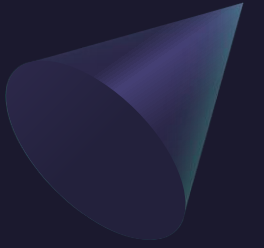


# Experiences of Intensive care unit families: a scoping review



## INTERNATIONAL NURSING ASSOCIATION TEAM

### PRESENTER

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- BACCN Conference 7-8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 Aberdeen



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# Background


- Family members of patients admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) find it a stressful and difficult period
- It causes stress both during and after the admission (Rhoads et al., 2022).
- However, the trajectory of experiences for families is poorly understood.



# Aim and methods



## AIM

- This scoping review aims to outline the experiences of family members of ICU patients from admission to one year post discharge or death.
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## METHODOLOGY

- **The JBI methodology for scoping reviews (Peters et al., 2021)**

## TEAM

- **The International Family Nursing Association ‘acute care cluster’ formed a team to undertake the review**

# Inclusion Criteria

Excluded were papers on paediatric ICU and settings, such as emergency departments

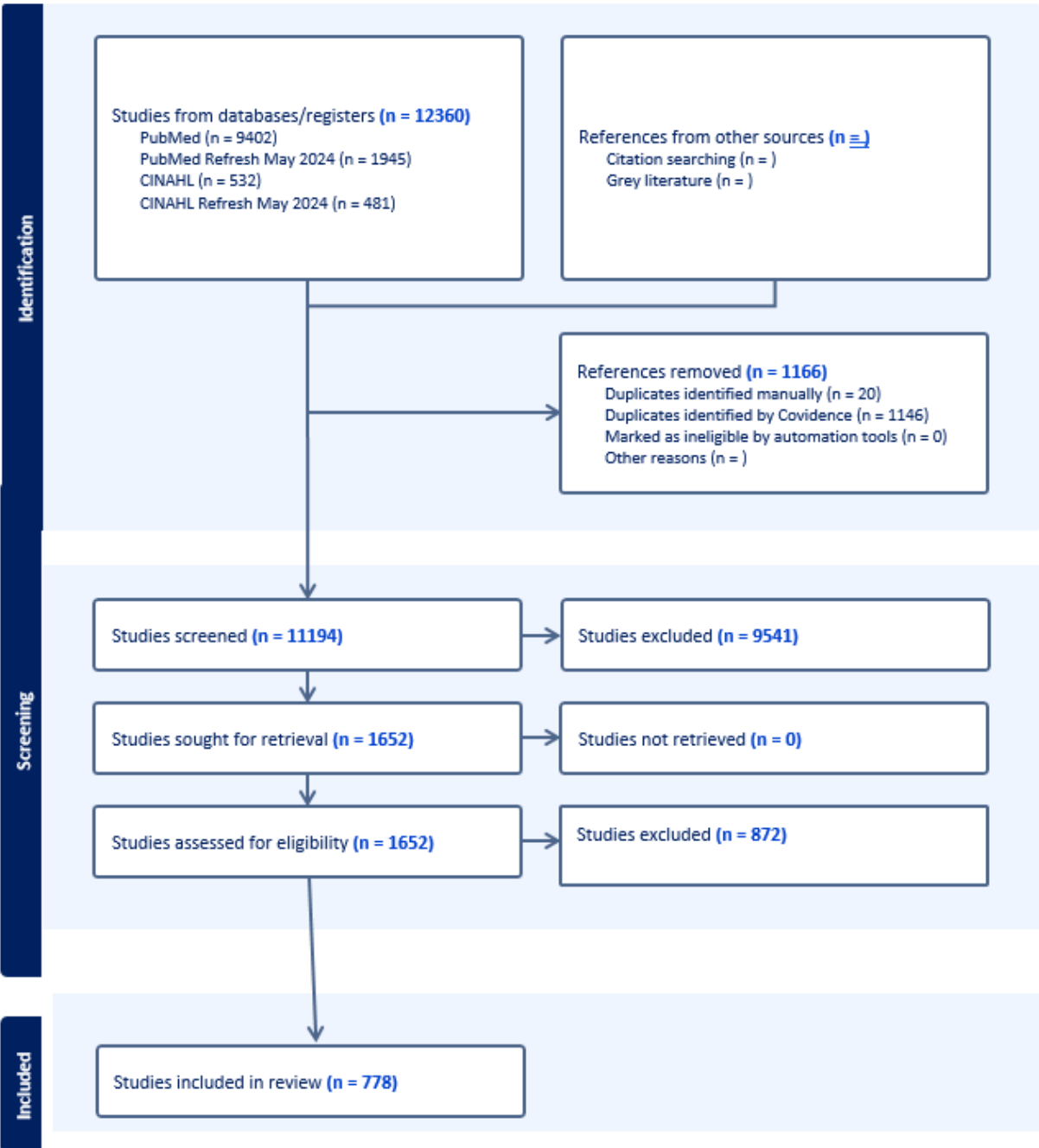


- any type of articles that focused on family experiences in Adult ICUs;
- 50% or more participants were family members,
- experiences that occurred between ICU admission to one year post ICU discharge or death,
- and were published between Jan 2000 – May 2024.
