

Supplementary Table S1 Full database search strategy**PubMed/MEDLINE search strategy (final search executed February 21, 2026)**

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(("Financial Toxicity"[Title/Abstract]
OR "financial toxicity"[Title/Abstract]
OR "financial burden"[Title/Abstract]
OR "financial distress"[Title/Abstract]
OR "economic hardship"[Title/Abstract]
OR "catastrophic health expenditure"[Title/Abstract]
OR "catastrophic expenditure"[Title/Abstract]
OR "out-of-pocket expenditure"[Title/Abstract]
OR "out-of-pocket costs"[Title/Abstract]
OR "distress financing"[Title/Abstract]
OR "medical impoverishment"[Title/Abstract]
OR "healthcare expenditure"[Title/Abstract])
AND
("Neoplasms"[Mesh]
OR cancer[Title/Abstract]
OR oncology[Title/Abstract]
OR neoplasm*[Title/Abstract]
OR malignan*[Title/Abstract]
OR tumor*[Title/Abstract]
OR tumor*[Title/Abstract]
OR carcinoma*[Title/Abstract]
OR leukemia[Title/Abstract]
OR lymphoma[Title/Abstract])
AND
("Developing Countries"[Mesh]
OR "low-income countr*[Title/Abstract]
OR "middle-income countr*[Title/Abstract]
OR LMIC[Title/Abstract]
OR LMICs[Title/Abstract]
OR "developing countr*[Title/Abstract]
OR "resource-limited setting*[Title/Abstract]
OR "resource-constrained setting*[Title/Abstract]
OR Africa[Title/Abstract]
OR Asia[Title/Abstract]
OR "Latin America"[Title/Abstract]
OR "Sub-Saharan Africa"[Title/Abstract]
OR "South Asia"[Title/Abstract]
OR "Southeast Asia"[Title/Abstract]))
AND
("2010/01/01"[Date - Publication]: "2026/02/21"[Date - Publication])
AND
(English*[Language])

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Adaptation to Other Databases

The core three-concept structure (financial toxicity/economic burden AND cancer/oncology AND LMIC/developing-country setting) was retained across all six databases. Database-specific controlled vocabulary was substituted as follows: Emtree subject headings were used in place of MeSH terms for the Embase search; CINAHL Headings were used for the CINAHL search;

Web of Science and PsycINFO searches used title/abstract/keyword fields with the same free-text term set, since these databases do not support MeSH-equivalent indexing for this topic area; Scopus searches used TITLE-ABS-KEY() field restriction with the equivalent Boolean structure. All database searches were limited to records published between 1 January 2010 and 21 February 2026, in the English language.

Gray Literature and Supplementary Searching

OpenGrey and World Health Organization institutional repositories were searched using the terms "financial toxicity," "catastrophic health expenditure," and "cancer" combined with region-specific terms (e.g., "low-income countries," named LMIC regions). Reference lists of all included studies and relevant review articles were manually screened for additional eligible records.