Additional file 3. Pre-testing results

Batch 1

Italicized font and strikethrough: Suggested revisions after steering committee input

	Over the past 6 months, we	illness, 2.5 year old	_	P9 (52 mins) transcript summary, Category 3 illness. 5.5 year old male	P8 (35 mins) transcript summary, Category 1 illness. 8.5 year old male.	Facilitator comments	Steering committee comments	Steering committee comments (cont.)
1	had access to a range of medical expertise needed to manage my child's condition(s).	experts that if I need to I can email, for e.g. her [specialists]? Since we're in home care prog I would think yes, ready access. We also have WhatsApp, which I use a	When I read this I don't know, I feel there is no 'expert' here for his condition. They only treat whatever that comes up. So it's a simple statement but it opens a pandora's box because all of them don't have any answers and no reference cases.	No issues w indicator	nrivate or public hospital?	This indicator should be discussed. Is it range of medical experts or range of medical expertise? Is it about access to the advice/medical input?	I like better access to range of medical expertise	had access to THE medical expertise needed to manage my child's condition(s).
2	received guidance on how to obtain my child's medical equipment(s) and supplies e.g., medications, medical consumables.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Didn't know that medications or nursing kits are supplies. 'How to obtain' Cos always prescribed. Should change to receive, not obtain.	Add examples but leave it as obtain.	obtain better than receive	

3	financial support	source of financial support; what about my	understand. But I don't	No issues w indicator; we barely received any support because not eligible.	Not many parents have any financial support maybe financial assessment or counselling. Everyone needs financial counselling but I don't need financial support.	Focus is on whether families perceive they received 'fair', 'meanstested' support. The perception of 'sufficiency' is more important than absolutely having received or not.	assessment - just having	I LIKE THE CHANGE
4	had a healthcare worker/team that supervised the management of my child's medical needs.	Thinks about Home Care team	What does it mean to 'supervise'? Just outpatient follow ups? Is that supervision already? Because when I see supervise I think it should be more daily, but that is all on us. For this and 5 I answer in the context of [Home Hospice].		Quite clear. Not sure if across or within teams.	Is 'oversee' less confusing that 'supervise'? Diff between 4 and 5 is that 4 is whether there's a HCW who is familiar with child's complexities. 5 is about coordinating across teams.	Jan 2 1 1 2 2 2 2	I LIKE THE CHANGE
5	had a healthcare worker/team that coordinated my child's care across different care services.	Thinks about Home Care team	recently we got Covid and	No issues w indicator. Non- resourceful people cannot handle; it wasn't coordinated at all, my wife is the one who sought everyone out.	No issues w indicator. This is clearly lacking in health system			

6	received consistent information from different healthcare workers.	No issues w indicator	No. The only consistent info is the 'everything is because of his underlying condition', frustrating.	No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator. Need to seek second opinion, need to coordinate and analyze everything.			
7	support for my child's non- medical expenses	Again, what's the source of financial support? The frequency-based response option is not appropriate. Should be a % e.g. how many % of my child's non-medical expenses are subsidized or covered	Other than [government early intervention prog], the MSW told us to apply for XXX but I don't qualify for anything. I had to jump all the loops just to get some [govt. programme] subsidy. And even then [the govt prog] is only for those 6 and below so he cannot even attend anymore.	No issues w indicator; we barely received any support.	I thought is financial assessment or financial counselling.	Focus is on whether families perceive they received 'fair', 'meanstested' support. The perception of 'sufficiency' is more important than absolutely having received or not.		I LIKE THE WORDING BUT WOULD ARGUE THAT PHYSIOTHER APY IS MEDICAL, NOT NON- MEDICAL
8	received appropriate allied health support (e.g., physiotherapists,	Thinks about [govt early intervention program], therapists. No issues	No issues w indicator. The [govt. early intervention] programme didn't work. It is so infrequent and he gets barely any attention, he lay on the floor alone. It cost 700 per month, we then changed to another [private] programme, which was slightly cheaper but too far away. All options are either not accessible, or not appropriate!	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
9	ADD SCREENING QUESTION: Is your child receiving any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or	Not applicable to my child, only for terminally ill patients	[Home Hospice] other than	We did but how do I say they are too enthusiastic, they discuss with us too many times. Not a comfortable convo to have. Opposite problem.	My child doesn't need	Add screening question prior to 10, and remove 9?	either 9 or 10 are fine but don't ask at all if child's conditional is not terminal	I DON'T THINK ALL WILL KNOW THE WORD 'PALLIATIVE' OR WHAT IT REFERS TO.

specialist? YES /				
NO				
Description: *The				
service provides a				
holistic care				
approach via the				
multidisciplinary				
team that				
encompasses				
psychological,				
emotional and				
spiritual support.				
Supportive care				
and palliative				
medicine is				
appropriate at				
any age and at				
any stage in a				
serious illness,				
and it can be				
provided along				
with curative				
treatment.				
were able to				
discuss my child's				
treatment plan				
with a palliative				
care team or				
palliative care				
specialist(s) if we				
wanted to.				

10-	team or palliative care specialist (s) at an appropriate time.	Not applicable to my child, only for terminally ill patients	thought kids go there to die. We didn't want that. We dug our heels in. But ever since having [Home Hospice], we actually feel more at peace, always. There needs to be more awareness. Hospitals need to take a proactive approach.	No issues w indicator	My child doesn't need	MAYBE USE THE TERM PALLIATIVE AND SUPPORTIVE CARE. AND PERHAPS DEFINE WHAT YOU MEAN.
11	when we needed	I would say yes, my wife would say no. So I think sometimes.	Discussed negative experience about HOD being insensitive to mother's religious beliefs. Filed a complaint to hospital and received unsatisfactory response, no follow-up. 3rd complaint filed already. Incidence gave mother panic attacks and created awkwardness.	I think about it when he's hospitalized, what's the advice they give, or homecare, in general is the HCP able to work with us? They do what they can. If cannot we will go [to the hospital].	No issues w indicator	
12	worked as a team towards common goals for my child's care.	No issues w indicator	I think about it during hospitalizations.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	

13	organized my child's appointments to reduce our hospital visits.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator. Departments did not communicate at all, and we were going to hospital every 2 weeks. I don't even know how we did it.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
14	put in effort to build a trusting relationship with us.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator. Very transactional. They only focus on medical caregiving. Only one doctor that has journeyed with us from the start went out of his way, stayed longer hours, talked to us, built that trust.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
15	kept us fully well informed about my child's condition.	This is very subjective, 'fully' makes me uncomfortable because I don't know what I don't know.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Does replacing 'fully' with 'well' reduce some of that absoluteness which P3 is not comfortable with?	well is better than fully	
16	communicated with us in a way that was sensitive to our needs.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Don't understand this question. I thought emotional needs. So shd clarify that it's emotional needs.			
17	gave us enough time to think about decisions for my child's care.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator			

		1	1	1	1	T		
18	did not bother us unless it was something important.	I assume they never bother us UNLESS it's important	No issues w indicator	I'm sure that the info they want to give, be in in or out of hospital, they will inform us. Maybe info did not need to inform immediately, but eventually it will flow down. The personnel has the responsibility to relay info, but now or a few hours later? 'Bother' is not that much lah. They have to uphold. I don't think there's a good way to ask this cos all parents are too different.	impt or not but even if	Indicator is captured by 16. Suggest to remove since parents struggle with it.	ok	
19	communicated with my child in a way that was sensitive to his/her needs.	Not Applicable because my child is too young	Not applicable because he is non-verbal, mostly non-responsive.	No issues w indicator	what needs? Or biological needs? Shd be holistic. Nursing- biological. Social worker- emotional. Elicit	P8 struggled but the rest did not raise the same concern about wanting to divide into domains. Perhaps keep testing as-is.		
20	did all they could to identify and manage my child's medical issues.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator			
21	treated my child in a timely manner.	This question I stumble. Because I HAVE to trust them; my response is not an absolute one but a subjective one, but I have to give them benefit of doubt.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator			

