Appendix 2. PRISMA DIAGRAM

Flow Diagram: Study Selection Process

Records identified through searching of the following databases:
- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) MEDLINE
- EMBASE
- ISI Web of Science: Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-EXPANDED) and Conference Proceedings Citation Index – Science (CPCI-S)
- PubMed
- Zetoc

N = 4429

Records after duplicates have been removed
N = 2496

Stage 1 Sift: Records assessed for suitability based upon title. Records split between four authors for analysis.
N = 1538

Records discarded because they are not related to the use of therapeutic hypothermia as a medical intervention or to the general management of traumatic brain injury.
N = 958

Stage 2 Sift: Retrieval of abstracts. Records assessed for inclusion criteria based upon abstracts. Records split between 6 authors for analysis.
N = 112

Records excluded because abstracts do not match inclusion criteria.
N = 1404

Stage 3 Sift: Retrieval of full text and assessment of inclusion and exclusion criteria. Studies included in quantitative and qualitative analysis
N = 20

Papers could not be located at the Sift 2 stage but most excluded due to title and/or abstract.
N = 22

Records excluded because full text does not match inclusion or exclusion criteria.
N = 92