

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario – Best Practice Guidelines Program *A Palliative Approach to Care in the Last 12 Months of Life (2020)*

1. Structured Website Search

Two Guideline Development Methodologists searched an established list of website for guidelines.

Guidelines were selected based on the following criteria:

- Focus on palliative and/or end-of-life care
- Published in English
- Available and accessible for retrieval
- Developed based on a systematic search of the literature
- Included a description of how the recommendations were developed
- Published no earlier than 2011
- Relevant to nursing scope of practice
- Applicable to the Canadian context (e.g. studies in countries with similar culture and economic status/developed nations such as OECD countries
<http://www.oecd.org/about/membersandpartners/>)

Websites searched:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology
- Canadian Medical Association Infobase: Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Cochrane eLibrary
- eGuidelines
- Guidelines International Network (GIN)
- National Guideline Clearinghouse (NGC)
- National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC): Clinical Practice Guidelines
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) (UK): Evidence Services
- Ontario Ministry of Health & Ministry of Long-Term Care
- Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

A broad search on Google search engine was also conducted using search terms: end of life, palliative care, assisted-dying, medically-assisted dying, physician-assisted dying, hospice care, terminal care, guideline, and best practice guideline.

2. Hand Search

RNAO expert panel members were asked to review personal libraries to identify and submit potentially relevant guidelines. Guidelines submitted for consideration by RNAO expert panel members were integrated into the retrieved list of guidelines if they had not been identified by the on-line guideline search and met the inclusion criteria.