Supplementary file. Search strategy

1.1 Medline (Medline)

Step	Search strategy	References
1	(((MH "Patients+") OR TI (patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*) OR AB (patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*)) AND ((MH "Health Personnel+") OR TI (provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist*" OR physiotherapist*) OR AB (provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist*" OR physiotherapist*)))	782551
2	(MH "Professional-Patient Relations+") OR (MH "Therapeutic Alliance") OR TI ("therapeutic alliance*" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*) OR AB ("therapeutic alliance*" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*)	5606807
3	(MH "Pain, Postoperative+") OR TI (pain* N6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery" OR "following operation*" OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR "postprocedur*" OR "after surgery" OR "after operation*" OR "postsurgical" OR postsurg* OR "post-surg*")) OR AB (pain* N6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery" OR "following operation*" OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR "postprocedur*" OR "after surgery" OR "after operation*" OR "postsurgical" OR postsurg* OR "post-surg*"))	76851
4	S1 AND S2 AND S3	1044

1.2 PsycInfo (EBSCO)

Step	Search strategy	References
1	((DE "Patients" OR DE "Geriatric Patients" OR DE "Hospitalized Patients" OR DE "Medical Patients" OR DE "Outpatients" OR DE "Psychiatric Patients" OR DE "Surgical Patients") OR TI (patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*) OR AB (patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*)) AND ((DE "Health Personnel" OR DE "Allied Health Personnel" OR DE "Caregivers" OR DE "Medical Personnel" OR DE "Mental Health Personnel") OR TI (provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist*" OR physiotherapist*) OR AB (provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist*" OR physiotherapist*))	266347
2	(DE "Therapeutic Alliance") OR TI ("therapeutic alliance*" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*) OR AB ("therapeutic alliance*" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*)	2385789
3	TI (pain* N6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery" OR "following operation*" OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR "postprocedur*" OR "after surgery" OR "after operation*" OR "postsurgical" OR postsurg* OR "post-surg*")) OR AB (pain* N6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery" OR "following operation*" OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR "postprocedur*" OR "after surgery" OR "after operation*" OR "postsurgical" OR postsurg* OR "post-surg*"))	2519
4	S1 AND S2 AND S3	162

1.3 Cinahl (EBSCO)

Step	Search strategy	References
1	((MH "Patients+") OR TI (patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*) OR AB (patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*)) AND ((MH "Health Personnel+") OR TI (provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist*" OR physiotherapist*) OR AB (provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist*" OR physiotherapist*))	514989
2	(MH "Professional-Patient Relations+") OR (MH "Therapeutic Alliance") OR TI ("therapeutic alliance*" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*) OR AB ("therapeutic alliance*" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*)	1417833
3	(MH "Postoperative Pain") OR TI (pain* N6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery" OR "following operation*" OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR "postprocedur*" OR "after surgery" OR "after operation*" OR "postsurgical" OR postsurg* OR "post-surg*")) OR AB (pain* N6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery" OR "following operation*" OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR "postprocedur*" OR "after surgery" OR "after operation*" OR "postsurgical" OR postsurg* OR "post-surg*"))	28540
4	S1 AND S2 AND S3	809

1.4 Cochrane Library

Step	Search strategy	References
1	((patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*) AND (provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist" OR physiotherapist*)):ti,ab,kw	19908
2	(("therapeutic alliance" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*)):ti,ab,kw	325389
3	((pain* NEAR/6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery")) OR (pain* NEAR/6 ("following operation" OR perioperative OR postprocedur*)) OR (pain* NEAR/6 ("post-procedure" OR "post-procedural" OR "after surgery"))):ti,ab,kw	70279
4	((pain* NEAR/6 "after operation") OR (pain* NEAR/6 "post-surgical") OR (pain* NEAR/6 postsurg*) OR (pain* NEAR/3 "post-surgery")):ti,ab,kw	2124
5	#1 AND #2 AND (#3 OR #4)	292

1.4 Embase (Elsevier)

Step	Search strategy	References
1	('patient'/exp OR patient*:ti,ab OR subject*:ti,ab OR participant*:ti,ab OR client*:ti,ab OR inpatient*:ti,ab OR outpatient*:ti,ab) AND ('health care personnel'/exp OR provider*:ti,ab OR doctor*:ti,ab OR physician*:ti,ab OR specialist*:ti,ab OR nurs*:ti,ab OR psychiatrist*:ti,ab OR therapist*:ti,ab OR psychologist*:ti,ab OR 'physical therapist*':ti,ab OR physiotherapist*:ti,ab)	1744347
2	'professional-patient relationship'/exp OR 'therapeutic alliance'/exp OR 'therapeutic alliance*':ti,ab OR 'interpersonal communication'/exp OR discuss*:ti,ab OR communicat*:ti,ab OR interact*:ti,ab OR conversation*:ti,ab OR reassur*:ti,ab OR tell:ti,ab OR told:ti,ab OR consultat*:ti,ab OR consult:ti,ab OR explan*:ti,ab OR disrespect*:ti,ab OR dismiss*:ti,ab OR relation*:ti,ab OR instruct*:ti,ab OR advis*:ti,ab OR counsel*:ti,ab OR talk*:ti,ab	7689195
3	'postoperative pain'/exp OR ((pain* NEAR/6 (postoperative OR 'post-operative' OR 'following surgery' OR 'following operation*' OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR 'post-procedur*' OR 'after surgery' OR 'after operation*' OR 'post-surgical' OR postsurg* OR 'post-surg*')):ti,ab)	115026
4	#1 AND #2 AND #3	3904
5	#4 AND 'human'/de	3743
6	#4 AND 'human'/de AND ('article'/it OR 'article in press'/it OR 'conference paper'/it OR 'conference review'/it OR 'editorial'/it OR 'letter'/it OR 'review'/it OR 'short survey'/it)	2008

1.5 Web of Science

Step	Search strategy	References
1	(TS=(patient* OR subject* OR participant* OR client* OR inpatient* OR outpatient*)) AND (TS=(provider* OR doctor* OR physician* OR specialist* OR nurs* OR psychiatrist* OR therapist* OR psychologist* OR "physical therapist*" OR physiotherapist*)	657391
2	TS=("therapeutic alliance*" OR discuss* OR communicat* OR interact* OR conversation* OR reassur* OR tell OR told OR consultat* OR consult OR explan* OR disrespect* OR dismiss* OR relation* OR instruct* OR advis* OR counsel* OR talk*)	12572088
3	TS=(pain* NEAR/6 (postoperative OR "post-operative" OR "following surgery" OR "following operation*" OR perioperative OR postprocedur* OR "post-procedur*" OR "after surgery" OR "after operation*" OR "post-surgical" OR postsurg* OR "post-surg*"))	53599
4	#3 AND #2 AND #1 AND	933