Summary of review findings	Studies contributing to the review findings	Methodological limitations	Coherence	Relevance	Adequacy of data	Overall CERQual assessment of confidence	Explanation of decision
1. Searching for the meaning of the loss:  Mothers searched for the meaning of the loss to make sense and have control over the chaos that the loss generates. Their sources were health providers, religion, superstitions, blame (husband/family, HCPs and themselves) and medical reasons.	Carolan and Wright (2016); Consonni and Petean (2013); Gopichandran et al. (2018); Maguire et al. (2015); Razeq and Al-Gamal (2018)	Moderate concerns regarding methodological limitations since reflexivity and cultural or theoretical position of the authors were unclear.	Very minor concerns regarding coherence (data very consistent within and across studies)	Minor concerns regarding relevance (studies do not represent all the cultural contexts)	Minor concerns regarding adequacy as the richness of data was generally good, but one study provided very little detail regarding the self- blaming of mothers.	Moderate confidence	Very minor concerns about coherence; minor concerns about relevance and adequacy; and moderate concerns about methodological limitations
2. Talking about the experience: When mothers talked about the experience with others they knew other cases of loss, established social connections and reduced social isolation. Especially with their social circle, talking was comforting and allowed reciprocal support. Participating in support groups produced ambivalent feelings.	Carolan and Wright (2016); Gopichandran et al. (2018); Maguire et al. (2015)	Moderate concerns regarding methodological limitations since reflexivity and cultural or theoretical position of the authors were unclear.	Minor concerns regarding coherence (data consistent within and across studies)	Moderate concerns regarding relevance (studies were setting in two countries and not focusing on neonatal death)	Serious concerns regarding adequacy as the data was thin and the quantity was limited	Low confidence	Minor concerns about coherence; moderate concerns about methodological limitations and relevance; and serious concerns about adequacy
3. Looking to the future: This strategy allowed mothers to search for positive aspects in their experiences, and to achieve closure or close stages in the grieving process.	Lafarge et al. (2013)	Minor concerns regarding methodological limitations due to a lack of clarity regarding the cultural or	Minor concerns regarding coherence (data are consistent)	Serious concerns regarding relevance (only one study was setting in	Serious concerns regarding adequacy as the quantity of data was limited, with only one study	Low confidence	Minor concerns about methodological limitations and coherence; and serious concerns about relevance

	Carolan and Wright	theoretical position of the authors and the philosophical perspective in the study design		one country and focusing on one type of loss)			and adequacy
4. Avoidance: Parents avoided contact with others and were distracted to protect themselves, not to worry about their social environment and to avoid the reaction of others.	(2016); Consonni and Petean (2013); Golan and Leichtentritt (2016); Gopichandran et al. (2018); Lafarge et al. (2013); Leichtentritt and Mahat-Shamir (2017); Leichtentritt and Weinberg-Kurnik (2016); Maguire et al. (2015); Nuzum et al. (2018); Pitt et al. (2016); Razeq and	Moderate concerns regarding methodological limitations since reflexivity and cultural or theoretical position of the authors were unclear.	Very minor concerns regarding coherence (data very consistent within and across studies)	Very minor concerns regarding relevance	Minor concerns about regarding adequacy: The studies contributing to this finding were rich and varied, but men were underrepresented	Moderate confidence	Very minor concerns about coherence and relevance; minor concerns about adequacy; and moderate concerns about methodological limitations
5. Connecting with the baby: Parents used tokens and symbolic acts to establish a bond with the baby and to legitimize the loss.	Al-Gamal (2018) Kofod & Brinkmann (2017); Lafarge et al. (2013); Leichtentritt and Mahat-Shamir (2017); McGuinness (2015); Meaney et al. (2017); Nuzum et al. (2018); Pitt et al. (2016)	Moderate concerns regarding methodological limitations since reflexivity of the authors were unclear	Minor concerns regarding coherence (data consistent within and across studies)	Minor concerns regarding relevance (studies do not represent all the cultural contexts)	Minor concerns about regarding adequacy: The studies contributing to this finding were rich and varied, but men were underrepresented	Moderate confidence	Minor concerns about coherence, relevance and adequacy; and moderate concerns about methodological limitations

<sup>\*</sup>Definitions of levels of confidence from the CERQual evaluation (Lewin et al., 2015):

- **High confidence**: It is highly likely that the review finding is a reasonable representation of the phenomenon of interest.
- **Moderate confidence**: It is likely that the review finding is a reasonable representation of the phenomenon of interest.
- Low confidence: It is possible that the review finding is a reasonable representation of the phenomenon of interest.

very low confidence: It is no	ot clear whether the review fin	nding is a reasonable repi	resentation of the phenom	enon of interest.	