*Electronic Appendix A: Developing Definitions of “family” and “family-centered care”*

We identified previously published definitions of “family” and “family-centered care” from published guidelines and key documents on family-centered care. A search strategy and hand-search yielded 24 articles, books, and pamphlets offering definitions of “family”, “patient-centered care”, and/or “family-centered care”; (8, 11, 19, 55, 258-275) these definitions were abstracted by a sub-group composed of five panel members. Definitions were summarized in a single document (Electronic Tables 4 and 5, Supplemental Digital Content 2, http://links.lww.com/CCM/C241), circulated to the five sub-group members along with a panel leader (JRC), and discussed. Through an iterative process, proposed definitions were summarized, discussed, eliminated, and modified. The group decided to exclude “patient-centered care” as beyond the scope of the intended review and guidelines. Two potential definitions of “family” and three potential definitions of “family-centered care” were developed and, along with summaries of the discussion surrounding each proposed definition, presented to the entire advisory panel for further development and discussion (**Electronic Table 6**, Supplemental Digital Content 2, http://links.lww.com/CCM/C241).

Through an online survey, the entire guidelines writing group panel indicated their preferences for the proposed definitions and were given the opportunity to provide alternative definitions. The proposed definitions were also provided to a group of 7 former ICU patients and family members, including three adult survivors of critical illness and four family members of critically ill adults.

Incorporating alternative definitions and refining wording of the proposed definitions, the final definitions were selected and determined to be acceptable by greater than 70% of the expert panel. These final selected definitions for “family” and “family-centered care” were unanimously deemed appropriate and acceptable by the participating former ICU patients and family members. We define family as:

Family is defined by the patient or, in the case of minors or those without decision making capacity, by their surrogates. In this context, the family may be related or unrelated to the patient. They are individuals who provide support and with whom the patient has a significant relationship.

We define family-centered care as:

Family-centered care is an approach to health care that is respectful of and responsive to individual family's needs and values.

Electronic Appendix B: Standard GRADE methodology used

The Refworks® account of the master literature review was searched and citations relevant to each PICO question were loaded into a folder from which to conduct the evidence analysis. The evidence analysis worksheet was completed by each member of the dyad independently as a quality control measure. Using a structured PICO summary template, dyads compared their findings and produced a consensus assessment for each question and its relevant outcomes, an aggregate scoring of the strength of the evidence for that question and recommendations based upon the available evidence. Multiple outcomes could inform a recommendation, but their relative contribution to the GRADE assigned was weighed by their ranking in importance. Members were encouraged to be as explicit about judgments as possible.

*Electronic Appendix C. Search Strategies for systematic review*

All searches were narrowed to English language and from 1994 –

In **PubMed** on December 8, 2014:

((family-centered[Text Word] OR family-centred[Text Word] OR

"Family/psychology"[Mesh:noexp] OR Professional-Family[TW] OR ("Patient-

Centered Care"[Mesh] AND ("Family"[Mesh] OR Family[TW] OR spouse[TW] OR

significant-other[TW] OR parent[TW] OR child[TW] OR children[TW] OR

sibling[TW] OR friend[TW]))) AND ("Intensive Care"[Mesh] OR "Intensive Care,

Neonatal"[Mesh] OR "Intensive Care Units"[Mesh] OR "Critical Care

Nursing"[Mesh] OR "Critical Care"[Mesh] OR critical care[TW] OR intensive

care[TW] OR Burn Unit[TW] OR Coronary Care[TW] OR Respiratory Care[TW] OR

"ICU"[TW] OR "PICU"[TW] OR "NICU"[TW] NOT "Recovery Room"[Mesh])) AND

English[lang]

In **CINAHL** on December 16, 2014

( MH "Critical Care Family Needs Inventory" OR IN "Critical Care Family Needs Inventory" ) OR ( (family-centered OR family-centred OR developmental care OR "family presence" OR (Family AND Communication) OR MH "Visitors to Patients" OR MH "Family/PF" OR MH "Professional-Family Relations" OR MH "Family Attitudes" ) AND ("intensive care" OR "critical care") ) NOT PT Editorial