Records identified through database Pubmed (83), Web of science(0), Embase(15), Cochrane library(12), EPPI Centre (5)

Records identified through Chinese database CNKI (n=1474), VIP (n=293), WanFang (n=345) and CBM(332)

Additional records identified through other sources (CDC website, newspapers) (n = 4)

English records screened after duplicates removed. (n=115)

Chinese records screened after duplicates removed. (n=1067)

Total Records screened after duplicates were removed (n=1222)

Records excluded based on screening title and abstract (n=1068)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n =154)

Articles excluded for one of the following reasons (n= 108)
- Review or article only reference outbreak, no further details given (n=59)
- Outbreak reported before 1990 (n=9)
- Outbreak does not fulfil definition (n=29)
- Insufficient information provided (n=9)
- Outbreak outside mainland of China (n=2)

Articles finally included in the review (n=46)

English article (n=3)
Chinese article with English abstract (n=13)
Chinese article without English abstract (n=30)