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# The Benefits and Burdens of Pediatric Palliative Care and End-of-Life Research: A Systematic Review

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## Abstract

**Objective:** The aim of this study is to report the benefits and burdens of palliative research participation on children, siblings, parents, clinicians, and researchers.

**Background:** Pediatric palliative care requires research to mature the science and improve interventions. A tension exists between the desire to enhance palliative and end-of-life care for children and their families and the need to protect these potentially vulnerable populations from untoward burdens.

**Methods:** Systematic review followed PRISMA guidelines with prepared protocol registered as PROSPERO #CRD42018087304. MEDLINE, CINAHL, PsycINFO, EMBASE, Scopus, and The Cochrane Library were searched (2000–2017). English-language studies depicting the benefits or burdens of palliative care or end-of-life research participation on either pediatric patients and/or their family members, clinicians, or study teams were eligible for inclusion. Study quality was appraised using the Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool (MMAT).

**Results:** Twenty-four studies met final inclusion criteria. The benefit or burden of palliative care research participation was reported for the child in 6 papers; siblings in 2; parents in 19; clinicians in 3; and researchers in 5 papers. Benefits were more heavily emphasized by patients and family members, whereas burdens were more prominently emphasized by researchers and clinicians. No paper utilized a validated benefit/burden scale.

**Discussion:** The lack of published exploration into the benefits and burdens of those asked to take part in pediatric palliative care research and those conducting the research is striking. There is a need for

implementation of a validated benefit/burden instrument or interview measure as part of pediatric palliative and end-of-life research design and reporting.

## Introduction

Research is needed to support design of interventions in pediatric, palliative, and end-of-life care and to measure the impact of interventions once implemented.<sup>1</sup> The advancement of pediatric palliative care as a new and maturing field requires research to advance the science of not only clinical care but caring with measured excellence as well. The general public, institutional review boards (IRBs), ethics and oversight committees, grant reviewers, and even some bedside clinicians are sometimes fearful of involving children and their family members in palliative care and end-of-life research.<sup>2-5</sup> This hesitancy rests on a concern for potential or anticipated burden to research subjects.<sup>6-8</sup>

Adult studies have shown overestimation of palliative care research burden and underestimation of research benefit at end of life.<sup>9</sup> Recent assessment of the benefit and burden of psychosocial research in medically ill youth using validated measures and a Burden and Benefit Scale<sup>9</sup> revealed that pediatric patients (83%) and caregivers (93%) did not find participation burdensome; rather, patients (85%) and caregivers (95%) found benefit in participation.<sup>10</sup> A clearer understanding of the actual benefit and experienced burden to children, family members, clinicians, and even study team members participating in pediatric palliative care research is needed.

A tension exists between improving care for children and family members receiving palliative care services and the need to protect these vulnerable, potential research participants. Rather than extrapolate adult palliative care research findings into pediatric settings, engaging children and their family members who are receiving palliative care or end-of-life care in research could lead to discovering knowledge unique to pediatrics. Fear of including children and their families in palliative care research could prevent this special population from experiencing the potential benefit of research participation. Including children and their families in pediatric palliative care research could foster an understanding of self-identified care needs or system improvements and, thus, could be a way to promote health equity.

To automatically exclude children receiving palliative or end-of-life care and their family members from research participation due to fear of burden could effectively silence these knowledgeable informants. Including children and even bereaved family members in well-designed research will inform ways of giving care more thoughtfully and effectively.<sup>11,12</sup> Therefore, the objective of this systematic review was to examine the state of the science regarding the burden and benefit of participation in pediatric palliative care research as reported by children or adolescents, their family members, their clinicians, and their research teams.

## Methods

Inclusion criteria, as well as methods of data extraction and analysis, were specified in advance. The literature search process was guided by an academic research librarian (C.M.S.) and outlined in the PROSPERO protocol (Registry #CRD42018087304). Literature database searches were limited to English-language articles published from 2000 through 2017. The decision to start the search in year 2000 was based on the feasibility of capturing data in a rapidly growing field. Pediatric-specific

palliative care publications exponentially increased in 2000 as compared with even the late 1990s. The searches were conducted in three phases in November 2017. During Phase 1, MEDLINE, CINAHL, and PsycINFO (all through EBSCOhost); EMBASE and Scopus (through Elsevier interfaces); and The Cochrane Library (through the Wiley interface) were searched. The search strategies were composed of keywords and subject headings for the four search concepts: (1) infants, children, and adolescents; (2) advance care planning, palliative/hospice/end-of-life care, and bereavement care; (3) risk/benefit terms; and (4) terms indicative of research participation. The complete search strategies are available in [Supplementary Appendix SA1](#). C.A.S. and M.S.W. performed an initial, title/abstract review of Phase 1 results solely to identify articles that could be used as a basis for Phase 3, “cited-” or “citing-article” searches.

This review identified 54 articles with titles or abstracts that mentioned the topic of interest. During Phase 2, the interdisciplinary study team identified 19 articles that focused some attention on the topic of interest. These articles were previously known to the study team but had not been identified by the Phase 1 search. During Phase 3, a total of 72, “citing-” and “cited article” searches were run in Scopus. These searches were based on the 54 relevant articles identified during the title/abstract review of Phase 1 results and on 18 of the 19 articles identified during Phase 2. One of the 19 Phase 2 articles did not have a Scopus record. All citing/cited-article records that contained an infant/child/adolescent/pediatric-related term in either the title, abstract, or keyword fields were added to the project database.

This systematic review was not exploring the impact of palliative care interventions but was instead exploring the impact of participation in the research process associated with palliative care interventions. To be included in our analyses, a paper had to report on the benefit or burden of participation in palliative care research as reported by child, sibling, parent, clinician, or researcher. Only papers with the stated objective of finding out about palliative care research participation benefit or burden were included in final data syntheses.

Randomized clinical trials, meta-analyses, systematic reviews, descriptive quantitative and qualitative reports, and prospective cohort studies were included. Case reports, editorials, and clinical guidelines were excluded. In terms of case reports, the study team was concerned about the introduction of bias and the possibility of duplicate publication if a case study served as a pilot for a larger later palliative care paper. The study team perceived that a case study would not likely include more than a population-based study. The study subject had to include pediatric (defined as age <18 years) palliative care populations or their family members. Pediatric palliative care studies involving palliative care introduction to the family through end-of-life and family bereavement were included.

Seven team members participated in abstract-level eligibility assessment (V.N.M., A.R.N., C.A.F., K.M., K.P.K., K.M.-D., and M.S.W.), with each abstract being independently assessed by two authors. The abstract-level review included rereview of all the articles initially identified in Phase 1. Level of inter-rater agreement at abstract level was >90%. Disagreement between reviewers was resolved by consensus. Full-text eligibility assessment was performed in the same manner with >85% inter-rater agreement at full-text level.

Data extraction occurred through data extraction forms first piloted on five randomly selected included studies and refined (P.S.H., K.M.-D., A.R.N., C.A.F., K.M., and M.S.W.). The full-text data extraction was entered in an online format by two blinded reviewers with a third reviewer checking the extracted data (P.S.H., M.K.U., K.M., K.M.-D., K.P.K., C.J.B., J.L.S., C.A.F., VN.M., A.R.N., and M.S.W.). Disagreements were resolved by discussion. Full-text data extraction form is available in [Supplementary Data 1](#).

Information was extracted from each paper on the following: study characteristics (study design, length, institutional involvement, location and setting, population description, research variables, intervention, control or comparison group, sample size, retention as indicated); benefit or burden of research participation on child, parent, clinician, study team and whose perspective was utilized to report benefit or burden; within-study bias or limitations reported; research barriers reported; and research participation benefit–burden assessment tool utilized. Data synthesis occurred primarily through quantification of shared themes and patterns.

Each study team member was assigned to a stakeholder perspective subgroup (child, parent, sibling, clinician, or researcher perspective) and was tasked with rereviewing the primary research findings with that stakeholder lens. The team then engaged in structured dialog to identify patterns within and across stakeholder groups. Each study team member discussed the benefits and burdens that may explain variations in findings from stakeholder perspectives. Study quality of individual studies was then assessed by two blinded reviewers using the Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool (MMAT)—Version 2011.<sup>13</sup> The MMAT is a 19-item validated bias and quality checklist tool for appraising the quality of quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods studies.

