

Web appendix: Supplementary material

Web table 1: Search strategy

		Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews/ DARE	Medline	EMBASE
NMA	1	"network meta-analysis" OR "network meta-regression" OR "multiple treatment meta-analysis" OR "multiple treatments meta-analysis" OR "mixed treatment comparison" OR "mixed treatment comparisons"	"network meta-analysis" OR "network meta-regression" OR "multiple treatment meta-analysis OR "multiple treatments meta-analysis" OR "mixed treatment comparison" OR "mixed treatment comparisons"	"network meta-analysis" OR "network meta-regression" OR "multiple treatment meta-analysis OR "multiple treatments meta-analysis" OR "mixed treatment comparison" OR "mixed treatment comparisons"
	2	MTC AND meta-analysis	MTC AND meta-analysis	(mtc AND 'meta analysis'/exp)
	3	#1 or #2	#1 or #2	#1 or #2
	4	meta-analysis	meta-analysis[sb]	'meta analysis'/exp
	5	"systematic review"	systematic [sb]	'Systematic review '/exp
	6	#4or #5	#4or #5	#4or #5
	7	"mixed treatment" OR "multiple treatment" OR "multiple treatments" OR "treatment networks" OR "multiple comparison"	"mixed treatment" OR "multiple treatment" OR "multiple treatments" OR "treatment networks" OR "multiple comparison"	"mixed treatment" OR "multiple treatment" OR "multiple treatments" OR "treatment networks" OR "multiple comparison"
	8	#6 and #7	#6 and #7	#6 and #7
	9	8 or 3	8 or 3	8 or 3
OVERVIEW OF REVIEWS	10	"overview of reviews" OR "umbrella review" OR "overview of systematic reviews" OR "overview of meta-analyses" OR "multiple systematic reviews" OR "multiple meta-analyses" OR "overview of Cochrane reviews" OR "multiple Cochrane reviews" OR "overview of Cochrane"	(overview AND reviews) OR (umbrella AND review) OR (overview AND "systematic reviews") OR (overview AND meta-analyses) OR "multiple systematic reviews" OR "multiple meta-analyses" OR (overview AND "Cochrane reviews") OR (multiple AND Cochrane AND reviews) OR (overview AND Cochrane)	"overview of reviews" OR "umbrella review" OR "overview of systematic reviews" OR "overview of meta-analyses" OR "multiple systematic reviews" OR "multiple meta-analyses" OR "overview of Cochrane reviews" OR "multiple Cochrane reviews" OR "overview of Cochrane"
	11	"treatment networks" OR "network meta-analysis" OR	"treatment networks" OR network meta-analysis" OR	"treatment networks" OR network meta-analysis" OR

		"mixed treatment " OR "multiple treatments" OR "multiple treatment" OR "multiple comparisons" OR "multiple comparison" OR "indirect comparison"	"mixed treatment " OR "multiple treatments" OR "multiple treatment" OR "multiple comparisons" OR "multiple comparison" OR "indirect comparison"	"mixed treatment " OR "multiple treatments" OR "multiple treatment" OR "multiple comparisons" OR "multiple comparison" OR "indirect comparison"
	12	#11and #10	#11and #10	#11and #10
EQUATION OF SEARCH		12 or 9	12 or 9	12 or 9

Web table 2: Main characteristics of network meta-analyses (NMAs)

Author	Clinical indications	Intervention and comparator	Type of controlled study used	Outcomes assessed	Number of studies included	Number of patients randomised
Psatsy 2003 ¹	Hypertension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEis) - Angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs) - Calcium-channel blockers - β blockers - Low-Dose-Diuretics - A-blockers - Placebo 	Active and placebo-controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All-cause of mortality - Cardiovascular disease mortality - Coronary heart disease - Stroke - Congestive heart failure - Major cardiovascular events 	42	192478
Cooper 2006 ²	Atrial fibrillation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aspirin - Different doses of warfarin sodium - Fixed dose of combinations of aspirin and Warfarin sodium - Indobufen - Ximelagatran - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ischemic stroke prevention - Major or fatal bleeding episodes 	20	17833
Jansen 2006 ³	Type 2 diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Self-monitoring of urine glucose - Self-monitoring of blood glucose - No Self-monitoring - Self-monitoring of blood glucose and feedback 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glycated haemoglobin 	13	2160
Kyrgiou 2006 ⁴	Ovarian cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Induction regimen: combinations of agent with or not taxane and platinum agent 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Death (survival) 	60	15609
Elliot 2007 ⁵	Hypertension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACEis - ARBs - Calcium-channel blockers - β blockers - Thiazide diuretic - Placebo 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incidence of diabetes 	22	143153
Golfinopoulos 2007 ⁶	Colorectal cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monotherapy or different chemotherapy regimens: fluorouracil, leucovorin, irinotecan, 	Active controlled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Death (survival) - Disease progression 	40	15802

		oxaliplatin, bevacizumab	study			
Lam 2007 ⁷	Left ventricular systolic dysfunction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cardiac resynchronisation therapy - Implantable cardioverter defibrillator therapy - Combination of cardiac resynchronisation therapy and implantable cardioverter defibrillator therapy - Medical therapy 	Active controlled study	- All-cause of mortality	12	8307
Nixon 2007 ⁸	Rheumatoid arthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anakinra - Etanercept - Infliximab - Adalimumab - Tumor necrosis factor α (TNF) antagonist - Combination therapy these intervention plus methotrexate (MTX) 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACR 20 response - ACR50 response 	13	Not reported
Tudur Smith 2007 ⁹	Epilepsy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carbamazepine - Sodium valproate - Phenytoin - Phenobarbitone - Lamotrigine - Oxcarbazepine - Gabapentine - Topirimate 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time to treatment failure due inadequate seizure control - Intolerable adverse effects - Time to first seizure after randomisation 	20	6831
Stettler 2007 ¹⁰	Coronary artery disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paclitaxel eluting stent - Sirolimus eluting stent - Bare metal stent 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All-cause of mortality - Cardiac death - Myocardial infarction - Composite of death or myocardial infection - Stent thrombosis - Target lesion revascularisation 	38	18023
Coleman 2008 ¹¹	Hypertension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACEis - ARBs - Calcium-channel blockers - β blockers - Diuretics - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	- Incidence of cancer	28	136821
Hansen 2008 ¹²	Social anxiety	- Second-generation antidepressants	Placebo	- The clinical global impression	15	6506

