Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

Table S1. ENTREQ items and corresponding sections in the report

Item	Section in report
Aim	Introduction
Synthesis methodology	Methods – Data synthesis and analysis
Approach to searching	Methods – Search methods
Inclusion criteria	Methods – Search methods, Table 1
Data sources	Methods – Search methods
Electronic Search strategy	Supplemental Table S3
Study screening methods	Methods – Search methods
Study characteristics	Results – Table 2. Supplemental Table S6
Study selection results	Results. Figure 2
Rationale for appraisal	Methods – Quality appraisal of included studies and sensitivity analysis
Appraisal items	Methods – Quality appraisal of included studies and sentivity analysis. Supplemental Table S5
Appraisal process	Methods – Quality appraisal of included studies
Appraisal results	Results – Methodological quality appraisal and sensitivity analysis. Supplemental Table S7
Data extraction	Methods – Data extraction
Software	Methods – Data extraction
Number of reviewers	Methods – Search methods. Discussion – Strengths and limitations
Coding	Methods – Data synthesis and analysis
Study comparison	Methods – Data synthesis and analysis
Derivation of themes	Methods – Data synthesis and analysis
Quotations	Results – Descriptive themes
Synthesis output	Results – Analytic themes and analytical model. Discussion

Note. Items adapted from the ENTREQ statement.[1]

---

[1] Tong A, Flemming K, McInnes E, Oliver S, Craig J. Enhancing transparency in reporting the synthesis of qualitative research: ENTREQ. BMC Med Res Methodol. 2012 Nov 27;12:181.

Table S2. Search concepts, definitions, and terms

SPIDER tool item	Search concept	Definition	Search terms
Sample	Child	Persons under the age of 18[2]	• child* • paediatric • pediatric • infant* • adolescent* • baby • babies • neonate* • newborn*
Phenomenon of Interest	COVID-19 pandemic	The period from the declaration of COVID-19 as a PHEIC by the WHO[3]	• COVID-19 • covid • covid19 • coronavirus • corona virus • 2019-nCoV • SARS-CoV-2 • SARS2 • SARS-CoV-19 • novel cov
	Unscheduled care	'When someone seeks treatment or advice for a health problem without arranging to do so more than a day in advance.'[4]	• unscheduled care • primary care • general practice • emergency department* • emergency care • emergent care • after-hours • out-of-hours • out of hours • urgent care
Evaluation	Decision-making	Any description of parent-reported attitudes, views, experiences, or characteristics in the context of deciding to access or delay or avoid accessing unscheduled care for their children.	• decision* • preference* • reason* • delay* • avoid* • hesita* • miss* • attend* • access*

Note. PHEIC, public health emergency of international concern; WHO, World Health Organization.

---

[2] United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Convention on the Rights of the Child [Internet]. United Nations. [cited 2023 Sep 16]. Available from: https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child

[3] World Health Organization. Statement on the second meeting of the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee regarding the outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) [Internet]. World Health Organization. 2020 [cited 2022 Oct 18].

[4] O'Cathain A, Knowles E, Munro J, Nicholl J. Exploring the effect of changes to service provision on the use of unscheduled care in England: population surveys. BMC Health Serv Res. 2007 Apr 27;7:61.

Table S3. Search Strategies

Ovid MEDLINE search strategy (14 July 2023)

#	Query	Results
1	(child* or p?ediatric or infant* or adolescent* or baby or babies or neonate* or newborn*).mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms, population supplementary concept word, anatomy supplementary concept word]	4,735,220
2	Child/	1,913,964
3	1 or 2	4,735,220
4	(COVID-19 or covid19 or coronavirus or corona virus or 2019-nCoV or SARS-CoV-2 or SARS2 or SARS-CoV-19 or novel cov).mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms, population supplementary concept word, anatomy supplementary concept word]	385,793
5	COVID-19/	231,417
6	4 or 5	385,793
7	(unscheduled care or primary care or general practice or emergency care or emergent care or emergency department* or after-hours or urgent care or out-of-hours or out of hours).mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms, population supplementary concept word, anatomy supplementary concept word]	322,722
8	(decision* or preference* or reason* or delay* or avoid* or hesita* or miss* or attend* or access*).mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms, population supplementary concept word, anatomy supplementary concept word]	3,371,892
9	Decision Making/	104,647
10	8 or 9	3,371,892
11	3 and 6 and 7 and 10	821
12	limit 11 to (english language and yr="2020 -Current")	792