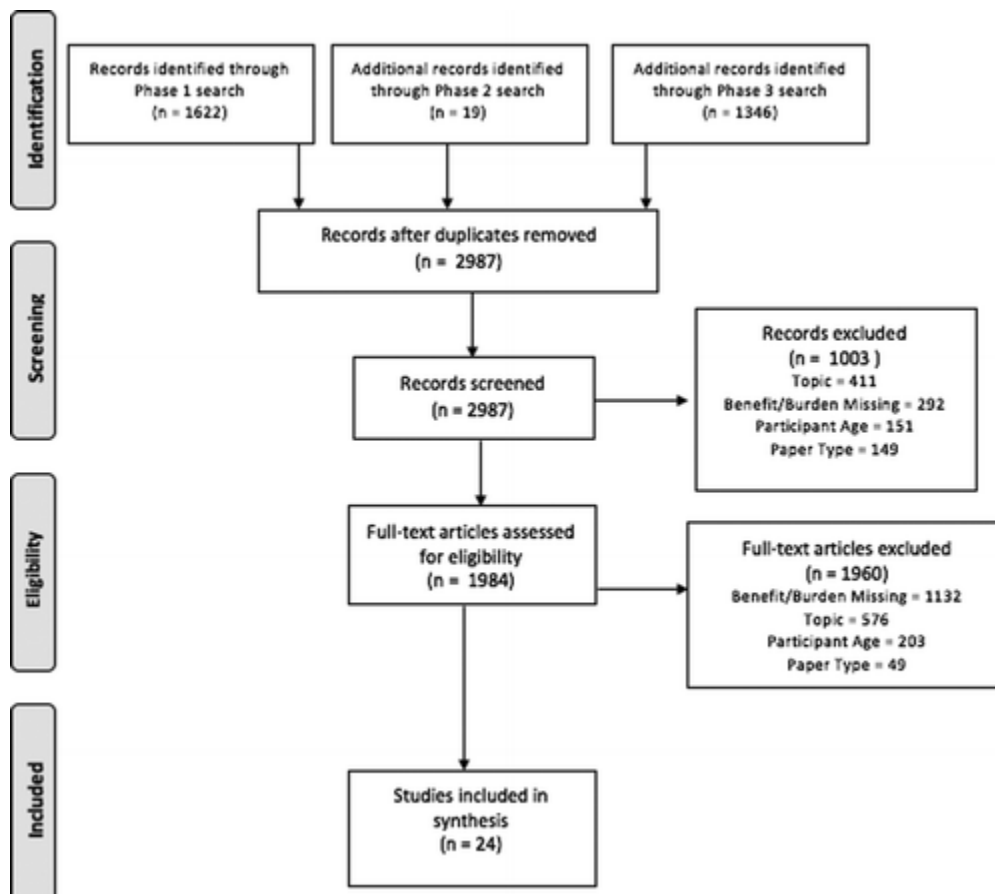
A conceptual framework was developed by data extracting key descriptive words used in the included manuscripts to define or describe the perceived benefit and burden of palliative care research into an Excel document. The words were then iteratively grouped by key phrases across the studies. Two word clouds were created (created at <https://worditout.com>) with one cloud representing benefits and the other representing burdens across stakeholders (children, their family members, clinicians, and researchers). Larger words in the created image then represented greater frequency of reported benefits/burdens included in the systematic review ([Fig. 1](#)).



**FIG. 1.** Conceptual model. Conducting pediatric palliative care research requires a delicate balance of weighing the burdens and benefits in this vulnerable population. Word size and color correlate with frequency of finding.

## Results

A total of 2445 records were retrieved by the Phase 1 searches (639 MEDLINE, 343 CINAHL, 243 PsycINFO, 608 EMBASE, 418 Scopus, and 194 Cochrane Library records). After removal of 823 duplicate records, 1622 records remained for expert review. The “citing article” searches produced 2078 records. A total of 732 duplicates were removed after the Phase 3 searches were completed, leaving an additional 1346 records from Phase 3. With duplicates removed, the records from Phase 1 (1622), Phase 2 (19), and Phase 3 (1346) together produced a total of 2987 records for expert review. A total of 1003 articles were excluded at abstract level due primarily to topic (41%), benefit/burden report missing (29%), participant age (15%), and paper type (15%). This left 1984 eligible for full-text review, with a total of 1960 papers then excluded at full-text level due to benefit/burden report missing (58%), topic (29%), participant age (10%), and paper type (3%). Twenty-four papers were included in final analysis. PRISMA flow diagram is available in [Figure 2](#).



**FIG. 2.** PRISMA flow diagram. PRISMA flow diagram depicting paper search, selection, and inclusion process.

Study type included quantitative,<sup>3,14-18</sup> qualitative,<sup>19-31</sup> mixed methodology,<sup>32-34</sup> and literature review.<sup>35</sup> Study quality, as appraised by the MMAT score to assess bias and appraise quality across



study formats, ranged from 50% to 100% with 8 studies rated at 100% and 7 at <70% ([Table 1](#)). Two research interactions regarding benefit/burden assessment were written survey format, [16,17](#) one with online focus group format, [23](#) one with in-person focus group format, [36](#) one with mailed letter, [22](#) three with telephone interaction, [22,25,31](#) and the remainder were in-person interview based.

**Table 1. Summary of Included Papers**

<b>Author last name and study</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Study population</b>	<b>Study objective</b>	<b>Benefit assessed by</b>	<b>Benefit described</b>	<b>Burden assessed by</b>	<b>Burden described</b>	<b>Mechanism of reporting benefit/burden</b>	<b>MMA T score (%)</b>
Allen <sup>19</sup>	2016	<i>n</i> = 13 Bereaved parents of infants w/HIE	Understand the risks and benefits of conducting sensitive research to understand parental experiences of caring for infants with HIE	Parent	Benefit of expression of intense emotions in a nonjudgmental environment; reflection on child's milestones	—	Burden not reported	Structured interviews with content analysis	50
Bingen <sup>20</sup>	2011	<i>n</i> = 16 Parents with child actively receiving palliative care; <i>n</i> = 9 bereaved parents	Explore respondent comfort with completing a parental palliative care parental self-efficacy measure instrument	Parent	55/58 questions were rated as “important” to ask by >80% of respondents	Parent	53/58 questions were rated as “comfortable being asked” with 5 questions presumably less comfortable areas of inquiry	Focus group interview format conducted by a psychologist to review family experience using the PCPEM	66
Briller <sup>21</sup>	2012	<i>n</i> = 6 Medical professional	Explore conceptual and design	Parent	Opportunity to express feelings	Parent	Evocation of powerful memories	Qualitative interviews to review	50

		s and $n = 5$ bereaved parents	issues encountered in creating a bereaved parents needs assessment in intensive care setting		and remember child		and emotions	participant experience in completing the Bereaved Parent Needs Assessment–PICU	
Butler <sup>22</sup>	2017	$n = 19$ Bereaved parents	Inquire into preferred method of recruitment approach for bereavement studies	Parent	Time and opportunity to “think” about the study and the child; being known, remembered, and included by staff	Parent	Sense of “shock” (2/19) about unexpected research contact after death of child	Interview-based follow-up phone calls with parent participants	75
Cook <sup>23</sup>	2014	$n = 2$ Online focus groups with 220 participant posts over five days	Understand impact of electronic bulletin board focus groups for medically fragile populations	Child	Accessibility; opportunity for reflection; community-building interaction	—	Burden not reported	Analysis of focus group postings and researcher reflection	50

Currie <sup>24</sup>	2016	<i>n</i> = 10 Bereaved parents	Inquire about recruitment approach for bereaved parents after death of infant in neonatal intensive care setting	Parent	Freedom to share stories; opportunity to help others, meaning reconstruction, and increased awareness of their own experience	Parent Researcher	None of the bereaved parents reported negative experiences associated with research participation in this study or the timing of the interviews	Qualitative interviews	100
Dallas <sup>14</sup>	2016	<i>n</i> = 97 Adolescent and surrogate decision-maker dyads	Report the acceptability of and experience with family-centered advance care planning research for adolescents with HIV	Parent Child	Adolescents and family dyad members, respectively, found participation useful (98%, 98%) and helpful (98%, 100%)	Parent Child	Experience feelings of sadness with topic (25% parent, 17% child)	Satisfaction Questionnaire by blinded research assistant	75
Dyregov <sup>32</sup>	2004	<i>n</i> = 64 Bereaved parents completed questionnaire and <i>n</i> = 69 interviewed	Describe the research participation experience of bereaved parents	Parent	Research participation was positive/very positive in 100% of respondents; benefit themes	Parent	Parents reported that they experienced "some" anxious/tense feelings before	Qualitative interviews	100

					of telling the story and helping others		interview, interview required "mustering energy" prior		
Eilegard <sup>33</sup>	2013	<i>n</i> = 187 Bereaved siblings of pediatric patient with cancer	Describe the research participation experience of bereaved siblings	Sibling	79% of siblings perceived long-term study value such as feeling like their bereavement was more noticed or that participation helped their own grief work 84% perceived short-term benefit such as less anxiety and helping others	Sibling	14% of siblings reported emotion as "sad" or "stirred up feelings"	Six-item questionnaire	66
Hinds <sup>25</sup>	2007	Researchers who had participated in at least one of eight end-of-life studies in pediatric oncology	Provide strategies that have been used to implement and complete pediatric end-of-life research studies in oncology	Parent Researcher Clinician	Positive reports about research participation, including "I like talking about my child," "I want to help others," and "I like being in contact with the hospital"	Parent Researcher Clinician	Only 1 of 191 parents perceived "nothing good" from study participation	Follow-up phone call with three questions to assess positive/negative aspects of participating in research	100

Hynson <sup>26</sup>	2006	n = 69 Bereaved parents	Explore the impact of the research process on bereaved parents	Parent	Desire to benefit others (33/47 interviews) from participation in the research; participation provided therapeutic benefit	Parent	One bereaved parent reported that a later approach by the study team (more than two years post the death of the child) would be more appropriate timing for emotional ability to participate. Note: 19/64 upfront participatio n decline rate (concern participatio n “would be too difficult”)	In-depth qualitative interviews	75
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Jacobs <sup>15</sup>	2015	<i>n</i> = 17 Adolescent and family member dyads	Report on adolescent and surrogate experience in advance care planning research	Clinician Child	75% of adolescents believed it was appropriate to discuss end-of-life decisions not only “if dying” 82% considered it important to let their loved ones know their wishes. Eighty-three percent of those providers surveyed felt participation in the study was “somewhat”/“very much” helpful to their patients, and 78% felt it was “somewhat”/“very much” helpful to them as providers	Child	When asked how comfortable are you talking about death, only 12% of adolescent respondents were “not at all comfortable,” and 54% were “somewhat” or “very comfortable”	Oral surveys administered by trained facilitators; written surveys sent to health care providers (after participation in Advance Care Planning research)	66
Kavanaugh <sup>27</sup>	2005	<i>n</i> = 23 Bereaved parents	Examine the experience of parents surrounding perinatal loss research	Parent	Cited emotional relief, unique opportunity to talk, opportunity to help others,	—	Burden not reported	Standard qualitative question regarding participation experience	75

					better understanding of experiences, and evidence someone cared				
Kreicbergs <sup>1</sup> <a href="#">6</a>	2004	<i>n</i> = 432 Bereaved parents	Assess the harm and benefit of a questionnaire for bereaved parents	Parent	285/432 participants reported being positively affected by answering the survey	Parent	123/432 participants reported being negatively affected by answering the survey	Written survey	75
Michelson <sup>2</sup> <a href="#">8</a>	2006	<i>n</i> = 70 Parents of hospitalized patients	Examine the reactions of patients' parents to end-of-life decision making research for their child in the intensive care unit	Parent	Perceived sense of "relief" to talk with someone; felt altruistic; opportunity for reflection	—	Burden not reported	Qualitative interview questions	100



