Multidisciplinary collaboration in cancer teams: a realist review of the literature

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BACKGROUND:
Multidisciplinary collaboration is an important aspect in providing high quality care in healthcare systems. It is key for positive patient outcomes, enhanced patient and professional satisfaction and cost effective health care. The multidisciplinary approach is widely accepted as the “golden standard” of qualitative cancer care delivery.

Literature reports a variety of determinants related to effective multidisciplinary collaboration in cancer teams. However, it lacks a systematic collection of evidence that addresses the complexity and context of the different determinants of collaboration.

AIM:
This realist review aims to systematically investigate determinants of effective multidisciplinary cancer teams.

METHOD:
A realist review is conducted to identify and explain the interaction between context, mechanism and outcome of collaboration in multidisciplinary cancer teams.

We searched three databases:
- Web of Science
- Pubmed
- Scopus

Inclusion criteria included English written literature on multidisciplinary collaboration in oncology, published between January 2010 and February 2018.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS:
4441 articles:
- Duplicates, language, year: 1056
  - Title and abstract screening: 116

Results will be available by the end of 2018

IMPLICATION:
Determinants of multidisciplinary collaboration are an important element to develop strategies or interventions to enhance multidisciplinary collaboration in cancer teams.

The theory resulting from this review will present a layered model of mechanisms on how multidisciplinary teams contribute to desirable outcomes and which contextual factors appear to be of critical influence.

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