavioural components of 508 interventions and lack of transparency making it difficult to determine which aspects of the 509 interventions were successful. Nevertheless, the transparent reporting of the analysis of 510 primary data in high quality studies meant that data extracts were available providing a 511 greater depth of understanding. 512 Strengths and limitations of the review 513 This is the first synthesis of evidence relating to prevention programmes for CVD and 514 diabetes which uses the TDF as an a priori framework. This meant the synthesis was 515 informed both by a range of health psychology theories and empirical findings in the 516 included studies. This review is limited by the quality of original studies, though we note that 517 none of the 14 included studies was rated as poor, and it is limited in scope by its question. 518 519 Furthermore, additional work is required to test the use of the TDF and its coverage; several theoretical constructs in included studies were not represented. This suggests further 520 development of the TDF is required for it to fully serve as an a priori framework that 521 comprehensively represents the breadth of existing health psychology theory. Thus, an update 522 of the systematic review of health psychology theories may be required before the TDF could 523 be packaged alongside 'best fit' framework synthesis as a methodological exemplar for 524 'policy urgent' systematic reviews in health psychology. 525 **Conclusion** 526 The conceptual model, developed from this synthesis, enhances the emphasis on the complex 527 528 interactions between individuals' beliefs, knowledge and identity, their social networks, wider societal constructions of health and organisational factors. At the centre of the model 529 are the *cues to (in)action* which are created through different combinations of factors. More 530 531 research is needed to make explicit the behavioural components of prevention programmes

which focus on patients' and also healthcare professionals' perceptions and experiences to
discern which behavioural elements are active in which contexts. Furthermore, programmes
for the identification of risk and prevention of CVD and diabetes need to take account of the
person-in-context and therefore of the individual within the system. Thus, healthcare
providers need to take seriously patients' health beliefs and the context in which programmes
operate when identifying intervention points. Public health campaigns to improve knowledge
and change beliefs and behaviour need to be combined with practical steps to facilitate
equivalent access across socio-demographic boundaries.

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Table 1. Description of the original studies included in this review.

Paper	Author (Year)	Research Question/Aim	Sampling Method and Size (n)	Intervention	Location	Data Collection Method	Data Analysis Method	Quality Rating
P1	Burgess (2014)	To explore patterns of uptake; influences on decision to attend screening	Patients ( <i>n</i> =27), Purposive	NHS Health Check	UK	Interviews	Framework analysis	Key Paper
P2	Chipchase (2013)	To explore impact of NHS Health Check with patients	Patients ( <i>n</i> =10), Random	NHS Health Check	UK	Interviews	Interpretative phenomenological analysis	Satisfactory
P3	Eborall (2007)	To provide insight into factors contributing to anxiety; to explore expectations & reactions to screening experience	Patients & HCPs ( <i>n</i> =23), Purposive	ADDITION trial Type 2 diabetes screening	UK	Interviews	Grounded theory	Key Paper
P4	Emmelin (2007) <sup>a</sup>	To describe changes in self-rated health related to risk factors; to describe health related norms & attitudes toward CVD programme	Patients ( <i>n</i> =9), Purposive	Cardiovascular risk factors screening	Sweden	Interviews	Grounded theory	Key Paper
P5	Goyder (2009)	To examine perceptions of staff & patients involved in screening	Patients ( <i>n</i> =49) & HCPs ( <i>n</i> =23), Purposive	Diabetes screening	UK	Interviews	Framework analysis	Key Paper
P6	Harkins (2010)	To explore perceived barriers & facilitators to engaging in CHD primary prevention programme	Patients ( <i>n</i> =13)	CHD prevention programme	UK	Focus groups	Thematic analysis	Key Paper
P7	Lanza (2007) <sup>a</sup>	To evaluate the Diabetes Detection Initiative	Patients $(n=20-32)^{c}$ , Purposive	Diabetes Detection Initiative	US	Discussion groups	Not stated	Unsure
P8	Nielsen (2009) <sup>b</sup>	To explore individuals' responses to a low cardiovascular risk score	Patients ( <i>n</i> =22), Purposive	Ebeltoft Project CVD	Denmark	Interviews	Thematic analysis using Malterud's principles	Satisfactory

