Titles and abstracts from electronic (MEDLINE, EMBASE, Cochrane and PsychInfo, to Nov 2008): n=2205

Records after duplicates removed: n=1554

Additional records identified through other sources (bibliographic searches): n=42

Records excluded; n=1453

Titles and abstracts screened; n=1554

Full papers and conference abstracts assessed for inclusion: 101

Full papers and conference abstracts included in qualitative synthesis: 22
  Individual studies included: 14
  Arms included: 23

Studies included in meta-analyses: 9
  Arms included in meta-analyses: 14

Papers excluded as not RCT, participants not humans aged 6+, intervention not iron vs. placebo, or objective measure of cognitive performance not assessed: 78