Mongeau <sup>29</sup>	2007	In-home respite program team members	Report on participatory research projects evaluating a new in-home respite program for children requiring pediatric palliative care	Parent Clinician Child	Parent perspective of “being heard” through research participation; parent goal of improving palliative program through research participation; shared vision	—	Burden not reported	Meeting note analysis, researcher reflections, interview questions	75
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Price <sup>30</sup>	2013	<i>n</i> = 2 Nurse reflections on prior interviews with parents of children with complex palliative care needs	Provide guidance on parental research participation for children with life-limiting conditions	—	Benefit not reported	Researcher	Vulnerability based on both topic and timing of data collection; insensitive wording of research documents (e.g., life-limited vs. complex needs) Difficulty ending research relationship especially with multiple interviews; emotional impact	Narrative review and researcher reflections	100
Scott <sup>17</sup>	2002	<i>n</i> = 81 Bereaved parents	Investigate family members' experiences of involvement in a study following their child's diagnosis with	Parent	Most parents believed participation would benefit others; 2/3 thought participation was personally beneficial because of	Parent	11% parents shared that some questions made them feel "uncomfortable," 7% found the interview	Mailed, self-administered follow-up questionnaire in follow-up to prior qualitative research participation	75

			Ewing's sarcoma		communication opportunity; 43% felt the interview "produced good from a bad situation"		more painful than expected		
Starks <sup>3</sup>	2016	<i>n</i> = 220 Pediatric intensive care patients	Describe a research intervention designed to reduce family stress symptoms through early support from the palliative care team	Parent	Parents voiced appreciating "being able to vent"; "feeling cared about" through the interview, and the interview allowing them to gauge their feelings/experiences	Parent	Low burden scores reported by parents related to their participation in research across all three time points: mean (SD) scores were 1.1 (1.6), 0.7 (1.5), and 0.9 (1.6).	Qualitative inquiry thematic content analysis and written question asking parents to rate level of burden on 0–10 point scale with 0 = no burden	75
Steele <sup>37</sup>	2013	<i>n</i> = 40 Families to include mothers and fathers	Determine how to improve care for families by obtaining their advice to health care providers and researchers after a child's	Parent	Grateful for being remembered and included; maintained connection with the hospital through research; self-expression;	—	Burden not reported	Qualitative interviews	100

			death from cancer		helping others; contribution to child's legacy; sense of meaning				
Steele <sup>34</sup>	2014	<i>n</i> = 232 Parents caring for child with progressive and incurable condition	Obtain parents' perceptions about their experience of participating in one of two pediatric palliative care research studies	Parent	310/322 (96%) thought conducting research about their families' experiences had at least some value; 163/323 (50%) said that the study had at least some positive effect	—	Burden not reported	“Impact of Participation” interview study assessment	100
Stevens <sup>31</sup>	2010	<i>n</i> = 91 Family members	Describe the process to design and conduct a research study with families caring for children with life-limiting conditions	Parent Sibling Child	Interviews described as “cathartic” and “helpful”; “no adverse effects” reported by parents or siblings	Parent Sibling Researcher Child	Fatigue with interview (tired); emotion of content	Follow-up phone call after qualitative interview	66
Taneja <sup>18</sup>	2007	<i>n</i> = 86 Bereaved parents	Assess parents' perceptions of their experience	Parent	Appreciated opportunity to talk about their child; 79/86 reported	Parent	75/86 (87.2%) reported that participatio	Open-ended verbal questions about interview	75

			being interviewed after the death of their child		willingness to participate again		n was “not at all” or “a little” stressful	length, stress, and participation experience	
Tomlinson <sup>3</sup> <a href="#">5</a>	2007	Review format	Address the ethical and recruitment issues of involving parents of children that are receiving palliative or end-of-life care in research	Researcher	Opportunity to share story and provide input for future palliative care programs	Researcher	Time spent participating in research could be spent in other ways, such as with child; burden of being approached for multiple studies	Review of the literature	100

HIE, hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy; MMAT, Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool; PCPEM, Pediatric Palliative Care Self-Efficacy Measure; SD, standard deviation.

All studies used a single time point assessment of benefit/burden except four studies that used a two- to five-week follow-up encounter.<sup>3,14,27,31</sup> Study population was limited to bereaved participants in 10 papers,<sup>16,17,22,24,26,27,32,33,35,37</sup> and combined living and bereaved participants in two papers.<sup>20,34</sup> Study locations included the United States,<sup>3,14,15,18–21,24,25,27,28,34,37</sup> Canada,<sup>23,29,34,35,37</sup> Australia,<sup>17,22,26,31</sup> Sweden,<sup>16,33</sup> Norway,<sup>32</sup> and the United Kingdom.<sup>30</sup> Only one paper mentioned inclusion of non-English assessment (Spanish).<sup>28</sup> In the ten studies in which ethnic diversity was reported, non-Caucasian ethnic/racial diversity was 0–30% of the participant population in three studies,<sup>24,32,37</sup> 30–60% in another three,<sup>15,19,28</sup> and 100% in one study.<sup>27</sup>

Specific assessment of benefit/burden of research participation included the following: scale measures,<sup>3</sup> open-ended prescribed interview questions,<sup>18,22,25,27,28,32</sup> questionnaire items,<sup>16,17,20,33</sup> and design of an “Impact of Research” tool (tool validation not reported).<sup>34</sup> None of the papers depicted use of a validated tool for assessing benefit, burden, or risk of research participation. Reliability was not reported for scales/questions utilized.

Stated institutional barriers to pediatric palliative care and end-of-life research were depicted as follows: burden presumed by medical personnel,<sup>19,30,32</sup> with the term “gatekeeping” used in two papers<sup>30,31</sup>; concerns raised by institutional ethics committee<sup>26</sup>; and IRB hesitancy to approve this type of research.<sup>16,22,25</sup>

## Benefit and burden to pediatric participants

Six papers presented the perceived benefits or burdens of palliative care research for the child or adolescent participant. Only four studies included child voice in reporting benefit or burden.<sup>14,15,23,31</sup> Two papers focused on the impact of taking part in a randomized controlled trial<sup>14,15</sup>; three papers on taking part in qualitative research<sup>23,29,31</sup>; and one provided a comprehensive overview of the ethical and recruitment challenges of engaging parents of children receiving palliative or end-of-life care from the researchers' perspective.<sup>35</sup> Stated benefits included the opportunity for the child's voice to be heard and the facilitation of more open and meaningful communication among the child, families, and health care providers.<sup>14,15,23</sup> Burdens anticipated by parents and health care providers were associated with risk of emotional or physical imposition upon a child with an already compromised health status and limited life span.<sup>29,35</sup> In one study that explored actual burden experienced by children participating in palliative care research, no pediatric adverse events were perceived by parents.<sup>31</sup> Unfortunately, little work has been done to document the child's perspective of personal experience with research participation in palliative care and end-of-life settings.

## Benefit and burden to sibling participants

Two papers reported potential benefits and burdens in regard to bereaved sibling involvement in research.<sup>31,33</sup> Thirteen percent of bereaved siblings reported that completing a research questionnaire was an emotional experience, but none of them anticipated that participation would have any negative long-term effects on them.<sup>33</sup> In addition, 99% of siblings indicated that they thought it was valuable to participate in the research study.<sup>33</sup> Of 19 siblings from 29 families, one 16-year-old sibling was not able to complete her interview due to emotional distress but reported recovering within several days.<sup>31</sup> Limited findings suggest an opportunity to further engage siblings in research surrounding care provided to family members receiving palliative care or at the end of life.

## Benefit and burden to parent participants

A total of nineteen studies reported parents' descriptions of their benefits and burdens related to participating in palliative care research. Of these, 19 studies included parent reports of benefits<sup>3,14,16-19,21,22,24-29,31,32,34,35,37</sup> and 18 studies reported burdens.<sup>3,14,16-22,24-26,28,30-32,34,35</sup>

Parents described benefits of research participation in largely intrapersonal and interpersonal ways; participating in research was beneficial intrapersonally because it was helpful for them to talk about their ill child, their family, and to “tell their story”<sup>32</sup> to a nonjudgmental researcher and to have an outlet for their emotions. Themes of relief<sup>27,28</sup> and positive meaning making<sup>24,32,36</sup> were conveyed. Some described therapeutic benefit from participating in the interview or by knowing that this kind of research was being conducted, particularly a sense that the institution cared about parents.<sup>26,34,37</sup> In 5 of 21 studies, parents described participation in research as beneficial specifically from an “altruistic” perspective mostly because they hoped other parents or families would benefit from their participation in research.<sup>17,21,25,28,37</sup>

The largest burdens self-reported by the parents who participated in palliative care research related to timing of research recruitment,<sup>25,26,30</sup> the topic of the study,<sup>25,30</sup> and the wording of questions.<sup>20,28,30</sup> Parents did not want to be away from their dying child to participate in research, or they were not ready to discuss what was happening to their child and family.<sup>35</sup> The research topic was reported as painful<sup>32</sup> or sad,<sup>14</sup> and yet consistently also as healing for parents to tell their story. One study reported that 7% of parent participants noted that participation was more painful than they expected.<sup>17</sup> Some parents experienced anticipatory anxiety about research participation; they needed to mentally prepare themselves for participating.<sup>32</sup> Of note, across six studies, parents reported an overall higher positive than negative impact from participation in palliative care research.<sup>3,16,18,24,25,34</sup>

When reported, the percentage of parents who were negatively affected ranged from 0%<sup>24,25</sup> to minimal (<1%)<sup>3,34</sup> to a high of 28%.<sup>16</sup> In addition to the burdens noted, specific concerns about being asked to participate in palliative care research were noted. These concerns included the following: feeling obligated to participate when recruited by a clinical team member<sup>35</sup>; being shocked by an unexpected contact to recruit the parent to the study<sup>22</sup>; difficulties evaluating risk/burden for research participation,<sup>35</sup> or not having burden disclosed in the consent process.<sup>14</sup> In one study, parents discussed the difficulty of ending the research relationship.<sup>30</sup> A substantial proportion of parents in another study (87.2%) stated that they would participate in this type of research again.<sup>18</sup>

## Benefit and burden to clinicians

Three papers included clinician benefit<sup>15,25,29</sup> and one paper included clinician burden.<sup>25</sup> Benefits to clinicians included enhanced communication with and ability to provide support to patients and parents<sup>15</sup>—as well as opportunities for clinicians to participate in palliative care research and promote translation of findings into practice.<sup>25,29</sup> Clinician burden resulted from a desire to protect potential subjects during a vulnerable time.<sup>25</sup> Clinician perspective included not only perceived benefit and burden to patient and family but also perceived benefit and burden to oneself as a care provider.

