



Canolfan Ymchwil Canser Cymru

**Wales Cancer Research Centre Palliative Care Evidence Review Service
(PaCERS)**

Rapid Review Methodology

A rapid systematic approach to identifying high quality evidence on palliative care

Rapid review is defined as a review conducted within 8-10 weeks using modified systematic review methods with a highly refined research question, search carried out within limited set of databases and other sources and increasing the transparency of the methods used.

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INTRODUCTION

The importance of relating clinical practice more closely to evidence, is recognised by health and social care professionals and commissioners alike. However a significant obstacle is the lack of time to locate and read the literature relevant to clinical teams' areas of practice. In addition, the expectation to assess its quality and deal with conflicting information can be challenging. Therefore, we have initiated the Palliative Care Evidence Review Service (PaCERS) to support professionals and other decision makers working in palliative care.

AIM

To conduct a rapid review to answer a research question raised by health care professionals and other decision makers in relation to palliative care, in the shortest possible time. To communicate the answer in a user-friendly format, which will subsequently be added to an evidence repository and disseminated as appropriate.

OBJECTIVE

- To work in partnership with the requester to refine the research question;
- To search for high quality evidence across a range of appropriate databases and information sources;
- To develop relevant search strategies to perform these searches;
- To identify the best available evidence to assess its quality and relevance;
- To synthesise the findings in a user friendly format;
- To develop a system for handling, storing, and retrieving this information;
- To provide training in research methodology relating to rapid reviews for requesters

STAGE 1: DEFINING THE INFORMATION NEED

Task	Performed by:
Rapid Review Request Form (Appendix 1) sent by requester to PaCERS email address pacerswrcrc@cardiff.ac.uk	Requester
Liaise with Review Advisory Group (RAG) ¹ as to the scope of the question in relation to prevailing clinical palliative care priorities, such as End of Life Care Delivery Plan for Wales ² , and established research priorities, such as JLA End of Life Care Priorities ³ .	PaCERS team
Refine the question where necessary, in partnership with the Requestor.	PaCERS team
Review Advisory Group (RAG) to review the question (and further refine if necessary) and prioritise, if there are a large number of requests.	Review Advisory Group (RAG)
Where possible liaise with requester either face to face or via telephone interview with regards to their review question, their involvement in conducting the review and to decide on deadlines for delivery.	PaCERS team
Before undertaking the rapid review, identify whether there are already existing systematic review available by searching the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) • Pubmed Clinical Queries • PubMed Health 	PaCERS team
Develop search strategy on Ovid Medline. Send results to requester via email for checking first 20 hits for relevance.	PaCERS team

¹ Review Advisory Group consist of Dr Anthony Byrne, Community Theme Lead, Wales Cancer Research Centre; Director MCPCRC & Thematic Lead: Rehabilitation & Cachexia. Dr Annmarie Nelson, Scientific Director MCPCRC & Thematic Lead: Patient Experience A member of the Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) as lay expert.

² <http://gov.wales/topics/health/nhswales/plans/end-of-life-care/?lang=en>

³ <http://www.jla.nihr.ac.uk/priority-setting-partnerships/palliative-and-end-of-life-care/top-10-priorities/>

STAGE 2: SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION

Identify potential sources to search depending on the scope of the question. <i>(3-4 databases, eTOC's of key journals, citation tracking)</i>	PaCERS team
Develop search strategies relevant to the question.	PaCERS team
Execute searches across key databases and other sources. (Appendix 2) <i>(Search for five-ten years initially depending on the literature, English language only and studies published in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries. Exclude conference abstracts, doctoral dissertations and book chapters).</i>	PaCERS team
Keep a record of the search process including flow diagram. Figure 2. <i>(databases, search terms, references retrieved)</i>	PaCERS team
Import results into Endnote, remove duplicates and irrelevant papers. <i>(Send results to requester via email for checking, depending upon their level of involvement)</i>	PaCERS team
Carry out study selection. <i>(First by title and abstract)</i> Send results in a suitable format to requester to select full text. If requester is not involved, it will be carried out by PaCERS Team against the inclusion criteria.	PaCERS team
Retrieve full text papers	PaCERS team
Further selection of primary studies using inclusion criteria. <i>(Study selection carried out by one reviewer and checked for accuracy by another).</i> Send to requester for inclusion. If requester is not involved, it will be carried out by PaCERS Team against the inclusion criteria.	PaCERS team

STAGE 3: APPRAISING AND EXTRACTING THE DATA

Critically appraise documents using appropriate quality assessment checklists. (Appendix 3) <i>(Each paper will be assessed by one reviewer and checked for accuracy by another).</i>	PaCERS team
Carry out data extraction and capture the data specific to the review question. (Appendix 4) <i>(Data extraction will be carried out by one reviewer and checked for accuracy by another).</i>	PaCERS team
Prepare the first draft of the review and submit to Review Advisory Group for their comments.	PaCERS team

