SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

The search filter used by SIGN to retrieve systematic reviews is an adaptation of the systematic reviews filter designed by the Health Information Research Unit of the McMaster University, Ontario. The systematic reviews filter emphasises specificity rather than sensitivity.

Medline

1. Meta-Analysis as Topic/

2. meta analy$.tw.

3. metaanaly$.tw.

4. Meta-Analysis/

5. (systematic adj (review$1 or overview$1)).tw.

6. exp Review Literature as Topic/

7. or/1-6

8. cochrane.ab.

9. embase.ab.

10. (psychlit or psyclit).ab.

11. (psychinfo or psycinfo).ab.

12. (cinahl or cinhal).ab.

13. science citation index.ab.

14. bids.ab.

15. cancerlit.ab.

16. or/8-15

17. reference list$.ab.

18. bibliograph$.ab.

19. hand-search$.ab.

20. relevant journals.ab.

21. manual search$.ab.

22. or/17-21

23. selection criteria.ab.

24. data extraction.ab.

25. 23 or 24

26. Review/

27. 25 and 26

28. Comment/

29. Letter/

30. Editorial/

31. animal/

32. human/

33. 31 not (31 and 32)

34. or/28-30,33

35. 7 or 16 or 22 or 27

36. 35 not 34

Embase

1. exp Meta Analysis/

2. ((meta adj analy$) or metaanalys$).tw.

3. (systematic adj (review$1 or overview$1)).tw.

4. or/1-3

5. cancerlit.ab.

6. cochrane.ab.

7. embase.ab.

8. (psychlit or psyclit).ab.

9. (psychinfo or psycinfo).ab.

10. (cinahl or cinhal).ab.

11. science citation index.ab.

12. bids.ab.

13. or/5-12

14. reference lists.ab.

15. bibliograph$.ab.

16. hand-search$.ab.

17. manual search$.ab.

18. relevant journals.ab.

19. or/14-18

20. data extraction.ab.

21. selection criteria.ab.

22. 20 or 21

23. review.pt.

24. 22 and 23

25. letter.pt.

26. editorial.pt.

27. animal/

28. human/

29. 27 not (27 and 28)

30. or/25-26,29

31. 4 or 13 or 19 or 24

32. 31 not 30

CINAHL

1 Meta analysis/

2 Meta analys$.tw.

3 Metaanaly$.tw.

4 exp Literature review/

5 (systematic adj (review or overview)).tw.

6 Or/1-5

7 Commentary.pt.

8 Letter.pt.

9 Editorial.pt.

10 Animals/

11 Or/7-10

12 6 not 11