



CADTH Reference List

Minimally Invasive and Noninvasive Ablation Therapy for the Treatment of Breast Cancer

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Key Message

No qualitative studies were identified that explore the perspectives, expectations, or experiences of people living with breast cancer regarding accessing and engaging with minimally invasive and noninvasive ablation therapies for the treatment of breast cancer.

Research Question

What literature is available on the perspectives, expectations, and experiences of people living with breast cancer regarding accessing and engaging with minimally invasive and non-invasive ablation therapies for the treatment of breast cancer?

Methods

Literature Search Methods

An information specialist conducted a literature search on key resources including MEDLINE, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), and Scopus. The search approach was customized to retrieve a limited set of results, balancing comprehensiveness with relevancy. The search strategy comprised both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine's MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. Search concepts were developed based on the elements of the research questions and selection criteria. The main search concepts were ablation therapies and breast cancer. [CADTH-developed search filters](#) were applied to limit retrieval to qualitative studies. The search was completed on June 23, 2023, and limited to English-language documents published since January 1, 2018. Internet links were provided, where available.

Selection Criteria

One reviewer screened literature search results (titles and abstracts) and selected publications according to the inclusion criteria presented in [Table 1](#). Full texts of study publications were not reviewed.

Table 1: Selection Criteria

Criteria	Description
Sample	Adults aged ≥ 18 years living with breast cancer who have or are currently considering, accessing, or engaging with minimally invasive and noninvasive ablation therapy for the treatment of breast cancer
Phenomenon of interest	Minimally invasive and noninvasive ablation therapy for the treatment of breast cancer (e.g., cryoablation, radiofrequency ablation, microwave ablation, high-intensity focused ultrasound ablation, laser ablation)
Design	Any qualitative design
Evaluation	Perspectives on, expectations of, and experiences with accessing and undergoing minimally invasive and noninvasive ablation therapy for the treatment of breast cancer
Research type	Primary qualitative studies; qualitative component of mixed-methods studies (excluding surveys)

Results

No qualitative studies were identified that explore the perspectives, expectations, or experiences of people living with breast cancer regarding accessing and engaging with minimally invasive and non-invasive ablation therapies for the treatment of breast cancer.