22	treatments and investigations that were not aligned with our goals for	No issues w indicator sometimes they do things that retrospectively we think hmm did you really need to?	No issues w indicator	Misunderstood the statement, thinks its abt HCWs having to follow parents and cannot avoid treatments	No issue with indicator		
23	managed my	Especially in ICU, I feel this is subjective. The staff prioritize the condition over her 'comfort' and I have to go with that.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Stumbled on physical symptoms. Not sure if it meant fever or pain. Sounds like movement and exercise and pain. Should call it physiological symptoms, like fever, nausea, vomiting.	To address P6 and P8, Replace 'physical symptoms' with 'pain and discomfort'?	
24	my child's	I feel item 21-24 are all about trust- I cannot answer them objectively but I assume always because I trust them.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
25	told us what to look out for so that we knew when my child was unwell.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
26	confidently care for my child.	No issues w indicator		No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
27	acknowledged and affirmed our efforts in caring for my child.	ino issues w indicator	Again, I have to respond in the context of SP. Hospital is very transactional, except one doctor.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		

28	gave us opportunities to listened to us when we advocated or speak spoke up for my child.	No issues w indicator	he is hospitalized and	This item is odd because I will speak up regardless. It's more abt listening or not.	No issues w indicator	Suggest to address P3 and P9's concern by replacing 'opportunities' with listening to the input, thus combining indicator 42.	the opportuniti es bit is not as good as just listen	
29	showed us genuine care and concern.	I would remove the word 'genuine', I find that really uncomfortable because to be honest- I don't know. They do show care and concern but sometimes I feel it's just because it's their job and they have to. Is it genuine though? I doubt so.	Again, I respond thinking about SP. Definitely not the hospital. So 'usually'.	No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator. Similar to 32,33. Can consolidate?		agree - take out genuine	
30	supported our hopes for my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	This is tricky. What is hope? I think everyone hopes their child will recover but is it fully? Shd be supported our goals or our decisions. Because hope of full recovery can be unrealistic, and if its unrealistic, how can HCPs support our so called false hope? Need to pain a realistic and reasonable picture, like support my goals.	Abstract for some, perhaps necessarily so- but perhaps acceptable for others. Keep testing.	agree that this one is quite abstract	

31	prepared us for what may lie ahead.	No issues w indicator	I think you need to add 'try to'. They simply are not trained to do this, and they will never be able to prepare us for a journey they will never and are not walking. They try to be diplomatic-but that's all they can do.	No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator			
32	provided us with a compassionate listening ear.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator but similar to 29			
33	gave us appropriate time and space if we wished to be alone after receiving difficult news about my child.	This I think is already captured by 16 and 17. And I also need to pause and think about WHEN we actually needed this time and space I don't think we actually ever needed it so this would be Not Applicable to me.		No issues w indicator	No issue with indicator but similar to others	To address P6 and P8, suggest removing indicator	ok	
34	narent sunnort	Change the frequency- based response to Yes or No.	No issues w indicator	He misunderstands statement and thinks about coordination, supporting parents at home rather than parent-support groups	No issues w indicator			
35	0	I kind of feel that this is not the role of HCWs sometimes if we are using equipment that are not hospital- acquired.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			

36	fostered a personal <i>ized</i> interactions relationship with my child.	more, actually personal? I think it should be	Hospital confirm no. SP they still text us regularly about him even when he's hospitalized and they are not seeing him.	No issues w indicator	Personal r/s meaning what? Sounds like extending beyond doctorpatient r/s. Change to build a personalized interaction with my child?	To make the statement more specific and reduce the subjectivity, what about 'made efforts to foster personalized interactions with my child'?	ners	CHANGES OK
37	helped my child access appropriate facilities or services for my child's stimulation play and engagement.	examples or clarify?	SP did tell us about day respite, someone can watch him for a few hours	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Instead of 'play', what about 'stimulation' as it will be more widely applicable		
38	assessed my child's developmental milestones and progress.	INo issues w indicator	one assessed him.	They don't because he cannot be assessed. But I go by perception because we have a r/s, not fair just if a line item is NA	No issues w indicator			
39	informed us of all available medical management options for my child's condition(s).	did. Also, make	Can you specify what management? Medical? Financial?	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
40	clearly explained the advantages and disadvantages of all options for my child so that we could make informed decisions.	I would say 'usually' because sometimes they volunteer the information, but sometimes they need prompting before they give me this information.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			

41	discussed with us how the scope of care could be tailored to provide improve my child's comfort for my child.	Add Not applicable option- she doesn't need palliative care. Maybe to make it more broadly applicable, specify provide comfort for my child who has XXX condition.	No issues w indicator	More about giving the parent- caregivers options for home care to make him more comfortable and more efficient, not really care delivered by HCWs.	Stumbled. Not clear. Thinks it's like his chemo can tailor dosage or feeding? Is it more about intensity or dosage of care? Scope I think everyone wants the widest scope possible but wider doesn't mean more intense but all gentle and mild.			
42	listened to our inputs regarding my child's care. COMBINE WITH	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Not relevant to me because I'd like to think we make the most rational decision. So it rarely differs from the HCWs' advice. They can't and don't override our decision. They can't stop us. Usually HCWs will listen to parents when things are gray.	No issues w indicator	Suggest to combine with 28	ok	
43	offered the opportunity for us to be involved us as much as we wanted to in decision-making about my child's care.	Opportunity to be involved' I think is not appropriate, we're the parents I think it's more about the extent of decision-making.	I think remove the 'offered the opportunity for us to be involved'. We should always be making the decisions, it's ALWAYS on the parents. Rephrase.	Not relevant to ask like this; it is a conversation. Before then, no one has an answer, weigh the benefits, pros and cons, and usually very useful.	No issues w indicator	To address concerns, removing 'offered the opportunity' and replacing that with 'involved as much as wanted to' may be more accurate.	yes. Offered opportunity is odd	
44	considered our preferences for treatments when providing care to my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			

45	of our spiritual or religious beliefs	I feel Not Applicable because we haven't had ay requests or interactions about it- no issues, rather. So maybe it's Always? When should Not Applicable be used?	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
46		Because our interactions are always all about [her], so this has only come up a few times.	This is the first time. No one offered before.	It's a painful experience to share your exp with other families; they are just trying to help newcomers like us. Maybe rephrase qn more like support u get from other families. It's more a responsible rather than 'high quality' care thing.	No issues w indicator		
47	offered information on specialized transport for my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
48		examples? What does this mean, to 'address'? Does it mean they ask us? Or acknowledge? I feel like this is	What does it mean to 'address'? Does texting count? Hospital never talks about our emotional needs. SP texts us and that is actually beneficial but does that count as 'addressed'?	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator because it's clearly written emotional needs.	Any suggestions from committee on how to clarify what 'addressed' means?	CHANGES OK

49	referred us to professional psychosocial support when we needed it.	NA- I either didn't need it, or I didn't know that I needed. I also think this should be a Yes/No response, what does it mean to 'always' refer?	The referral to psychosocial support was very unhelpful when actually received. Mother felt the psychiatrist put her at greater risk of suicide. Rephrase to something of 'benefit'.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
50	helped us find someone to take care of my child so that we could take a break.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	They offer help. Someone stayed w my kid when wife was delivering.	No issues w indicator			
51		Not Applicable- she is too young.	[He] is non-communicative. So NA.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
52	facilitated my child's access to special needs school/day-care.	No issues w indicator	They made that first link for us but then nothing after, does they count as 'facilitated'?	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator. NA as child is in mainstream school.			
53	care workers?staff? about en my child's medical needs in school/day-care.	No issues w indicator. They just connected us and then left us to be. They didn't get in touch with the school at all.	No issues w indicator	Don't understand the English. He's receiving some schooling at home so we engage with the school directly. So NA.	Is it engage my child's school/day care providers? To focus on person	about'?	I don't think on is the right preposition	
54	ensured a smooth transition of care for my child across different care settings e.g., hospital to home, NICU to CICU.	No issues w indicator	Need to add examples of where are these care settings.	Thought NA at first. Need to clarify that is ICU to home etc.	No issues w indicator			

55	child without undue delay at the Emergency	Again, 'undue' is tricky- I defer to trust rather than my objective knowledge and experience. Context is also important, there was Covid.	Add when self-admitted because if child goes to ED via ambulance it is immediate care. Otherwise, when we self-admit, we wait a long time.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
			al in the last 6 months? YES / I	NO			
IF N	O, PLEASE SKIP 56-6	1 AND GO TO 62.					
Thinking about all the times when my child stayed in a hospital in the last 6 months							
56	i.	Noooo. I think should be a Yes/No response	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Again, is it medical or preferential? Medical, yes but preferential, no.		
57	we were able to stay close to my child.	We didn't get a choice- But I think it was due to Covid.		Not appropriate because of COVID. I guess this is a Yes because my wife could access ICU.	No issues w indicator		
58	Healthcare workers took appropriate action to minimize my child's exposure to infectious	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator; they put all the respi kids together to they always catch bugs there.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		

diseases.

