

# Development of a clinical practice guideline for assessment, prevention and treatment of pain in children with cancer: phase 1

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## Introduction

High-quality evidence-based guidelines for supportive care in children with cancer are needed. Pain in children with cancer has been identified as an area where many clinicians seek guidance.

## Objectives

To develop a clinical practice guideline (CPG) for pain in children with cancer with recommendations on

1. assessment of pain;
2. pharmacological treatment of
  - a) tumor-related pain;
  - b) treatment-related pain;
  - c) procedure-related pain;
3. physical and psychological treatment
  - a) tumor- and treatment-related pain
  - b) procedure-related pain.

## Materials and Methods

The international and inter-professional guideline panel includes 44 individuals. In phase 1, clinical questions were formulated for each topic and prioritized using GRADE methodology. The scope and critically important outcomes for each clinical question were delineated

## Panel members



Pediatric oncologists, pediatric oncology nurses, pediatricians, clinical pharmacists, pediatric anesthesiologists, pediatric surgeons, pediatric palliative care physicians, researchers, psychologists, pediatric neurologists, pediatric intensivists, radiation oncologists, physical therapists, child life specialists



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## Results

The six working groups prioritized a total of 25 clinical questions to be answered through systematic literature reviews (see Figure 1). The number of critical outcomes differed per question, with a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 13.

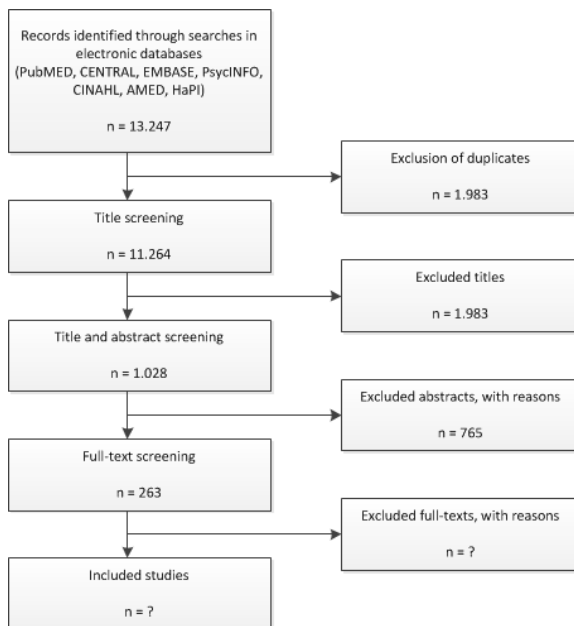


Image 1. Current status of the project.

## Conclusion

We have developed the framework for CPG development. In the next phase, systematic literature reviews will be undertaken and evidence-to-decision frameworks will be used to formulate recommendations. We expect to finalize the guideline in the spring of 2018.



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project "Towards evidence-based guidelines for supportive care in childhood oncology" is supported by the Alpe d'HuZes foundation/Dutch Cancer Society (RUG 2013-6345). We thank the Dutch pediatric oncology patient and parent association "Vereniging Ouders, Kinderen en Kanker" for playing an active role in the recruitment of parent-representatives.

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