## Benefit and burden to researchers

Only one paper included researcher benefit<sup>25</sup> and five papers included researcher burden.<sup>24,25,30,31,35</sup> When questions to assess patient/family benefits and burdens of participating in a proposed palliative care study were included in the study design, researchers found more successful IRB outcomes.<sup>25</sup> Researcher burden was primarily characterized by the actual or potential emotional impact secondary to being immersed in emotionally laden content for prolonged periods of time (through interviews and analyzing data).<sup>30,31,35</sup> Other research-related burdens included the stress of adding palliative care studies to clinicians' existing work volume,<sup>22</sup> role conflict when participants viewed the interview context as a valuable opportunity to gain advice/support from the researcher as a mental health professional,<sup>31</sup> and challenges obtaining approval for this type of research from IRBs.<sup>24</sup>

## Benefits and burdens: A cautious balance

Engaging stakeholders in pediatric palliative care research is a delicate balance that includes potential benefit and burden. A summary of benefits and burdens discovered in this systematic review is presented as a conceptual model ([Fig. 1](#)). Words depicting benefit and burden are sized/emboldened in this figure according to their frequency in the included manuscripts. Prominent benefits of palliative care research across stakeholders included altruism and helping others; reflection and reconstruction of memories or creation of meaning; being remembered; sense of inclusion; opportunity to share one's narrative or tell his or her story; and the therapeutic experience of sharing. An actual lack of perceived burden was the most prominent description of burden across stakeholders. When depicted, emotional intensity, fatigue, and the inconvenience of data collection timing were the primary perceived burdens.

## Discussion

Despite an exponential increase in pediatric palliative care research in the past decade, there is a paucity of formal inquiry or measurement of the benefits or burdens of this research as experienced by patient, family member, clinician, and researcher. Recognizing the necessity of involving children, their families, and clinicians in research to improve quality care also requires acknowledging the vulnerability and the ethical obligation of supporting seriously ill children and their families during this difficult time. The current evidence is not sufficiently robust to make definitive conclusions about the benefits or burdens of participation in pediatric palliative care and end-of-life research.

## Main findings

Pediatric patients, siblings, and parents reported more benefits than burdens associated with participating in palliative care research. There was not an obvious relationship between burden descriptions and type or format of research study. Participating in qualitative research interviews was generally described as positive by family members because of the opportunity for emotional expression and reflection, possibly because of the opportunity made available for connection, and, altruistically, to share wisdom. When approached with a structured, patient-centered protocol, research engaging adolescents and young adults suggests great benefit to eliciting the patient's voice, particularly in advance care planning studies.<sup>38-40</sup>



## Implications for pediatric palliative care clinical research

From the researchers' perspective, there was a noted propensity toward well-intended protectionism with ethics committees, review boards, and clinicians cited as guarding or gatekeeping the study population from perceived risks or anticipated burdens. To avoid engaging in research involving pediatric palliative care patients or end-of-life scenarios is to risk missed opportunities to understand their experiences, good or bad, and to design care interventions that promote ethical methods and high-quality outcomes. A noted propensity toward well-intended protectionism from clinicians was also found. Yet, an inherent bias exists when clinicians only refer certain families they perceive to be doing well to palliative care and bereavement research.<sup>2</sup> To address this concern, researchers should consider creative study designs that maintain rigor without disrupting support systems. Furthermore, formalized protocols and standard best practices are needed to reduce burden and enhance benefit to this vulnerable population.

Pediatric palliative care research warrants estimating benefit and burden as part of research reporting. Pediatric palliative care and end-of-life research was noted to be highly relational research, impactful even to the researcher as coparticipant. However, no reviewed study formally included benefit and burden assessment for all study stakeholders. Due to the interconnected nature of pediatric palliative care research topics, future studies would ideally explore benefit and burden not just to child and family but also to clinician and researcher. Perhaps, more concise definitions of benefit and burden would be of use. We do not know if the burden reported when participating in a pediatric palliative care study is associated with harm. Similarly, is benefit associated with helpfulness? New measures should also consider anchors of time. For example, a study might be burdensome or difficult for the participant for a few hours though the benefit long lasting. A study that is carried out during early palliative care integration may carry unique benefits and burdens, whereas a study that is carried out during late bereavement phase may carry different benefits and burdens. The current reporting of benefits and burdens does not allow for clear delineation as to the ways these realities may differ by time points.

The emotional impact of conducting this type of research was often noted. One paper recommended use of peer and expert debriefing to help combat the emotional impact of large amounts of highly emotional data, and suggested conducting data analyses in stages interspersed with other processes to remove the researcher from the continuous immersion in the data.<sup>30</sup> Finding ways to professionally and comfortably exit the trusting relationship after the study measures/interview(s) are completed was noted to be challenging to both the research team and participant, especially if the relationship developed over repeated interviews and contacts.<sup>30,41</sup> The nature of pediatric palliative care topics warrants thorough planning and training for the management of the research process, research activities, and potential benefits and burdens of the research experienced by participants, clinicians, and researchers alike.

## Limitations, strengths, and future study opportunities

Limitations of the review itself included variability of quality within the reviewed studies, variety of research questions asked in primary studies, publication bias, and inability to synthesize data into

meta-analysis due to the heterogeneous nature of the methodologies and populations. A limitation of the search includes restriction to English-language publications.

Our study has several strengths. We registered our protocol *á priori* enhancing transparency and rigor of data extraction and analysis. We included an interdisciplinary pediatric palliative care study team with members from medicine, nursing, psychology, and social work. Team members were blinded at each step in the review process. A validated tool (MMAT) was utilized to appraise study quality. A research librarian was included in the search strategy with inclusion of multiple databases and a 17-year publication period. A future comprehensive approach might be to consider identifying pediatric palliative care research papers written in a longitudinal time frame to then engage in content analysis on all mentions of benefit or burden for papers published in the field over a given time span.

## Conclusion

Standards of care in research are essential for guidance and best practice. Quantitative and/or qualitative assessment tools that measure benefit and burden specific to palliative and end-of-life care research would aid quality research, and provide reassurance to ethics committees or IRBs.<sup>42</sup> In addition, some centers may decline to consider pediatric palliative care research as needing formal institutional review, which risks an unregulated field without a standard for assessing harm and risk of this research. Fortunately, benefit and burden scales for participation in clinical cancer trials are underdevelopment.<sup>42</sup>

The reality that no included study utilized a benefit/burden tool with reported validity or reliability compels urgent adaptation of such an instrument for the pediatric palliative care setting. An implementable tool to quantify and qualify stakeholder benefit/burden could translate into a triaged care intervention as best practice in pediatric palliative care and end-of-life research. Novel, well-designed approaches should be considered to develop instruments for measuring benefit and burden of research participation for children, family members, clinicians, and study teams. A standard approach to measuring benefit and burden in pediatric palliative care research could translate into a field expectation of universally reporting benefit and burden to further advance the field's science in a participant-centric manner.

## Acknowledgments

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## Author Disclosure Statement

No competing financial interests exist.

Human subjects were not involved in this systematic review methodology.

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# Benefits-Burdens Data Extraction Form

\* Required

## 1. Reviewer \*

Mark only one oval.

- Vanessa
- Pam
- Cindy
- Meaghann
- Kathy
- Amy
- Kim
- Jessica
- Christine
- Melissa
- Kitty
- Additional Reviewer

## 2. First Author's Last Name \*

## 3. Year of Publication \*

## Study Eligibility

The paper must have "Yes" responses to the next three questions in order to be included in full-text review. If there is a "No" response to the next three questions, the paper should be excluded.

## 4. Pediatric or adolescent patient population (OR, relative, clinician, or researcher of this age patient population)? \*

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

**5. Covers at least one of the following themes: end of life communication, patient voice, psychosocial assessments, mental health or symptom management interventions in context of end of life, palliative care, or bereavement services? \***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes  
 No

**6. Research paper or review paper? \***

Note: We are excluding expert opinion, editorial, commentary papers and excluding abstract-only or conference summary papers..

Mark only one oval.

- Yes  
 No

**7. Full-text inclusion decision \***

Please do NOT proceed further if study excluded from full text review. If you wish to further discuss paper's full-text eligibility, please feel free to email [meweaver@childrensomaha.org](mailto:meweaver@childrensomaha.org)

Mark only one oval.

- Include  
 Exclude     *Stop filling out this form.*  
 Discussed, then included by consensus  
 Discussed, then excluded by consensus     *Stop filling out this form.*

## Benefit and Burden Summary of Results

Please be sure to list "NA" per box if this data point was not provided by the paper. If the data point was provided in the paper, please also state any statistics associated with that data point (such as "30/45 children reported legacy-making as benefit of survey participation")

**8. Research variables \***

In your own words - what quantified data points on the burden, benefit, or harm of pediatric palliative care research participation were most relevant in this paper?

