Identification

Pubmed (n = 238) → Embase (n = 223) → Cochrane (n = 9)

Records after duplicates removed (n = 313)

Screening

Records screened (n = 313) → Records excluded (n = 295)

Eligibility

Full-text records assessed for eligibility (n = 18) → Excluded: no/different outcome of interest (n = 4)

Eligibility

Records with at least one conservative treatment arm (n = 15) → No specification of the type of conservative treatment used (n = 4); Conservative vs surgery (n = 12); comparison with tape (n = 1); use of only one conservative treatment method (n = 1)

Included

Studies included (n = 1)