Implementing Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in Palliative Care: a systematic review of facilitators and barriers

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Introduction

- Many PROMs have been developed in the past two decades, playing an increasingly important role in palliative care. However, their routine use in practice has been slow and difficult to implement.

- **Aim**: systematically identify facilitators and barriers to the implementation of PROMs in routine care in palliative care settings and generate evidence-based recommendations to inform the implementation process in clinical practice.

Methods

- **Design**: Systematic literature review and narrative synthesis

- **Data Sources**: Medline, PsycInfo, CINAHL, Embase and British Nursing Index were systematically searched from 1985. Hand searching of reference lists for all included articles and relevant review articles were performed.

Results

- 3863 articles were screened. 31 met the inclusion criteria. Each main theme was grouped into 5 or 6 categories. Recommendations for implementation were generated at management, healthcare professional and patient levels for 3 different points in time: preparation, implementation and assessment.

- Implementation of PROMs should be tailored by identifying and addressing barriers in each setting. 1) A coordinator during the implementation process is key 2) Individual cognitive, emotional processes are considered 3) Educational component prior to implementation promotes ownership and PROM data use by clinicians, potentially improving practice and the quality of care provided.

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