- Articles written in French, German, Dutch and English were included due to the team's expertise

# Database search and extraction

- completed using MEDLINE and CINAHL and grey literature,
- included Dissertation and Theses, Grey Literature Report, and relevant resources listed in the CADTH Grey Literature Searching Checklist.
- Covidence© software was used to undertake the review
- 2 reviewers were used for the title/abstract and full text phases.

# PRISMA Flow Diagram



# Excluded reasons

245 Editorial/ commentary	149 Not enough family members	80 Wrong intervention	68 Tool development/ validation study	63 Study not focused on family experience	55 wrong study design	38 Wrong population
26 Multiple settings and ICU is not the main focus	23 Inaccessible reference	21 Not ICU setting	17 Wrong timeframe (more than 1 year after ICU discharge or death)	16 Paediatric critically ill patient	14 Details unclear, insufficient information	11 Abstract only
10 Wrong language	9 Ongoing study (for example, a study protocol only)	5 Case study	5 Protocol Paper	4 Focus is on experience with research	3 6-60 months post icu	2 Are we including dissertations?
	2 Datacollection before 2000	2 Duplicate	2 Not correct focus - focus on consent with procedures	1 Information form, no research	1 Online Errata	



# Extraction

Large amount of papers to extract data from

Needed feasible process

Still need to refine themes

- 1 – extraction template refined
- 2 – only 1 reviewer each paper
- 3 – random selection to confirm extraction valid

