Figure 1: Results of the systematic search strategy and study selection process

4529 papers
Relevant studies identified electronically through systematic search of databases

4285 papers rejected
Excluded based on screening of title/abstract as not a systematic review of interventions for HF

244 papers
Screened for detailed evaluation

124 papers rejected
Excluded after reviewing of abstract/study as:
- not a disease management program for HF
- HF not extractable
- not a systematic review
- single modality intervention

120 papers
Manually reviewed (full papers) against inclusion criteria

105 papers rejected
Excluded after detailed reviewing of study as:
- not English
- not published between 1995-2008
- duplicate study
- not a meta-analysis

15 papers
Studies included for detailed review