	disorder	- Placebo	controlled study	of improvement scale		
Mauri 2008 ¹³	Breast cancer	- Anthracycline - Anthracenediones - Non-taxane novel chemotherapy agents - Taxanes - Marimastat - Thalidomide - Trastuzumab - Lapatinib - Bevacizumab - Mitoxantrone	Active controlled study	- Death (survival)	172	31552
Mills 2008 ¹⁴	Coronary artery disease	- Statins (atorvastatin, fluvastatin, pravastatin, lovastatin) - Placebo	Placebo controlled study	- All-cause mortality - Cardiovascular death	20	63899
Stettler 2008 ¹⁵	Coronary artery disease	- Paclitaxel eluting stent - Sirolimus eluting stent - Bare metal stent	Active controlled study	- All-cause of mortality - Cardiac death - Myocardial infarction - Composite of death or myocardial infection - Stent thrombosis - Target lesion revascularisation	35	14799
Thijs 2008 ¹⁶	Stroke or ischaemic attack	- Aspirin - Thienopyridines - Combination of thienopyridines and aspirin - Combination of dipyridamole and aspirin - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- Serious vascular events: myocardial infarction vascular death	24	42688
Bansback 2009 ¹⁷	Psoriasis	- Etanercept - Efalizumab - Infliximab - Methotrexate - Cyclosporine - Adalimumab - Alefacept - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- Psoriasis Area and Severity index (PASI)	22	9704
Baker 2009 ¹⁸	Chronic obstructive pulmonary	- Long-acting β^2 agonist (LABA) - Inhaled corticosteroids - Tiotropium	Active and placebo controlled	- All-cause of mortality - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease exacerbations	43	31020

	disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LABA and Inhaled corticosteroids - Placebo 	study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of patients withdrawing 		
Cipriani 2009 ¹⁹	Women with post-partum depression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12 new-generation antidepressants (sertraline, reboxetine, mirtazapine, fluvoxamine, citalopram, venlafaxine, fluoxetine, bupropion, escitalopram, duloxetine, paroxetine, milnacipran) 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of patients who had reduction of at least 50% from Hamilton depression rating scale or Montgomery-Asberg depression rating scale or the clinical global impression at 8 weeks - Acceptability defined as dropout rate at 8 weeks 	117	25928
Edwards 2009 ²⁰	Severe erosive oesophagitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Omeprazole - Lansoprazole - Esomeprazole - Pantoprazole 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Healing rates at 4 or 8 weeks 	12	5181
Edwards 2009 ²¹	Schizophrenia or bipolar disorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quetiapine - Olanzapine - Risperidone - Ziprasidone - Aripiprazole 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anxiety or depression - Tiredness or weakness - Weight gain - Stiffness or tremor - Bodily anxiety or restlessness - Sexual dysfunction - Dizziness or nausea 	48	Not reported
Edwards 2009 ²²	Community or hospital acquired infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 4th-generation cephalosporin - Carbapenems - Antipseudomonal penicillin 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete remission - Bacteriological response - All-cause of mortality - Adverse events 	34	Not reported
Golfinopoulos 2009 ²³	Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Platinum - Platinum plus taxane - Taxane - Non-platinum, non-taxane monotherapy - Non-platinum, non-taxane combination 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Death (survival) 	10	683
Hawkins 2009 ²⁴	Non-small –cell lung cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erlotinib - Pemetrexed - Docetaxel - Genitinib - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall survival 	6	4672
Jansen 2009 ²⁵	Women with osteoporosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bisphosphonates (alendronate, ibandronate, risedronate or zoledronic acid) 	Active and placebo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction in vertebral fractures 	7	21848

		- Placebo	controlled study			
Manzoli 2009 ²⁶	Influenza A	- Several type of H5N1 vaccine - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- Haemagglutination inhibition - Microneutralisation	13	Not reported
Mills 2009 ²⁷	Invasive Candida infections	- Flucamazole - Caspofugin - Amphotericin B Deoxycholate - Amphotericin B Liposomal - Voriconazole - Micafungin - Anidulafungin - Itraconazole	Active controlled study	- Response rates - All-cause of mortality	11	965
Puhan 2009 ²⁸	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	- LABA - Long-acting anticholinergics - Inhaled corticosteroids - LABA and Inhaled corticosteroids - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- Presence of exacerbation	35	26786
Quilici 2009 ²⁹	Diabetic Peripheral neuropathic pain	- Duloxetine - Pregabalin - Amitriptyline - Gabapentin - Placebo	Placebo controlled study	- Reduction in 24-hour pain intensity - Response defined as a 50% reduction in 24pain severity - The overall health improvement measured by the patient global impression of improvement change (PGI-I /C) - Tolerability (premature study discontinuation due to adverse events , lack efficacy, other)	11	2797
Singh 2009 ³⁰	Rheumatoid arthritis	- Abatacept - Etanercept - Infliximab - Rituximab - Adalimumab - Anakinra - Placebo	Placebo controlled study	- 50% improvement in the American college of rheumatology symptomatic criteria (ACR50) - Number of withdrawals because of adverse events	31	Not reported

Strassmann 2009 ³¹	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Behavioural interventions (individual or group setting, self-help material and telephone counselling) - Nicotine replacement therapy - Antidepressants - Combination of these interventions - Usual care 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abstinence rate with biochemical confirmation after 6 months 	8	Not reported
Trikalinos 2009 ³²	Non-acute coronary artery disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty - Drug eluting stents (sirolimus and paclitaxel) - Bare metal stents - Medical therapy 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All-cause of mortality - Acute myocardial infarction - Coronary artery bypass grafting - Total number of revascularisations - Target vessel or lesion revascularisation 	63	25388
Van der Valk 2009 ³³	Glaucoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bimatoprost - Travoprost - Latanoprost - Timolol - Betaxolol - Dorzolamide - Brinzolamide - Brimonidine - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction of intraocular pressure 	28	6953
Wetlon 2009 ³⁴	Coronary artery disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educational intervention - Behavioural intervention - Cognitive intervention - Relaxation intervention - Psychosocial support - Combination of these interventions 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All-cause of mortality - Cardiac death - Non-fatal myocardial infarction - Change in total cholesterol - Change in Systolic blood pressure - Change in Diastolic blood pressure - Depression - Anxiety 	56	Not reported
Bangalore 2010 ³⁵	Hypertension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACEis - ARBs - Calcium-channel blockers - Diuretics - β blockers - ACEis + ARBs 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cancer risk - Cancer related mortality 	70	324168