Embase search strategy (14 July 2023)

#	Query	Results
1	(child* or p?ediatric or infant* or adolescent* or baby or babies or neonate* or newborn*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword heading word, floating subheading word, candidate term word]	5,404,375
2	child/	2,386,519
3	1 or 2	5,404,375
4	(COVID-19 or covid19 or coronavirus or corona virus or 2019-nCoV or SARS-CoV-2 or SARS2 or SARS-CoV-19 or novel cov).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug	496,220

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

	manufacturer, device trade name, keyword heading word, floating subheading word, candidate term word]	
5	coronavirus disease 2019/	369,445
6	4 or 5	496,220
7	(unscheduled care or primary care or general practice or emergency care or emergent care or emergency department* or after-hours or urgent care or out-of-hours or out of hours).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword heading word, floating subheading word, candidate term word]	543,608
8	(decision* or preference* or reason* or delay* or avoid* or hesita* or miss* or attend* or access*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword heading word, floating subheading word, candidate term word]	4,805,997
9	patient decision making/	11,834
10	8 or 9	4,805,997
11	3 and 6 and 7 and 10	1,511
12	limit 11 to (english language and yr="2020 -Current")	1,481

Web of Science search strategy (14 July 2023)

#	Query	Results
1	ALL=(child* OR p$ediatric OR infant* OR adolescent* OR baby OR babies OR neonate* OR newborn*)	2,672,501
2	ALL=("COVID-19" OR covid19 OR coronavirus OR "corona virus" OR "2019-nCoV" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR SARS2 OR "SARS-CoV-19" OR "novel cov")	477,270
3	ALL=("unscheduled care" OR "primary care" OR "general practice" OR "emergency care" OR "emergent care" OR "emergency department*" OR "after-hours" OR "urgent care" OR "out-of-hours" OR "out of hours")	429,387
4	ALL=(decision* OR preference* OR reason* OR delay* OR avoid* OR hesita* OR miss* OR attend* OR access*)	8,285,340
5	1 and 2 and 3 and 4	1,008
6	1 and 2 and 3 and 4 Timespan: 2021-01-31 to 2023-07-14	857
7	1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and English (Languages) Timespan: 2021-01-31 to 2023-07-14	842

PsycINFO search strategy (14 July 2023)

#	Query	Results
1	(child* or p?ediatric or infant* or adolescent* or baby or babies or neonate* or newborn*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, key concepts, original title, tests & measures, mesh word]	1,247,087
2	exp Child Health/	1,127
3	1 or 2	1,247,087
4	(COVID-19 or covid19 or coronavirus or corona virus or 2019-nCoV or SARS-CoV-2 or SARS2 or SARS-CoV-19 or novel cov).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, key concepts, original title, tests & measures, mesh word]	34,642
5	exp COVID-19/	23,338
6	4 or 5	34,642
7	(unscheduled care or primary care or general practice or emergency care or emergent care or emergency department* or after-hours or urgent care or out-	52,677

	of-hours or out of hours).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, key concepts, original title, tests & measures, mesh word]	
8	(decision* or preference* or reason* or delay* or avoid* or hesita* or miss* or attend* or access*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, key concepts, original title, tests & measures, mesh word]	1,064,663
9	exp Health Care Seeking Behavior/	9,998
10	8 or 9	1,070,447
11	3 and 6 and 7 and 10	77
12	limit 11 to (english language and yr="2020 - 2023")	64

Global Health search strategy (14 July 2023)

