

Appendix A. Database specific search strategies

MEDLINE via Ovid

1. randomized controlled trial.pt.
 2. controlled clinical trial.pt.
 3. comparative study.pt.
 4. clinical trial.pt.
 5. pragmatic clinical trial.pt.
 6. randomized.ab.
 7. placebo.ab,ti.
 8. drug therapy.fs.
 9. randomly.ab,ti.
 10. trial.ab,ti.
 11. groups.ab,ti.
 12. or/1-11
 13. (animals not (humans and animals)).sh.
 14. 12 not 13
 15. dorsalgia.ti,ab.
 16. backache.ti,ab.
 17. (lumbar adj pain).ti,ab.
 18. coccyx.ti,ab.
 19. coccydynia.ti,ab.
 20. sciatica.ti,ab.
 21. spondylosis.ti,ab.
 22. lumbago.ti,ab.
 23. back disorder\$.ti,ab.
 24. Low Back Pain/
 25. Back Pain/
 26. sciatic neuropathy/
 27. or/15-26
 28. prevent\$.mp.
 29. prophylactic.mp.
 30. recur\$.mp.
 31. relapse.mp.
 32. reappearance\$.mp.
 33. reoccurrence\$.mp.
 34. return.mp.
 35. exp recurrence/
 36. exp relapse/
 37. primary prevention/
 38. secondary prevention/
 39. or/28-38
 40. 14 AND 27 AND 39
-

Embase via Ovid

1. randomized controlled trial.mp.
 2. controlled clinical trial.mp.
 3. comparative study.mp.
 4. clinical trial.mp.
 5. pragmatic clinical trial.mp.
 6. randomized.ab.
 7. placebo.ab.ti.
 8. drug therapy.fs.
 9. randomly.ab.ti.
 10. trial.ab.ti.
 11. groups.ab.ti.
 12. or/1-11
 13. (animals not (humans and animals)).sh.
 14. 12 not 13
 15. dorsalgia.ti.ab.
 16. backache.ti.ab.
 17. (lumbar adj pain).ti.ab.
 18. coccyx.ti.ab.
 19. coccydynia.ti.ab.
 20. sciatica.ti.ab.
 21. spondylosis.ti.ab.
 22. lumbago.ti.ab.
 23. back disorder\$.ti.ab.
 24. Low Back Pain/
 25. Back Pain/
 26. sciatic neuropathy/
 27. or/15-26
 28. prevent\$.mp.
 29. prophylactic.mp.
 30. recur\$.mp.
 31. relapse.mp.
 32. reappearance\$.mp.
 33. reoccurrence\$.mp.
 34. return.mp.
 35. exp recurrence/
 36. exp relapse/
 37. primary prevention/
 38. secondary prevention/
 39. or/28-38
 40. 14 AND 27 AND 39
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CINAHL via EBSCO