**9. Benefit to Child? \***

Please list benefit to child and quantify if available. List NA if not described.

**10. Burden to Child? \***

Please list burden to child and quantify if available. List NA if not described.

**11. Benefit or burden to child was reported by (whose voice)?**

example: if the researcher is reporting their perception of the child's level of burden or benefit without direct child voice input please select researcher here

*Check all that apply.*

- Child
- Parent
- Clinician
- Researcher
- Not reported

**12. Benefit to Parent? \***

Please list benefits to parent and quantify if available; state NA if not reported.

**13. Burden to Parent? \***

Please list burdens to parent and quantify if available; state NA if not reported.

**14. Benefit or burden to parent was reported by (whose voice)?**

example: if the researcher is reporting on perceived benefit to parent without direct parental voice as data point then please select researcher here

*Check all that apply.*

- Child
- Parent
- Clinician
- Researcher
- Not reported

**15. Benefit to Clinician? \***

Please list benefits to clinician and quantify if available; state NA if not reported.

**16. Burden to Clinician? \***

Please list burdens to clinician and quantify if available; state NA if not reported.



**17. Benefit to clinician was reported by (whose voice)?**

*Check all that apply.*

- Child
- Parent
- Clinician
- Researcher
- Not reported

**18. Benefit to Researcher? \***

Please list benefits to researcher and quantify if available; state NA if not reported.

**19. Burden to Researcher? \***

Please list burdens to researcher and quantify if available; state NA if not reported.

**20. Benefit or burden to researcher was reported by (whose voice)?**

*Check all that apply.*

- Child
- Parent
- Clinician
- Researcher
- Not reported

## Paper Type

**21. What type of paper is this manuscript? \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- Review Paper      *Skip to question 34.*
- Research Paper      *Skip to question 22.*

## For Original Research Format Papers Only

Only complete this page if the paper is an original research format paper.

### 22. Method \*

Mark only one oval.

- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- Mixed
- Other:

### 23. Study design \*

Check all that apply.

- Experimental, randomized control trial
- Experimental, nonrandomized control or comparison trial
- Observational study, cross-sectional or cohort
- Interview based
- Written survey
- Other:

### 24. Study length \*

Check one timepoint OR select "other" and clarify duration as # of days, months, or years

Mark only one oval.

- One timepoint
- Other:

### 25. Institutional Involvement \*

Mark only one oval.

- Single
- Multiple
- 

### 26. Country \*

### 27. Ethnic Make-Up of Study Population \*

State NA or describe.

**28. Study tools available in what languages?**

*Check all that apply.*

- English
- Spanish
- Didn't mention
- Other:

**29. Study Population Description \***

(ie, "cancer patients under age 15 years making EoL decisions")

**30. Is this primarily a bereaved population \***

*Check all that apply.*

- Yes
- No
- Mixed

**31. Intervention Description, if relevant to paper \***

(ie, NA or "one timepoint educational session on advanced care planning")

**32. Control or Comparison Description, if relevant to paper \***

(ie, NA or age-matched peers without cancer)

**33. Sample size \***

If control trial, n=\_\_\_control group and n=\_\_\_intervention group; if interview/obervational then n=\_\_\_participants; of otherthen n=\_\_\_explained.

*Skip to question 36.*

**Complete this Page For Review Papers Only**

Only complete this page if this paper is a review format paper.

**34. Review question asked?****35. Number of studies meeting review criteria within this review paper? \***

(ie, n= 14 papers meeting full review)

**Quality/Bias Summary**

Please answer the first three "required" bias questions listed below and then select which grid format best fits the article for comprehensive bias review (options: qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods) for all other research formats). If this was a review paper, you should please just answer the first three "required" bias questions.

**36. Important bias? \***

(ie, type NA or state funding source, conflict of interest, etc)

**37. Author mentioned possible bias? \***

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

**38. Author explained how bias minimized? \****Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No

**39. For Qualitative Only***Mark only one oval per row.*

	Yes	No	Can't Tell
Are the sources of qualitative data (archives, documents, informants, observations) relevant to address the research question (objective)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the process for analyzing qualitative data relevant to address the research question (objective)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is appropriate consideration given to how findings relate to the context, e.g., the setting, in which the data were collected?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is appropriate consideration given to how findings relate to researchers' influence, e.g., through their interactions with participants?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**40. For Quantitative Only***Mark only one oval per row.*

	Yes	No	Can't Tell
Is the sampling strategy relevant to address the quantitative research question (quantitative aspect of the mixed methods question)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are measurements appropriate (clear origin, or validity known, or standard instrument)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the sample representative of the population understudy?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there an acceptable response rate (60% or above) for survey format. . . OR, Are there complete outcome data for trial-based format (80% or above)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**41. For Mixed-Methods***Mark only one oval per row.*

	Yes	No	Can't Tell
Is the mixed methods research design relevant to address the qualitative and quantitative research questions (or objectives)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the integration of qualitative and quantitative data (or results*) relevant to address the research question (objective)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is appropriate consideration given to the limitations associated with this integration, e.g., the divergence of qualitative and quantitative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**F. Final Data Points**

Please complete this page for all studies. Considering listing PAGE NUMBER from article by your response for ease of reviewing! Thanks!

**42. What TOOLS for assessing benefit, burden, risk, harm, or impact of participation were mentioned in this paper? \***

State "NA" or list tools, please. Do not infer - list only if mentioned by paper.

**43. What recommendations were made in the paper to maximize benefit and/or minimize burden? \***

State "NA" or list. Please do not make inferences; just if listed.

**44. What were any factors correlated with benefit-burden level? \***

Could be NA, or, example: "Pain symptom burden: bereaved parents who felt their child was in pain at end of life were 3.3x more likely to perceive the research participation as burdensome."

**45. What organizational barriers or obstacles to research were mentioned in this paper? \***

State "NA" or list barriers, please. Do not infer - list only if mentioned by paper.

**46. What was the refusal level for study participation mentioned in this paper? \***

State "Not relevant" or type statistic. Do not infer - list only if mentioned by paper.

**47. What was the retention rate (or drop-out rate) mentioned in this paper? \***

State "Not relevant" or state the rate, please. Do not infer - list only if mentioned by paper.

**48. If the reviewer asked the study participants if they would participate in similar study in future, what was the response? \***

State "not asked" or "not relevant for study type" or state the rate, please. Do not infer - list only if mentioned by paper.

*Stop filling out this form.*

**Thank you!**

**49. Where there any papers in the reference of this paper you want to be sure are included in full text review for this systematic review?**

If so, please list references you want to add to our systematic review. Thanks!

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MEDLINE

S1	TI ((participat* OR subject* OR enrol* OR acru* OR recruit* OR select* OR consent* OR willing* OR agree*) AND (interview* OR survey* OR questionnaire* OR 'focus group*' OR study)) OR (MM "Selection Bias") OR (MM "Health Services Research+") OR (MM "Research Design+") OR (MM "Research+") OR (MM "Research Subjects+")
S2	TI (research OR researcher*)
S3	TI (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*)
S4	S2 OR (S1 AND S3)
S5	TI ((("be heard" OR "help others" OR "tell their story" OR altru* OR attitude OR barrier* OR benef* OR block* OR burden* OR challeng* OR complexit* OR comfort* OR concerns OR cost* OR disrupt* OR distress* OR empower* OR enlighten* OR experienc* OR gain* OR gatekeep* OR harm* OR helpful* OR hurdle* OR impact* OR incentiv* OR logistic* OR motivat* OR negative OR obstacle* OR painful OR perceiv* OR perception* OR positive OR reaction* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret* OR reward* OR risk* OR "self awareness" OR stress* OR unwilling* OR useful OR valu* OR voice OR willing* OR imped* OR deter* OR cathar*) N10 (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR "non responder*" OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*))
S6	AB ((("be heard" OR "help others" OR "tell their story" OR altru* OR attitude OR barrier* OR benef* OR block* OR burden* OR challeng* OR complexit* OR comfort* OR concerns OR cost* OR disrupt* OR distress* OR empower* OR enlighten* OR experienc* OR gain* OR gatekeep* OR harm* OR helpful* OR hurdle* OR impact* OR incentiv* OR logistic* OR motivat* OR negative OR obstacle* OR painful OR perceiv* OR perception* OR positive OR reaction* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret* OR reward* OR risk* OR "self awareness" OR stress* OR unwilling* OR useful OR valu* OR voice OR willing* OR imped* OR deter* OR cathar*) N10 (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR "non responder*" OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*))
S7	S5 OR S6
S8	(MH "Parents+") OR (MH "Research Subjects+")
S9	TI (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric* ) OR AB (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster*

	OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric* )
S10	S8 OR S9
S11	(MH "Stress, Psychological+") OR (MH "Bias (Epidemiology)+") OR "nonresponse bias" OR "non-response bias" OR (MH "Attitude of Health Personnel+") OR (MH "Risk+") OR (MH "Risk Assessment+") OR (MH "Attitude+") OR (MH "Motivation+") OR (MH "Patient Selection")
S12	S10 AND S11
S13	(MH "Health Personnel+/PX") OR (MH "Patients+/PX") OR (MH "Family+/PX") OR (MH "Siblings/PX")
S14	TI ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) OR AB ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) OR SO ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* )
S15	(MH "Advance Care Planning+") OR (MH "Bereavement+") OR (MH "Hospice Care") OR (MH "Palliative Care") OR (MH "Terminal Care+") OR (MH "Terminally Ill")
S16	S14 OR S15
S17	TI (infant* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat* OR perinatal OR preemi* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn* OR child OR child* OR children OR children* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage* OR youth* OR youngster* OR adolescent* OR adolescence OR preschool* OR "pre school*" OR kindergarten* OR "high schooler*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" OR juvenile* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric* OR pediatrician* OR paediatric* OR paediatrician* OR picu) OR AB (infant* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat* OR perinatal OR preemi* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn* OR child OR child* OR children OR children* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage* OR youth* OR youngster* OR adolescent* OR adolescence OR preschool* OR "pre school*" OR kindergarten* OR "high schooler*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" OR juvenile* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric* OR pediatrician* OR paediatric* OR paediatrician* OR picu)
S18	(MH "Infant+") OR (MH "Child+") OR (MH "Adolescent")
S19	S17 OR S18
S25	S4 AND (S5 OR S6 OR S12 OR S13) AND S16 AND S19
S26	(S2 OR (S3 AND S25)) AND (S5 OR S6 OR S12 OR S13) AND S16 AND S19 Limits: Limiters - English Language; Date of Publication: 20020101-20171231 Editorials and Case Reports removed.