• 778 papers to extract using Covidence

- Developing themes



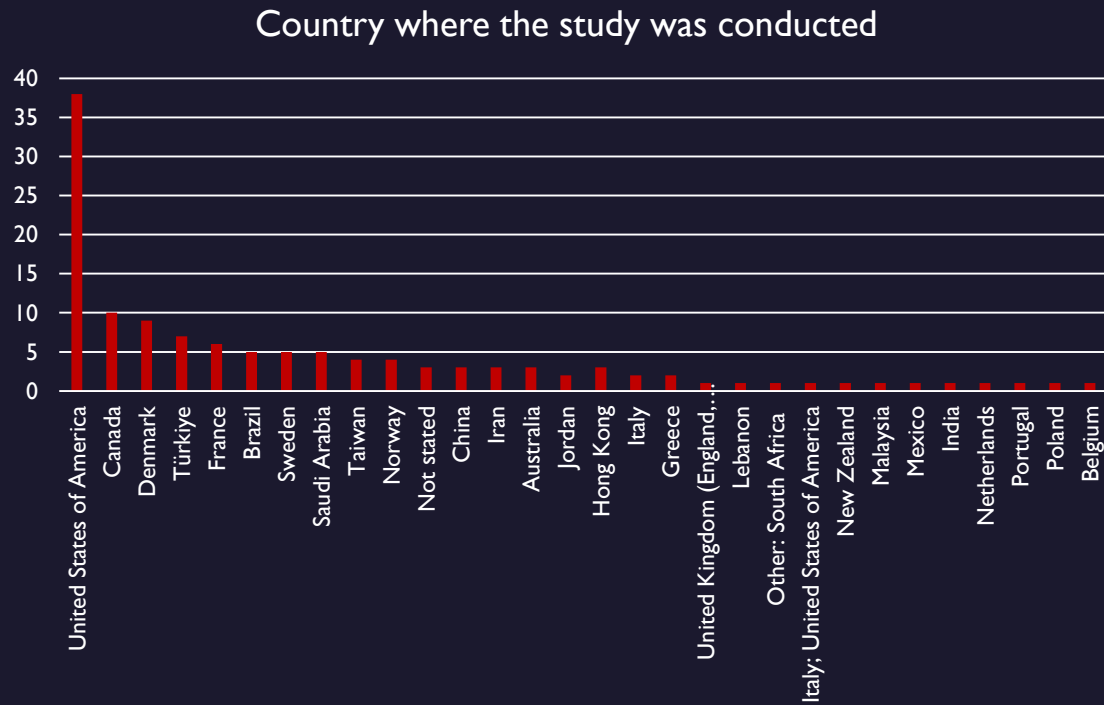
# Preliminary Findings

- Team is still extracting data so reporting findings so far
- Some studies focused on more than one category so might be counted more than once



