CADTH RAPID RESPONSE REPORT: SUMMARY OF ABSTRACTS

Pediatric Palliative Care Assessment Tools in the Home-Care Setting: Guidelines
SUMMARY OF ABSTRACTS

Pediatric Palliative Care Assessment Tools in the Home-Care Setting

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Questions or requests for information about this report can be directed to requests@cadth.ca
**Research Question**

What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding home-care assessments for pediatric palliative-care patients?

**Key Findings**

One evidence-based guideline was identified regarding home-care assessments for pediatric palliative-care patients.

**Methods**

A limited literature search was conducted by an information specialist on key resources including MEDLINE, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), the Cochrane Library, the University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, the websites of Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. The search strategy was comprised of both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine’s MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. The main search concept was pediatric palliative care. A search filter was applied to limit retrieval to guidelines. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2014 and July 29, 2019. Internet links were provided, where available.

**Selection Criteria**

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: Selection Criteria</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Intervention</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Comparator</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Study Designs</strong></td>
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Results

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Normally, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first; however, in reports where guidelines are primarily sought, the aforementioned evidence types are presented in the appendix.

One evidence-based guideline was identified regarding home-care assessments for pediatric palliative-care patients.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Overall Summary of Findings

One evidence-based guideline\(^1\) was identified regarding home-care assessments for pediatric palliative-care patients. This guideline, published by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), recommends using parallel planning for pediatric palliative-care patients. This type of planning accounts for the unpredictability of conditions in pediatric palliative-care patients, creating multiple plans of care and using the type of plan that best suits the patient and their individual circumstances. Additionally, NICE recommends assessing whether a child is ready for an Advance Care Plan (e.g., detailing the child’s condition, managing symptoms, and wishes) while including a multidisciplinary team in the care plan.

References Summarized

Guidelines and Recommendations

Appendix — Further Information

Systematic Reviews

*Alternative Intervention – Strategies for Symptom Relief*


*Guidelines Not Specified*


*Non-Randomized Studies*


*Guidelines and Recommendations*

*Alternative Population - Not Specific to Pediatric Populations*


Unclear Methodology


Review Articles