		- Placebo				
Bergman 2010 ³⁶	Rheumatoid arthritis	- Abatacept - TNF- α inhibitors - Tocilizumab - Rituximab - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- ACR20 response - ACR50 response - ACR70 response	18	10418
Dakin 2010 ³⁷	Chronic hepatitis B	- Adefovir - Entecavir - Telbivudine - Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate - Lamiduvudin - Hepatitis B e antigen - Combination of these interventions - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- Proportion of patients achieving Hepatitis B virus DNA < 300 copies /ml at 1 year - Proportion of patients undergoing HBeAg seroconversion at 1 year	18	3702
Jansen 2010 ³⁸	Osteoporosis	- Zoledronic acid - Etidronate - Ibandronate - Alendronate - Risedronate - Placebo	Placebo controlled study	- New vertebral fractures - New hip fractures - New non-vertebral non-hip fractures	8	2092
Jones 2010 ³⁹	Prematurity	- Intravenous ibuprofen - Intravenous endomethacin - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- Patent ductus arteriosus at >24 h of life - Death before hospital discharge - Necrotising enterocolitis in the neonatal period - intraventricular haemorrhage - Chronic lung disease at 28 days - Neurodevelopment as measured by Bayley scale of infant development	19	1309
Meader 2010 ⁴⁰	Opioid detoxification	- Buprenorphine - Clonidine - Methadone - Lofexidine	Active controlled study	- Completion of treatment	20	2112
Mills 2010 ⁴¹	Cardiovascular disease	- Atorvastatin - Fluvastatin	Active and placebo	- Cardiovascular death	76	170255

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lovastatin - Pitavastatin - Rosuvastatin - Simvastatin - Control (placebo or usual care) 	controlled study			
Orme 2010 ⁴²	Primary open-angle glaucoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors - Prostaglandin analogue - β receptor blockers - α_2 adrenergic receptor agonist - Combination of these interventions - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intraocular pressure - Hyperaemia type event rates 	93	2943
Owen 2010 ⁴³	Stroke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low dose aspirin - High dose aspirin - Warfarin - Control (not defined) 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All-cause of mortality - Stroke 	14	8250
Phung 2010 ⁴⁴	Type 2 Diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sulfonylureas - Glinides - Thiazolidinediones - Glucosidase inhibitors - Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors - Glucagon-like-peptide-1 analogs - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in HbA_{1c} - Change in body weight 	27	Not reported
Riemsma 2010 ⁴⁵	Metastatic breast cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anastrozole - Tamoxifen - Letrozole - Exemestane 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall survival - Progression-free survival - Objective response rate 	4	2309
Roskell 2010 ⁴⁶	Fribromyalgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Duloxetine - Fluoxetine - Milnacipran - Pregabalin - Gabapentin - Tricyclic antidepressants - Tramadol plus paracetamol - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction a 30% pain - Reduction a 50% pain - Discontinuations due to adverse events 	21	Not reported
Tropeano 2010 ⁴⁷	Carotid intima-media thickness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACEis - Angiotensin II type 1 receptor blockers - Calcium-channel blockers - Diuretics 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carotid intima-media thickness change in micromolars 	31	8316

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - β blockers - Placebo 				
Tu 2010 ⁴⁸	Periodontal infrabony lesions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enamel matrix derivatives (EMD) - EMD + Bone grafts - EMD + Bone Grafts + Guided tissue regeneration - EMD + Bone Grafts + Platelet rich plasma - EMD + Guided tissue regeneration - Flap op 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Probing pocket depth reduction at 6 months - Clinical attachment level gain at 6 months - Clinical or radiographic infrabony defect fill 	28	Not reported
Uthman 2010 ⁴⁹	Anxiety disorders in children and adolescents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sertraline - Fluvoxamine - Venlafaxine, - Fluoxetine - Paroxetine - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clinical global impressions scale (CGI-I) treatment response defined as a score of 1 (very much improved) or 2 (much improved) on the CGI-I 	16	Not reported
Van den Bruel 2010 ⁵⁰	Cataract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Viscoadaptives procedure - Very low viscosity dispersives procedure - Medium viscosity dispersives procedure - Viscous cohesive procedure - Super viscosity cohesive procedure 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absolute number of cells/mm² lost at 3 months after the cataract procedure 	21	1769
Vissers 2010 ⁵¹	Pain in cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intranasal fentanyl spray - Oral transmucosal fentanyl citrate - Fentanyl buccal tablet - Oral morphine - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain measured on numeric rating scale 	6	Not reported
Walsh 2010 ⁵²	Preventing dental caries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fluoride toothpaste of differing concentration - Placebo toothpaste 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caries increment measured at surface level 	75	Not reported
Wandel 2010 ⁵³	Osteoarthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chondroitin - α-Glucosamine - Chondroitin + glucosamine - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absolute pain measured on visual analogue scale (VAS) 	10	3803
Wang 2010 ⁵⁴	Catheters-related infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Miconazole-rifampicin - Minocycline-Rifampicin - Heparin-bonded - Chlorhexidine + silver sulfadiazine (CHSS) 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Catheter colonisation - Catheter-related bloodstream infections 	48	12828