5	Healthcar workers gav opportuniti bond with r child e.g., this/her dail activities together.	ve us ies to my hrough	No issues w indicator	We are always there whether they like it or not. Parents will impose themselves.	No issues w indicator	Bond' is it build r/s with my kid or involve in daily care? I think daily care is just routine but not quality time with my kid, unless for much younger kids that we're not able to interact much with. For older kids, playing, conversations, activities. Add ACTIVITIES into example.			
6	Healthcar workers dia best to crea child friend atmosphere	l their ite a ly	What is a 'child-friendly atmosphere'? What do you mean by this? I mean, they have stickers and stuff?	atmosphere? I think about nurses going the extra mile, their professionalism, etc.	I don't think it's the HCW's responsibility to create a child-friendly atmosphere. My child is always ICU or HD, child-friendly atmosphere not important as they are bed bound.	No issue w indicator	Suggest to remove this problematic indicator.	ok	
6	we were the flexibil decide who 1 be at his/ha child's beds the Intensia Unit.	ity to could er my side in	No issues w indicator. Again, not at all- but I think this was more out of the context of Covid.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Clarify that it's next to CHILD's BEDSIDE.			

62 Has your child been cared for at home, in the last 6 months? YES / NO

IF NO, PLEASE SKIP 53 – 66.

Thinking about all the times when my child was cared for at home, healthcare workers...

63	made nome visits at sufficient intervals to support the care of my child .	I don't really know how to respond on the frequency because the Home Care people- they plan, so parents have no control. So frequency- response may be inappropriate.		Not possible to offer daily. Need to qualify how often. Once a month if everything is ok, come in if emergency, things like that.	No issues w indicator	at sufficient intervals'?	suitable is vague	
64	remote	Whatsapp, like number	NA- child has been hospitalized for over 6 months	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
65	caregiver to care for my child before discharge.	NA because I was the caregiver.		No issues w indicator	Add BEFORE DISCHARGE, gave me sufficient time			
66	did their best to help us avoid unnecessary hospitalizations for my child.	No issues w indicator		No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
	LENGTH	OK if you prep respondents, don't let them think it's a short survey.		Ok. But if 60 qns to fill out before discharge, will get low response.	Ok. But there were repetitive items, especially surrounding 'compassion', 'listening', that can be combined.			
	OVERALL UNDERSTANDING	I()k	OK, except the ones discussed.	Ok.	80% ok, some ambiguous and I need to think hard.			
	INSTRUCTIONS	Ok. Didn't read.	Ok.	Ok.	Ok. Skipped it at first.	Cannot rely on long instructions as most don't read.		

Batch 2

Italicized font and strikethrough: Suggested revisions after steering committee input

		P1 (80 mins). Category 3 illness. 14.5 year old male.	P7 (65 min). Category 3 illness. 14.5 year old male.	P12 (80 min). Category 3 illness. 19 year old male.		committee	Steering committee comments (cont.)
1	had access to a range of medical expertise needed to manage my child's condition(s).	No issues w indicator	Didn't explore anything new in last 6 months. Answered always, when asked why, changed to usually.	Very prompted by you. You go to them.	Overall, parents from batch 2 have much older children and have been parent-caregivers for about 12 years. This makes their perspective on the timeframe different when they are such 'seasoned' caregivers. The dynamic changes- they are well-informed, empowered, independent, and taking charge.		
2	received guidance on how to obtain my child's medical equipment(s) and supplies e.g., medications, medical consumables.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
3	financial support for my child's medical expenses so costs did not stop him/ her from receiving recommended medical	As citizens we always have a kind of citizen subsidy. But other than that, we don't really have. So I'm not sure what kind of lens I should put here. Thinking if it's never or seldom.	This one, mm, tricky right now we have, I supposed. But what does sufficient mean right? I wish someone pays fully. Right now I still have like family savings that can cover at this point but Thinking about potentially more subsidies and all those there is quite limited support due to income range means testing is usually very hard to meet. So 'sometimes'.	No issues w indicator	'sufficiency' with "had access to sufficient financial support for my child's medical expenses so costs did not stop him/her from receiving medical care"? That makes it clearer that ability to receive medical care indicates sufficiency.	the logic becomes quite complex. I would try to keep it simpler, iether jus the access part of the cost did not part	Added 'recommended'

			Because we know those subsidies exist but we're not eligible.			
4	had a healthcare worker/team that coordinated my child's care across different care services.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Not quite sure which to choose because it's there but I have to ask for help and be thick skinned to get that service.		
5		Because he's under many specialists, not patient-centric they don't come tgt, just individually there's a pri doc and the various specialists. Every discussion, the parents are the one with the overall picture. So we always need to cross check, check last consultation from various specialists.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
6		I apply same rules as 3, to be consistent. Really non- medical expenses we're still on our own.	No issues w indicator	Always because I look for the appropriate information		
7	received appropriate allied health support (e.g., physiotherapists, speech therapists) to meet our goals for my child's development.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		

In the last 6 months, did your child FORMALLY receivinge In the last 6 months, did your child FORMALLY receivinge any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I holistic care of individuals with pon't KNOW Description: In the last 6 months, did your child FORMALLY receivinge any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I holistic care of individuals with serious health-related suffering	
In the last 6 months, did your child formally receive any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I holistic care of individuals with	
your child formally receive any advice or team or specialist(s)? YES / NO supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I holistic care of individuals with	
receive any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I receive any advice or team or specialist(s)? YES / NO *Palliative care is the active holistic care of individuals with	
care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I NO *Palliative care is the active holistic care of individuals with	
supportive care team or *Palliative care is the active specialist(s)? YES / NO / I holistic care of individuals with	
specialist(s)? YES / NO / I holistic care of individuals with	
DON'T KNOW Description: serious health-related suffering	
,	
*Palliative care for due to severe illness, aiming This construct is very tricky.	
children is the active total to improve the quality of life	
care of the child's body, Yes and no. He was dischared of patients, their families, and	
8 mind and spirit, and also under pall care and deemed their caregivers (WHO). The under pall care and deemed their caregivers (WHO). The	
involves giving support to stable. Pall care has a diff service provides a holistic care care care is the focus, or if more humble	
the family. qualifying criteria to admit approach via the generalist and/or informal with the	
were able to discuss patients under their care, And multidisciplinary team that palliative care support should definitiom.	
my child's treatment plan we were discharged from encompasses psychological, be included. I think we should What if they	
with a palliative care their care in 2019 (for now) emotional and spiritual ask about FORMAL provision got soething	
team or palliative care but im still in touch on support. Supportive care and of palliative care services. that was a	
specialist(s) if we wanted personal basis so if we need palliative medicine is	
to. Palliative care for children is than what you	
— formally, no, but functionally any stage in a serious illness, the active total care of the define	
yes. [Ticked No] and it can be provided along child's body, mind and spirit,	
with curative treatment. and also involves giving	
Does it mean an actual, real support to the family.	
dedicated pall care or if I feel I	
get sufficient support from	
We were introduced to a hospital/school/social	
palliative or supportive worker? So formal or informal service or just whether I feel	ADDED IODI
9 care team or specialist(s) service or just whether I feel No issues w indicator	ADDED 'OR'
at an appropriate time. supported? If not formal,	
then this questions is already	
similar to 8 and 5, like a	
team.	
Over the past 6 months, my child's healthcare workers	-
It's been so many years	
and he knows we are	
capable. Our relationship	
has progressed and is	
now very stable. So 6	

	months is too short since we barely see anyone now.						
10	had a healthcare worker/team that supervised the management of my child's medical needsworked together to ensure my child's medical condition(s) are well managed.	No issues w indicator	Not sure. If he has a few doctors from what I understand [the hospital's] doctors work as a team. They do kind of communicate. So heart doctor has his genetic notes etc. It's more about whether his medical needs are well-managed by the various disciplines without miscommunication. Whether or not they are all on the same page, whether it's one person or one team, it's no different from parent's perspective. So it's more important that they're all well informed and no miscommunication happens.	No issues w indicator	As pointed out by P7: having someone supervising the management of child's medical needs is less important than the medical needs being actually well-supervised/managed. That is the ultimate goal. Hence, What about changing to "worked together to make sure his/her medical condition(s) are well managed"?	d well to make sure Is also a complicated	Communicated well with who? Each other? I don't think they would know this
11	were approachable when we needed advice about my child's care .	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
12	worked together—as—a team towards common goals for my child's care.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	If indicator 10 is rewritten, this becomes slightly repetitive although not entirely the same. 10 focuses on management while 12 focuses on common goals.		
13	organized my child's appointments to reduce our hospital visits.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			

