Potentially relevant citations identified through database searching (n=287)
- Medline (n=167)
- Embase (n=118)
- DARE (n=1)
- MEDION (n=1)

Duplicates (n=84) removed

Records screened (n=203)

Records excluded on the basis of title and abstract (n=174)
- Other pathology than HIE (n=36)
- Not about brain MRS (n=14)
- Phosphorus MRS (n=9)
- Review, editorial or letter (n=73)
- No outcome data (n=25)
- Animal study (n=16)
- Other reason (n=1)

Additional studies identified from citation lists (n=3)

Full text articles/abstracts assessed for eligibility (n=29)

Full text articles/abstracts excluded since:
- Other age group (n=1)
- Insufficient follow-up (n=1)
- Chinese paper (n=1)

Studies included in qualitative analysis (n=29)

Studies included in quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis) (n=29)