

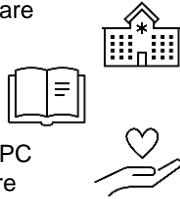
Exploring the Importance of Place in Pediatric Palliative Care: A Narrative Review

Nicolardi, D.,¹ Christopoulos, T.,¹ Walker, M.,¹ Ross T.^{1,2}

¹Bloorview Research Institute, ²Department of Geography and Planning, University of Toronto

Background

- Location affects how pediatric palliative care (PPC) is planned, provided, and experienced¹
- Little research has considered the importance and roles of place in PPC.²
- Knowing more about how place affects PPC experiences, decisions, and quality of care could enhance PPC.



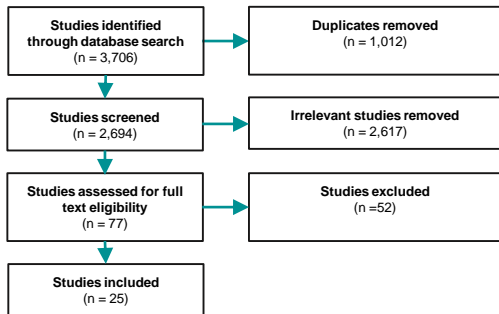
Place influences the quality of pediatric palliative care and needs to be considered in the care planning process.

Objectives

To explore how the importance (e.g., meaning, influence) of place in PPC is considered in the literature.



Methods



- Narrative review³, borrowing from scoping review methodology.⁴
- 5 databases searched
- Key terms related to 'pediatric', 'palliative' and 'place'.

Results

1. PPC occurs in three distinct locations (home, hospital, and hospice), with children and families increasingly preferring for PPC and death to occur at home
2. Holistic care and interdisciplinary teams are integral to providing high quality care in all three locations
3. Location of death affects grieving processes of families with children undergoing PPC
4. Cultural/spiritual ties to place of death requires attention
5. The place for PPC affects families' PPC experiences and decisions, making their views on place important in PPC planning

Conclusion

- The views and experiences of children undergoing PPC have been mostly ignored in the literature; in turn, little is known about their PPC place preferences
 - Research is needed to understand what PPC places mean to children and families and how they affect care decisions
- Research on the role of virtual places (possibly as 'third places'⁵) during PPC could help to enhance care.

Relevance to Holland Bloorview

This work may help HB to inform and support clients and families with decisions about where PPC will occur.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the Ward Family for supporting this research. Thank you also to Iveta Lewis for helping with the development of this review's search strategy.

