687 of records identified through database searching

363 records after duplicates removed

- 98 records excluded due to meeting exclusion criteria on basis of title

265 records retained

- 95 articles excluded due to meeting exclusion criteria on basis of abstract

170 full-text articles assessed for eligibility

- 119 additional articles excluded due to meeting at least one exclusion criteria of this review

51 RCTs retained for further detailed analysis

- RCTs excluded:
  - GLP-1 agonists used as monotherapy (7)
  - <8 weeks duration (5)
  - doses used not clinically relevant (4)
  - patients naïve to treatment (3)
  - less than two thirds of patients first failed on metformin (2)
  - patients not randomised (2)

28 studies included in systematic review