1881 records identified in database and via hand searching

1668 records excluded on the basis of title and abstract

213 full-text articles retrieved and accessed for inclusion

147 records excluded
- 27 records unrelated to the study
- 48 review or meta-analysis
- 67 case-control studies
- 5 ecological studies

66 prospective cohort or nested case-control studies included for further assessment

28 prospective studies excluded
- 8 duplicated studies
- 10 studies reported only two levels of tea consumption
- 2 studies reported tea consumption and cancer mortality
- 2 studies reported tea consumption and all cancer risk
- 3 studies did not report the confidence interval of RR
- 3 studies reported unclear tea consumption level

38 prospective cohort studies, 2 case-cohort studies and 1 nested case-control study included in the meta-analysis (4 studies reported more than one cancer)
- 4 studies about tea consumption and liver cancer
- 15 studies about tea consumption and colorectal cancer
- 15 studies about tea consumption and breast cancer
- 5 studies about tea consumption and stomach cancer
- 7 studies about tea consumption and prostate cancer