Figure 2: Searching and screening output

Full search
Electronic searches n=436
Expert recommended grey literature n=3

Potentially relevant literature retrieved n=439

Excluded at title screen?

Yes

Excluded at abstract screen?

No

n=369

Excluded at title screen?

Yes

Excluded at abstract screen?

No

n=104

Excluded at full-text screen?

Yes

Excluded at full-text screen?

No

n=96

Title screen: possible focus on included instruments & measuring change
Reasons for exclusion:
- Removing duplicates n=67
- Foreign language studies n=9

Abstract screen: focus on included instruments & measuring change
Reasons for exclusion:
- No longitudinal data or change measure using specified instruments n=88
- Focus is not on using instruments but assessing if we should use them at all n=11
- Focus is not on included instruments, these must be used as a study outcome n=75
- Combination of the above n=75

Full-text screen: describes analysis of change using included instruments
Reasons for exclusion:
- No change measure or description of change using specified instruments n=5
- Focus is not on included instruments, these must be used as a study outcome n=3 (used only the EuroQol VAS, not the EQ-5D)