**Supplementary Table 1.** Risk of bias assessment of retrospective cohort studies

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Study** | **Were the two groups similar and recruited from the same population?** | **Were the exposures measured similarly to assign people to both exposed and unexposed groups?** | **Was the exposure measured in a valid and reliable way?** | **Were confounding factors identified?** | **Were strategies to deal with confounding factors stated?** | **Were the groups/participants free of the outcome at the start of the study (or at the moment of exposure)?** | **Were the outcomes measured in a valid and reliable way?** | **Was the follow up time reported and sufficient to be long enough for outcomes to occur?** | **Was follow up complete, and if not, were the reasons to loss to follow up described and explored?** | **Were strategies to address incomplete follow up utilized?** | **Was appropriate statistical analysis used?** |
| Alonso-Barbarro et al., 2013 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Chitnis et al., 2013 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Bentur et al., 2014 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Kerr et al., 2014 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Riolfi et al., 2014 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Blackhall et al., 2016 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Cassel et al., 2016 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Chiang et al., 2016 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  |  |
| Ferroni et al., 2016 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| Lustbader et al, 2017 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  |  |
| Sudat et al., 2017 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |
| de Miguel et al., 2018 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  |  |
| Maetens et al., 2019 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada |

Risk of bias summary: review authors’ judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study (   = low risk of bias;  = high risk of bias;  = unclear risk of bias, = not applicable).

**Supplementary Table 2.** Risk of bias assessment of quasi-experimental studies

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Study** | **Is it clear in the study what is the ‘cause’ and what is the ‘effect’ (i.e. there is no confusion about which variable comes first)?** | **Were the participants included in any comparisons similar?** | **Were the participants included in any comparisons receiving similar treatment/care, other than the exposure or intervention of interest?** | **Was there an independent control group?** | **Were there multiple measurements of the outcome both pre and post the intervention/exposure?** | **Was follow up complete and if not, were differences between groups in terms of their follow up adequately described and analyzed?** | **Were the outcomes of participants included in any comparisons measured in the same way?** | **Were outcomes measured in a reliable way?** | **Was appropriate statistical analysis used?** |
| Lukas et al., 2013 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |
| Murphy et al., 2013 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |
| Wong et al., 2013 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |
| Hopp et al., 2014 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |
| Pouliot et al., 2016 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |

Risk of bias summary: review authors’ judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study (   = low risk of bias;  = high risk of bias;  = unclear risk of bias, = not applicable).

**Supplementary Table 3.** Risk of bias assessment of randomized controlled trials.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Study** | **Was true randomization used for assignment of participants to treatment groups?** | **Was allocation to treatment groups concealed?** | **Were treatment groups similar at the baseline?** | **Were participants blind to treatment assignment?** | **Were those delivering treatment blind to treatment assignment?** | **Were outcomes assessors blind to treatment assignment?** | **Were treatment groups treated identically other than the intervention of interest?** | **Was follow up complete and if not, were differences between groups in terms of their follow up adequately described and analyzed?** | **Were participants analyzed in the groups to which they were randomized?** | **Were outcomes measured in the same way for treatment groups?** | **Were outcomes measured in a reliable way?** | **Was appropriate statistical analysis used?** | **Was the trial design appropriate, and any deviations from the standard RCT design accounted for in the conduct and analysis of the trial?** |
| Brännström et al., 2014 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |
| Sahlen et al., 2016 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |
| Skov et al., 2018 | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |  |  | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada | Imagen relacionada |

Risk of bias summary: review authors’ judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study (   = low risk of bias;  = high risk of bias;  = unclear risk of bias, = not applicable).

**Supplementary Material 1.** Search strategy

**Ovid MEDLINE(R) and Epub Ahead of Print, In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations, Daily and Versions(R)**

1 exp Palliative Care/ (50078)

2 exp Palliative Medicine/ (248)

3 palliativ\*.ti,ab,kw. (58107)

4 palliativ\*.ot. (1647)

5 exp Terminal Care/ (48300)

6 ("end of life" or "last month\* of life" or "last year of life" or "last day of life" or end-of-life care or incurable\* or "last stage of disease" or "die at home" or "life care end").ti,ab,kw. (30930)

7 or/1-6 (131555)

8 exp Health Expenditures/ (20303)

9 exp "Costs and Cost Analysis"/ (221857)

10 exp Cost-Benefit Analysis/ (75379)

11 exp Cost Savings/ or "Health Care costs"/ (45813)

12 (cost\*1 or cost-effectiv\* or savings or cost-saving\*).ti,ab,kw. (500575)

13 exp Patient Readmission/ or exp "Length of Stay"/ or exp Health Services Research/ (243112)

14 ("hospital readmission\*" or "hospital admission\*" or rehospitali#ation or "length of stay" or "hospital utili#ation\*" or "days in hospital").ti,ab,kw. (90523)

15 or/8-14 (856901)

16 exp Ambulatory Care/ or exp Outpatients/ or Primary Health Care/ (132558)

17 (ambulant\* or outpatient\* or domiciliary).ti,ab,kw. (158036)