STAGE 4: SUMMARISING THE EVIDENCE

After addressing the comments from RAG, send the first draft to the requestor for response.	PaCERS team
Gather responses, and address the queries liaising with RAG.	PaCERS team
Submit the second draft of the review to the requestor for checking.	PaCERS team
Liaise with requestor and draw up a final review document (Appendix 5).	PaCERS team

STAGE 5: REPORTING AND COMMUNICATING THE EVIDENCE

Complete an action plan for the dissemination of each review clearly covering: 1. Distribution list 2. Upload to evidence repository on website http://palliativecare.walescancerresearchcentre.com/palliative-care-evidence-review-service/ 3. Relevant talks and conferences 4. Publications Circulate to requestor and RAG and liaise on any feedback.	PaCERS team
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STAGE 6: DEMONSTRATING IMPACT

<p>Send the requestor a feedback form to document the impact of the review e.g. how the review was used to inform clinical practice/care provision.</p> <p>Carry out an ongoing evaluation to inform further development of the service, using a web based survey.</p>	PaCERS team
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FIGURE 1.

RAPID REVIEW PROCESS

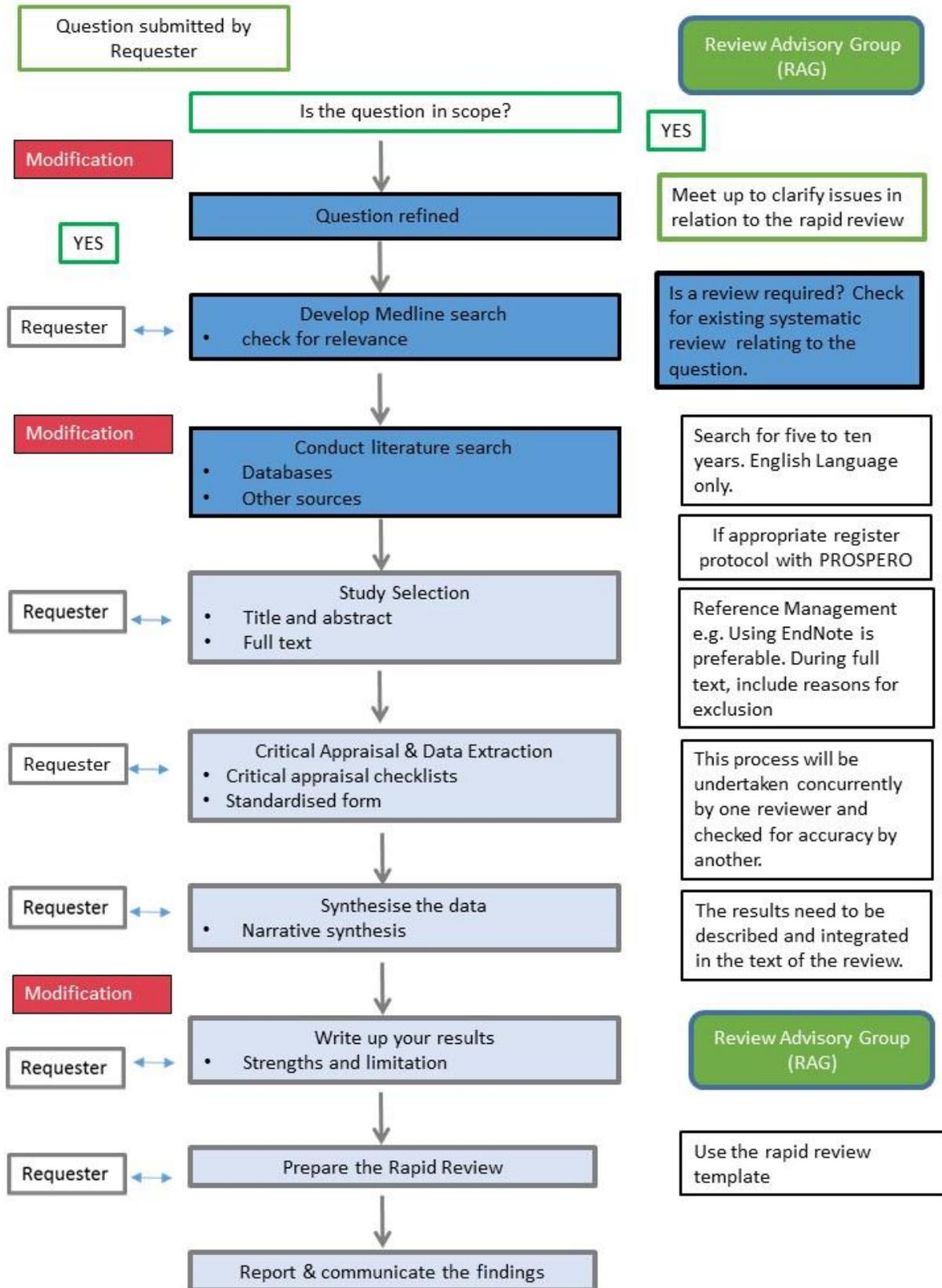
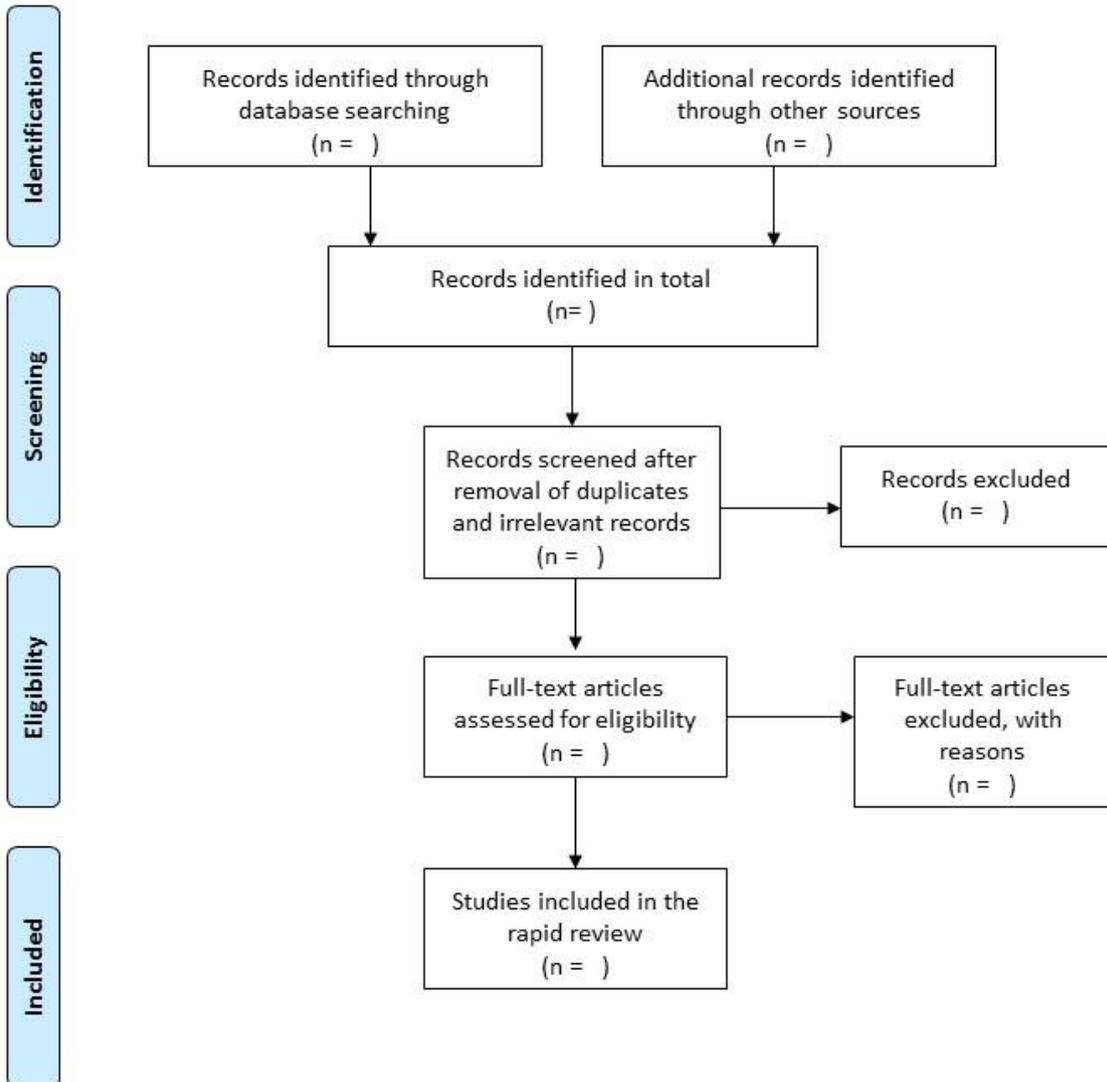


FIGURE 2.

PRISMA FLOW DIAGRAM



APPENDIX 1: Rapid Review Request Form

 Canolfan Ymchwil Canser Cymru Wales Cancer Research Centre Palliative Care Evidence Review Service (PaCERS)
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Rapid Review Request Form

Name of Requester or Group <i>(if a group please nominate a lead)</i>	
Date	
Organisation	
Contact address	
Telephone number	
E-mail address	

The questions below will assist in shaping and focusing your requirements in order to outline your specific research question at the end of the form:

Brief summary of your rationale for review.	
Objectives of the review.	
What key issues are you trying to explore?	
A brief description of your inclusion/exclusion criteria.	
What study design/s chosen would be appropriate for inclusion?	
Are you aware of any key papers?	

