Potentially relevant studies identified through database searching n=224

Duplicates removed n=72

Potentially relevant titles and abstracts were screened n =152

Irrelevant titles or abstracts n=83

Potentially relevant fulltexts were retrieved n=69

Review articles n=18
In vitro studies n=6
Patients with carcinoma other than the stomach were included n=13
Platinum/5-Fu were not included in the chemotherapeutic regimens n=7
Repetitive publication n=5

Studies included in meta-analysis n=20