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CHSS blue plus - Silver alloy-coated - Silver iontophoretic - Silver-impregnated - Benzalkonium chloride - Standard care 				
Wilhelmus 2010 ⁵⁵	Herpes simplex virus epithelial keratitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acyclovir - Brivudine - Ganciclovir - Idoxuridine - Trifluridine - Vidarabine - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of participants healed at 14 days after study entry - Rate of healing - Proportion of participants healed at 7 days after study entry 	106	2936
Wolff 2010 ⁵⁶	post-herpetic neuralgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5% lidocaine medicated plaster - Pregabalin - Gabapentin - Capsaicin - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain or pain relief measured by patient and physician (scale not defined) 	20	1023
Wolff 2010 ⁵⁷	Diabetic peripheral neuropathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5% lidocaine medicated plaster - Amitriptyline - Capsaicin - Gabapentin - Pregabalin - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain measured by patient and physician (scale not defined) 	23	Not reported
Woo 2010 ⁵⁸	Chronic Hepatitis B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pegylated interferon - Adefovir - Entecavir - Telbivudine - Tenofovir - lamiduvudine - Combination therapy - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Virologic and biochemical response - HBeAg loss - HBeAg seroconversion - HBsAg loss - Histologic improvement 	20	49729
Anothaisintawee 2011 ⁵⁹	Chronic prostatitis/ Chronic pelvic pain syndrome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A-blockers - Antibiotics - A-blockers + Antibiotics - Phytotherapy - Anti-inflammatory drugs 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total symptom score measured by the national health chronic prostatitis symptom index (NIH-CPSI), the international prostate 	23	2315

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glycosaminoglycan - Pregabalin - Finasteride - Placebo 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - symptom score (IPSS) and The prostatitis symptom score index (PSSI) - Pain scores measured by NIH-CPSI, IPSS, PSSI - Voiding scores - Quality of life score measured by NIH-CPSI, IPSS - Response rate 		
Baldwin 2011 ⁶⁰	Anxiety disorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Escitalopram - Duloxetine - Fluoxetine - Lorazepam - Paroxetine - Pregabalin - Sertraline - Tiagabine - Venlafaxine - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction of at least 50% from their Hamilton anxiety scale (HAM-A) - Remission: proportion of patients with final score HAM-A ≤ 7 - Withdrawal: percentage of patients withdrawing due to adverse events 	27	Not reported
Bekkering 2011 ⁶¹	Chronic pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oxycodone - Fentanyl - Methadone - Buprenorphine - Oxymorphone - Hydromorphone - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change pain intensity (scale not defined) - Treatment discontinuation - Serious adverse events 	45	12703
Choy 2011 ⁶²	Fibromyalgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alprazolam - Citalopram - Duloxetine 20 mg - Duloxetine 60 mg - Duloxetine 120 mg - Ibuprofen - Ibuprofen + Alprazolam - Milnacipran 100 mg - Milnacipran 200 mg - Paroxetine 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absolute reduction in pain measured on numerical rating scale (NRS) or VAS - Proportion of patients with a ≥30% reduction in pain measured on NRS - Absolute reduction in FIQ total score - Sleep assessed using medical outcomes study (MOS) sleep 	21	11103

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pregabalin 350 mg - Pregabalin 450 mg - Pregabalin 600 mg - Placebo 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - scale - Sleep quality assessed using NRS 		
Cipriani 2011 ⁶³	Acute mania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aripiprazole - Asenapine - Carbamazepine - Gabapentin - Haloperidol - Lamotrigine - Lithium - Olanzapine - Quetiapine - Risperidone - Topiramate - Valproate - Ziprasidone - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acute treatment was defined as a 3-week treatment in both the efficacy and acceptability analyses - Mean change scores on the Young Mania Rating Scale (YMRS) - Dropout rates (treatment discontinuation) 	68	16073
Cope 2011 ⁶⁴	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indacaterol 150 µg - Indacaterol 300 µg - Formoterol 9 µg /Budesonide 320µg - Formoterol 9 µg /Budesonide 160µg - Salmeterol 50 µg /fluticasone 250 µg - Salmeterol 50 µg /fluticasone 500 µg - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV) - Total scores for St George's Respiratory questionnaire (SGRQ) - Transition dyspnea index (TDI) 	15	10211
Danchin 2011 ⁶⁵	Angina Pectoris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trimetazidine - Antigital agents - Dihydropyridines - Long-acting nitrates - Nicorandil - Ranolazine 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of angina attacks - Number of short-acting nitrates per week - Time to onset of angina - Time to 1 mm ST segment depression - Total exercise duration 	218	19028
Freemantle 2011 ⁶⁶	Atrial fibrillation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amiodarone - Dronedarone - Flecainide - Propafenone 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All-cause of mortality - Stroke - Atrial fibrillation recurrence - Incidence of severe adverse 	39	28040

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sotalol - Placebo 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> events - Treatment withdrawals (all-cause and due specifically to adverse events) - Proarrhythmic events 		
Freemantle 2011 ⁶⁷	Invasive mould disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amphotericin B lipid complex - Amphotericin B colloidal dispersion - Conventional Amphotericin B - Liposomal Amphotericin B - Itraconazole - Caspofungin - Voriconazole 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mortality/survival (all-cause or disease-specific) - Complete treatment response 	10	4833
Gartlehner 2011 ⁶⁸	Major Depressive Disorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bupropion - Citalopram - Desvenlafaxine - Duloxetine - Escitalopram - Fluoxetine - Fluvoxamine - Mirtazapine - Nefazodone - Paroxetine - Sertraline - Trazodone - Venlafaxine 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HAM-D response rate 	93	Not reported
Gross 2011 ⁶⁹	Type 2 Diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thiazolidinediones - Glucosidase inhibitors - Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors - Glucagon-like-peptide-1 analogs - Insulins - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in HbA_{1c} - Level change in weight - Frequency of severe hypoglycaemia 	19	4535
Guyot 2011 ⁷⁰	Rheumatoid arthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rituximab + MTX - Adalimumab + MTX - Abatacept+ MTX - Certolizumab + MTX - Etanercept + MTX 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health Assessment Questionnaire change from Baseline (HAQ score CFB) - ACR50 response rate - Disease activity score in 28 	14	Not reported