When is your deadline for the information?	
How are the review findings going to be used?	
How important/relevant will the review be for practice across Wales?	
Will you be able to identify and feedback to us on the impact the review has had?	

A well-built research question should have at least three components.

The following models will assist in focusing the components of your question:

PICO for a quantitative question

OR

SPICE for a qualitative question.

Choose whichever model is best suited to your question and complete the relevant table below.

(These are not rigid frameworks – there may be aspects of the models that are not relevant to your question.)

P opulation/ P roblem Describe the population that you are interested in. What are the most important characteristics of the patient?	
I ntervention/ E xposure What intervention are you interested in measuring the outcomes from.	
C omparison/ C ontrol What is the main alternative to compare with the intervention?	
O utcome What outcome measure/s are you interested in? What key issues are you trying to explore?	Primary outcome: Secondary outcome:

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OR

<p>Setting</p> <p>Of the research. Where? In what context?</p>	
<p>Perspective</p> <p>Of those who are experiencing the intervention or the situation of interest. For who?</p>	
<p>Intervention / Interest</p> <p>The intervention or the phenomenon that is being experienced. What?</p>	
<p>Comparison</p> <p>With those who do not receive the intervention or experience the phenomenon. What else?</p>	
<p>Evaluation</p> <p>What is being explored or evaluated in the study. How well?</p>	

Having used one of the above models to shape and focus your research question, please present your question below:

QUESTION	
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APPENDIX 2: CHECKLIST OF INFORMATION SOURCES

DATABASES

CINAHL (Ebsco)	<i>The Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health (CINAHL)</i> database provides authoritative coverage of the literature related to nursing and allied health.
Cochrane Library	The Cochrane Library is a collection of databases that contain high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making.
Embase (Ovid)	The <i>EMBASE</i> consists of Drugs and Pharmacology, and (3) <i>EMBASE</i> Psychiatry.
HMIC (Ovid)	Health Management Information Centre (HMIC) UK focus on health management and services, community care; planning and design of health service buildings; people with disabilities and elderly people.
The JBI EBP Database	The Joanna Briggs Institute EBP Database allows you to search simultaneously, a wide range of summarized and appraised evidence, to inform your practice.
Medline (Ovid)	Biomedicine, allied health, biological and physical sciences, humanities and information science as they relate to medicine and health care, communication disorders, population biology, and reproductive biology.
PsycINFO (Ovid)	Areas covered include psychology and psychological aspects of related disciplines, including education, psychiatry and medicine.

OTHER SOURCES

Citation Tracking using Google Scholar
Electronic Table of Content of key journals - <i>search minimum of two journals for last two years in relation to appropriate subject area.</i>
<i>Grey Literature database - where time is available</i>

APPENDIX 3: QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Our checklists are adapted from the following sources:

Generic Appraisal Tool for Epidemiology (GATE) checklists developed by Professor Rod Jackson of the University of Auckland.

http://www.acc.co.nz/PRD_EXT_CSMP/groups/external_providers/documents/reference_tools/wcm1_033995.pdf

Specialist Unit for Review Evidence (SURE) 2013. Questions to assist with the critical appraisal of qualitative studies. Available at:

http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/insrv/libraries/sure/doc/SURE_RCT_Checklist_2013.pdf

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence, Methods for the development of NICE public health guidance (Third Edition) 2012. <http://publications.nice.org.uk/methods-for-the-development-of-nice-public-health-guidance-third-edition-pmg4>

Quality Assessment Checklists will vary according to different study designs but each checklist will consist of the following summary.

Summary

- Are the study results internally valid?

Is the research valid, sound and applicable to my research question?

How well did the study minimise sources of bias?

- Are the findings generalizable to the source population (i.e externally valid)?

Are sufficient details given about the study to determine if findings are transferable to source population?

APPENDIX 4: DATA EXTRACTION

Data Extraction Forms will differ with each review. The data extracted will include specific details about the interventions, populations, study methods and outcomes of significance to the review question and specific objectives.

Data Extraction	
1. Date form completed	
2. Name/ID of person extracting data	
3. Name/ID of person checking data	
4. Full citation	
5. Related publications	
6. Publication type	
7. Country of origin	
8. Study funding source	
9. Study characteristics	
10. Participant characteristics	
11. Intervention and setting	
12. Outcome data/results	

About this methodology

This report describes the methodology used in the development of rapid reviews for the Palliative Care Evidence Review Service.

This report should be cited as follows:

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