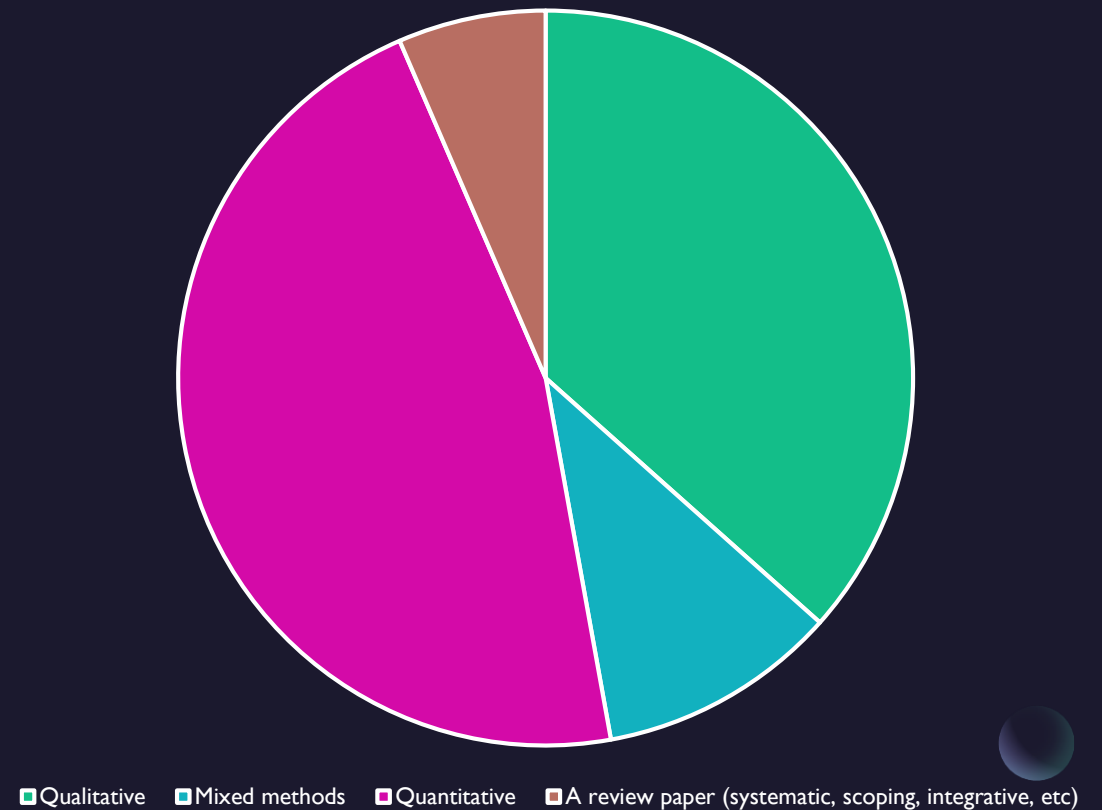
# Preliminary findings

## COUNTRIES



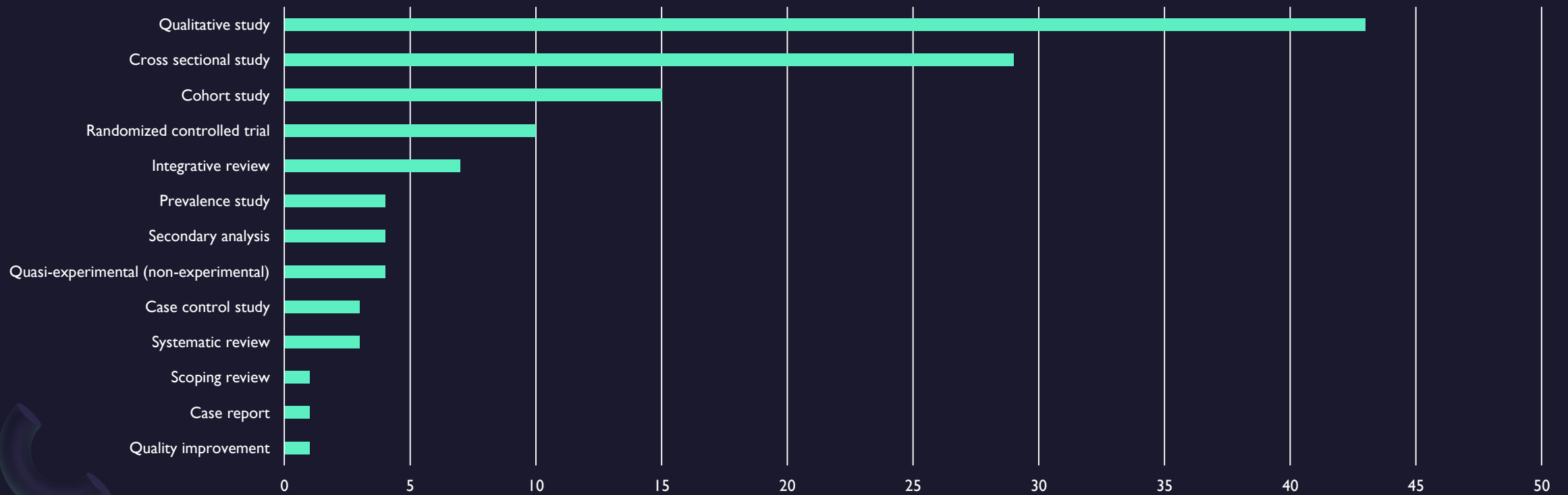
## RESEARCH DESIGN

Overall Study Design



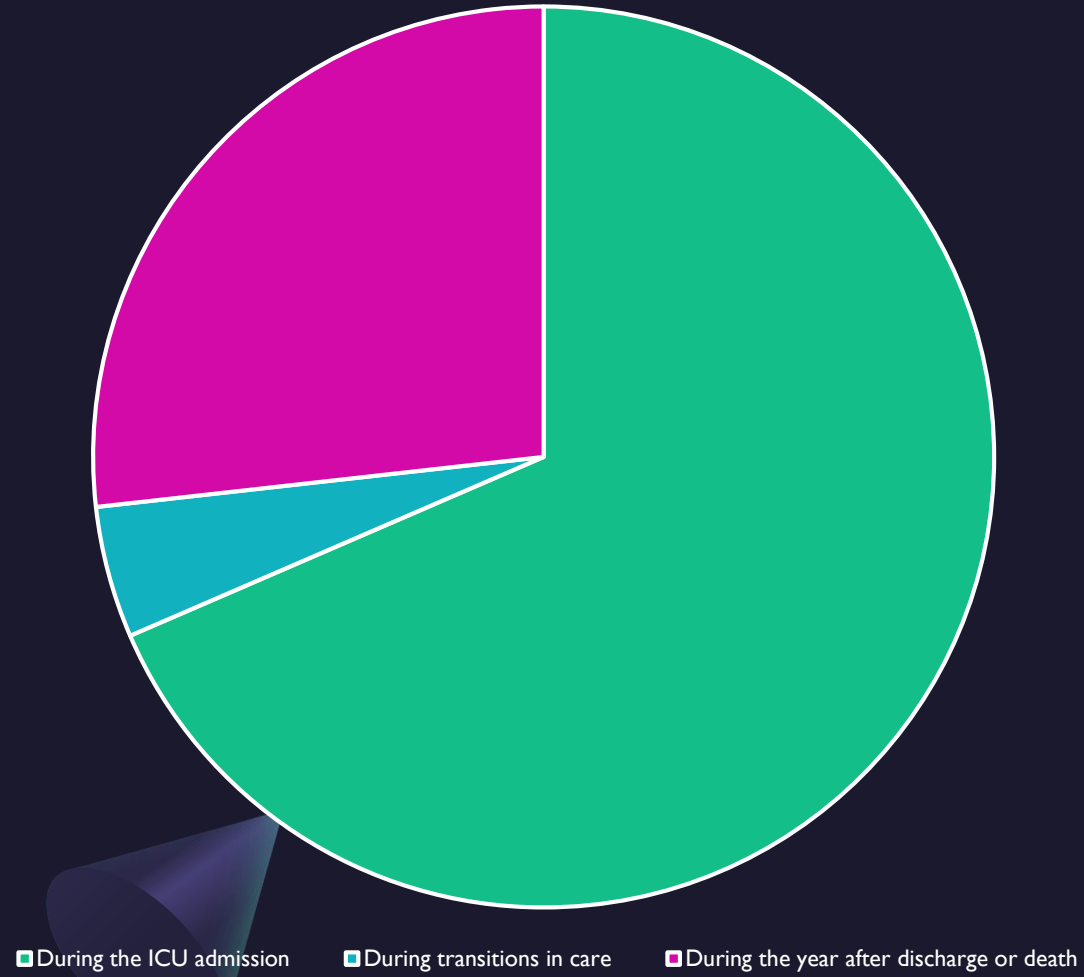
# Preliminary findings

Specific Study Design



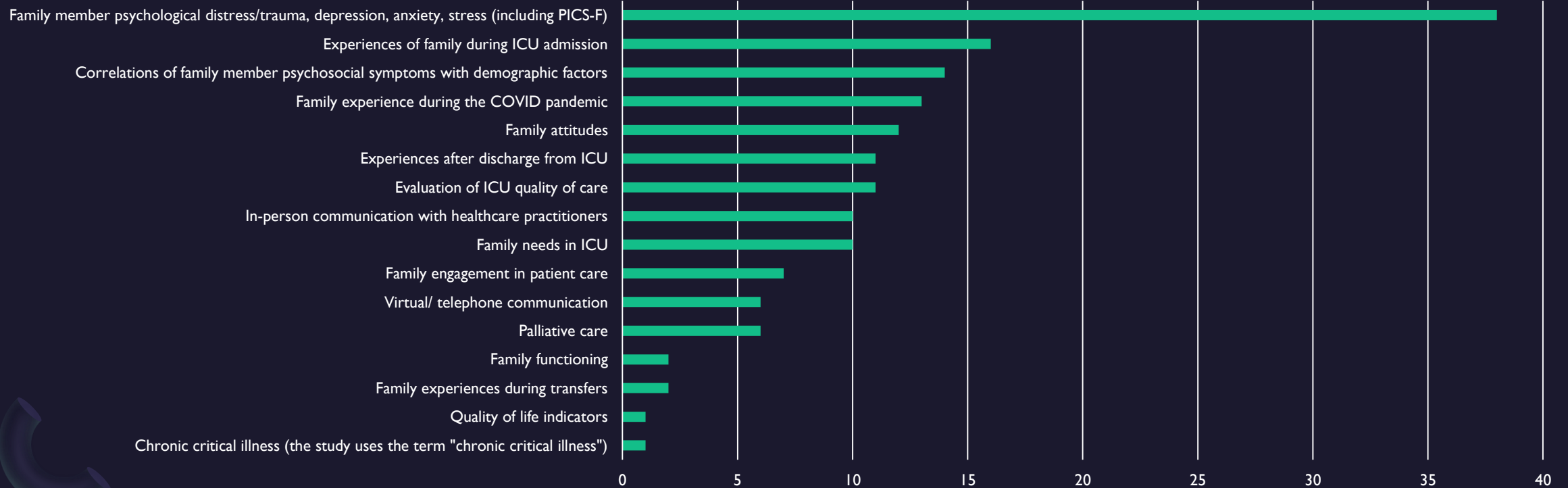
# Preliminary Findings

## Context of the study



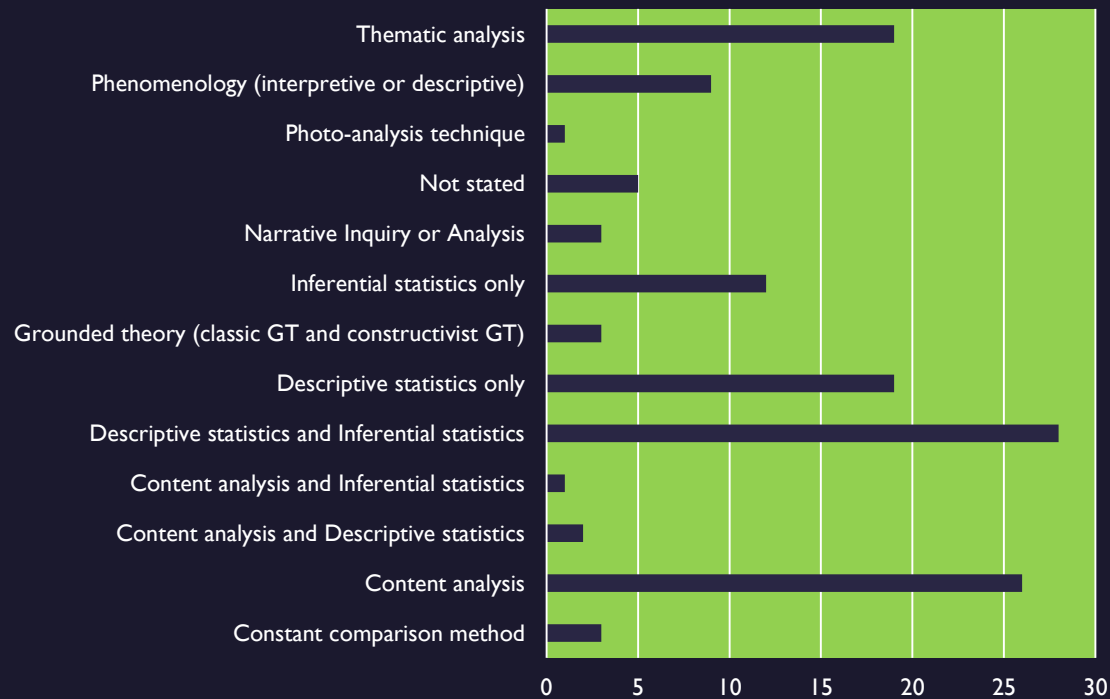
# Preliminary Findings

Focus of Family Needs, Experiences, Care Received



# Preliminary Findings

## HOW WERE DATA ANALYSED?



- A variety of methods and need to cross reference findings in more detail