P9	Nielsen (2005) b	To explore individuals' responses to an elevated cardiovascular risk score	Patients ( <i>n</i> =14), Stratified, Purposive	Ebeltoft Project CVD	Denmark	Interviews	Thematic analysis using Malterud's principles	Key Paper
P10	Nielsen (2004) <sup>b</sup>	To explore non-participants' views on invitations to health screenings	Patients ( <i>n</i> =47), Stratified, Purposive	Ebeltoft Project CVD	Denmark	Interviews	Thematic analysis using Malterud's principles	Satisfactory
P11	Ray (2001)	To explore behavioural changes of those attending screening	Patients ( <i>n</i> =135), Self-selected	Heart risk screening	Australia	Telephone interviews	Content analysis	Satisfactory
P12	Sranacharoenpong (2011)	To investigate barriers to & support for community-based diabetes prevention programme	Patients & HCPs ( <i>n</i> =43), Purposive	Diabetes prevention programme	Thailand	Interviews and focus groups	Thematic analysis	Key Paper
P13	Troughton (2008)	To ascertain individuals' experience of screening	Patients & HCPs ( <i>n</i> =15), Purposive	Pre-diabetes	UK	Interviews	Framework analysis	Key Paper
P14	Williams (2001) <sup>a</sup>	To examine the impact of a culturally appropriate recruitment strategy to CVD screening	Patients ( <i>n</i> =66) in work context	Healthier People Risk Appraisal CVD	US	Interviews	Not stated	Unsure

*Note.* CVD – Cardiovascular disease. HCPs – Health care professionals. UK – United Kingdom. US – United States. <sup>a</sup> Mixed methods study – only the qualitative elements of these studies were included in this review. <sup>b</sup> These studies report results from the same study. <sup>c</sup> Exact sample size of qualitative element not stated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> Quality Rating: Key paper – meets all quality criteria and clearly fits with review question. Satisfactory – meets most quality criteria and fits well to review question. Unsure – mixed responses to quality criteria and lack of clarity regarding relevance to review question. Poor – does not meet quality criteria.

Table 2. Appraisal of original studies included in this review.

Prompt	Reviewer	P1	P2	Р3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	P9	P10	P11	P12	P13	P14
1. Are the research questions clear?	1	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
_	2	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2. Are the research questions suited	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
to qualitative inquiry?	2	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3. Is the sampling clearly	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
described?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	( N )	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
4. Is the data collection clearly	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
described?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	$\supset Y$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5. Is the analysis clearly described?	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
6. Is the sampling appropriate to	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	- ~	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
the research question?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-
7. Is the data collection appropriate	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
to the research question?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
8. Is the analysis appropriate	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-
to the research question?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y
9. Are the claims made supported	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
by sufficient evidence?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
10. Are the data, interpretations, and	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
conclusions clearly integrated?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
11. Does the paper make a useful	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
contribution?	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Overall Rating <sup>a</sup>	1	KP	SAT	KP	KP	SAT	KP	UNS	SAT	KP	SAT	SAT	KP	KP	SAT
Over all Kaulig	2	KP	SAT	KP	KP	KP	KP	UNS	SAT	SAT	SAT	KP	KP	KP	Poor
Agreed Rating		KP	SAT	KP	KP	KP	KP	UNS	SAT	KP	SAT	SAT	KP	KP	UNS

*Note.* P – Papers that were coded for the particular dimension; see Table 1 for corresponding Author (Year). <sup>a</sup> Quality Rating: KP: Key paper – meets all quality criteria and clearly fits with review question; SAT: satisfactory – meets most quality criteria and fits well to review question; UNS: unsure – mixed responses to quality criteria and lack of clarity regarding relevance to review question; Poor – does not meet quality criteria.

Table 3. Coding of included studies against the *a priori* framework: Theoretical domains framework.

	DOMAINS and Constructs*	Studies (k) Coded For Domain	Analytic Observations
<b>D1</b>	KNOWLEDGE	k=13	
	Knowledge; procedural knowledge; knowledge of task environment	P1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	Generally knowledge is poor If knowledge is good it doesn't always lead to behaviour change – it interacts with other mediating factors
<b>D2</b>	SKILLS	k=3	Healthcare professionals need to be trained & supported
	Skills; skills development; competence; ability; interpersonal skills; practice; skill assessment	P2, 3, 12	
<b>D3</b>	SOCIAL/PROFESSIONAL ROLE AND IDENTITY	k=7	
	Professional identity; professional role; social identity; identity; professional boundaries; professional confidence; group identity; leadership; organisational commitment	P3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14	Identity in relation to individuals & organisations are mediating factors
<b>D4</b>	BELIEFS ABOUT CAPABITILITIES	k=6	
	Self-confidence; perceived competence; self-efficacy; perceived behavioural control; beliefs; self-esteem; empowerment; professional confidence	P4, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13	A mixture of terms are used including: self-efficacy, perceived behavioural control, confidence
<b>D5</b>	OPTIMISM	k=4	
	Optimism; pessimism; unrealistic optimism; identity	P1,3,9,13	Sometimes unrealistic optimism linked to inaction
<b>D6</b>	BELIEFS ABOUT CONSEQUENCES	k=8	
	Beliefs; outcome expectancies; characteristics of outcome expectances; anticipated regret; consequents	P1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 13	Expectations of results influence decision-making
<b>D7</b>	REINFORCEMENT	k=4	
	Rewards; incentives; punishment; consequents; reinforcement; contingences; sanctions	P4, 8, 11, 13	Confirmation of (good) health status
<b>D8</b>	INTENTIONS	k=6	