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Golimumab + MTX - Tocilizumab + MTX - Placebo+ MTX 		joints(DAS28) response rate		
Hartling 2011 ⁷¹	Acute bronchiolitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ipratropium - Ipratropium + salbutamol - Ipratropium + salbutamol + steroid - Salbutamol - Salbutamol + steroid - Steroid - Adrenaline - Adrenaline + steroid - Epinephrine - Epinephrine +steroid 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rate of admission for outpatient - Length of stay for inpatients 	48	4897
Ibrahim 2011 ⁷²	Scaphoid waist fractures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open (Herbert) screw fixation - Percutaneous screw fixation - Long and short thumb spica cast - Short arm cast - Short thumb spica cast 	Active controlled study	- Fracture union	6	228
Jalota 2011 ⁷³	Pain associated with propofol injection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analgesic interventions - Bacteriostatic saline - Mechanical interventions - Site of infusion - Temperature of propofol - Venous occlusion - Rate of propofol infusion - Microfiltration - Speed of intravenous carrier fluid 	Active and placebo controlled study	- Pain response rate measured on numeric or verbal rating scales	177	25260
Launois 2011 ⁷⁴	Rheumatoid arthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Etanercept - Infliximab - Adalimumab - Anakinra - Golimumab - Certolizumab pegol - Tocilizumab - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACR20 response - ACR50 response - ACR70 response 	19	7158
Manzoli 2011 ⁷⁵	Influenza A	- Various dosage of H1N1 vaccines	Active and	- Hemagglutination inhibition	18	16725

			placebo controlled study			
Maund 2011 ⁷⁶	Side-effects after major surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paracetamol - Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) - Cyclo-oxygenase 2 (COX-2) - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cumulative Morphine consumption in the first 24h post surgery - Nausea, vomiting - Sedation 	62	Not reported
McIntosh 2011 ⁷⁷	Type 2 diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basal insulin (human or analogue) - Biphasic insulin - Meglitinides - Sulphonylureas - Thiazolidinediones - α glucoside inhibitors - Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors - Glucagon-like-peptide-1 inhibitors - Metformin (placebo) 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Haemoglobin A_{1c} - Body weight - Overall hypoglycaemia 	40	17795
Mills 2011 ⁷⁸	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LABA - Long-acting muscarinic antagonists (LAMA) - Inhaled glucocorticosteroids (ICS) - The phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor (PDE4 inhibitors) - Roflumilast - Combination of these agents - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exacerbations rates reported 	26	10315
Numthavaj 2011 ⁷⁹	Bell's palsy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prednisolone - Acyclovir - Acyclovir + prednisolone - Valacyclovir - Valacyclovir + prednisolone - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete recovery measured by House-Brackman Facial Recovery scale, the Facial Palsy Recovery index, the Yanagihara score and Sunnybrook scale 	6	1892
Padwal 2011 ⁸⁰	Obesity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adjustable gastric banding - Adjustable gastric banding omentectomy - Biliopancreatic diversion - Gastric bypass - Horizontal gastropasty - Jejunoileal bypass 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in Body mass index (BMI) 	31	2619

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sleeve gastrectomy - Vertical banded gastroplast - Roux en y gastric bypass - Standard care 				
Phung 2011 ⁸¹	High risk for developing Type 2 diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thiazolidinediones - A glucoside inhibitors - Biguanides - Glinides - Sulfonylureas - Placebo/control 	Active and placebo controlled study	- Incidence of diabetes	20	23230
Phung 2011 ⁸²	Venous thromboembolism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low dose unfractionated heparin by twice daily - Low dose unfractionated heparin by thrice daily - Low molecular weight heparin - Placebo/control 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deep venous thrombosis - Pulmonary embolism - Major bleeding - All cause mortality 	16	27667
Ribeiro 2011 ⁸³	Cardiovascular disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High intensity of statin dose - Intermediate intensity of statin dose - Low intensity of statin dose - No treatment or Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non-fatal myocardial infarction - Total stroke - Coronary heart disease mortality - Cardiovascular mortality - All-cause of mortality - Coronary revascularization 	47	175232
Roskell 2011 ⁸⁴	Atrial fibrillation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aspirin monotherapy - Aspirin plus clopidogrel - Adjusted-dose vitamin K antagonists - Dabigatran etexilate 110 mg BID - Dabigatran etexilate 150 mg BID - Trifusal - Ximelagatran - Idaraparinux - Indobufen - Low-dose warfarin - Low-dose warfarin + aspirin - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All stroke - Ischaemic stroke - Systemic embolism - Mortality - Intracranial haemorrhage - Extracranial haemorrhage - Acute myocardial infarction 	20	Not reported

Sanches 2011 ⁸⁵	Type 1 diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detemir - Glargine - Neutral Protamine Hagedorn (NPH) insulin 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in HbA_{1c} - Overall hypoglycaemia and nocturnal hypoglycaemia episodes 	16	Not reported
Sciarretta 2011 ⁸⁶	Hypertension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACEis - ARBs - Calcium-channel blockers - Diuretics - β blockers - A-blockers - Usual care - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heart failure 	26	223313
Trelle 2011 ⁸⁷	Cardiovascular disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lumiracoxib - Ibuprofen - Celecoxib - Diclofenac - Rofecoxib - Naproxen - Etoricoxib - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Myocardial infarction - Stroke - Cardiovascular death - All-cause of mortality - Antiplatelet trialists' collaboration composite outcome of non-fatal myocardial infarction, non-fatal stroke, or cardiovascular death 	31	116429
Turkstra 2011 ⁸⁸	Rheumatoid arthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adalimumab - Abatacept - Anakinra - Certolizumab - Etanercept - Golimumab - Infliximab - Sulfasalazine - Tocilizumab - Rituximab - MTX - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACR 20 response - ACR50 response - ACR 70 response 	27	6503
Van de Kerkhof 2011 ⁸⁹	Psoriasis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vitamin D analogues - Steroids 	Active and placebo controlled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PASI 75 response 	19	6708

