Broad database searches for primary prevention intervention trials in cardiovascular disease were conducted in MEDLINE, EMBASE, AMED and CENTRAL, and yielded 12,459 titles and abstracts. 11,701 deemed not relevant or clearly not fulfilling the inclusion criteria. 733 deemed not relevant (for drug-drug comparisons of antihypertensive medication) or in other ways not fulfilling the inclusion criteria. 758 full text articles assessed. 25 studies included in this review.