#### CINAHL

S1	TI research OR researcher*
S2	TI (("be heard" OR "help others" OR "tell their story" OR altru* OR attitude OR barrier* OR benef* OR block* OR burden* OR challeng* OR complexit* OR comfort* OR concerns OR cost* OR disrupt* OR distress* OR empower* OR enlighten* OR experienc* OR gain* OR gatekeep* OR harm* OR helpful* OR hurdle* OR impact* OR incentiv* OR logistic* OR

	<p> motivat* OR negative OR obstacle* OR painful OR perceiv* OR perception* OR positive OR reaction* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret* OR reward* OR risk* OR "self awareness" OR stress* OR unwilling* OR useful OR valu* OR voice OR willing* OR imped* OR deter* OR cathar*) N10 (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR "non responder*" OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*) </p>
S3	<p> AB ("be heard" OR "help others" OR "tell their story" OR altru* OR attitude OR barrier* OR benef* OR block* OR burden* OR challeng* OR complexit* OR comfort* OR concerns OR cost* OR disrupt* OR distress* OR empower* OR enlighten* OR experienc* OR gain* OR gatekeep* OR harm* OR helpful* OR hurdle* OR impact* OR incentiv* OR logistic* OR motivat* OR negative OR obstacle* OR painful OR perceiv* OR perception* OR positive OR reaction* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret* OR reward* OR risk* OR "self awareness" OR stress* OR unwilling* OR useful OR valu* OR voice OR willing* OR imped* OR deter* OR cathar*) N10 (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR "non responder*" OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*) </p>
S4	<p> TI (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatrician* OR paediatrician* ) OR AB (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric* ) </p>
S5	<p> TI ("advance care planning" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) OR AB ("advance care planning" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) </p>
S6	<p> TI (infant* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat* OR perinatal OR preemi* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn* OR child OR child* OR children OR children* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage* OR youth* OR youngster* OR adolescent* OR adolescence OR preschool* OR "pre school*" OR kindergarten* OR "high schooler*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" OR juvenile* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric* OR pediatrician* OR paediatric* OR paediatrician* OR picu) OR AB (infant* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat* OR perinatal OR preemi* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn* OR child OR child* OR children OR children* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage* OR youth* OR youngster* OR adolescent* OR adolescence OR preschool* OR "pre school*" OR kindergarten* OR "high schooler*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" </p>

	OR juvenile* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric* OR paediatric* OR picu)
S7	TI ((participat* OR subject* OR enrol* OR acru* OR recruit* OR select* OR consent* OR willing* OR agree*) AND (interview* OR survey* OR questionnaire* OR 'focus group*' OR study)) OR (MM "Selection Bias+") OR (MM "Research+") OR (MM "Research Methodology+") OR (MM "Research Subject Recruitment") OR (MM "Research Subject Retention") OR (MM "Researcher-Subject Relations") OR (MM "Research Subjects+")
S8	(MH "Parental Attitudes+") OR (MH "Parents+") OR (MH "Research Subjects+")
S9	(MH "Stress+") OR (MH "Life Experiences+") OR (MH "Perception+") OR (MH "Nonresponse Bias") OR (MH "Cost Benefit Analysis") OR (MH "Risk Assessment") OR (MH "Attitude+") OR (MH "Motivation+") OR (MH "Patient Selection") OR (MH "Psychology+")
S10	(MH "Patient Attitudes") OR (MH "Parental Attitudes+") OR (MH "Attitude of Health Personnel+") OR (MH "Nonresponse Bias")
S11	((S4 OR S8 ) AND S9) OR S10
S12	(MH "Advance Care Planning") OR (MH "Palliative Care") OR (MH "Terminal Care+") OR (MH "Terminal Care (Saba CCC)+") OR (MH "Hospice Care") OR (MH "Hospice and Palliative Nursing") OR (MH "Hospice Patients") OR (MH "Hospices") OR (MH "Terminally Ill Patients+")
S13	S5 OR S12
S14	(MH "Infant+") OR (MH "Infant Death+") OR (MH "Child+") OR (MH "Adolescence+")
S15	S6 OR S14
S16	TI ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) OR AB ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) OR SO ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* )
S17	S12 OR S16
S18	TI (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*)
S19	S1 OR (S18 AND S7)
S20	S19 AND (S2 OR S3 OR S11) AND S17 AND S15 Limiters - Published Date: 20020101-20171231; English Language Removed Case Reports and Editorials

## PsyclINFO

S1	TI (research OR researcher*)
S2	TI (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*)
S3	TI (("be heard" OR "help others" OR "tell their story" OR altru* OR attitude OR barrier* OR benef* OR block* OR burden* OR challeng* OR complexit* OR comfort* OR concerns OR cost* OR disrupt* OR distress* OR empower* OR enlighten* OR experienc* OR gain* OR

	gatekeep* OR harm* OR helpful* OR hurdle* OR impact* OR incentiv* OR logistic* OR motivat* OR negative OR obstacle* OR painful OR perceiv* OR perception* OR positive OR reaction* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret* OR reward* OR risk* OR "self awareness" OR stress* OR unwilling* OR useful OR valu* OR voice OR willing* OR imped* OR deter* OR cathar*) N10 (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR "non responder*" OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*))
S4	AB ("be heard" OR "help others" OR "tell their story" OR altru* OR attitude OR barrier* OR benef* OR block* OR burden* OR challeng* OR complexit* OR comfort* OR concerns OR cost* OR disrupt* OR distress* OR empower* OR enlighten* OR experienc* OR gain* OR gatekeep* OR harm* OR helpful* OR hurdle* OR impact* OR incentiv* OR logistic* OR motivat* OR negative OR obstacle* OR painful OR perceiv* OR perception* OR positive OR reaction* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret* OR reward* OR risk* OR "self awareness" OR stress* OR unwilling* OR useful OR valu* OR voice OR willing* OR imped* OR deter* OR cathar*) N10 (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR "non responder*" OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric*))
S5	TI (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric* ) OR AB (invit* OR recruit* OR accrual OR enrol* OR retain* OR retention OR 'non responder*' OR responder* OR refus* OR participa* OR subject* OR family OR families OR child* OR adolesc* OR teen* OR toddler* OR youth* OR youngster* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient* OR parent* OR father* OR mother* OR guardian* OR caregiver* OR sibling* OR sister* OR brother* OR surrogat* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator* OR coordinator* OR assistant* OR researcher* OR nurse* OR physician* OR doctor* OR oncologist* OR pediatric* OR paediatric* )
S6	TI ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) OR AB ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* ) OR SO ("advance care" OR bereave* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal* )
S7	TI (infant* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat* OR perinatal OR preemi* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn* OR child OR child* OR children OR children* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage* OR youth* OR youngster* OR adolescent* OR adolescence OR preschool* OR "pre school*" OR kindergarten* OR "high schooler*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" OR juvenile* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric* OR pediatrician* OR paediatric* OR paediatrician* OR picu) OR AB (infant* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat* OR perinatal OR preemi* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn* OR child OR child* OR children OR children* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage* OR youth* OR youngster* OR