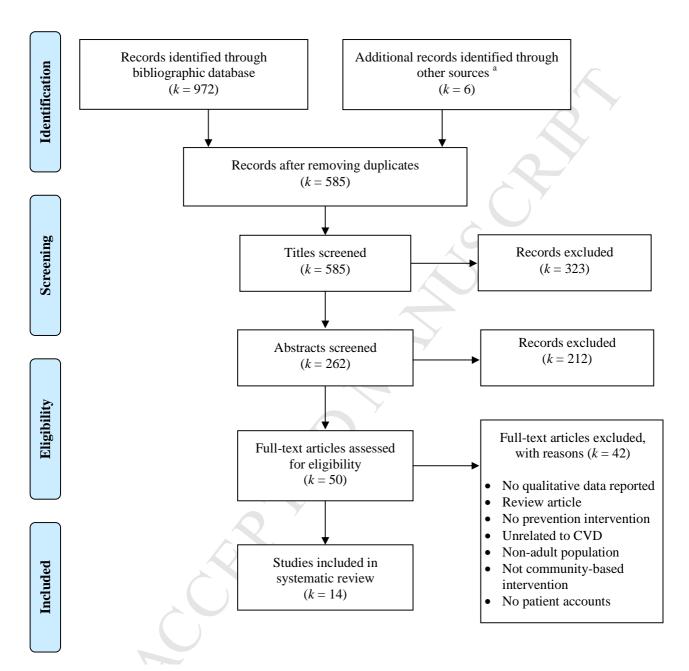
	Stability of intentions; stages of change model; transtheoretical change model and stages of change	P4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13	Talk of changes included but in no detail			
<b>D9</b>	GOALS	k=3				
	Goals; goal priority; goal/target setting; goals (autonomous/controlled); action planning; implementation intention	P4,9,11	Talk of changes made but not in language of behaviour change techniques			
<b>D10</b>	MEMORY, ATTENTION AND DECISION PROCESSES	k=2				
	Memory; attention; attention control; decision making; cognitive overload/tiredness	P5, 8	Decision-making			
D11	ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT AND RESOURCES	k=13				
	Environmental stressors; resources/material resources; organisational culture/climate; salient events/critical incidents; person x environment interaction; barriers and facilitators	P1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	Materials & resources; person x organisation interaction includes patient $\times$ healthcare professional interaction			
D12	SOCIAL INFLUENCES	k=11				
	Social pressure; social norms; group conformity; social comparisons; group norms; social support; power; intergroup conflict; alienation; group identity; modelling	P2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13	Community/collective effort; social pressures; power issues relating to doctor-patient relationship			
D13	EMOTION	k=7				
	Fear; anxiety; affect; stress; depression; positive/negative affect; burnout	P4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11	Positive/negative affect; some anxiety			
<b>D14</b>	BEHAVIOURAL REGULATION	<i>k</i> =1				
	Self-monitoring; breaking habit; action planning	P11	Self-reported changes			
Note	2. *All definitions are based on definitions from the American Psychologic	cal Association's Dicti	ionary of Psychology; adapted from Cane et al. (2012).			

*Note.* \*All definitions are based on definitions from the American Psychological Association's Dictionary of Psychology; adapted from Cane et al. (2012). P – Papers that were coded for the particular dimension; see Table 1 for corresponding Author (Year).