#	Query	Results
1	(child* or p?ediatric or infant* or adolescent* or baby or babies or neonate* or newborn*).mp. [mp=abstract, title, original title, heading words, cabicodes words]	679,988
2	exp children/	441,537
3	1 or 2	679,988
4	(COVID-19 or covid19 or coronavirus or corona virus or 2019-nCoV or SARS-CoV-2 or SARS2 or SARS-CoV-19 or novel cov).mp. [mp=abstract, title, original title, heading words, cabicodes words]	127,919
5	coronavirus disease 2019.sh.	109,069
6	4 or 5	127,919
7	(unscheduled care or primary care or general practice or emergency care or emergent care or emergency department* or after-hours or urgent care or out-of-hours or out of hours).mp. [mp=abstract, title, original title, heading words, cabicodes words]	46,519
8	(decision* or preference* or reason* or delay* or avoid* or hesita* or miss* or attend* or access*).mp. [mp=abstract, title, original title, heading words, cabicodes words]	559,144
9	exp decision making/	13,805
10	8 or 9	559,144
11	3 and 6 and 7 and 10	243
12	limit 11 to (english language and yr="2020 - 2023")	231

Global Index Medicus search strategy (14 July 2023)

#	Query	Results
1	(tw:(child* OR paediatric OR pediatric OR infant* OR adolescent* OR baby OR babies OR neonate* OR newborn*))	432,600
2	(tw:("COVID-19" OR "covid 19" OR covid19 OR coronavirus OR "corona virus" OR "2019 nCoV" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR SARS2 OR "SARS-CoV-19" OR "novel cov"))	14,731
3	(tw:("unscheduled care" OR "primary care" OR "general practice" OR "emergency care" OR "emergent care" OR "emergency department" OR "emergency departments" OR "after-hours" OR "urgent care" OR "out-of-hours" OR "out of hours"))	16
4	(tw:(decision* OR preference* OR reason* OR delay* OR avoid* OR hesita* OR miss* OR attend* OR access*))	233,493
5	(tw:(child* OR paediatric OR pediatric OR infant* OR adolescent* OR baby OR babies OR neonate* OR newborn*)) AND (tw:("COVID-19" OR "covid 19" OR covid19 OR coronavirus OR "corona virus" OR "2019 nCoV" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR SARS2 OR "SARS-CoV-19" OR "novel cov")) AND (tw:(unscheduled	0

care" OR "primary care" OR "general practice" OR "emergency care" OR "emergent care" OR "emergency department*" OR "after-hours" OR "urgent care" OR "out-of-hours" OR "out of hours")) AND (tw:(decision* OR preference* OR reason* OR delay* OR avoid* OR hesita* OR miss* OR attend* OR access*))

PsycEXTRA search strategy (23 July 2023)

#	Query	Results
1	(child* or p?ediatric or infant* or adolescent* or baby or babies or neonate* or newborn*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, keywords]	53,657
2	(COVID-19 or covid19 or coronavirus or corona virus or 2019-nCoV or SARS-CoV-2 or SARS2 or SARS-CoV-19 or novel cov).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, keywords]	684
3	(unscheduled care or primary care or general practice or emergency care or emergent care or emergency department* or after-hours or urgent care or out-of-hours or out of hours).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, keywords]	2,388
4	(decision* or preference* or reason* or delay* or avoid* or hesita* or miss* or attend* or access*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, keywords]	49,624
5	1 and 2 and 3 and 4	2
6	limit 5 to (english language and yr="2020 -Current")	2

Proquest Dissertations & Theses Global (23 July 2023)
Search limited to publication date 2020-2023 and English language.

#	Query	Results
1	noft(child* OR paediatric OR pediatric OR infant* OR adolescent* OR baby OR babies OR neonate* OR newborn*) AND noft("COVID-19" OR "covid 19" OR covid19 OR coronavirus OR "corona virus" OR "2019-nCoV" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR SARS2 OR "SARS-CoV-19" OR "novel cov") AND noft("unscheduled care" OR "primary care" OR "general practice" OR "emergency care" OR "emergent care" OR "emergency department*" OR "after-hours" OR "urgent care" OR "out-of-hours" OR "out of hours") AND noft(decision* OR preference* OR reason* OR delay* OR avoid* OR hesita* OR miss* OR attend* OR access*) AND la.exact("English")	22

Google Scholar search strategy

Advanced search conducted on 23/07/2023

Find articles
with all of the words:
        child attend "unscheduled care"
with the exact phrase:
        "COVID-19"

