3626 citations from searches

3042 excluded:
1207 duplicate records
1250 not relevant to general topic area
585 not focused on volunteers or specialist end-of-life service, or not empirical research

567 considered relevant to broad topic area based on screening of abstracts

86 coded as using a qualitative design based on screening of abstracts

31 studies considered relevant to the present review topic area and full papers sought

19 excluded – failed exclusion criteria as follows:
#1 n=5 (Claxton-Oldfield 2010; Lindhorst1993; Omoto2000; Shunkwiler 2005; Wittenberg-Lyles201)
#2 n=2 (McKee2010; Simson1986)
#3 n=7 (Amery2009; Brown2011; Brown2011C; Dein2005; Levy1987*; Hiatt2007; Weeks2011)
#4 n=2 (Foster2002; Payne2002)
#8 n=1 (Sevigny2010B)
Other n=2 (Claxton-Oldfield2010A; Downe-Wamboldt1985)
*also failed criteria #4

12 met inclusion criteria