Records identified through database searching (n = 429)

Additional records identified through reference (n = 0)

Records after duplicates removed (n = 311)

Records screened (n = 45)

Records excluded (n = 266)

Full-text articles excluded, with reasons (n = 28)
- Insufficient genotype data (n=8)
- Abstracts (n=2)
- Comments (n=1)
- Reviews (n=16)
- Sepsis mortality (n=1)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n = 17)

Studies included in qualitative synthesis (n = 18)

Studies included in quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis)*
- IL-1A-889 polymorphism (n=2)
- IL-1B-511 polymorphism (n=7)
- IL-1B-31 polymorphism (n=4)
- IL-1B+3594 polymorphism (n=6)
- IL-1RN VNTR polymorphism (n=10)