18 (home adj2 care).ti,ab,kw. (24041)

19 (primary adj2 care).ti,ab,kw. (120914)

20 or/16-19 (351499)

21 7 and 15 and 20 (1556)

22 limit 21 to yr="2013 -Current" (587)

23 (editorial or letter or case reports or comment).pt. or case report\*.ti. (3473781)

24 22 not 23 (575)

25 (child not adult).mp. (1268435)

26 24 not 25 (563)

**Ovid** **Embase**

1 exp palliative therapy/ (98809)

2 palliativ\*.ti,ab,kw. (91847)

3 palliativ\*.ot. (2182)

4 exp terminal care/ (62833)

5 ("end of life" or "last month\* of life" or "last year of life" or "last day of life" or end-of-life care or incurable\* or "last stage of disease" or "die at home" or "life care end").ti,ab,kw. (46522)

6 or/1-5 (197909)

7 exp "health care cost"/ (272767)

8 exp "cost"/ (328021)

9 exp "cost benefit analysis"/ (80168)

10 exp "cost control"/ (64354)

11 (cost\*1 or cost-effectiv\* or savings or cost-saving\*).ti,ab,kw. (670112)

12 exp hospital readmission/ (50191)

13 exp "length of stay"/ (160656)

14 exp health services research/ (32269)

15 ("hospital readmission\*" or "hospital admission\*" or rehospitali#ation or "length of stay" or "hospital utili#ation\*" or "days in hospital").ti,ab,kw. (156035)

16 or/7-15 (1119094)

17 exp ambulatory care/ (44996)

18 exp outpatient/ (106036)

19 primary health care/ (60662)

20 (ambulant\* or spitex or outpatient\* or domiciliary).ti,ab,kw. (249728)

21 (home adj2 care).ti,ab,kw. (30038)

22 (primary adj2 care).ti,ab,kw. (164870)

23 or/17-22 (504475)

24 6 and 16 and 23 (2283)

25 limit 24 to yr="2013 -Current" (1284)

26 limit 25 to embase (491)

27 (editorial or letter or case reports or comment).pt. or case report\*.ti. (1930873)

28 26 not 27 (481)

29 (child not adult).mp. (1421536)

30 28 not 29 (467)

**CINAHL**

( (((MH "Palliative Care") OR (TI palliativ\* OR AB palliativ\*) OR (MH "Terminal Care+") OR (TI "end of life" OR AB "end of life" OR TI "last month\* of life" OR AB "last month\* of life" OR TI "last year of life" OR AB "last year of life" OR TI "last day of life" OR AB "last day of life" OR TI "end-of-life care" OR AB "end-of-life care" OR TI incurable\* OR AB incurable\* OR TI "last stage of disease" OR AB "last stage of disease" OR TI "die at home" OR AB "die at home" OR TI "life care end" OR AB "life care end"))) AND ((MH "Costs and Cost Analysis+") OR (MH "Cost Benefit Analysis") OR (MH "Cost Savings") OR (MH "Health Care costs") OR (TI cost\* OR AB cost\* OR TI cost-effectiv\* OR AB cost-effectiv\* OR TI savings OR AB savings OR TI cost-saving\* OR AB cost-saving\*) OR (MH "Readmission") OR (MH "Length of Stay") OR (MH "Health Services Research+") OR (TI "hospital readmission\*" OR AB "hospital readmission\*" OR TI "hospital admission\*" OR AB "hospital admission\*" OR TI rehospitalization\* OR AB rehospitalization\* OR TI rehospitalisation\* OR AB rehospitalisation\* OR TI "length of stay" OR AB "length of stay" OR TI "hospital utilization\*" OR AB "hospital utilization\*" OR TI "hospital utilisation\*" OR AB "hospital utilisation\*" OR TI "days in hospital" OR AB "days in hospital")) AND (((MH "Ambulatory Care") OR (MH "Outpatients") OR (MH "Outpatient Service") OR (MH "Primary Health Care") OR (TI ambulant\* OR AB ambulant\* OR TI outpatient\* OR AB outpatient\* OR TI domiciliary OR AB domiciliary) OR ((TI home OR AB home) N2 (TI care OR AB care)) OR ((TI primary OR AB primary) N2 (TI care OR AB care)))) )

[**Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials**](https://www.cochranelibrary.com/) **(CENTRAL)**

98 Trials matching on '("end of life" OR "last month\* of life" OR "last year of life" OR "last day of life" OR end-of-life care OR incurable\* OR "last stage of disease" OR "die at home" OR "life care end" OR palliative) in Title Abstract Keyword AND (cost OR cost-effective OR savings OR cost-saving OR "hospital readmission\*" OR "hospital admission\*" OR rehospitalization OR "length of stay" OR "hospital utilization" OR "days in hospital") in Title Abstract Keyword AND (ambulant OR outpatient OR domiciliary OR "home care" OR "home based care" OR "primary care" OR "primary health care") in Title Abstract Keyword - with Publication Year from 2013 to 2019, with Cochrane Library publication date Between Jan 2013 and Feb 2019, in Trials (Word variations have been searched)'

