Figure 1 - Study selection process

Studies identified (n = 6537)

- MEDLINE: 2016
- Embase: 3351
- Cochrane Library: 188
- CINAHL: 248
- King’s Fund Db.: 327
- IDEAS Db.: 249
- EconLit: 158

Potentially relevant studies screened for retrieval (n = 6060)

Studies excluded based on title (n = 3603)

Studies retrieved for more detailed information (n = 2457)

Studies excluded based on abstract (n = 1985)

- Studies focussed on:
  - (a) Low income countries: 27
  - (b) Personal opinions: 80
  - (c) Small scale studies: 113
  - (d) Other topics than PC system features: 587
  - (e) PC excl. PC structures, organization or performance: 1178

Potentially appropriate studies to be included in the review (n = 472)

Studies excluded based on full text (n = 389)

- Studies focussed on:
  - (b) 44
  - (c) 70
  - (d) 108
  - (e) 167

Studies ultimately included in the review, incl. 2 expert panel additions (n = 85)