S1. "back pain"
 S2. "back strain"
 S3. "low back pain"
 S4. "low back syndrome"
 S5. "low back dysfunction"
 S6. "low back disorder"
 S7. "dorsalgia"
 S8. "backache"
 S9. "radiculopathy"
 S10. "lumbago"
 S11. "sciatica"
 S12. "coccyx"
 S13. "coccydynia"
 S14. (MH "Low Back Pain")
 S15. (MH "Back Pain")
 S16. (MH "Sciatica")
 S17. (MH "Coccyx")
 S18. (MH "Lumbar Vertebrae")
 S19. (MH "Spondylolisthesis")
 S20. (MH "Spondylolysis")
 S21. (MH "Radiculopathy")
 S22. S1 OR S2 OR S3 OR S4 OR S5 OR S6 OR S7 OR S8 OR S9 OR S10 OR S11 OR S12
 OR S13 OR S14 OR S15 OR S16 OR S17 OR S18 OR S19 OR S20 OR S21
 S23. (MH "Clinical Trials+")
 S24. "randomized controlled trial"
 S25. "clinical W3 trial"
 S26. "single-blind"
 S27. "double-blind"
 S28. "triple-blind"
 S29. S23 OR S24 OR S25 OR S26 OR S27 OR S28
 S30. (MH "Placebo Effect")
 S31. (MH "Placebos")
 S32. "placebo*"
 S33. "random*"
 S34. S30 OR S31 OR S32 OR S33
 S35. (MH "Random Sample+")
 S36. (MH "Comparative Studies")
 S37. (MH "Evaluation Research+")
 S38. (MH "Prospective Studies+")
 S39. S35 OR S36 OR S37 OR S38
 S40. "follow-up stud*"
 S41. "followup stud*"
 S42. "control"
 S43. "prospectiv*"
 S44. "volunteer*"
 S45. S40 OR S41 OR S42 OR S43 OR S44
 S46. S29 OR S34 OR S39 OR S45
 S47. (MH "Animals")
 S48. S46 not S47
 S49. "prevent*"
 S50. "prophyla*"
 S51. "recur*"
 S52. "relaps*"
 S53. "reappearance*"
 S54. "reoccur*"
 S55. "return*"
 S56. (MH "Preventive trials")
 S57. (MH "Recurrence")
 S58. S49 OR S50 OR S51 OR S52 OR S53 OR S54 OR S55 OR S56 OR S57
 S59. S22 AND S48 AND S58

Physiotherapy Evidence Database (PEDro)

- #1. prevent* in <Abstract & Title> field
 - #2. pain in <Problem> field
 - #3. "lumbar spine, sacro-iliac joint or pelvis" in <Body Part> field
 - #4. musculoskeletal in <Subdiscipline> field
 - #5. clinical trial in <Method> field
 - #6. Match all search terms (AND) in <When Searching> field
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The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) via Cochrane Library

- #1. low back pain
 - #2. backache
 - #3. back strain
 - #4. back injur*
 - #5. low back syndrome
 - #6. low back dysfunction
 - #7. low back disorder
 - #8. back pain
 - #9. lumbar pain
 - #10. lumbago
 - #11. sciatica
 - #12. MeSH descriptor: [Low Back Pain] explode all trees
 - #13. MeSH descriptor: [Back Pain] explode all trees
 - #14. MeSH descriptor: [Lumbar Vertebrae] explode all trees
 - #15. MeSH descriptor: [Sciatica] explode all trees
 - #16. MeSH descriptor: [Sciatic Nerve] explode all trees
 - #17. MeSH descriptor: [Radiculopathy] explode all trees
 - #18. {or #1- #17}
 - #19. Randomized controlled trial
 - #20. controlled clinical trial
 - #21. clinical trial
 - #22. random*
 - #23. placebo*
 - #24. Trial
 - #25. MeSH descriptor: [Comparative Study] explode all trees
 - #26. MeSH descriptor: [Placebos] explode all trees
 - #27. MeSH descriptor: [Random Allocation] explode all trees
 - #28. MeSH descriptor: [Single-Blind Method] explode all trees
 - #29. MeSH descriptor: [Double-Blind Method] explode all trees
 - #30. MeSH descriptor: [Evaluation Studies as Topic] explode all trees
 - #31. MeSH descriptor: [Controlled Clinical Trials as Topic] explode all trees
 - #32. MeSH descriptor: [Clinical Trials as Topic] explode all trees
 - #33. MeSH descriptor: [Follow-Up Studies] explode all trees
 - #34. {or #19- #33}
 - #35. animal*
 - #36. #34 not #35
 - #37. MeSH descriptor: [Primary Prevention] explode all trees
 - #38. MeSH descriptor: [Secondary Prevention] explode all trees
 - #39. MeSH descriptor: [Recurrence] explode all trees
 - #40. prevent*
 - #41. prophyla*
 - #42. recur*
 - #43. relaps*
 - #44. reappearance*
 - #45. reoccur*
 - #46. return*
 - #47. {or #37 - #46}
 - #48. #18 and #36 and #47
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