Search Process (up to December, 2014)

1. Databases, results and search strategies

PubMed: 60 studies

Search strategies: (circulating tumor cells OR micrometastasis OR disseminated tumor cells OR isolated tumor cells OR occult tumor cells) AND CellSearch AND (colorectal cancer OR rectal cancer OR colon cancer)

Embase: 106 studies


Web of Science: 110 studies

Search strategies: (TS=circulating tumor cells OR TS=micrometastasis OR TS=disseminated tumor cells OR TS=isolated tumor cells OR TS=occult tumor cells) AND TS=CellSearch AND (TS=colorectal cancer OR TS=rectal cancer OR TS=colon cancer)

Cochrane Library: 3 studies

Search strategies: (circulating tumor cells OR micrometastasis OR disseminated tumor cells OR isolated tumor cells OR occult tumor cells) AND CellSearch AND (colorectal cancer OR rectal cancer OR colon cancer)

Manual search for reference lists: 13 studies
2. Excluded Studies by screening title and abstract

*(1): 40 studies with other cancer:*


9. Sclafani F, Smyth E, Cunningham D, Chau I, Turner A, Watkins D: A pilot study assessing the incidence and clinical significance of circulating tumor...


(2): 71 studies not relevant

1. Zhou L, Yang Z, Baker M, Dicker DT, El-Deiry WS: **Multispectral imaging of mismatch repair proteins in colorectal cancers and tumor cells isolated from blood.** In., vol. 72, 8 SUPPL. 1 edn: American Association for Cancer


23. Melnikova VO, Liu W, Zhang Y, Hong DS, Davis DW: Development of a new, highly sensitive assay for circulating tumor cell (CTC) detection


Lowes LE, Hedley BD, Keeney M, Allan AL: Adaptation of semiautomated circulating tumor cell (CTC) assays for clinical and preclinical research applications. Journal of visualized experiments : JoVE 2014(84):e51248.


Le Rhun E, Tu Q, Bittencourt MDC, Farre I, Mortier L, Cai H, Kohler C, Faure GC: Detection and quantification of CSF malignant cells by the CellSearch (R) technology in patients with melanoma leptomeningeal metastasis. Medical Oncology 2013, 30(2).


57. Friedlander TW, Premasekharan G, Paris PL: Looking back, to the future of


3. Excluded Studies by full-text

(1): 51 not relevant or no sufficient data


genotypic changes of circulating tumor cells during treatment of patients with metastatic colorectal cancer. In., vol. 9, 8 edn; 2014.


24. Zampino MG, Magni E, Ravenda SP, Botteri E, Bertani E, Chiappa A, Valvo


33. Chiappa A, Bertani E, Contino G, Ucelli F, Spampatti S, Zampino MG,


48. Coumans FAW, Ligthart ST, Terstappen LWMM: All patients with metastatic breast, colorectal and prostate carcinoma have circulating tumor cells. *Cancer research* 2012, 72(8).


(2): 5 duplicated studies


2. Iwatsuki M, Toyoshima K, Watanabe M, Hayashi N, Ishimoto T, Eto K,


**3:** 8 review or letter


4. Included Studies

11 studies included in meta-analysis


