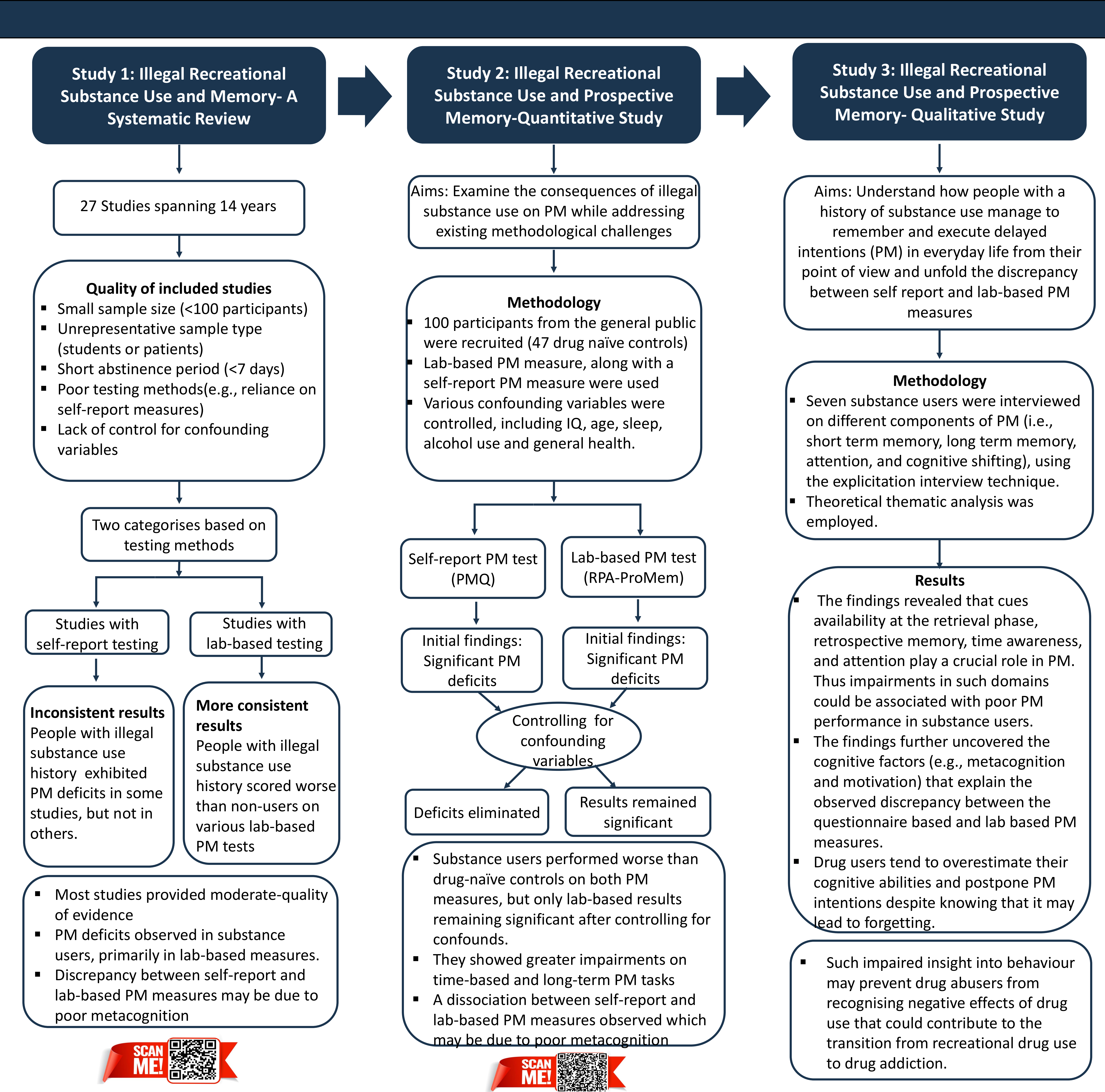


Introduction

Recreational substance use (e.g., cannabis, MDMA, cocaine) is widespread worldwide (United Nations : Office on Drugs and Crime, 2022). These substances disrupt neurotransmitter systems, including dopamine and serotonin, which support cognitive functions such as prospective memory (PM). PM is the ability to remember future intentions and is essential for everyday tasks, from the relatively simple (e.g., buying a bread when you pass a shop) to potentially life-threatening situations (e.g., forgetting to take daily medications). This project investigates how recreational drug use may affect PM using a mixed methods approach across three interconnected studies.



Conclusion

PM is one of the most crucial cognitive processes for day-to-day functioning. PM also play a key role in social interaction, for example, one who consistently forgets to execute PM tasks (e.g., missing a meeting) in social contexts is likely to struggle to sustain positive personal and professional relationships with others. Therefore, PM impairments may affect the overall quality of life for individuals with a history of substance use and contribute to the transition from recreational drug use to addiction.