14	put in effort to build a trusting relationship with us.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
15	kept us well informed about my child's condition.	No issues w indicator	Hesitated- then agreed, but that it's parents who usually inform them about child's condition than other way around.	Usually we are the one who keeps them informed.			
16	communicated with us in a way that was sensitive to our needs.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
17	gave us enough time to think about decisions for my child's care.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
18	were responsive in did all they could to identifying and managing my child's medical issues.	No issues w indicator	I feel that this is unfair because it's very perception-based, not necessarily fair. It's purely how I feel. It may not reflect the truth. I think it should not be asked because I'm not involved, I can only see when I visit, but behind the scenes? Do they discuss or not at all? Not something I can judge.	Discussion basis. Open consultation. Other parents come to me because I answer faster! And they look to me as authority. But some parents feel more comfortable and confident talking to me. Because if I call [the hospital], I can't reach ANYONE. They tell you they revert in 3 days etc. Hospitals are very 'administrative' and they feel scared to ask doctors and they don't dare to ask on weekends e.g. my son threw up his medicine. Can you separate this question into those on a maintenance basis- open date, versus urgency basis with regular appointments?	In response to P7 and p12,	identifying AND managing. Double barrelled?	
	treated my child in a timely manner.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	If we modify indicator 18, this indicator becomes repetitive.		

19	avoided treatments and investigations that were not aligned with our goals for my child's care.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
20	managed my child's physical symptoms to make sure he/she was comfortable.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Sometimes I had to adjust my expectations because they can't resolve his symptoms.			
2:	took responsibility for my child's wellbeing when he/she was under their care.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
2:	told us kept us up-to- date about what to look out for so that we knew when my child was unwell.	I have a problem with 'over the past 6 months'; because he has been quite stable. Episodes of dystonia etc happened much earlier. So if limited to 6 months not accurate. Now more stable so the time limit is tricky. So tweak to past 6 months OR significant milestones during treatment? Cos milestones I can easily remember the high need period, for abt 2 years in a row where his condition was unstable. And they told us how to recognize his symptoms.	No issues w indicator	Not relevant; we haven't seen the doctor for more than 6 months	To encompass parents whose child is unstable & also parents whose child's condition is more stable, would "kept us up-to-date about what to look out for so that we knew when my child was unwell"?	we We My Inconsistent	
2	equipped us with skills so that we could confidently care for my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
24	caring for my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
2!	listened to us when we advocated or spoke up for my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			

26	showed us care and concern.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
27	supported our hopes for my child.	No issues w indicator	What does that mean? I didn't share with them my hopes doctors will never say all will be fine, they always give the worst case scenario so I think it conflicts with what they are supposed to do. I don't expect the HCWs to support my hopes for my child. So I would say seldom but I don't expect that of them, not a fair expectation of the HCWs. Unless it's for social workers only, maybe it's more about your mental health, being encouraging and supportive.		P7- what if parents don't even share their hopes? She rightly pointed out whether or now HCWs know their hopes, it's about being supportive 7 encouraging.	
28	prepared us for what may lie ahead.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	try to manage our	Do not think there is a need to separate medical from developmental as they are heavily inter-dependent.	
29	provided us with a compassionate listening ear.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		

3		guided us on how to reduce my child's medical costs.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
3		fostered personalized interactions with my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
3	2	helped my child us access appropriate facilities or services for my child's stimulation and engagement e.g., disability-friendly facilities, early intervention centres.	No issues w indicator	Add examples because it's a bit awkward to read.	J	P12 points out key structural differences for pre- and post-18 years. Suggest we keep to 18 years and below to focus on children still within the pediatric health+social care system.	drop 'my child's"	CHANGED 'MY CHILD' TO 'US'
3	3	assessed my child's physical, cognitive and emotional development developmental milestones and progress.	No issues w indicator	Add an NA option because he is deteriorating. He has no usual developmental milestones, so it's not so relevant besides newborn development.	NEVER. I had to do it all myself. And there is a huge gap: my child aged above 16, but has the brain and body of a child. Because the adult diseases set in, but the body is developmentally challenged from the angle of a pediatric person. Adult doctors and therapists cannot address our kids' needs.	Although inaccurate, most think developmental milestones=newborn milestones. Suggest a broad yet accurate description of a child's holistic development: 'physical, cognitive and emotional development', which essentially defines developmental milestones and yet is accurate + relevant to parents whose children have diff developmental pathways.		

34	informed us of all the range of available medical options for to manage my child's condition(s).	But if im looking for more advancement in options or	We don't know other options, sometimes we search and we ask the doctors but otherwise we don't know.	No issues w indicator	All' is too big a word, but but alludes to the importance of giving choices. What about "informed us of the range of medical options 'to manage' my child's condition(s)?"	all is a big word	
35	clearly explained the advantages and disadvantages of all options for my child so that we could make informed decisions.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
36	discussed with us how care could be tailored to improve my child's comfort.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
37	involved us as much as we wanted to in decision- making about my child's care.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
38	considered our preferences for treatments when providing care to my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			

399	offered us opportunities asked us if we wanted to contribute to the community of seriously ill children if we wanted to e.g., letting me-us support other families, sharing my our experience with other parents, or participating in research.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	This was Never discussed- so it is NA or Never? A lot of families are just worried about themselves. It has to come from the heart. It's not about offering us, but it's about US doing it. Families who are willing to help will offer the help. Perhaps rephrase it: Have you been asked? You should ask parents regularly if they are willing to help other families. We have plenty of capable parents who are willing to help but never asked.	Taking P12's suggestion and feedback: What about " asked us if we wanted to contribute to the community of seriously ill children e.g. letting me support other families"	SHOULD IT BE 'MY' OR 'OUR'?
40	ichlid in a way that was	My child cannot comprehend and cannot communicate so you should add an NA option.	Add an NA option because my child is non-communicative.	I don't know how to answer. My child is non-verbal but he has thoughts and feelings. They don't have the time to understand him. And parents don't want to pay for the extra time.		
41	were respectful of our spiritual or religious beliefs and practices.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		

42	facilitated our helped us to access to available parent support groups networks.	us, they wouldn't be aware of the informal support groups like us. Can you add a statement to see how aware the HCWs are about these networks? Separate from whether they facilitate access?		No issues w indicator	Not direct feedback but wondering if 'helped us to access parent support groups' may be simpler, more colloquial? Will add an NA option.	na if such groups don't exist	
	offered information on specialized transport for my child.	No issues w indicator	Can't remember I should put NA because I didn't ask for it. So I don't have the experience	No issues w indicator			
	addressed our family's emotional needs related to my child's condition.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator			
1/15	referred us to professional <i>emotional</i> psychosocial support when we needed it.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Since we use 'emotional support' in indicator 47, suggest we change this to the same for consistency.		
46	helped us find found someone else to take care of my child when we needed help so that we could take a break.	don't know if they will meet his needs and also very costly. Checking into hospice care is too costly. I put seldom because we didn't ask but they didn't offer. *DIDN'T PUT NEVER BECAUSE THE	never offer? I would have	No issues w indicator	Parents struggled to answer this item because they did not ask for it. I think we need to clarify "when we needed help"	my we	

47	provided my child with emotional support.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator. NA but stumbled because child is quite nonresponsive.	No issues w indicator		
48	facilitated helped my child' s access to special needs school/day-care.	Stumbled- to what expectation is 'facilitation'? To gain entry, to write a referral letter is no problem. But for rare disorder, it's a problem. If he is not ASD or down syndrome etc, there are few schools. Always long queue and we are always behind. So the qualification criteria there's nothing within the system that allows us to put in our child.		Again, I think this is only relevant up till 18 years old only then we are kicked from the system.	Need to clarify what counts as 'facilitated' if we want to use that word as it's tricky. Why not same as indicator 34, "helped my child access", which is less demanding?	
49	engaged my child's school/day-care staff about my child's medical needs in school/day-care.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator. They write memos on his conditions, and referrals, etc but maybe not so much engage. They don't directly engage, they engage through me- so Engage is too much, communication is too much (unless you clarify it).	No issues w indicator		
50	ensured a smooth transition of care for my child across different care settings e.g., hospital to home, NICU to CICU.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		
51	attended to my child without undue delay at the Emergency Department.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator		

Did your child spend at least 1 night in a hospital in the last 6 months? YES / NO

IF NO, PLEASE SKIP 56-61 AND GO TO 62.

