Search in bibliographic databases in May 2005
MEDLINE (N=1138)
EMBASE (N=942)
CINAHL (N=129)
The Cochrane Library (N=303)
Total citations: N=2512

Inclusion: Citations provided in 29 expert statements to the German Federal Joint Committee N=851

Inclusion: Additional citations from congress reports, study registries, systematic reviews, manufacturers, and authors N=20

Inclusion: Citations retrieved from bibliographic databases in the search update (December 2006) N=251

Exclusion: Duplicates N=959

Exclusion: Not relevant N=2323

Exclusion: No RCT N=279

Exclusion: Systematic reviews N=10

Citations including duplicates N=3634

Citations excluding duplicates: N=2675

Potentially relevant citations N=317

RCTs N=28
(including conference abstracts and unpublished study information)

RCTs N=12 (11 full-text publications)