

Competencies of family caregivers to care for oncology outpatients in the light of the grounded theory: protocol for a systematic review

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Citation

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Review question

What competencies describe family members caring for chemotherapy outpatients in the light of the grounded theory?

Searches

The search strategy will include only terms relating to the research question.

For this review, empirical studies of a qualitative approach, focused on the necessary competencies to the family caregiver of oncology patient undergoing outpatient chemotherapy, will be considered.

The search strategy for the CINAHL Complete database will be made available in the published protocol, and the search terms will be adapted for use with other bibliographic databases in combination with database-specific filters, where these are available. All the selected studies use the grounded theory methodology.

Languages will be restricted to English, Spanish and Portuguese, and articles published between January 2006 and December 2018 will be eligible for inclusion. Near the final analysis, the searches will be re-run to identify new studies for inclusion.

We will search the following electronic bibliographic databases:

1. EBSCOhost (Academic Search Complete, MEDLINE with Full Text, CINAHL Plus with Full Text MEDLINE complete, MedicLatina);
2. The Cochrane Library (the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews and the Cochrane Methodology Register);
3. Web of Science (Science and Social Science Citation Index);
4. PubMed;
5. SciELO (integrated databases);
6. RCAAP (Repositório Científico de Acesso Aberto de Portugal);
7. LILACS;
8. Google Scholar.

Search strategy:

(Informal caregivers OR family caregivers)
AND

(oncology disease OR chemotherapy OR cancer OR chemotherapy treatment)

AND

(skills OR competencies OR ability)

AND

(Grounded Theory)

PICo:

P (Population): the family caregivers of oncology patients;

I (Interest): the competencies of the family caregivers;

Co (Context): caring for the oncology patient undergoing outpatient chemotherapy.

Types of study to be included

Qualitative studies that have used the grounded theory methodology.

Condition or domain being studied

The competencies of the family caregivers of oncology patients undergoing chemotherapy.

Participants/population

Inclusion: family caregivers of oncology patients undergoing ambulatory chemotherapy.

Exclusion: family caregivers who share daily care duties with a formal carer.

Intervention(s), exposure(s)

The competencies of family caregivers.

Comparator(s)/control

Not applicable.

Context

Studies addressing the experiences of the caregivers of oncology patients undergoing ambulatory chemotherapy.

Main outcome(s)

This review aims to analyse the competencies acquired and developed by family members who care for oncology patients undergoing ambulatory chemotherapy.

Additional outcome(s)

None.

Data extraction (selection and coding)

The articles retrieved during the searches will be assessed by the main investigators for relevance against the inclusion/exclusion criteria, and those selected for inclusion imported into EndNote. Any duplicates will then be removed, and data extraction will take place. The coding will be performed using Nvivo (Version 10) software, and a form will be used to facilitate the data extraction process..

The extracted information will include: the study setting; the study population, the population demographic characteristics (e.g. age, gender, work status - retired or not); and the study methodologies. The full texts of these studies will then be assessed for eligibility by two review team members, with any disagreements being resolved through discussion with a third reviewer.

Risk of bias (quality) assessment

The risk of bias and applicability concerns will be assessed by the main investigator through the quality checklist derived from the Critical Assessment Skills Program (CASP) for qualitative studies.

Strategy for data synthesis

The content of the selected articles will be subject to a content analysis. A summary of population data and method of data collection will be created. The results of the studies, concerning the description of family caregiver's competencies, will be interpreted and categorized.

The data will be transcribed in a table prepared for this purpose, with the key references to characterize the reports and researches that sustain it, as well as the necessary information to achieve the review goals.

Analysis of subgroups or subsets

None planned.

Contact details for further information

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Organisational affiliation of the review

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Type and method of review

Synthesis of qualitative studies, Systematic review

Anticipated or actual start date

01 August 2018

Anticipated completion date

30 April 2019

Funding sources/sponsors

None

Conflicts of interest

None known

Language

Portuguese-Local (there is not an English language summary)

Country

Portugal

Stage of review

Review Ongoing

Subject index terms status

Subject indexing assigned by CRD

Subject index terms

Ambulatory Care; Ambulatory Care Facilities; Caregivers; Drug Therapy; Family; Grounded Theory; Home Nursing; Humans; Outpatients; Patient Care; Quality of Health Care

Date of registration in PROSPERO

20 August 2018

Date of publication of this version

20 August 2018

Details of any existing review of the same topic by the same authors

Stage of review at time of this submission

Stage	Started	Completed
Preliminary searches	Yes	No
Piloting of the study selection process	No	No
Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria	No	No
Data extraction	No	No
Risk of bias (quality) assessment	No	No
Data analysis	No	No

Versions

20 August 2018

PROSPERO

This information has been provided by the named contact for this review. CRD has accepted this information in good faith and registered the review in PROSPERO. The registrant confirms that the information supplied for this submission is accurate and complete. CRD bears no responsibility or liability for the content of this registration record, any associated files or external websites.