

Additional file 1 Search strategies for all databases

Database	Search strategy
Medline /PubMed	(palliative care[MeSH Terms] OR hospice care[MeSH Terms] OR terminal care[MeSH Terms]) AND (neoplasms[MeSH Terms] OR cancer [Title/Abstract] OR neoplasms[Title/Abstract] OR oncology[Title/Abstract]) AND (China[MeSH Terms] OR China or Chinese or Mainland China [Title/Abstract]) And (randomized[Title/Abstract] OR random[Title/Abstract] OR control[Title/Abstract] OR randomly[Title/Abstract]) AND pain [Text word]
SCIE	TS=(“palliative care” OR “hospice care” OR “terminal care”) AND (TS=neoplasms OR TS=oncology OR TI=cancer OR TI=neoplasms OR TI=oncology) AND (TS=China OR TS=Chinese OR TI=China OR TI=Chinese) AND (TS=random OR TI=randomized OR TI=control OR TI=randomly)
EBSCO	S1 SU palliative care OR SU hospice care OR TI palliative care OR TI hospice care AND TX ("random allocation" OR "randomized controlled trial*" OR "controlled clinical trial*") S2 TI China OR TI Chinese OR AB China OR AB Chinese S3 TI cancer OR TI neoplasms OR TI oncology S4 S1 AND S2 AND S3
CNKI/CBM/ Vip/Wanfang	#1 SU=随机 OR SU=随机分配 OR SU=随机对照 OR SU=对照 OR SU=随机对照试验 OR SU=随机对照研究 OR AB=随机 (模糊匹配) #2 SU=临终挂怀 OR SU=安宁 OR SU=舒缓 OR TI=临终关怀 (模糊匹配) #3 SU=癌症 OR SU=肿瘤 OR TI=癌 OR TI=肿瘤 AND AB=疼 (模糊匹配) #4 #1 AND #2 AND #3

Abbreviations: CNKI, China National Knowledge Infrastructure; CBM, Chinese Biomedical Literature Database.