Thin	king about all the times whe	en my child stayed in a hospita	l in the last 6 months		
52	the diet provided suited my child's medical needs.	NA. Because it's only asking about the last 6 months- we do yearly sleep study for him. He's on a special diet, they don't have the facilities to prepare his diet. But it's still important to ask. Because a lot of families on special milk. And we need to give lead time to bring in the right milk for his stays.			
53	we were able to stay close to my child.	No issues w indicator			
54	Healthcare workers took appropriate action to minimize my child's exposure to infectious diseases.	No issues w indicator	NA; not hospitalized	NA; not hospitalized	
55	Healthcare workers gave us opportunities to bond with my child e.g., through his/her daily care, activities together.	No issues w indicator			
56	we were given the flexibility to decide who could be at my child's bedside in the Intensive Care Unit.	No issues w indicator			
care	This question is not clear-meaning bed bound? Cannot go to school? Very confusing. Clarify from a medical or costal paragraphy? YES / NO.		Maybe make it simpler: "Has your child been living at home, in the last 6 months?"		

IF NO, PLEASE SKIP 53 – 66.

Thinking about all the times when my child lived at home in the last 6 months, healthcare workers...

Ŀ	inking about an the times wi	ien my chila livea at nome in ti				
57	made home visits provided sufficient consultations (physical and/or— remote) at sufficient intervals to support the care of my child .		No issues w indicator. Initially answered always but actually was not referring physical consultations- only realised difference after reading 58. Please Clarify.	My child is out of the pediatric system.	Both P1 and P7 share key info; not all parents will feel the want or need for physical consult. More about meeting parent's needs while caring for child at home by being available to be consulted. Combine 57 and 68?	
	provided remote consultations.	Thinks about emails. Can get in touch that way.	Can combine this with 57? Because we choose teleconsult, it's cheaper and also physical home visit was stopped during Covid. They only opened up recently but they give us option. And we still chose teleconsult. More about meeting our needs, his stability.	My child is out of the		
58	gave me sufficient time to train a long-term caregiver to care for my child before discharge. ADD NA OPTION	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	NA because I'm the long term caregiver	Add an NA option	
59	did their best to help us avoid unnecessary hospitalizations for my child.	No issues w indicator	No issues w indicator	Stumbled. Ihave to always ask for help. Not them asking me whether I need help. So this is not realistic. They don't check on him.		
	LENGTH		Ok.	Ok. Experience is fine.		

OVERALL UNDERSTANDING		Ok. A lot of them I think about whether or not I expected the HCWs to do this and that. Others should not be ambiguous. Shift definition of HCWs into the question page, repeat at the top. Skipped the instructions	representative of the support we get as parents. Schools are important. *REPEAT HCW definition on each page. *AND PRIVATE VS PUSLIC SECTOR. Private is very money-driven. Therapists from hospital may give free consultations etc. I think mindset is always hospital-based because my interpretation is limited to	SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEXT ITERATION TO BE TESTED: 1. Remind who HCWs cover every other page 2. Reduce age coverage to 18 years old and below. 3. Remind that 'healthcare' covers both health (e.g. hospitals) and social care (e.g. community services) settings 4. Replace use of 'healthcare' with 'care' i.e. 'care workers' and 'care settings', to reduce the hospital-bias	
INSTRUCTIONS	Ok.	altogether. Too long	in the way, lots of limitations,		

	and he is quite stable. Maybe
	without Covid it would have
	been different?
	For kids after 18 like me, we
	are really on our own. The
	healthcare workers just refer
	us out to [a government
	agency for adults with
	disabilities]. So maybe reduce
	the scope to kids who have
	not graduated from
	schooling? Like before 18?
	Because after that
	EVERYTHING changes-
	medical, healthcare, social
	workers, accessibility etc.
	Totally different ballgame. So
	think about it- because [the
	country's] system stops at 18,
	because anything pediatric
	stops at 18.

Batch 3 Italicized	Batch 3 Italicized font and strikethrough: Suggested revisions after steering committee input										
	-	P10 (80 mins) Category 2 illness. 13.5 year old boy.		P11 (50 mins). Category 4 illness. 5.5 year old boy.	Facilitator comments	Steering committee comments	Steering committee comments (cont.)				
1	had access to a range of medical expertise needed to manage my child's condition(s).		No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator							
2	received guidance on how to obtain my child's medical equipment(s) and supplies e.g., medications, medical consumables.		No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator							

3	him/her from receiving recommended medical care.	Parents will just laugh because for middle class parents we all wish we had more financial support. Means testing Yeah. But it's subjective in that way, we can't ask for it if we're not able to access because of the means testing.	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator	AS P10 says, it might be subjective, but the intent of this indicator is to elicit self-perceived financial sufficiency. With the added "so that costs did not stop child from receiving medical care' I think it is less problematic.	I don't think 'so that costsetc" makes it clearer - may be rather less clear what exactly you mean	looks good to me.
4	had a healthcare worker/team that coordinated my child's care across different care services.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
5	received consistent information from different healthcare workers.		Initially struggled to understand what is 'consistent' then said Ah ok 'aligned information'.	No issues with indicator			
6	financial support for my child's non-medical expenses e.g., special needs education, speech therapy etc so that costs did not stop him/her from	so we have access to some support. But never sufficient, it's just SOMETHING. 'Sufficient' is very subjective but another word to capture that 'sufficiency', or broken down	I think parents want to say something more, add a free-text box as it depends on how much help they get; some really might not be aware. And big differences for children with insurance vs no insurance. They might really want to voice up their struggles for financial indicators.	No issues with indicator	Am ok to add a free-text box if the committee is in agreement. Also suggest to qualify like indicator 3 with "so that costs did not stop him/her from receiving recommended non-medical care"	same concern with 'so that costs etc" - does it really help clarify? Also, a free text box makes the scale more complex to score. How would you use it? Is it just an opportunity for them to share their feelings? Cannot see how you easily can embed it in an overall score	I like the red. I don't think free test is very useful.

7	received appropriate allied health support (e.g., physiotherapists, speech therapists and care from other non-doctors or nurses) to meet our goals for my child's development.	No issue with indicator	I don't understand the term 'allied health support'. To me, as I'm not in the medical field, I don't know the term and the allied health term distracted me.	I want to elaborate more; our govt. therapy support is insufficient. From a hospital, early intervention perspective, not enough. Their skills, their frequency, none of it is enough. We can't quit our jobs to attend with them. So I seek out private therapy, which is costly, but we have to balance cost with effectiveness for [him] it's all connected, they have to be paid better, which will drive up cost too, but that's fine. Hospital needs more and more experienced therapists.	Am ok to add a free-text box if the committee is in agreement. Unfortunately I don't think there is a more layman term for allied health.	same concern with free text box. What would it be for? Adding text boxes changes the nature of the overall scale. I think allied health is ok since you do try to explain in parentheses. But can you give better definition, 'e.g' = for example - is not so clarifying.	I would avoid free text. See if my change is ok.
8	In the last 6 months, did your child formally receive any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I DON'T KNOW Description: *Palliative care for children is the active total care of the child's body, mind and spirit, and also involves giving support to the family. Pediatric Palliative care is specialized medical care for people living with a serious illness. Palliative care focuses on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of the illness. The goal is to improve	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	Don't know what is palliative care and the definition is not clear. And no one focuses on his mind and spirit sounds very 'cheem' [slang for complicated], and not used in our Asian context. The definition is not helpful.	The definition tested is used by both WHO and ICPCN. But to parents this is very vague. What about: Pediatric Palliative care is specialized medical care for people living with a serious illness. Palliative care focuses on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of the illness. The goal is to improve quality of life for both the child and the family.	current definition sounds ok	In the last 6 months, did your child formally receive any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I DON'T KNOW Description: * Pediatric Palliative care is specialized medical care for people living with a serious illness. The goal is to improve quality of life for

	quality of life for both the child and the family.						both the child and the family.
9	We were introduced to a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s) at an appropriate time.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator				
Over the past 6 months, my child's healthcare workers							
10	worked together to ensure my child's medical condition(s) are well managed.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
11	were approachable when we needed advice about my child's care .	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
12	worked together towards common goals for my child's care.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
13	organized my child's appointments to reduce our hospital visits.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator, but no need to repeat the 'Always to Never' headers again	No issues with indicator			
14	put in effort to build a trusting relationship with us.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			

