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## **Exploring children's perceptions and experiences of asthma: a systematic review of qualitative studies.**

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## Review question

What are children's perceptions and experiences of asthma?

## Searches

The following databases will be searched:

- MEDLINE
- PsycINFO
- PubMed
- CINAHL Plus
- EMBASE
- Web of Science
- Child Development and Adolescent Studies

Reference sections of selected studies will be searched for additional articles.

Early scoping work and initial limited searches have informed the search strategy and key terms. The search strategy includes combinations of the following terms: asthma; qualitative research; and children and young people. Search terms will be applied in line with database-specific methods. No restrictions on publication dates will be imposed on the searches. Only studies published in the English language will be included.

## Types of study to be included

The review will include qualitative studies that have examined the phenomena of interest by reporting first-hand accounts of children. The review will include studies that report findings using established methods of qualitative data analysis (for example, phenomenology, thematic analysis, grounded theory, ethnography). Studies with a stated focus on children's perspectives will be included. International, peer-reviewed studies, published in the English language, will be included. Studies including quantitative methods will be excluded.

## Condition or domain being studied

Asthma is a lung condition in which symptoms of wheeze, breathlessness, chest tightness and cough are associated with airflow obstruction. Asthma is recognised as a condition consisting of potentially fatal exacerbations or 'attacks' during which symptoms considerably deteriorate. It affects all ages and often starts in childhood.

## Participants/population

Inclusion criteria: Children, with a diagnosis of asthma, aged ≥12 years old.

## Intervention(s), exposure(s)

The phenomena of interest in this review are children's perceptions and experiences of asthma.

## Comparator(s)/control

Not applicable.

## Context

An international perspective and all settings (for example, the home setting, the primary healthcare setting) will be considered in this review.

## Main outcome(s)

Qualitative accounts of children's perceptions and experiences of asthma.

### Measures of effect

Not applicable.

### Additional outcome(s)

None.

### Measures of effect

Not applicable.

### Data extraction (selection and coding)

Step 1. Titles and abstracts of studies retrieved using the search strategy will be reviewed to determine inclusion using the inclusion criteria.

Step 2. The full text of potentially relevant papers will then be screened by two independent reviewers, using the inclusion criteria to identify the studies to include in the review. Differences or disagreements will be resolved by consensus discussion with a third reviewer.

Step 3. Data from papers for inclusion will be extracted to describe the studies using a form that will be designed for purpose. The data extracted will include information regarding the study population, methodology and design.

Step 4. Data to be used in analysis will be extracted verbatim from the relevant text in the papers.

### Risk of bias (quality) assessment

Each final study will be critically appraised by two independent reviewers using the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) tool. Any discrepancies will be discussed with a third review in order to reach consensus.

### Strategy for data synthesis

The relevant qualitative data extracted from the included studies will be subject to Thematic Synthesis, outlined by Thomas and Harden (2008). This process begins by coding the data line-by-line, followed by development of descriptive themes and lastly, generation of analytical themes to provide new interpretations and hypotheses that answer the review question.

### Analysis of subgroups or subsets

None planned.

### Contact details for further information

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### Organisational affiliation of the review

Queen's University Belfast

### Review team members and their organisational affiliations

Ms Treasa O'Brien. Queen's University Belfast  
Dr David McCormack. Queen's University Belfast  
Professor Rhiannon Turner. Queen's University Belfast  
Ms Úna O'Boyle-Finnegan. Queen's University Belfast

### Type and method of review

Synthesis of qualitative studies, Systematic review

### Anticipated or actual start date

01 May 2020

**Anticipated completion date**

01 May 2021

**Funding sources/sponsors**

Queen's University Belfast

**Grant number(s)**

State the funder, grant or award number and the date of award

**Conflicts of interest**

**Language**

English

**Country**

Northern Ireland

**Stage of review**

Review Ongoing

**Subject index terms status**

Subject indexing assigned by CRD

**Subject index terms**

Asthma; Child; Humans; Qualitative Research

**Date of registration in PROSPERO**

15 July 2020

**Date of first submission**

26 May 2020

**Stage of review at time of this submission**

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Started</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Preliminary searches	Yes	No
Piloting of the study selection process	No	No
Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria	No	No
Data extraction	No	No
Risk of bias (quality) assessment	No	No
Data analysis	No	No

*The record owner confirms that the information they have supplied for this submission is accurate and complete and they understand that deliberate provision of inaccurate information or omission of data may be construed as scientific misconduct.*

*The record owner confirms that they will update the status of the review when it is completed and will add publication details in due course.*

Versions  
15 July 2020