	adolescent* OR adolescence OR preschool* OR "pre school*" OR kindergarten* OR "high schooler*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" OR juvenile* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric* OR pediatrician* OR paediatric* OR paediatrician* OR picu)
S8	TI ((participat* OR subject* OR enrol* OR acru* OR recruit* OR select* OR consent* OR willing* OR agree*) AND (interview* OR survey* OR questionnaire* OR 'focus group*' OR study)) OR MM "Experimenter Bias" OR MM "Experimenter Expectations" OR MM "Experimenters" OR MM "Experimentation" OR MM "Action Research" OR MM "Consumer Research" OR MM "Interdisciplinary Research" OR MM "Online Experiments" OR MM "Qualitative Research" OR MM "Quantitative Methods" OR MM "Research Setting" OR MM "Experimental Design" OR MM "Between Groups Design" OR MM "Clinical Trials" OR MM "Cohort Analysis" OR MM "Followup Studies" OR MM "Hypothesis Testing" OR MM "Longitudinal Studies" OR MM "Repeated Measures" OR MM "Experimental Methods" OR MM "Quasi Experimental Methods" OR MM "Stimulus Presentation Methods" OR MM "Experimentation" OR MM "Action Research" OR MM "Animal Research" OR MM "Consumer Research" OR MM "Interdisciplinary Research" OR MM "Online Experiments" OR MM "Qualitative Research" OR MM "Quantitative Methods" OR MM "Research Setting" OR MM "Methodology" OR MM "Causal Analysis" OR MM "Cohort Analysis" OR MM "Content Analysis" OR MM "Data Collection" OR MM "Empirical Methods" OR MM "Grounded Theory" OR MM "Meta Analysis" OR MM "Parent Report" OR MM "Qualitative Research" OR MM "Quantitative Methods" OR MM "Self-Report" OR MM "Experimental Subjects"
S9	DE "Parents" OR DE "Adoptive Parents" OR DE "Fathers" OR DE "Foster Parents" OR DE "Homosexual Parents" OR DE "Mothers" OR DE "Single Parents" OR DE "Stepparents" OR DE "Surrogate Parents (Humans)" OR DE "Experimental Subjects"
S10	DE "Stress" OR DE "Chronic Stress" OR DE "Environmental Stress" OR DE "Post-Traumatic Stress" OR DE "Psychological Stress" OR DE "Social Stress" OR DE "Stress Reactions" OR DE "Experimenter Bias" OR DE "Risk Assessment" OR DE "Attitudes" OR DE "Adolescent Attitudes" OR DE "Adult Attitudes" OR DE "Child Attitudes" OR DE "Client Attitudes" OR DE "Consumer Attitudes" OR DE "Counselor Attitudes" OR DE "Death Attitudes" OR DE "Employee Attitudes" OR DE "Employer Attitudes" OR DE "Explicit Attitudes" OR DE "Female Attitudes" OR DE "Health Personnel Attitudes" OR DE "Implicit Attitudes" OR DE "Male Attitudes" OR DE "Occupational Attitudes" OR DE "Parental Attitudes" OR DE "Paternalism" OR DE "Psychologist Attitudes" OR DE "Public Opinion" OR DE "Racial and Ethnic Attitudes" OR DE "Sex Role Attitudes" OR DE "Sexual Attitudes" OR DE "Socioeconomic Class Attitudes" OR DE "Stereotyped Attitudes" OR DE "Student Attitudes" OR DE "Teacher Attitudes" OR DE "Motivation" OR DE "Affiliation Motivation" OR DE "Educational Incentives" OR DE "Employee Motivation" OR DE "Extrinsic Motivation" OR DE "Fear of Success" OR DE "Incentives" OR DE "Intrinsic Motivation" OR DE "Monetary Incentives" OR DE "Procrastination" OR DE "Self-Expansion" OR DE "Patient Selection"
S11	DE "Client Attitudes" OR DE "Client Satisfaction" OR DE "Parental Attitudes" OR DE "Parental Expectations" OR DE "Health Personnel Attitudes" OR DE "Therapist Attitudes"
S12	DE "Advance Directives" OR DE "Bereavement" OR DE "Grief" OR DE "Hospice" OR DE "Palliative Care" OR DE "Terminally Ill Patients"
S13	S1 OR (S2 AND S8)
S14	( S1 OR (S2 AND S8) ) AND ( ((S5 OR S9) AND S10) OR S11 )
S15	S12 OR S6
S16	S13 AND (S14 OR S3 OR S4 ) AND S15 AND S7
S17	S13 AND (S14 OR S3 OR S4 ) AND S15 Limiters - Age Groups: Childhood (birth-12 yrs)
S18	S13 AND (S14 OR S3 OR S4 ) AND S15 Limiters - Age Groups: Adolescence (13-17 yrs)
S19	S16 OR S17 OR S18 Limiters - Published Date: 20020101-20181231; English;

## EMBASE

(research:ti OR researcher\*:ti OR ((invit\*:ti OR recruit\*:ti OR accrual:ti OR enrol\*:ti OR retain\*:ti OR retention:ti OR 'non responder\*':ti OR responder\*:ti OR refus\*:ti OR participa\*:ti OR subject\*:ti OR family:ti OR families:ti OR child\*:ti OR adolesc\*:ti OR teen\*:ti OR toddler\*:ti OR youth\*:ti OR youngster\*:ti OR minors:ti OR kid:ti OR kids:ti OR patient\*:ti OR parent\*:ti OR father\*:ti OR mother\*:ti OR guardian\*:ti OR caregiver\*:ti OR sibling\*:ti OR sister\*:ti OR brother\*:ti OR surrogat\*:ti OR personnel:ti OR staff:ti OR investigator\*:ti OR coordinator\*:ti OR assistant\*:ti OR researcher\*:ti OR nurse\*:ti OR physician\*:ti OR doctor\*:ti OR oncologist\*:ti OR pediatric\*:ti OR paediatric\*:ti) AND ( ((participat\*:ti OR subject\*:ti OR enrol\*:ti OR acru\*:ti OR recruit\*:ti OR select\*:ti OR consent\*:ti OR willing\*:ti OR agree\*:ti) AND (interview\*:ti OR survey\*:ti OR questionnaire\*:ti OR 'focus group\*':ti OR study:ti)) OR 'selection bias'/exp/mj OR 'health services research'/exp/mj OR 'methodology'/exp/mj OR 'research'/exp/mj OR 'research participation'/exp/mj OR 'research subject'/exp/mj))) AND (((('be heard' OR 'help others' OR 'tell their story' OR altru\* OR attitude OR barrier\* OR benef\* OR block\* OR burden\* OR challeng\* OR complexit\* OR comfort\* OR concerns OR cost\* OR disrupt\* OR distress\* OR empower\* OR enlighten\* OR experienc\* OR gain\* OR gatekeep\* OR harm\* OR helpful\* OR hurdle\* OR impact\* OR incentiv\* OR logistic\* OR motivat\* OR negative OR obstacle\* OR painful OR perceiv\* OR perception\* OR positive OR reaction\* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret\* OR reward\* OR risk\* OR 'self awareness' OR stress\* OR unwilling\* OR useful OR valu\* OR voice OR willing\* OR imped\* OR deter\* OR cathar\*) NEAR/10 (invit\* OR recruit\* OR accrual OR enrol\* OR retain\* OR retention OR 'non responder\*' OR responder\* OR refus\* OR participa\* OR subject\* OR family OR families OR child\* OR adolesc\* OR teen\* OR toddler\* OR youth\* OR youngster\* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient\* OR parent\* OR father\* OR mother\* OR guardian\* OR caregiver\* OR sibling\* OR sister\* OR brother\* OR surrogat\* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator\* OR coordinator\* OR assistant\* OR researcher\* OR nurse\* OR physician\* OR doctor\* OR oncologist\* OR pediatric\* OR paediatric\*)) OR ((invit\*:ti OR recruit\*:ti OR accrual:ti OR enrol\*:ti OR retain\*:ti OR retention:ti OR 'non responder\*':ti OR responder\*:ti OR refus\*:ti OR participa\*:ti OR subject\*:ti OR family:ti OR families:ti OR child\*:ti OR adolesc\*:ti OR teen\*:ti OR toddler\*:ti OR youth\*:ti OR youngster\*:ti OR minors:ti OR kid:ti OR kids:ti OR patient\*:ti OR parent\*:ti OR father\*:ti OR mother\*:ti OR guardian\*:ti OR caregiver\*:ti OR sibling\*:ti OR sister\*:ti OR brother\*:ti OR surrogat\*:ti OR personnel:ti OR staff:ti OR investigator\*:ti OR coordinator\*:ti OR assistant\*:ti OR researcher\*:ti OR nurse\*:ti OR physician\*:ti OR doctor\*:ti OR oncologist\*:ti OR pediatric\*:ti OR paediatric\*:ti OR 'parent'/exp OR 'research participation'/exp) AND ('psychotrauma'/exp OR 'psychotrauma assessment'/exp OR 'stress'/exp OR 'experience'/exp OR 'personal experience'/exp OR 'psychological aspect'/exp OR 'perception'/exp OR 'nonresponse bias'/exp OR 'risk benefit analysis'/exp OR 'attitude'/exp OR 'motivation'/exp OR 'risk'/exp OR 'patient selection'/exp OR 'psychology'/exp OR 'wellbeing'/exp)) OR 'patient attitude'/exp OR 'nonresponse bias'/exp OR 'health personnel attitude'/exp) AND ('advance care':ab,ti,jt OR bereave\*:ab,ti,jt OR death:ab,ti,jt OR dying:ab,ti,jt OR 'end of life':ab,ti,jt OR hospice\*:ab,ti,jt OR 'life limiting':ab,ti,jt OR 'life threatening':ab,ti,jt OR palliative:ab,ti,jt OR terminal\*:ab,ti,jt OR 'palliative therapy'/exp OR 'terminal care'/exp OR 'terminally ill patient'/exp OR 'terminal disease'/exp OR 'dying'/exp) AND ([newborn]/lim OR [infant]/lim OR [child]/lim OR [preschool]/lim OR [school]/lim OR [adolescent]/lim OR infant\*:ab,ti OR baby:ab,ti OR babies:ab,ti OR nicu:ab,ti OR neonat\*:ab,ti OR perinatal:ab,ti OR preemi\*:ab,ti OR prematurity:ab,ti OR premi:ab,ti OR premie:ab,ti OR premies:ab,ti OR preterm:ab,ti OR newborn\*:ab,ti OR child:ab,ti OR child\*:ab,ti OR children:ab,ti OR children\*:ab,ti OR stepchild:ab,ti OR stepchildren:ab,ti OR 'step child':ab,ti OR 'step children':ab,ti OR kid:ab,ti OR kids:ab,ti OR girl:ab,ti OR girls:ab,ti OR boy:ab,ti OR boys:ab,ti OR teenage\*:ab,ti OR youth\*:ab,ti OR youngster\*:ab,ti OR adolescent\*:ab,ti OR adolescence:ab,ti OR preschool\*:ab,ti OR 'pre school\*':ab,ti OR kindergarten\*:ab,ti OR 'high schooler\*':ab,ti OR 'elementary school':ab,ti OR 'junior high':ab,ti OR 'middle school':ab,ti OR 'high school':ab,ti OR juvenile\*:ab,ti OR minors:ab,ti OR childhood:ab,ti OR pediatric\*:ab,ti OR

pediatric\*:ab,ti OR paediatric\*:ab,ti OR paediatrician\*:ab,ti OR picu:ab,ti) NOT ('conference abstract'/it OR 'editorial'/it OR 'case report'/de) AND [english]/lim AND [2002-2017]/py

Scopus:

( TITLE ( research OR researcher\* ) OR TITLE ( ( invit\* OR recruit\* OR accrual OR enrol\* OR retain\* OR retention OR "non responder\*" OR responder\* OR refus\* OR participa\* OR subject\* OR family OR families OR child\* OR adolesc\* OR teen\* OR toddler\* OR youth\* OR youngster\* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient\* OR parent\* OR father\* OR mother\* OR guardian\* OR caregiver\* OR sibling\* OR sister\* OR brother\* OR surrogat\* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator\* OR coordinator\* OR assistant\* OR researcher\* OR nurse\* OR physician\* OR doctor\* OR oncologist\* OR pediatric\* OR paediatric\* ) AND ( participat\* OR subject\* OR enrol\* OR acru\* OR recruit\* OR select\* OR consent\* OR willing\* OR agree\* ) AND ( interview\* OR survey\* OR questionnaire\* OR 'focus AND group\*' OR study ) ) ) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ( ( "be heard" OR "help others" OR "tell their story" OR altru\* OR attitude OR barrier\* OR benef\* OR block\* OR burden\* OR challeng\* OR complexit\* OR comfort\* OR concerns OR cost\* OR disrupt\* OR distress\* OR empower\* OR enlighten\* OR experienc\* OR gain\* OR gatekeep\* OR harm\* OR helpful\* OR hurdle\* OR impact\* OR incentiv\* OR logistic\* OR motivat\* OR negative OR obstacle\* OR painful OR perceiv\* OR perception\* OR positive OR reaction\* OR readiness OR ready OR reflection OR regret\* OR reward\* OR risk\* OR "self awareness" OR stress\* OR unwilling\* OR useful OR valu\* OR voice OR willing\* OR imped\* OR deter\* OR cathar\* ) W/10 ( invit\* OR recruit\* OR accrual OR enrol\* OR retain\* OR retention OR "non responder\*" OR responder\* OR refus\* OR participa\* OR subject\* OR family OR families OR child\* OR adolesc\* OR teen\* OR toddler\* OR youth\* OR youngster\* OR minors OR kid OR kids OR patient\* OR parent\* OR father\* OR mother\* OR guardian\* OR caregiver\* OR sibling\* OR sister\* OR brother\* OR surrogat\* OR personnel OR staff OR investigator\* OR coordinator\* OR assistant\* OR researcher\* OR nurse\* OR physician\* OR doctor\* OR oncologist\* OR pediatric\* OR paediatric\* ) ) AND ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( "advance care " OR bereave\* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice\* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal\* ) OR SRCTITLE ( "advance care " OR bereave\* OR death OR dying OR "end of life" OR hospice\* OR "life limiting" OR "life threatening" OR palliative OR terminal\* ) ) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ( infant\* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat\* OR perinatal OR preemi\* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn\* OR child OR child\* OR children OR children\* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage\* OR youth\* OR youngster\* OR adolescent\* OR adolescence OR preschool\* OR "pre school\*" OR kindergarten\* OR "high schooler\*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" OR juvenile\* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric\* OR paediatrician\* OR paediatric\* OR paediatrician\* OR picu ) AND ( EXCLUDE ( DOCTYPE , "ed " ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2017 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2016 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2015 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2014 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2013 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2012 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2011 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2010 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2009 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2008 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2007 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2006 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2005 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2004 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2003 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2002 ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( LANGUAGE , "English " ) ) )

The Cochrane Library

- #1 MeSH descriptor: [Selection Bias] explode all trees
- #2 MeSH descriptor: [Health Services Research] explode all trees



#3 MeSH descriptor: [Research Design] explode all trees

#4 MeSH descriptor: [Research] explode all trees

#5 MeSH descriptor: [Research Subjects] explode all trees

#6 research or researcher\*:ti

#7 ((participat\* or subject\* or enrol\* or acru\* or recruit\* or select\* or consent\* or willing\* or agree\*) and (interview\* or survey\* or questionnaire\* or 'focus group\*' or study)):ti

#8 invit\* or recruit\* or accrual or enrol\* or retain\* or retention or 'non responder\*' or responder\* or refus\* or participa\* or subject\* or family or families or child\* or adolesc\* or teen\* or toddler\* or youth\* or youngster\* or minors or kid or kids or patient\* or parent\* or father\* or mother\* or guardian\* or caregiver\* or sibling\* or sister\* or brother\* or surrogat\* or personnel or staff or investigator\* or coordinator\* or assistant\* or researcher\* or nurse\* or physician\* or doctor\* or oncologist\* or pediatric\* or paediatric\*:ti

#9 #6 or (#8 and (#7 or #5 or #4 or #3 or #2 or #1))

#10 (("be heard" or "help others" or "tell their story" or altru\* or attitude or barrier\* or benef\* or block\* or burden\* or challeng\* or complexit\* or comfort\* or concerns or cost\* or disrupt\* or distress\* or empower\* or enlighten\* or experienc\* or gain\* or gatekeep\* or harm\* or helpful\* or hurdle\* or impact\* or incentiv\* or logistic\* or motivat\* or negative or obstacle\* or painful or perceiv\* or perception\* or positive or reaction\* or readiness or ready or reflection or regret\* or reward\* or risk\* or "self awareness" or stress\* or unwilling\* or useful or valu\* or voice or willing\* or imped\* or deter\* or cathar\*) near/10 (invit\* or recruit\* or accrual or enrol\* or retain\* or retention or "non responder\*" or responder\* or refus\* or participa\* or subject\* or family or families or child\* or adolesc\* or teen\* or toddler\* or youth\* or youngster\* or minors or kid or kids or patient\* or parent\* or father\* or mother\* or guardian\* or caregiver\* or sibling\* or sister\* or brother\* or surrogat\* or personnel or staff or investigator\* or coordinator\* or assistant\* or researcher\* or nurse\* or physician\* or doctor\* or oncologist\* or pediatric\* or paediatric\*)):ti,ab,kw

#11 invit\* or recruit\* or accrual or enrol\* or retain\* or retention or 'non responder\*' or responder\* or refus\* or participa\* or subject\* or family or families or child\* or adolesc\* or teen\* or toddler\* or youth\* or youngster\* or minors or kid or kids or patient\* or parent\* or father\* or mother\* or guardian\* or caregiver\* or sibling\* or sister\* or brother\* or surrogat\* or personnel or staff or investigator\* or coordinator\* or assistant\* or researcher\* or nurse\* or physician\* or doctor\* or oncologist\* or pediatric\* or paediatric\*:ti,ab,kw

#12 MeSH descriptor: [Parents] explode all trees

#13 MeSH descriptor: [Research Subjects] explode all trees

#14 MeSH descriptor: [Stress, Psychological] explode all trees

#15 MeSH descriptor: [Bias (Epidemiology)] explode all trees

#16 MeSH descriptor: [Attitude of Health Personnel] explode all trees

#17 MeSH descriptor: [Risk] explode all trees

#18 MeSH descriptor: [Risk Assessment] explode all trees

#19 MeSH descriptor: [Attitude] explode all trees

#20 MeSH descriptor: [Motivation] explode all trees

#21 MeSH descriptor: [Patient Selection] explode all trees

#22 MeSH descriptor: [Health Personnel] explode all trees

#23 MeSH descriptor: [Patients] explode all trees and with qualifier(s): [Psychology - PX]

#24 MeSH descriptor: [Family] explode all trees and with qualifier(s): [Psychology - PX]

#25 MeSH descriptor: [Siblings] explode all trees and with qualifier(s): [Psychology - PX]

#26 ((#11 or #12 or #13) and (#14 or #15 or #16 or #17 or #18 or #19 or #20 or #21)) or #22 or #23 or #24 or #25

#27 MeSH descriptor: [Advance Care Planning] explode all trees

#28 MeSH descriptor: [Bereavement] explode all trees

#29 MeSH descriptor: [Hospice Care] explode all trees

#30 MeSH descriptor: [Palliative Care] explode all trees

#31 MeSH descriptor: [Terminal Care] explode all trees

#32 MeSH descriptor: [Terminally Ill] explode all trees

#33 "advance care" or bereave\* or death or dying or "end of life" or hospice\* or "life limiting" or "life threatening" or palliative or terminal\*:ti

- #34 "advance care" or bereave\* or death or dying or "end of life" or hospice\* or "life limiting" or "life threatening" or palliative or terminal\*:so
- #36 MeSH descriptor: [Child] explode all trees
- #37 MeSH descriptor: [Infant] explode all trees
- #38 MeSH descriptor: [Adolescent] explode all trees
- #39 infant\* or baby or babies or nicu or neonat\* or perinatal or preemi\* or prematurity or premie or premie or preterm or newborn\* or child or child\* or children or children\* or stepchild or stepchildren or "step child" or "step children" or kid or kids or girl or girls or boy or boys or teenage\* or youth\* or youngster\* or adolescent\* or adolescence or preschool\* or "pre school\*" or kindergarten\* or "high schooler\*" or "elementary school" or "junior high" or "middle school" or "high school" or juvenile\* or minors or childhood or pediatric\* or pediatrician\* or paediatric\* or paediatrician\* or picu:ti,ab,kw
- #40 #36 or #37 or #38 or #39
- #41 "advance care" or bereave\* or death or dying or "end of life" or hospice\* or "life limiting" or "life threatening" or palliative or terminal\*:ab
- #42 #27 or #28 or #29 or #30 or #31 or #32 or #33 or #34 or #41
- #43 #9 and (#10 or #26) and #42 and #40 Publication Year from 2002 to 2017

**Infant/Child/Adolescent/Pediatric-terms used to refine Phase 3 “Citing” and “Cited” article searches**

TITLE-ABS-

KEY ( infant\* OR baby OR babies OR nicu OR neonat\* OR perinatal OR preemi\* OR prematurity OR premi OR premie OR premies OR preterm OR newborn\* OR child OR child\* OR children OR children\* OR stepchild OR stepchildren OR "step child" OR "step children" OR kid OR kids OR girl OR girls OR boy OR boys OR teenage\* OR youth\* OR youngster\* OR adolescent\* OR adolescence OR preschool\* OR "preschool\*" OR kindergarten\* OR "high schooler\*" OR "elementary school" OR "junior high" OR "middle school" OR "high school" OR juvenile\* OR minors OR childhood OR pediatric\* OR pediatrician\* OR paediatric\* OR paediatrician\* OR picu )