Return articles dated between 2020 – 2023

Results for screening: 181 total

<u>OAIster search strategy</u>

All searches limited to publication year 2020-2023, English language. Search carried out on 23/07/2023

1. kw:(child*) 66,700

2. kw:(paediatric*) 3,100

3. kw:(pediatric) 11,000

4. kw:(covid) 58,800

5. kw:(covid) OR kw:(covid-19) 58,800

6. kw:(unscheduled) 145

7. kw:(urgen*) 11,500

8. kw:(emergen*) 11,000

9. kw:("primary care") 5,700

10. kw:(child*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(unscheduled) 0

11. kw:(paediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(unscheduled) 0

12. kw:(pediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(unscheduled) 0

13. kw:(child*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(urgen*) 74

14. kw:(paediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(urgen*) 2

15. kw:(pediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(urgen*) 12

16. kw:(child*) and kw:(covid) AND kw:(emergen*) 12

17. kw:(paediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(emergen*) 0

18. kw:(pediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:(emergen*) 2

19. kw:(child*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:("primary care") 54

20. kw:(paediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:("primary care") 6

21. kw:(pediatric*) AND kw:(covid) AND kw:("primary care") 10

Results from lines 13-21 were included for screening: 172 total

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

Citation search
I used citationchaser[5] with 12 of the included articles (all included articles except for Berry, 2022 and Lim et al., 2020). This was performed on 25/07/2023, and identified:

- 212 references (backward citation searching)
- 79 citations (forward citation searching)

Of these, 199 were published between 2020-2023.
In addition, manual backward citation searching was carried out on the 165 references from one study (Berry, 2022) as this was not recognised by citationchaser. 40 of these were published between 2020-2023.
Results for screening: 239 total

---

[5] Haddaway NR, Grainger MJ, Gray CT. Citationchaser: A tool for transparent and efficient forward and backward citation chasing in systematic searching. Res Synth Methods. 2022 Jul;13(4):533–45.

Table S4. Data extraction tool (adapted from a previous review and the JBI guidance)[6]

Aspect	Data to be extracted	Notes
Background and context	Author and year	
	Dates of data collection	
	COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time	As described by the authors
	Sample size	
	Caregiver gender, relationship to child, and age	
	Other caregiver features	Include ethnicity, socioeconomic status, education, insurance status, and other factors of note reported by authors
	Age of paediatric population	
	Other contextual factors	Include specific child or family factors of note that the authors commented
	Specific disease group or condition	
	Type of healthcare accessed	For example, emergency department, GP, urgent care centre
Study design and methods	Study type	Qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods
	Research question or aim	
	Data collection methods	
	Data analysis methods	
	Sampling strategy	
	Inclusion criteria	
	Exclusion criteria	
Results	Factors influencing decision-making	As described by the authors in the discussion or conclusion section

[6] Nicholson E, McDonnell T, De Brún A, Barrett M, Bury G, Collins C, et al. Factors that influence family and parental preferences and decision making for unscheduled paediatric healthcare-systematic review. BMC Health Serv Res. 2020 Jul 17;20(1):1–23.
Stern C, Lizarondo L, Carrier J, Godfrey C, Rieger K, Salmond S, et al. Methodological guidance for the conduct of mixed methods systematic reviews. JBI Evid Synth. 2020 Oct;18(10):2108.

Table S5. Quality criteria from Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool[7] selected for sensitivity analysis

Item	Rationale for using this criterion for sensitivity analysis
1.2. Are the qualitative data collection methods adequate to address the research question?	For qualitative studies aiming to assess parent-reported factors, it is important that they use the appropriate data collection methods (e.g., interviews, focus groups) to allow participants to describe and explain their perspectives
1.3. Are the findings adequately derived from the data?	It is important to ensure appropriate techniques are used, such as coding and analysis, so that the results are adequately derived from parent reporting of their perspectives and opinions
4.3. Are the measurements appropriate?	Important considerations include whether surveys and other measurement tools are appropriately piloted or tested for validity and reliability to ensure they are accurately measuring parent perspectives and are acceptable to participants

