

Box 1. Search strategy used in PsycINFO

Search terms for **COPD**

“chronic airflow obstruction” OR COPD OR “chronic obstructive pulmonary disease” OR “chronic obstructive lung disease” OR “chronic obstructive airway disease” OR COAD OR “airway* obstructive disease” OR “chronic airflow limitation” OR “chronic respiratory disease” OR “chronic obstructive airways disease” OR “chronic respiratory disability” OR “respiratory failure” OR “respiratory insufficiency” OR “chronic lung disease”

Search terms for **discussions**

address OR discuss* OR approach OR chat OR communicat* OR consider* OR consult* OR debate OR deliberat* OR inform* OR introduce OR mention OR raise OR talk OR verbalise OR verbalize OR vocalise OR vocalize OR (bring ADJ up) OR (go ADJ into) OR “truth disclosure” OR disclos* OR exp COMMUNICATION/ OR exp COMMUNICATION BARRIERS/ OR exp VERBAL COMMUNICATION/ OR exp INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION/ OR exp NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION/ OR exp PERSUASIVE COMMUNICATION/ OR exp WRITTEN COMMUNICATION/ OR exp COMMUNICATION SKILLS/ or communication

Search terms for **EOL issues**

“advance* care plan*” OR exp ADVANCE DIRECTIVES/ OR “advance directive” OR “advance direction” OR “artificial respiration” OR “bad news” OR exp DEATH INSTINCT/ OR exp DEATH EDUCATION/ OR exp DEATH ATTITUDES/ OR exp DEATH ANXIETY/ or exp DEATH AND DYING/ OR death OR (decision ADJ mak*) OR exp DECISION MAKING/ OR exp DISEASE COURSE/ OR “disease course OR (dnr ADJ status) OR dnr OR “do not resuscitate” OR (dnr ADJ order) OR resuscitation OR (dying ADJ care) OR dying OR (end adj3 life) OR eolc OR exacerbat* OR exp NURSES/ OR exp NURSING HOMES/ OR exp HOME CARE/ OR exp CAREGIVERS/ OR exp ASSISTED LIVING/ OR (respite ADJ care) OR exp HOSPICE/ OR hospice OR exp HOSPITALIZATION/ or hospitalization OR (hospital ADJ admission) OR intubation OR (life ADJ expectancy) OR exp LIFE EXPECTANCY/ OR (life ADJ sav*) OR “life support” OR exp LIFE SUSTAINING TREATMENT/ OR (life ADJ sustaining) OR (living ADJ will) OR (mechanical ADJ respiration) OR “no code order” OR palliat* OR exp PALLIATIVE CARE/ OR exp PROGNOSIS/ or prognosis or “medical futility” or “supportive care” OR “terminal care” OR exp TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS OR exp CHRONIC ILLNESS/ OR exp TREATMENT REFUSAL/ OR (refus* adj treat*) OR exp TREATMENT WITHHOLDING/ OR exp PROFESSIONAL ETHICS/ OR “withholding treatment” OR exp TREATMENT TERMINATION/ OR exp TREATMENT COMPLIANCE/ OR exp TREATMENT BARRIERS/ OR treatment OR exp QUALITY OF LIFE/ OR “quality of life”

Combined search terms for **COPD AND discussions AND EOL issues**

Limits: January 1987 to October 2011