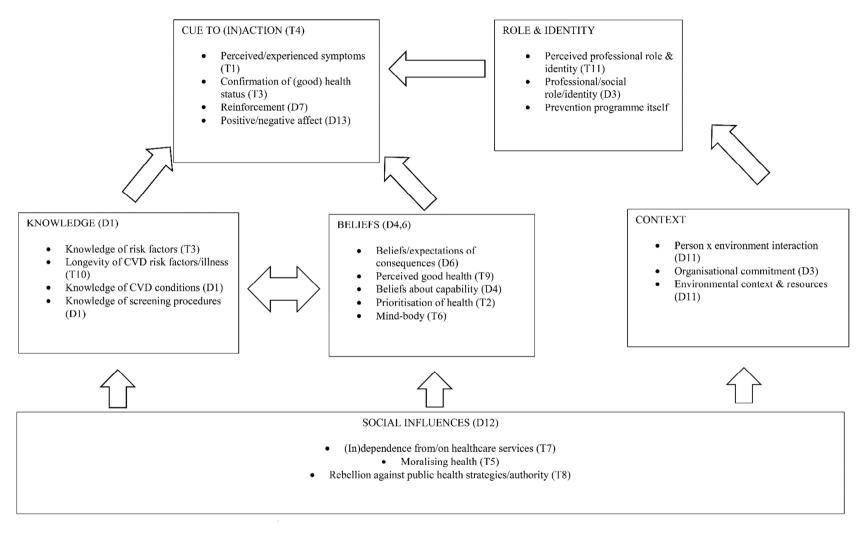
Table 4. Inductive thematic analysis of included studies: Concepts not included in the Theoretical domains framework.

	Themes	Studies (k) Coded For Themes	Analytic Observations				
T1	Perceived/Experienced Symptoms	<b>k=5</b> P1, 3, 6, 10, 13	Cited reason for not screening/not taking action (T4)				
T2	Prioritisation of health/behaviour change in relation to quality of life	<b>k=3</b> P2, 9, 12	Cited reason for not taking action (T4)				
Т3	Reassurance/confirmation of (good) health status	<b>k=5</b> P1, 2, 4, 8, 13	Knowledge of risk factors & relationship of lifestyle on CVD mediate this confirmation of good health (D1); relates to beliefs/expectations of consequences (D6)				
<b>T4</b>	Cue to (in)action	<b>k=4</b> P3,4,9,10	Either prompts action or not depending on interaction with T1,2,9; related to D7,13				
T5	Moralising health	<b>k=3</b> P3, 4, 8	Good health perceived to equate to good person; relates to social influences (D12)				
<b>T6</b>	Mind-body/whole person approach to health	<b>k=2</b> P4, 10	Physical symptoms not experienced is perceived to equate to absence of illness; relates to D1				
<b>T7</b>	(in)dependence from/on healthcare services	<b>k=3</b> P8, 10, 13	Caution against passivity/dependence on healthcare system; individual choice				
T8	Rebellion against public health strategies/authority/community approach	<b>k=2</b> P6, 10	Related to moralising health – reaction against notion of common good/authority				
T9	Perceived good health/lack of symptoms	<b>k=4</b> P2, 6, 10, 11	Cited reason for inaction (T4)				
T10	Longevity of risk factors/illness	<b>k=1</b> P10	Related to knowledge of risk factors over time (T1)				
T11	Perceived professional role and identity	<b>k=7</b> P3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14	Related to professional role and identity (D3) but focuses on patients' perceptions of professionals				

*Note.* \*All definitions are based on definitions from the American Psychological Association's Dictionary of Psychology; adapted from Cane et al. (2012). P – Papers that were coded for the particular dimension; see Table 1 for corresponding Author (Year).



**Figure 1.** *P*referred *R*eporting *I*tems for *S*ystematic Reviews and *M*eta-*A*nalyses (PRISMA) Flow **Diagram.** <sup>a</sup> Other sources: Reference chainging, contacting authors. CVD – Cardiovascular disease.



**Figure 2. Conceptual model of patients' perceptions and experiences of prevention programmes.** D – Domains; Theoretical domains and constructs in the theoretical domains framework (see Table 3 for details). T – Themes (identified through inductive thematic analysis); Theoretical constructs *not* included in the theoretical domains framework (see Table 4 for details). CVD – Cardiovascular disease.

Patients' perceptions and experiences of cardiovascular disease and diabetes prevention programmes: a systematic review and framework synthesis of qualitative evidence

### **Research highlights**

- Framework synthesis offers robust review methodology for 'policy urgent' questions
- The Theoretical Domains Framework combines constructs; more development work on its comprehensiveness is needed
- Qualitative research studies tell us about patient acceptability of prevention programmes
- Organisation and social context create distinctive professional-patient interaction
- Knowledge and beliefs about risk & symptoms combine to create cues to (in)action