**Web of Science Core Collection**

TS=(("end of life" OR "last month\* of life" OR "last year of life" OR "last day\* of life" OR end-of-life care OR incurable\* OR "last stage of disease" OR "die at home" OR "life care end" OR palliative) AND (cost OR cost-effectiv\* OR savings OR cost-saving OR "hospital readmission\*" OR "hospital admission\*" OR rehospitalisation OR "length of stay" OR "hospital utilization" OR "days in hospital”) AND (ambulant OR outpatient OR domiciliary OR "home care" OR "home based care" OR "primary care" OR "primary health care"))

Refined by: PUBLICATION YEARS: ( 2019 OR 2018 OR 2017 OR 2016 OR 2015 OR 2014 OR 2013)

**PubMed Subsets for status publisher and pubmednotmedline**

Search ((((Palliative Care OR Palliative Medicine[MeSH Terms]) OR (palliativ\*[Title/Abstract]) OR (palliativ\*[Transliterated Title]) OR (Terminal Care[MeSH Terms]) OR ("end of life"[Title/Abstract] OR "last month\* of life"[Title/Abstract] OR "last year of life"[Title/Abstract] OR "last day of life"[Title/Abstract] OR end-of-life care[Title/Abstract] OR incurable\*[Title/Abstract] OR "last stage of disease"[Title/Abstract] OR "die at home"[Title/Abstract] OR "life care end"[Title/Abstract])) AND (((((("Health Expenditures"[Mesh]) OR "Costs and Cost Analysis"[Mesh]) OR "Cost-Benefit Analysis"[Mesh]) OR "Cost Savings"[Mesh]) OR "Health Care Costs"[Mesh]) OR (cost[Title/Abstract] OR costs[Title/Abstract] OR cost-effectiv\*[Title/Abstract] OR savings[Title/Abstract] OR cost-saving\*[Title/Abstract]) OR ((("Patient Readmission"[Mesh]) OR "Length of Stay"[Mesh]) OR "Health Services Research"[Mesh]) OR ("hospital readmission\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "hospital admission\*"[Title/Abstract] OR rehospitalisation[Title/Abstract] OR rehospitalization[Title/Abstract] OR "length of stay"[Title/Abstract] OR "hospital utilisation\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "hospital utilization\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "days in hospital"[Title/Abstract])) AND ((Ambulatory Care OR Outpatients OR Primary Health Care[MeSH Terms]) OR (ambulant\*[Title/Abstract] OR outpatient\*[Title/Abstract] OR domiciliary[Title/Abstract]) OR (home-based care[Title/Abstract] OR primary care[Title/Abstract] OR primary health care[Title/Abstract]))) AND pubmednotmedline[sb]) OR ((((Palliative Care OR Palliative Medicine[MeSH Terms]) OR (palliativ\*[Title/Abstract]) OR (palliativ\*[Transliterated Title]) OR (Terminal Care[MeSH Terms]) OR ("end of life"[Title/Abstract] OR "last month\* of life"[Title/Abstract] OR "last year of life"[Title/Abstract] OR "last day of life"[Title/Abstract] OR end-of-life care[Title/Abstract] OR incurable\*[Title/Abstract] OR "last stage of disease"[Title/Abstract] OR "die at home"[Title/Abstract] OR "life care end"[Title/Abstract])) AND (((((("Health Expenditures"[Mesh]) OR "Costs and Cost Analysis"[Mesh]) OR "Cost-Benefit Analysis"[Mesh]) OR "Cost Savings"[Mesh]) OR "Health Care Costs"[Mesh]) OR (cost[Title/Abstract] OR costs[Title/Abstract] OR cost-effectiv\*[Title/Abstract] OR savings[Title/Abstract] OR cost-saving\*[Title/Abstract]) OR ((("Patient Readmission"[Mesh]) OR "Length of Stay"[Mesh]) OR "Health Services Research"[Mesh]) OR ("hospital readmission\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "hospital admission\*"[Title/Abstract] OR rehospitalisation[Title/Abstract] OR rehospitalization[Title/Abstract] OR "length of stay"[Title/Abstract] OR "hospital utilisation\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "hospital utilization\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "days in hospital"[Title/Abstract])) AND ((Ambulatory Care OR Outpatients OR Primary Health Care[MeSH Terms]) OR (ambulant\*[Title/Abstract] OR outpatient\*[Title/Abstract] OR domiciliary[Title/Abstract]) OR (home-based care[Title/Abstract] OR primary care[Title/Abstract] OR primary health care[Title/Abstract]))) AND publisher[sb])

Filters: Publication date from 2013/01/01 to 2019/12/31

**Google Scholar**

"end of life"|"last months of life"|"last year of life"|"last days of life"|end-of-life care|incurable|"last stage of disease"|"die at home"|"life care end"|palliative cost|cost-effective|savings|cost-saving|"hospital readmission"|"hospital admission"|rehospitalisation|"length of stay"|"hospital utilization"|"days in hospital” ambulant|outpatient|domiciliary|"home care"|"home based care"|"primary care"|"primary health care"