15	kept us well informed about my child's	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator		
16	conditioncommunicated with us in a way that was sensitive to our needs.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator		
17	gave us enough time to	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator		
18	were responsive in managing my child's medical issues.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator		
19	avoided treatments and investigations that were not aligned with our goals for my child's care.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator		
20	managed my child's physical symptoms to make sure he/she was comfortable.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator		
21	took responsibility for ensured my child's wellbeing when he/she was under their care.	No issue with indicator	"to ensure my child's well-being"? I prefer that as then I feel the assurance from HCWs that they are caring for my child	No issues with indicator		ok
22	kept us up-to-date updated about symptoms what to look out for so that we knew when my child was unwell.	No issue with indicator	Stumbled on 'kept us up-do-date'- meaning there's changes along the way means catching symptoms the sentence, I have to pause because I'm distracted by 'up-do-date'. "Kept us updated of the symptoms that we should know when my child was unwell"	No issues with indicator	Replace 'up-to- date' with 'updated' and 'what' to look out for with 'symptoms' to look out for.	ok

23	equipped us with knowledge and skills so that we could confidently care for my child.	No issue with indicator	'Skills' doesn't seem like the right term. Caregiver knowledge is more suitable.	No issues with indicator	Add in 'knowledge'?	ok. But knowledge and skill are not the same, do you now make it into a double barreled question	ok
24	acknowledged and affirmed our efforts in caring for my child.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
	listened to us when we advocated or spoke up for my child.	No issue with indicator	Just use advocate OR spoke up, keep things simple.	No issues with indicator			
26	showed us care and concern.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
27	supported our hopes for my child.	No issue with indicator	Is it goals? But hope is a better work because we hope rather than set goals. But I think the verb 'supported' doesn't align with 'hopes'. I think 'supported our goals for my child' is more	We never really verbalized what's our hopes for my child. This is more abstract. Not so relevant because our hope is [sighs] what do we hope for? Doctors always give 'safe' answers. They don't really	and transcends reality. The key is that HCWs do not 'crush' parental hopes, so agree that 'supporting' hopes is not	you can squash, crush or kill hope. But support hope sounds odd. Help maintain hope?	I think hopes is ok. I don't like 'our hopes' and 'my child' but leave that to you.
28	prepared us for what may lie ahead.	No issue with indicator	Stumbled at 'lie ahead'. What about 'prepared us for the possible journey ahead'.	No issues with indicator	Suggest no change		
29	provided us with a compassionate listening ear.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			

30	guided us on how to reduce my child's medical expenses easts e.g. access to subsidies, financing schemes.	Hesitated. Not sure what it actually is asking about: HCWs? I always stumble on the cost-related items I don't think they ever talked about reducing medical costs Can you add examples? E.g. Access to funding/subsidies, schemes Otherwise it doesn't jump out, since hospitals always take money from us. Most medical social workers always talk about selling our car, cutting your insurance stuff like that, so if you clarify it's about schemes etc, it'll be clearer.	Use 'expenses' rather than costs.	No issues with indicator	'expenses' and add	strictly speaking the child does not have any expenses, it is the family or parents who do. But may be ok.	
31	fostered personalized interactions with my child.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator			
32	helped us access appropriate facilities or services for my child's stimulation and engagement e.g., disability friendly facilities, early intervention centres, special education schools.	Appropriate services; WHAT are these, and WHO for? Specify. For Below 7, schools for 7 onwards (both special education (SPED) and mainstream schools). For non-SPED schools, what are the facilities? Because access Disability-friendly facilities, no. Early intervention centres, only for younger parents. For us on the older side, for him what we're looking at, usually it's just school itself- school-wise, the teachers do tell us about this. Can you break down care into schools also (and specify that SPED teachers are also social care workers). What are 'disability-friendly facilities'?	A mouthful, but can understand.	No issues with indicator	Suggest to remove this indicator- with all the changes suggested it would already be covered by 'allied health support' and 48 on access to special needs schools/daycare		ok

changes ok

36	discussed with us how care could be tailored to improve my child's comfort.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator		
37	involved us as much as we wanted to in decision-making about my child's care.	No issue with indicator	Remove the 'to'	No issues with indicator		
38	providing care given to my child.	No issue with indicator	"considered our preferences for treatments to my child" is sufficient.	No issues with indicator	Replace 'when providing care' with 'given'	ok
39	asked us if we wanted to contribute to the community of seriously ill children e.g., letting us support other families, sharing our experience with other parents, or participating in research.	No issue with indicator	"this" puts us more cohesively together, "this community of seriously ill children"	No issues with indicator	I suggest not to use 'this' community; it might spark a sense of isolation for parents not actively part of the community.	ok
40	communicated with- treats my child in a kind and respectful way that was sensitive to his/her needs. AND REMOVE NA OPTION	This is a tricky question because my child is non-verbal, but nonverbal cues are still relevant. So it's not true that it's always NA just because child is non-verbal. But the use of the term 'sensitive' is tricky; what about was kind and respectful in communicating with my child? Because we cannot except them to be sensitive, they don't know our child. But we as parents still want people to be kind and most importantly respectful to the child. Whether they are verbal, non-verbal, we want our child to be treated with respect. 'Sensitive' is very subjective.	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator	Agree that we have met a lot of pushback with this item due to many children being non-verbal; parents struggle to define what is 'sensitive' to a non-verbal child. P10's suggestion is effective: treats my child in a kind and respectful way'?	ok

	T	T	T		I	T	ı
41	were respectful of our spiritual or religious beliefs and practices.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	NA- in a way, yeah, none of the doctors or nurses say anything with regards to this, which is good lah.			
42	helped us to access parent support groups.	AH. OK. MM sometimes because a lot of the time doctors don't, maybe due to PDPA. It's mostly organically, parent to parent and we reach out via internet.	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
43	offered information on specialized transport for my child.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
44	addressed our family's emotional needs related to my child's condition.	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
45	professional emotional support e.g. counsellors, if	No issue with indicator but therapists are not cheap it's a chicken or egg situation? And I had to ask for it.	No issues with indicator but add examples e.g. psychologists, MSWs	No issues with indicator	'IF' and 'referred	unclear whose support they are offering. Their own or somebody else's?	ok
46	helped us to find found someone else to take care of my child when we needed help e.g. respite care, hospice care.	Can you add an example e.g. respite care or hospice care	"helped us to find someone", cannot use 'found' someone "when we needed this help"	INA iccliae with indicator	Add examples and add 'help' us to find someone (similar to original)		ok
47	music therapy,	Add example, what is emotional support? E.g. Art therapy	"nrovided emotional	Every time we visit them it's	Add example and switch sentence structure around.	is music therapy really emotional support? It can be, but it can be other things as well.	ok
48	helped my child access special needs school/daycare.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			

49	in school/day-care to their staff about my child's medical needs in school/day care e.g. doctor talked to the school about my child's feeding needs.	Don't understand what is 'engage the school'? What about 'connect with'? And add an example like 'doctor talks to school about child's medical needs'	Stumbled on "engaged". It's more like "informed" my child's school/day care staff about but informed is too shallow, there's some handover of information too. Need to think about that verb, get a Masters in English (laughs)	No issues with indicator	Communicated may be a better word for engage that is less contentious? And add example: "communicated my child's medical needs in school/day-care to their staff e.g. doctor talked to the school about my child's feeding needs."	complicated sentence?	ok
50	ensured a smooth transition of care for my child across different care settings e.g., hospital to home, NICU to CICU.	No issue with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
51	attended to my child without within a reasonable amount of time undue delay when we brought him/her to—at the Emergency Department.	Hospital needs to work on this process. I Hesitated in choosing an answer. What is 'undue delay', is it immediately? Because they have so many protocols, what can or cannot be passed? Process-issues. What's the purpose of asking this in the survey? Might need to ask extra questions if you want to focus on this. Because if my child is very sick, then confirm. So need more context e.g. 'if child is very sick', then at moment at triage, then yes. So be more specific.	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator	We got VERY similar comments from P3 and P6 from Batch 1 of parents. Suggest to revise to focus on self-admitted ED admission (parents always say when it's ambulance, treatment is instantaneous) and 'within a reasonable amount of time'?		ok
Did your	child spend at least 1 night	in a hospital in the last 6 months	? YES / NO	1		1	ı

