

Implications for practice The evidence presented here highlights the benefits of nurse-led interventions for cancer-related symptoms identified a range of diverse interventions, that many of the components are, arguably, already delivered by cancer nurses in their daily practise. For instance, cancer nurses routinely provide education, psychological support, and lifestyle advice to people living with a cancer diagnosis. These skills are often the result of years of training and clinical experience. However, all of this relies on a well-trained cancer nursing workforce being available. To ensure improvements in cancer symptom management and enhance the quality of future symptom-focused interventions, cancer nurses need to be prepared appropriately and highly skilled in terms of undertaking assessment, patient education, behavioural and lifestyle management, as well as psychological support.

* Implications for further research confirmed that cancer nurse researchers should be recognized for addressing troublesome symptoms for people with cancer, but that they also need to address weaknesses in trial design and reporting. Interventions need to be more fully described, including study context (e.g., specialist hospital, home, or outpatient clinic) and personnel involved in delivery (e.g., level of nursing qualification, cancer training, expertise and time available), as well as other non-pharmacological interventions [9] will be particularly relevant for future nurse-led intervention studies.

Robust economic evaluations, will only be possible when sufficient details are provided that allow comparisons based on actual or estimated costs. Most of the evidence focusses on common cancers and on the treatment phase [16] which means that rarer cancers and other phases of the cancer trajectory remain open for further research for well-designed research to underpin symptom-focused interventions. The challenge for cancer nurses now is to secure funding to undertake large-scale, high quality, international trials. will be required to secure more findings that can be implemented in more than one health system. identified in this review –now recommend adopting a broader perspective, and moving beyond the question of ‘does the intervention work’ to deeper understanding of how it works and in what context? [71]

* Implications for policy Despite the advances outlined here into the effectiveness and development in nurse-led interventions, cancer nurses continue to lack sufficient recognition for the part they play in the design, development and delivery of interventions that may enhance patient experience, reduce cost, and improve outcomes for those living with cancer. The impetus for this project arose out of the European Oncology Nursing Society’s Recognising Cancer Nursing (RECaN) initiative. This had sought to advance recognition of the contribution that an educated and specialist nursing workforce make to enhancing the quality of cancer care (<https://www.cancernurse.eu/research/recan.html>). This study has revealed the contribution that nurse researchers made between 2000–2018 to address symptoms commonly experienced by people with cancer. As demand for cancer treatment grows, there will be a need for even more evidence-based interventions that improve the cancer experience, including innovations designed by nurses. This paper has provided a baseline position from which to consider how best to strengthen the quality of nurse-led intervention reporting, as well as illustrating the role that standardized cancer nursing outcome measures could play in helping to gauge the effectiveness of novel symptom management interventions. The benefit of nursing innovation has long been clear in improving cancer practise. The challenge now is to further improve the design and quality of novel interventions that will, in time, make

.further valuable contributions to improving the lives of those ex- perienicing cancer-related symptoms