

## Supplementary File S3 Critical Appraisal Framework

Title & Source (Author, Year)	Study Design	JBI Checklist Used	Number of Items	Response Options	Assessment Results (Yes, No, Unclear, NA)
Exploring Nurses' Supportive Care Practices for Managing Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) in a Tertiary Care Facility in Ghana (Akpakli Addo & Senoo-Dogbey, 2025)	Qualitative	JBI Checklist for Qualitative Research	10	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 10, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Level of Depression and Anxiety on Quality of Life Among Patients Undergoing Hemodialysis (Alshelleh et al., 2023)	Cross-sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
"You need a team": perspectives on interdisciplinary symptom management using patient-reported outcome measures in hemodialysis care—a qualitative study (Baragar et al., 2023)	Qualitative	JBI Checklist for Qualitative Research	10	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 10, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Depression and anxiety in people with kidney disease: understanding symptom variability, patient experience and preferences for mental health support (Chilcot et al., 2025)	Cross-sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Profiling mortality patterns and place of death in patients on maintenance hemodialysis: a retrospective study in a tertiary care	Cross-sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 7, No: 0, Unclear: 1, NA: 0

academic hospital in India (Gayathri M et al., 2025)					
Factors Associated with Symptom Burden in Adults with Chronic Kidney Disease Undergoing Hemodialysis: A Prospective Study (Gunarathne et al., 2022)	Cross-sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Palliative Care Needs and Symptom Burden in Patients Undergoing Maintenance Hemodialysis: A Systematic Review (Haneef & Abdullah, 2024)	Systematic Review	JBI Checklist for Systematic Reviews	11	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 11, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Emotional Support and Family Strategies for Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease Undergoing Hemodialysis (Kristian et al., 2025)	Qualitative	JBI Checklist for Qualitative Research	10	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 10, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Mental health status and quality of life in patients with end-stage renal disease undergoing maintenance hemodialysis (Ma et al., 2021)	Cross-sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Exploring the unmet needs and experiences of informal caregivers of patients with end-stage kidney disease (ESKD) receiving haemodialysis – a qualitative study (Matthews et al., 2024)	Qualitative	JBI Checklist for Qualitative Research	10	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 10, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Palliative care needs and symptom burden in younger and older patients	Cross-sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0

with end-stage renal disease undergoing maintenance hemodialysis: A cross-sectional study (Wang et al., 2022)		Sectional Checklist			
Exploring the influencing factors of unmet palliative care needs in Chinese patients with end-stage renal disease undergoing maintenance hemodialysis: a cross-sectional study (Wang et al., 2023)	Cross-sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 0, Unclear: 0, NA: 0
Assessment of Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Self-Care Among Patients Undergoing Hemodialysis (Kayamkani et al., 2023)	Cross-Sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 6, No: 1, Unclear: 1, NA: 0
Health Care Services Need in Hemodialysis Patients: A Qualitative Study (Budiyarti & Sukanti, 2023)	Qualitative (Phenomenology)	JBI Checklist for Qualitative Research	10	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 1, Unclear: 1, NA: 0
Quality of Life and Perceived Care of Patients in Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease Consultations: A Cross-Sectional Descriptive Study (Gimeno-Hernán et al., 2025)	Cross-Sectional	JBI Analytical Cross-Sectional Checklist	8	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 6, No: 1, Unclear: 1, NA: 0
Psychological and Social Support Among Chronic Kidney Disease Patients: A Qualitative Study (Komariah et al., 2024)	Qualitative (Descriptive Phenomenology)	JBI Checklist for Qualitative Research	10	Yes/No/Unclear/NA	Yes: 8, No: 1, Unclear: 1, NA: 0

Assessment Summary:

Qualitative Studies (4 articles): These studies (Addo, Baragar, Kristian, Matthews) utilized the 10-item checklist. They consistently demonstrate high methodological rigor by achieving data saturation and following recognized reporting standards such as COREQ.

Cross-sectional Studies (7 articles): Most of these studies (Alshelleh et al., 2023; Chilcot et al., 2025; Gunarathne et al., 2022; Ma et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2022, 2023) scored high on the 8-item checklist. Gayathri M et al. (2025) had "Unclear" points primarily due to limitations inherent in retrospective data or the management of potential confounding factors as noted in their own limitation sections.

Systematic Review (1 article): Haneef and Abdullah (2024) met all 11 criteria, demonstrating transparency through the use of a PRISMA flow chart and rigorous quality assessment of its own included studies using the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (NOS).

Additional studies identified during the supplementary appraisal process (Budiyarti & Sukanti, 2023; Gimeno-Hernán et al., 2025; Kayamkani et al., 2023; Komariah et al., 2024) were not incorporated into the primary evidence synthesis. Although these studies addressed topics related to supportive care, self-management, psychological support, or quality of life among patients with chronic kidney disease, they demonstrated comparatively lower methodological rigor than the studies included in the final review, with appraisal results ranging from 6–8 positive responses and the presence of "No" and "Unclear" ratings in key JBI domains. The identified limitations included insufficient reporting of confounding factors, limited methodological transparency, inadequate description of analytical procedures, and restricted transferability due to single-center or small-sample designs. Furthermore, these studies contributed limited novel evidence beyond the themes already identified in the higher-quality studies included in the review. Therefore, while their findings were considered during the appraisal process, they were not incorporated into the final thematic synthesis in order to maintain consistency, methodological robustness, and conceptual coherence of the evidence base.