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

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Backgroun

- 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.



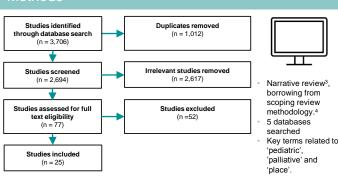


Objectives

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



Methods



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







Results

- PPC occurs in three distinct locations (home, hospital, and hospice), with children and families increasingly preferring for PPC and death to occur at home
- Holistic care and interdisciplinary teams are integral to providing high quality care in all three locations
- Location of death affects grieving processes of families with children undergoing PPC
- 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

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