Supplementary 1: Thematic data analysis

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| **Thematic analysis** | |
| Steps | Action |
| (i) familiarisation with data | Immersion in the data by reading and re-reading full-text papers |
| (ii) systematic coding of the data | Maintenance of notes on all studies  Extraction of data using excel spread sheet was based on the research questions and the WHO definition (World Health Organization, 2020)  Extracted data was coded  All decisions were considered and documented |
| (iii) grouping codes under potential themes | Codes were grouped and collated. Relevant illustrative quotes were recorded as evidence. Codes that were similar were collated together. After reading and re-reading the extracted data, potential themes were generated. Data was rearranged to fit into each theme coherently. Revisions were made and discussed across all researchers |
| (iv) validating themes | The data was reviewed and considered by means of mapping for themes and sub-themes. Working titles for themes were considered by all reviewers. Data that diverged from the main narrative was noted and separately included |
| (v) defining and naming themes | The meaning and essence of the data as a whole was considered in relation to the validated themes to ensure it reflected the theme name. Theme names were validated by all reviewers. Revisions were made. Final thematic map and definition for each theme was created |
| (vi) producing the final report with selected extracts | Final analysis and write up of report with examples from the data |

**References:** Braun, V., & Clarke, V. (2006). Using thematic analysis in psychology. *Qualitative Research in Psychology, 3*(2), 77-101. World Health Organization. (2020). *WHO Definition of Palliative Care*.