RCTs that had published results in HTA journal series by May 2008 (n= 74 in 63 monographs)

RCTs excluded (n = 13)
- Equivalence trial (n=10)
- Non-inferiority trial (n=3)

RCTs with superiority design framework published in HTA journal series by May 2008 (n= 61)

RCTs excluded (n = 10)
- Primary outcome results did not include a confidence interval (n=5)
- No clear or relevant results on primary outcome reported (n=3)
- Primary outcome in sample size calculation didn’t match results (n = 1)
- Wasn’t possible to identify control treatment as both commonly used (n=1)

RCTs included (n = 51)

No. of primary comparisons from the 51 RCTs (n=92)

Primary comparisons excluded (n = 7)
- Wasn’t possible to identify control treatment as both treatments in the comparison were new (n=7)

No. of primary comparisons included from these 51 RCTs (n=85)