Medline and Cochrane Library: Search for “Beta-blocker AND heart failure AND sudden death” (n = 441)

Additional records identified through other sources (n = 23)

Records after duplicates removed (n = 383)

Records screened (n = 441)

Records excluded (n = 360)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n = 81)

Full-text articles excluded (n = 51):
- No placebo or control (n=9)
- Publication of same study (n=16)
- Outcome of no interest (n=15)
  - Absence of beta blocker arm (n=10)
  - Use of beta blocker in both the arms (n=1)

Studies included in qualitative synthesis (n = 30)

Studies included in quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis) (n =30)