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any non fixed combination of a vitamin D analogue and a corticosteroid - Coal tar - Tazarotene - Dirthranol - Pimecrolimus - Tacrolimus - Placebo 	study			
Vieira 2011 ⁹⁰	HIV-Infected Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ritonavir boosted atazanavir; - Ritonavir boosted darunavir - Efavirenz - Ritonavir boosted fosamprenavir - Ritonavir boosted lopinavir - Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor; - Raltegravir 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Virological suppression was measured by HIV-1 RNA level - Immunologic efficacy was measured by CD4+ cell count. 	7	3701
Virgili 2011 ⁹¹	Neovascular age-related macular degeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ranibuzumab - Pegaptanib - Verteporfin photodynamic therapy - Usual care 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visual loss or visual gain of 3 or more lines (15 or more ETDRS letters) 	10	4092
Wiebe 2011 ⁹²	Type 2 diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non caloric sweetener - Glucose - Sugar alcohols - Sucrose/High Fructose Corn Syrup/Honey - Other sugars - Fructose 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mean difference in serum glucose at 2 hours post-sweetener consumption 	53	610
Ziogas 2011 ⁹³	Acute Myeloid leukaemia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Induction regimens: combination of daunorubicin and cytarabine Plus specific drug during chemotherapy [Growth factor (granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor) Al-trans retinoic acid, the treatment of choice for acute promyelocytic leukemia and blocking agent of multidrug resistance] 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete remission - Overall survival - Disease-free survival - Induction death - Toxicity parameters 	65	15110
Bangalore 2012 ⁹⁴	Cardiovascular disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paclitaxel eluting stents - Sirolimus eluting stents - Everolimus eluting stents - Zotarolimus eluting stents 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Myocardial infarction - Stent thrombosis - Target lesion revascularisation - Target vessel revascularisation 	76	117762

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resolute zotarolimus eluting stents - Bare metal stents 				
Bash 2012 ⁹⁵	Atrial fibrillation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amiodarone (IV) - Amiodarone (oral) - Diltiazem - Flecainide (IV) - Flecainide (oral) - Ibutilide - Procainamide (IV) - Propafenone (IV) - Propafenone (oral) - Sotalol (IV) - Vernakalant (IV) - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cardioversion at 2 h of treatment initiation - Cardioversion within 8-24 h following treatment 	30	2433
Chang 2012 ⁹⁶	Plantar fasciitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Radial shock wave therapy - Medium intensity focused shock wave (FSW) therapy - High intensity FSW - Low intensity FSW - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	- Pain measured on VAS	12	Not reported
Cheng 2012 ⁹⁷	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alemtuzumab - Chlorambucil - Fludarabine - Fludarabine–cyclophosphamide - Fludarabine– cyclophosphamide -rituximab 	Active controlled study	- Progression-free survival	5	Not reported
Daniels 2012 ⁹⁸	Heavy menstrual bleeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Free fluid - Bipolar radio frequency - Thermal balloon - Microwave - Laser - First generation hysteroscopic device - Cryoablation 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rate of amenorrhoea at 12 months - Rate of heavy bleeding at 12 months - Rate of dissatisfaction with treatment at 12 months 	19	3287
Del Santo 2012 ⁹⁹	Multiple sclerosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interferon beta-1b - Fingolimod - Natalizumab - Glatiramer 	Active and placebo controlled study	- Proportion of patients relapse free at year	10	2596

		- Placebo				
Dumville 2012 ¹⁰⁰	Diabetic foot ulcers	- Alginate - Foam - Basic wound contact - Hydrocolloid matrix - Hydrocolloid (fibrous) - Iodine impregnated - Hydrogel - Silver hydrocolloid (fibrous) - Protease modulating	Active and placebo controlled study	- Ulcer healing measured using time to healing and/or number of ulcers completely healed within a specific time period	15	Not reported
Dunkley 2012 ¹⁰¹	Diabetes Cardiovascular disease	- Atorvastatin - Lifestyle - Exercise - Lovastatin - Pravastatin - Rimonabrant - Rosiglitazone	Active controlled study	- Incidence of diabetes - Cardiovascular event - All cause mortality	13	3907
Fretheim 2012 ¹⁰²	Cardiovascular disease	- ACEis - ARBs - Calcium-channel blockers - Diuretics - α blocker - β blockers - diuretic and/or β blockers - Conventional drugs - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- Diabetes incidence - All cause mortality - Heart failure - Stroke	25	Not reported
Gray 2012 ¹⁰³	Obesity	- Lifestyle - Orlistat - Sibutramine 10 mg - Sibutramine 15 mg - Placebo	Active and placebo controlled study	- 5% weight loss - 10% weight loss - Weight change - BMI change	94	24808
Gurusamy 2012 ¹⁰⁴	Liver transplantation	- Antithrombin III - Aprotinin - Epsilon amino caproic - Low central venous pressure - Norepinephrine	Active and placebo controlled study	- Mortality at 60-day. - Serious adverse event - Blood loss and allogenic	31	1913

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oestrogen - prostaglandin - Recombinant factor VIIa - Solvent detergent fresh frozen plasma - Thromboelastometry - Tranexamic acid - Placebo - Inactive control 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - transfusion requirements - Hospital stay 		
Littlewood 2012 ¹⁰⁵	Chronic pseudomonas infections in cystic fibrosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tobramycin inhalation powder capsule - Tobramycin inhalation solution - Colistimethate sodium - Aztreonam lysine for inhalation 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in FEV 1% predicted - <i>P. aeruginosa</i> sputum density - Exacerbations assessed by respiratory hospitalisations or need for additional anti-<i>P. aeruginosa</i> antibiotic use 	11	2197
Liu 2012 ¹⁰⁶	Type 2 diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basal insulin (human or analogue) - Biphasic insulin - Glinides - Sulphonylureas - Thiazolidinediones - A glucoside inhibitors - Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors - Glucagon-like-peptide-1 inhibitors - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mean change from baseline in A1C level - At least one event of overall hypoglycaemia - Mean change from baseline in body weight 	39	17860
Mhaskar 2012 ¹⁰⁷	Multiple myeloma:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alendronate - Clodronate - Etidronate - Ibandronate - Pamidronate - Risedronate - Zoledronate - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall survival - Skeletal-related events - Progression-free survival. 	14	6692
Migliore 2012 ¹⁰⁸	Ankylosing Spondylitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adalimumab - Etanercept - Remicade - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment in Ankylosing Spondylitis response criteria 20 	3	879