[7] Hong QN, Pluye P, Fàbregues S, Bartlett G, Boardman F, Cargo M, et al. Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool (MMAT) Version 2018 User Guide. Regist Copyr 1148552 Can Intellect Prop Off Ind Can [Internet]. [cited 2022 Oct 24]; Available from: http://mixedmethodsappraisaltoolpublic.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/127916259/MMAT_2018_criteria-manual_2018-08-01_ENG.pdf

Table S6. Individual study aims, background and context

Study	Research question or primary aim	COVID-19-related restrictions	Caregiver gender, relationship to child, and age	Other caregiver features	Child age	Other context-related information	Specific disease group or condition
Appleby et al., 2022	'to investigate the impact of COVID-19 on health-seeking behaviour and decision-making processes of caregivers presenting to paediatric emergency services at a National Health Service (NHS) Trust in London.'	Interviews were conducted during a second lockdown	80% female, 16% male. <18 years: 1% 18-24 years: 2% 25-34 years: 26% 35-44 years: 48% 45-54 years: 15% 55-64 years: 2%	62% White British or White Other, 21% Black, 4% Asian	0-5 years: 53% 6-10 years: 21% 11-15 years: 24%	The local area has a large, diverse population with high levels of deprivation	N/A
Berry, 2022	'What are the expectations and experiences of parents who bring their child to the accident and emergency department with non-urgent medical illness?'	Not described	18 mothers, 1 father. Age not reported.	Unclear (not reported separately for interviews prior to versus after onset of COVID-19 restrictions)	Unclear (not reported separately for interviews prior to versus after onset of COVID-19 restrictions)		N/A
Breckons et al., 2023	'to understand parents' views on the use of children's urgent healthcare services during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and in particular factors which may	Not described	19 female, 2 male. All parents. 25-29 years: 14% 30-34 years: 10% 35-39 years: 48% 40-44 years: 19% 45-49 years: 10%	IMD decile: 9-10: 33% 7-8: 14% 5-6: 24% 3-4: 10% 1-2: 5% Missing: 14%	Age of youngest child: <12 months: 14% 1-3 years: 57% 4-6 years: 5% 7-9 years: 24% IMD deciles: 9-10: 33% 7-8: 14%		N/A

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

	affect seeking care during "lockdown".'				5-6: 24% 3-4: 10% 1-2: 5%		
Davis et al., 2021	'to determine if caregivers of children 0–19 years old presenting to the pediatric ED during the COVID-19 pandemic with non-COVID-19-related concerns are delaying presentation for fear of contracting COVID-19 in the hospital.'	Not described	73% mother, 24% father Mean age 39 years	75% of parents had a greater than high school education	Mean age 7.8 years		N/A
Lim et al., 2020	'to evaluate the experiences of parents using this decision-making and risk assessment leaflet for a potentially seriously ill child during COVID-19 lockdown. More specifically, we explored the confidence of parents, their health-seeking behaviours, and usefulness of the leaflet.'	Recruitment was carried out during the first lockdown up until it was eased	Not reported	93% White British, 2% White Other	Not reported		N/A
McCarthy et al., 2021	'to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and any associated	During a lockdown period with	95% mother, 5% father	51% of parents had a degree or	Mean age 8.13 years	Australia had low COVID-19 infection rates compared to	Oncology – children receiving hospital-based

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

	changes on the health and well-being of children and families receiving hospital-based oncology care at RCH.'	strict restrictions		postgraduate education		other countries. The hospital had had few COVID-19-positive inpatients.	cancer treatment only
Nicholson et al., 2020	'to examine avoidance behaviour and the level of hesitancy in parents towards accessing healthcare for their child during the COVID-19 pandemic and to determine the factors associated with healthcare avoidance and hesitancy.'	During the first phase of easing of COVID-19 restrictions	62% female. All parents. <29 years: 12% 30-39 years: 41% 40-49 years: 37% >50 years: 10%	53% of parents had a degree or postgraduate education. 38% had a medical card, 8% a GP visit card, 26% private insurance only, and 10% insurance and a medical card.	<2 years: 23% 2-4 years: 30% 5-9 years: 46% 10-16 years: 52%	Included participants from all counties in Ireland	N/A
Poppe et al., 2021	'to describe the impact of the pandemic on the use of healthcare services by the pediatric population and to assess the perspective of parents regarding the consequences for their children's health and wellbeing.'	Parents were asked to consider the period between school closure and the day of completion, which remained open until just prior to kindergarten opening after the first lockdown	<20 years: <1% 20-29 years: 7% 30-39 years: 48% 40-49 years: 38% >50 years: 6%	75% of mothers and 59% of fathers had a Bachelor's degree or higher education	0-2 years: 27% 3-6 years: 30% 7-11 years: 25% 12-17 years: 18%		N/A