-,	PLEASE SKIP 52-56 AND GO T					
	mg about all the times when m the diet provided suited	y child stayed in a hospital in the	e last 6 months			
52	my child's medical needs.	No issue with indicator				
53	we were able to stay close to my child.	No issue with indicator				
54	Healthcare workers took appropriate action to minimize my child's exposure to infectious diseases.	No issue with indicator	NA- child has not been has hospitalized in the last 6 mo			
55	we were able to bond with	of 'through his/her daily care'.	hospitalized in the last 6 months.			ok
56	we were given the flexibility to decide who could be at my child's bedside in the Intensive Care Unit.	No issue with indicator	nonths. mor			
	Has your child lived at home Have you cared for your child at home in the last 6 months? YES / NO	Such a touchy question. I thought it's whether my child died or not. Since you are asking about being cared for at home why not just ask that? "Have you cared for your child at home in the past 6 months?"		Follow P10's suggestion	different meaning from before: the child could live at home but not being cared for by the parents, either because someone else did it or before the parents neglected it	ok

	times when caring for my child lived at home in the last 6 months, healthcare	Sounds like my child passed on, why not make it straight forward, 'While caring for my child at home over the past 6 months'					ok
57		We didn't need. But what are 'physical consultations'? Specify home visit. And still, I think It is not applicable to parents whose child is stable at home like me.	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			ok
58	gave me sufficient time to train a long-term caregiver to care for my child before discharge. ADD NA OPTION	Odd to have this question, because you're asking for the last 6 months at home, why before discharge? If he has been home for many years? It is relevant to ask for recently discharged parents only. Not under this theme, move to the ICU/hospital portion BEFORE the child even goes home.	No issues with indicator	Seems like it should come earlier on	Move to the inpatient indicators		ok
59	did their best to help us avoid unnecessary hospitalizations for my child.	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator	No issues with indicator			
	LENGTH		Impression: it's long. Try to reduce and eliminate the first page. Some of the items repeat behind; I see financial a few times. E.g. the reducing financial costs, had sufficient access. Medical expertise is similar to providing us knowledge, etcetc. If the first 8 indicators are	OK.			

		actually mentioned in the other indicators with HCWs are the subject with us as the receiver, than maybe they can eliminated (or vice versa).		
OVERALL UNDERSTANDING	Health' versus 'social' care; still struggle to put organizations like club rainbow into it. Can the social care questions be separated? Then the header can be changed (the anchor text) and the desciption of who we're talking about? Then my thinking can be more organized. Or a better term than healthcare workers to be more all-encompassing?	Ok.	OK.	

Batch 4

Italicized font and strikethrough: Suggested revisions after steering committee input

[Revised instructions]

Dear parent,

We are interested to know about your family's experience with the health and social care system for your child's illness. Think of all the healthcare settings and workers* who have managed your child's illness over the past 6 months.

*Healthcare workers refer to a broad range of paid hospital, clinic, or community-based health and social care workers that your child has seen for his/her illness(es). These include doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, speech therapists, social workers, administrative personnel, pharmacists, etc.

		14 year old hov	P5 (60 mins). Category 1. 5.5 yr old boy. <u>Cannot</u> <u>read English</u> .	Facilitator comments	Steering committee comments	_	Steering committee comments (cont.)
1	had access to the a range of medical expertise needed to manage my child's condition(s).	INO ISSUE WITH INDICATOR		inarents hilt cannot come iin with	Why not just say 'experts'	Are you suggested "had access to the range of experts needed to manage my child's condition(s)"? Excluding the word 'medical' and reverting expertise back to experts? The original indicator was 'experts'	

	received guidance advice from healthcare workers on how to obtain my child's medical equipment(s) and supplies, such as e.g., medications, medical consumables.	I think supplies and equipment are very different. I get equipment from HCWs but supplies from other parents and online because they're much cheaper. Can you separate them and also clarify in the statement "From HCWs"?	"guidance" is a difficult word	I do not think we should separate them. Getting outside because it is cheaper is a choice for some if they feel it is suited to their needs more so than formal channels. But, importantly, they ought to still receive guidance on how to get both supplies AND equipments via formal channels. Is "Advice" a simpler word to use than "Guidance"? Suggest to move the indicator down to change the stem to "Over the past 6 months, healthcare workers advised us on how to obtain XXX"	agree. I like 'advised'.		
2	had access to sufficient financial support for my child's medical expenses so costs did not stop him/her from receiving recommended medical care.	No issue with indicator	Support from where? Hospital side?				
	had a care worker/team that <i>coordinated</i> organized my child's care across different care services.	No issue with indicator	"Arrange" easier than coordinate, I don't know that word (coordinate).	8	hmm. Not sure	I also thought of "integrated" as being closer to "coordinated", but not sure if these terms are understandabl e by those less proficient in English. Thoughts?	
4	received consistent information from different healthcare workers.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
	had access to sufficient financial support for my child's non-medical expenses, for example e.g., special needs education and speech therapy etc so that costs did not stop him/her from receiving recommended non-medical care.	No issue with indicator	Does not understand the term 'financial support'.				

6	received appropriate allied health support (e.g., including physiotherapists, speech therapists therapists and care from other non-doctors or nurses to meet our goals for my child's development.	Hmm. Private or public? I assume this survey asks about public only.	No issue with indicator	Fair comment from P2- we did not intend to restrict this to public service providers since public + private service providers together form the health system. Do we want to clarify in definition of healthcare workers?	I don't think this matters.		
7	In the last 6 months, did your child formally receive any advice or care from a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s)? YES / NO / I DON'T KNOW Description: *Palliative care for children is the active total care of the child's body, mind and spirit, and also involves giving support to the family. Pediatric Palliative care is specialized medical care for people living with a serious illness. Palliative care focuses on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of the illness. The goal is to improve quality of life for both the child and the family.	No issue with indicator (Child scheduled for first palliative consult next month)	No idea what is palliative care.		ok		
8	We were introduced to a palliative or supportive care team or specialist(s) at an appropriate time.	No issue with indicator but I think we need to ask whether the WAY the palliative consultant was introduced was appropriate and gentle or not. For us we were in denial for a long time and it took us many months to come to terms with it, especially spiritually. We needed our pastor, who is also a doctor, to change our mind.		Spiritual support captured by other indicators; communicating in a sensitive manner captures the 'way' the pall consultant is introduced.	if they don't know what PC or SC is then this question is a problem.	This question is only displayed to those who respond "Yes" to the prior, so they should already know PC or SC	
	Over the past 6 months, my child's healthcare workers						
9	advised us on how to obtain my child's medical equipment(s) and supplies such as medications, medical consumables.	No issue with indicator	INA issua with indicator	Moved down to change the stem and shorten item.	ok		

10	worked together to ensure my child's	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
	medical condition(s) are well managed.						
11	were approachable when we needed advice about my child's care .	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
12	worked together towards common goals for my child's care.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
13	organized my child's appointments to reduce our hospital visits.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
14	put in effort to build a trusting relationship with us.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
15	kept us well informed about my child's condition.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
16	communicated with us in a sensitive way that was sensitive to our needs.	No issue with indicator	What is "sensitive"? Sensitive about what. I can understand they are "understanding towards us". The English too deep.	P5 is the first parent to struggle with this so I think largely, the layman's understanding is alright.	I don't love this. What are their needs?	Agree on the term 'needs' being iffy. How about more simply "communicate d with us in sensitive manner"?	
17	gave us enough time to think about decisions for my child's care.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
18	were responsive in managing my child's medical issues.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
19	avoided treatments and investigations that were not aligned with our goals for my child's care.	No issue with indicator	This means they don't anyhow do things right?				
20	managed my child's physical symptoms to make sure he/she was comfortable.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
21	ensured my child's wellbeing when he/she was under their care.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
22	kept us updated about symptoms to look out for so that we knew when my child was unwell.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
23	equipped us with skills so that we could confidently care for my child.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				