Migliore 2012 ¹⁰⁹	Psoriatic arthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adalimumab - Etanercept - Infliximab - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	- ACR20 response at 3 months	4	820
Nuesch 2012 ¹¹⁰	Fibromyalgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aerobic exercise - Balneotherapy - Cognitive behavioural therapy - Multicomponent therapy - Minimally active control - Pregabalin - Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors - Serotonin noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors - Tricyclic antidepressants - Non-intervention control - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain (scale not defined) - Quality of life (scale not defined) 	102	14982
Palmerini 2012 ¹¹¹	Cardiovascular disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cobalt chromium everolimus eluting stents - Platinum chromium everolimus stents - Paclitaxel eluting stents - Sirolimus eluting stents - Resolute zotarolimus eluting stents - Phosphorylcholine polymer based zotarolimus eluting stents - Bare metal stents 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1-year rate of definite stent thrombosis according to academic research consortium (ARC) - 1-year rates of ARC definite or probable stent thrombosis - 2-year definite and definite or probable stent thrombosis 	49	50844
Reich 2012 ¹¹²	Psoriasis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adalimumab - Efalizumab - Etanercept 25 mg - Etanercept 50 mg - Infliximab - Ustekinumab 45mg - Ustekinumab 90mg - MTX - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PASI 50 response rates - PASI 75 response rates - PASI 90 response rates 	20	Not reported

Roskwell 2012 ¹¹³	Multiple sclerosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fingolimod - Glatiramer acetate - Interferon beta-1a 30 mcg - Interferon beta-1a 22 mcg - Interferon beta-1a 44 mcg - Interferon beta-1b 250 mcg - Interferon beta-1b 50 mcg - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	- Annualized relapse rate	35	6717
Schmitz 2012 ¹¹⁴	Rheumatoid arthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adalimumab - Certolizumab - Etanercept - Golimumab - Infliximab - Placebo 	Placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACR20 response - ACR50 response - Improvement in HAQ score 	16	Not reported
Stam 2012 ¹¹⁵	Osteoarthritis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Etoricoxib - Lumiracoxib - Celecoxib non-selective NSAIDs - Acetaminophen - Diclofenac - Naproxen - Ibuprofen 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain measured on WOMAC scales - Physical function measured on WOMAC scales - Patient global assessment 	30	22720
Tang 2012 ¹¹⁶	Postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) prophylaxis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dolasetron - Granisetron - Ondansetron - Tropisetron - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of patients free from PONV during 0 to 24 h after surgery - Number of patients free from postoperative vomiting during 0 to 24 h after surgery 	85	15269
Terasawa 2012 ¹¹⁷	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alemtuzumab - Bendamustine - Cladribine - Cladribine-based 	Active controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall survival - Progression-free survival - Treatment related mortality 	25	7926

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chlorambucil - Conventional combination regimens (Cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone (CHOP)) - Fludarabine - Fludarabine-based - Fludarabine–rituximab-based - Pentostatin–rituximab-based 				
Thakkestian 2012 ¹¹⁸	Chronic psoriasis/chronic pelvic pain syndrome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A-blockers - Antibiotics - A-blockers + Antibiotics - Anti-inflammatory - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National institutes of health chronic prostatitis symptom index (NIH-CPSI) - NIH-CPSI pain - NIH-CPSI Voiding - NIH-CPSI QOL/impact 	19	1369
Vejakama 2012 ¹¹⁹	Type 2 diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACEi - ARB - β blockers - Calcium-channel blocker (CCB) - Dihydropyridine CCB - Non-Dihydropyridine CCB - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End-stage renal disease - Microvascular complications - Macroalbuminuria, - Microalbuminuria - Regression of albuminuria 	28	134912
Wolff 2012 ¹²⁰	Chronic moderate to severe pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Morphine - Transdermal buprenorphine - Transdermal fentanyl - Placebo 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain intensity measured on VAS - Serious adverse events - Treatment discontinuation (any cause) 	14	2591
Zintzaras 2012 ¹²¹	Multiple sclerosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acyclovir - Albuterol - Alemtuzumab - Antilymphocyte globulin - Atorvastatin - Azathioprine - Bee venom - Bovine myeline - Chaperonine - Cladribine 	Active and placebo controlled study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Patients free of relapse - Patient without disease progression - Patient without MRI progression - Patient with adverse events 	109	26828

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combination of these interventions - Corticotrophin - Cyclophosphamide - Fampridine - Fingolimod - Fluoxetine - Folic acid - Fumarate - Glatiramer acetate - Ibudilast - Inosine - Interferon a - Interferon alpha -2a - Interferon beta-1a - Interferon beta-1b - Intrathecal interferon b - IVIg - Lamotrigine - Laquinimod - Lenercept - Levamisole - Linomide - Lymphoblastoid interferon - Methotrexate - Methylprednisolone - Mitoxantrone - Natalizumab - Pioglitazone - Pirfenidone - Rituximab - Sulfasalazine - Teriflunimide - Ustekinumab - Valacyclovir - Placebo - No treatment 				
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Web table 3: Epidemiological and descriptive characteristics of reports of NMAs

ITEMS	SUBCATEGORY	General journal, n=55	Specialized journal, n=66	Funding sources		
				Public †, n=55	Private ‡, n=48	Not reported, n=18
Journal type	General journal			32 (58)	18 (38)	5 (28)
	Specialized journal			23 (42)	30 (62)	13 (72)
Location of corresponding author	Europe	33 (60)	36 (55)	28 (51)	33 (69)	8 (44)
	North America	18 (32)	20 (30)	17 (31)	14 (29)	7 (39)
	Asia	1 (2)	7 (11)	5 (9)		3 (17)
	South America	1 (2)	2 (3)	3 (5)		
	Oceania	2 (4)	1 (1)	2 (4)	1 (2)	
Funding sources	Private	14 (26)	27 (41)			
	Public	25 (45)	15 (23)			
	None	7 (13)	8 (12)			
	Both	4 (7)	3 (5)			
	Unclear	5 (9)	13 (19)			
Medical area	Cardiology	13 (25)	14 (21)	16 (29)	6 (13)	5 (26)
	Rheumatology	4 (7)	12 (17)	5 (9)	11 (23)	
	Endocrinology	6 (11)	6 (9)	7 (13)	4 (8)	1 (6)
	Oncology	3 (5)	7 (11)	3 (5)	4 (8)	3 (16)
	Infectious disease	2 (4)	7 (11)	2 (4)	6 (13)	1 (6)
	Psychiatry/psychology	6 (11)	2 (3)	5 (9)	2 (4)	1 (6)
	Neurology	4 (7)	4 (6)	2 (4)	4 (8)	2 (11)
	Respiratology	3 (5)	3 (5)	1 (2)	3 (6)	2 (11)