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

Sanderson et al., 2023	'to identify the motivations for use and value of the paediatric emergency virtual clinic by analysing common themes identified within the responses of patients and families who have used the service.'	Not described	Not reported	Not reported	'the full range of paediatric ages with a skew toward younger patients.'	Based in areas around South-western Ontario. Included urban and rural locations	N/A
Tan et al., 2023	'To provide insight into the help-seeking behaviour and care for a sick or injured child from the parental perspective during the COVID-19 pandemic in five European countries with different healthcare systems and changes in healthcare services due to the COVID-19 pandemic.'	Restrictions varied by country and during data collection periods within countries.	Not reported	Not reported	<1 year: 11% 1-2 years: 14% 2-5 years: 23% 5-12 years: 38% 12-16 years: 10% 16-18 years: 4%		N/A
Wagh et al., 2022	'to assess . . . during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic: Patterns of pediatric health care use by an urban PED patient population; factors that influenced caregivers' decision-	Just following the easing of the 'stay-at-home' lockdown period	<20 years: 6% 21-40 years: 70% 41-60 years: 24%	76% Hispanic or Latino. 62% above a high school education. 61% government insurance/Medicaid, 32% private insurance.	Not reported		N/A

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

	making to access health care for their children; caregivers' perceptions on ease of accessing medical care, and their inputs to overcome barriers and prepare for future health care emergencies.'					
Watson et al., 2021	'To establish care-seeking behaviours for children during the pandemic and any perceived or felt barriers to care for children.'	Not described	14 mothers, 1 father. 25-29 years: 27% 30-34 years: 27% 35-40 years: 33% 40-45 years: 0% ≥45 years: 13%	7 Asian, 1 Afro-Caribbean, 1 White British, 6 White other	0-1 month: 20% 1-3 months: 20% 3-12 months: 20% 1-5 years: 7% 5-10 years: 13% 10-16 years: 20%	The hospital had reached capacity for adult intensive care unit beds; this was reported in the media.	N/A

Note. IMD, indices of multiple deprivation; deciles 9-10 are least deprived, and 1-2 are most deprived. N/A, not applicable

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance
placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

BMJ Open

Table S7. Methodological quality appraisal of individual studies

Study	S1	S2	1.1.	1.2.	1.3.	1.4.	1.5.	4.1.	4.2.	4.3.	4.4.	4.5.	5.1.	5.2.	5.3.	5.4.	5.5.
Appleby et al., 2022	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	C	N	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Berry, 2022	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Breckons et al., 2023	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Davis et al., 2021	Y	Y						N	C	Y	N	Y					
Lim et al., 2020	Y	Y						N	C	Y	N	Y					
McCarthy et al., 2021	Y	Y						N	N	Y	N	Y					
Nicholson et al., 2020	Y	Y						N	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Poppe et al., 2021	Y	Y						N	C	N	N	Y					
Sanderson et al., 2023	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y										
Tan et al., 2023*	Y	Y						N	C	Y	N	Y					
Wagh et al., 2022	Y	Y						N	C	Y	N	Y					
Watson et al., 2021	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										

Note. Red numbers represent the pre-specified quality criteria for sensitivity analysis. Y, Yes; N, No; C, Can't tell.
* The results of Tan et al., 2021 and Neill et al., 2021 are also reported in this paper. The three papers were considered in relation to the MMAT criteria, and the results for the study overall are reported here and the MMAT under Tan et al., 2023 only.