24	acknowledged and affirmed our efforts in caring for my child.	No issue with indicator	What is "Affirm"?	Perhaps just remove 'and affirm' and keep acknowledged for simplicity.	agree.	
25	listened to us when we advocated or spoke up for my child.	It can be more specific, about managing expectations. With respect to treatments, risks and desired outcomes, on a day-to-day basis it's all about managing our expectations as parents.	What is "advocated"? I understand "Spoke up"	Suggestion from P2 is not really aligned with the intent of the question. I suspect she misunderstood the statement.	If use 'us' then why not 'our'	Committee raised the same concern earlier; it was the committee's agreement last time to keep to 'my child' since it is one parent respondent answering each time only. Committee to revisit this decision.
26	showed us care and concern.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator			
27	helped us maintain supported our hopes for my child.	Every parent has different hopes. Maybe need to specify "they articulate a range of possible outcomes for my child so that I feel my hopes are supported".	No issue with indicator	P2's suggestion describes one way of supporting hopes but is not the only way. "Helped us maintain our hopes" was then trialed with P5 who had no issue. Suggest we go with "helped us maintain our hopes for my child"	Same issue. Our and 'my' seems odd to me.	
28	prepared us for what may lie ahead.	Can you add a timeline? What may lie ahead in the next year, or 3 years, 5 years?	No issue with indicator	Timeline is probably too complicated as doctors can rarely provide such long-term preparations. Maybe just specify "prepared us for what may lie ahead for my child's condition(s)"?	I don't think the red is needed	Leave out the red.
29	provided us with a c ompassionate kind listening ear.	Compassion is very subjective. I think it's much more important to us that HCWs are nonjudgmental so I would replace compassionate with non-judgmental.	What is "compassionate"? I understand "kind".	Suggest to use a less bombastic word; "kind' or "Non-judgmental" are both find to me, but non-judgment is harder to understand	why not 'provided a kind listening ear'. You can probasbly be kind and	True. Kindness is closer to compassion anyway.

					judgemental		
30	guided advised us on how to reduce my child's medical expenses, for example e.g. access to subsidies, financing schemes.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator. But same struggle to understand "guide".	Suggest to replace 'guided us' with 'advised us', which is easier to understand.	ok		
31	interacted well with my child- fostered personalized interactions with my child.	No issue with indicator	Don't understand. But don't know how to simplify.	"Fostered" is a big word. Is "interacted with my child in a personalized way" more simple?	What is a personalized way? I don't get this. 'caring'?	word needs here- but I think it is accurate. E.g. if the child is non-verbal, he	I think the latter is also complicated What about interacted well with my child or something more simple
32	assessed my child's physical, cognitive and emotional <i>prog</i> ress development.	No issue with indicator	Can you use "development" rather than 'progress'. I don't understand "Progress".		ok		
33	informed us of the range of available medical options to manage my child's condition(s).	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
34	clearly explained the advantages and disadvantages of all options for my child so that we could make informed decisions.	No issue with indicator	When words are long I cannot read. But when you read out, I understand.				

35	discussed with us how care could be tailored adjusted to improve my child's comfort.	No issue with indicator	What is "Tailored"? I understand "adjusted".	OK to replace tailored with 'adjusted'	ok		
36	involved us as much as we wanted in decision-making about my child's care.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
37	considered our preferences for treatments given to my child.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
38	asked us if we wanted to contribute to the community of seriously ill children e.g., for example letting us support other families, sharing our experience with other parents, or participating in research.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
39	treats my child in a kind and respectful way.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
40	were respectful of our spiritual or religious beliefs and practices.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
41	helped us to access available parent support groups.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
42	offered information on specialized transport for my child.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
43	addressed supported our family's emotional needs related to my child's condition, for example offering us counselling.	No issue with indicator	What is "addressed"? For me "support" I understand. I really don't understand addressed.	How about replacing addressed with 'supported' and to combine indicator 45 with this?	'supported	offered us couselling, if we needed it dont think we need: if we needed it	
	offered us professional emotional support e.g. counsellors, if we needed it.	No issue with indicator	Same as above, no need to repeat.				
44	helped us to find someone to take care of my child when we needed help, for example e.g. respite care, hospice care.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator				
45	provided emotional support to my child, for example e.g. music therapy, counselling.	NA because they leave this to the school.	No issue with indicator	P2's response should not be NA. However, she excludes special needs school from care settings and thus put NA. This is a common perception of parents of older children (who are out of daycare).	not sure what to do	I think a minority of respondents will misuse the NA- but that is hard to avoid. We can see how this indicator	e.g > e.g is not really clear to many, say for example - this may be other places too

						performs in the pilot test. Lots of NAs will tell us we likely ought to exclude this.
46	helped my child access special needs school/day-care.	NA because I think the healthcare team doesn't know about the options. So they did not.	No issue with indicator	P2's response should be 'Never' rather than NA as she is describing a lack of knowledge on HCWs' part leading to a lack of service provision.	?	I think a minority of respondents will misuse the NA- but that is hard to avoid. We can see how this indicator performs in the pilot test. Lots of NAs will tell us we likely ought to exclude this.
47	communicated my child's medical needs in school/day-care to their staff, for example a e.g. doctor talked to the school about my child's feeding needs.	I don't think this is the role of HCWs. I see this as the parent's role. Don't need to ask as this is not realistic either, so not relevant.	No issue with indicator	· · ·	if important then leave in.	I think best to leave in as this is the first parent to explicitly say "it's not the role of HCWs". Let's see how this indicator performs in the pilot test. Lots of NAs will tell us we likely ought to exclude this.
48	ensured a smooth transition of care for my child across different care settings e.g., for example hospital to home, NICU to CICU.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator			

	1		1	1	1	1			
49	attended to my child within a reasonable amount of time when we brought him/her to the Emergency Department.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator						
Did yo	ur child spend at least 1 night in a hospital in th	e last 6 months? YES / NO							
IF NO,	IF NO, PLEASE SKIP 52-56 AND GO TO 57.								
Thinkii	ng about all the times when my child stayed in a	hospital in the last 6 mon	ths						
50	the diet provided suited my child's medical needs.	NA- I bring my own milk powder otherwise hospital charges me for a full tin, very expensive there.	No issue with indicator						
51	we were able to stay close to my child.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator						
52	Healthcare workers took appropriate action to minimize my child's exposure to infectious diseases.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator						
53	we were able to bond with my child-e.g., for example taking part in his/her daily care, or in activities together.	No issue with indicator	No issue with indicator						
54	we were given the flexibility to decide who could be at my child's bedside in the Intensive Care Unit <i>e.g.,</i> for example replacing caregivers.	No issue with indicator	Can put example like "Replace caregiver"?						
55	gave me sufficient enough time to train a long-term caregiver to care for my child before discharge.	No issue with indicator	What is "Sufficient"? Can use "enough"?	Ok to replace sufficient with 'enough' for simplicity.	ok				
Has Ha	ave you cared for y our child been cared for at ho	ome in the last 6 months? YI	ES / NO						
IF NO,	PLEASE SKIP 57 – 59.								
Thinki	ng about all the times when <i>caring fo</i> r my child	was -a t home in the last 6 n	nonths, healthcare workers						
56	provided <i>enough</i> sufficient consultations (home visits and/or remote consultations) to support the care of my child .	No issue with indicator but maybe can add an indicator specifically for home care asking about "we are able to contact someone responsive for urgent advice when we need it."	Maybe just say Provided "enough support" (e.g. home visits and/or remote consultations) to support the care	If we replace consultations with support, support becomes repeated twice. I think OK to leave the first word as consultations since it's a specific service. Also, the ability to contact someone is captured by early indicators, just perhaps not	revision seems ok				

				specifically for the home setting. But likely no need to rehash.		
57	did their best to help us avoid unnecessary hospitalizations for my child.	No issue with indicator				
	LENGTH	Ok.				
	OVERALL UNDERSTANDING	85% ok, except those I said were still vague and can be specified.	to me. But some words really too difficult. Can make more simple. My English not so good, my school not so high. (Max	P2 does not include special needs school as part of care settings. This is a common way of thinking amongst parents of older children but less common amongst parents of younger children, forming an interested dynamic.		