# Tentative areas to date

Plan to publish in 2025

Covidence has been a useful tool for working with researchers across the world

**Definition of family is assumed and needs to be more explicit within the context**

**Lack of reference to 'significant others' or same sex /LGBTQ+ relationships.**

**To date majority of family participants are female**

**Majority of studies are single site or single country**



# Limitations

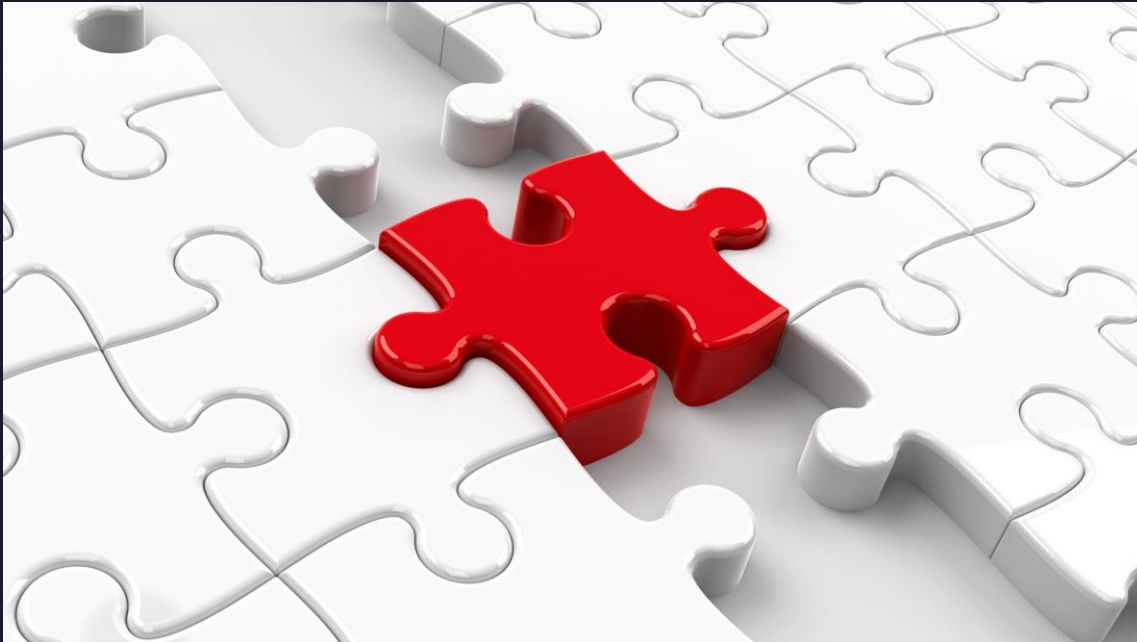
Still extracting data so findings are tentative

Lots of terms used for similar ideas and cross over in same papers

Team is spread across the world so difficult to discuss differences



# Conclusion



Most research on family care is within the ICU setting.

There is a wide variety of topics covered in family care

Seems to be similar studies done on different sites across the world – need similarities and differences to inform practice

Need to identify gaps in knowledge to focus future research

# References

- Peters, M. D., Marnie, C., Tricco, A. C., Pollock, D., Munn, Z., Alexander, L., McInerney, P., Godfrey, C. M., & Khalil, H. (2021). Updated methodological guidance for the conduct of scoping reviews. *JBI Evidence Implementation*, 19(1), 3–10.
- Rhoads, S. L., Trikalinos, T. A., Levy, M. M., & Amass, T. (2022). Intensive Care Based Interventions to Reduce Family Member Stress Disorders: A Systematic Review of the Literature. *The Journal of Critical Care Medicine*, 8(3), 145–155



# Thank You

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Family Care in Acute and Critical Illness  
Research cluster- International Family  
Nursing Association

<https://internationalfamilynursing.org/2018/12/31/ifna-research-clusters/>