	Ophthalmology	3 (5)	2 (3)	3 (5)	1 (2)	1 (6)
	Surgery	2 (4)	3 (5)	4 (7)	0 (0)	1 (6)
	Other (≤ 3 reviews/medical area. 11 medical areas)	9 (16)	6 (9)	7 (13)	7 (15)	1 (6)
Type of intervention assessed	Pharmacological intervention	44 (80)	56 (85)	37 (67)	46 (96)	17 (94)
	Different class ++	32 (58)	40 (61)	29 (53)	33 (69)	11 (61)
	Same class ++	15 (27)	20 (30)	12 (22)	15 (31)	8 (44)
	Any dose of same drug ++	3 (5)	9 (14)	5 (9)	5 (10)	2 (11)
	Non-pharmacological intervention	5 (9)	6 (9)	10 (18)	1 (2)	0 (0)
	Devices ++	6 (11)	4 (6)	10 (18)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	Surgery/procedure ++	4 (7)	3 (5)	7 (13)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	<i>Therapeutic strategy/education</i>	2 (4)	3 (5)	2 (4)	2 (4)	1 (6)
	Both	6 (11)	4 (6)	8 (15)	1 (2)	1 (6)
Typology of network	No. of interventions assessed (per network)++	7 (5-10)	6 (5-9)	7 (5-10)	7 (6-10)	6 (5-9)
	No. of comparisons addressed by at least one RCTs‡‡	11 (6-15)	8 (5-14)	11 (5-16)	8 (6-15)	9 (6-13)
	NMA with at least one closed loop	48 (87)	55 (83)	48 (87)	39 (81)	16 (89)
	No. of RCTs included in network++	31 (19-53)	20 (12-30)	31 (18-62)	20 (13-27)	24 (13-43)

Data are number (%) unless indicated. RCT, randomized controlled trial

++Multiple answers were possible, so the total does not equal 100%

‡‡Data are median (Q1-Q3)

†NMAs were classified as public funding if they were not funded or were funded by a public source

‡NMAs were classified as private funding if they were funded by at least one private source

Web table 4: Reporting of key methodological components of the systematic review process in NMAs

Items	Subcategory (Yes if reported)	Funding sources		
		Public †, n=55	Private ‡, n=48	Not reported, n=18
INTRODUCTION				
Reporting of questions being addressed with reference to participants, interventions, comparisons, outcomes, and study design		49 (89)	43 (90)	18 (100)
METHODS				
Reporting of the existence of systematic review protocol		11 (20)	3 (6)	1 (6)
Reporting of primary outcome(s)		43 (78)	29 (60)	13 (72)
Reporting of information sources searched				
	Databases searched	54 (98)	47 (98)	17 (94)
	Electronic search strategy for each database	20 (36)	12 (25)	1 (6)
	Date of last search for each database	48 (87)	45 (94)	16 (89)
	Period covered by search for each database	40 (73)	32 (67)	11 (61)
	Search for any other sources (conference abstracts, unpublished studies, textbooks, specialized registers, contact with study authors, reviewing the references in the studies found or any relevant systematic reviews)	37 (67)	31 (65)	12 (67)
	Reviewing the references in the studies found or any relevant systematic reviews	24 (44)	23 (48)	7 (39)
	Search for ongoing studies	14 (25)	2 (4)	3 (17)
	Restriction or no restriction related to language	45 (82)	33 (69)	14 (78)
	Restriction or no restriction related to the publication status	40 (73)	31 (65)	11 (61)
Reporting of study selection and data collection process				
	Process for selecting studies	33 (60)	37 (77)	9 (50)
	Method of data extraction	44 (80)	31 (65))	14 (78)
Reporting of methods used for assessing risk of bias of individual studies		33 (60)	20 (42)	7 (39)
Reporting of methods to incorporate assessment of risk of bias of individual studies in the analysis or conclusions of review				
	Subgroup analysis	5 (9)	2 (4)	2 (11)
	Inclusion criteria	2 (4)	2 (4)	0 (0)

	GRADE	3 (5)	0 (0)	1 (6)
	Adjustment	1 (2)	1 (2)	0 (0)
	Any of these methods	11 (20)	5 (10)	3 (17)
Reporting of assessment of risk of bias that may affect the cumulative evidence (publication bias)		13 (24)	3 (6)	2 (11)
RESULTS				
Reporting of study selection				
	No. of studies screened, assessed for eligibility and included in the review	41 (75)	36 (75)	13 (72)
	List of studies included	51 (93)	48 (100)	18 (100)
	List of studies excluded	6 (11)	2 (4)	1 (6)
Reporting of study characteristics				
	Description of network	41 (75)	27 (56)	14 (78)
	Characteristics of patients (e.g., age, female/male ratio)	27 (49)	34 (71)	9 (50)
	Duration of follow-up of patients	27 (49)	24 (50)	9 (50)
	Duration of interventions	15 (27)	13 (27)	6 (33)
	Description of interventions	24 (44)	34 (71)	6 (33)
	No. of study groups	41 (75)	40 (83)	14 (78)
	No. of patients	40 (73)	42 (88)	14 (78)
	Funding source	11 (20)	1 (2)	1 (6)
Reporting of risk of bias within studies		28 (51)	17 (35)	6 (33)
Reporting of risk of bias across studies (publication bias)		13 (24)	3 (6)	2 (11)
DISCUSSION				
Reporting of limitations at review-level (reporting or publication bias)		31 (56)	20 (42)	7 (39)
OTHER ITEMS				
Reporting of assumptions required in NMA				
	Homogeneity assumption	50 (91)	41 (85)	16 (89)
	Similarity assumption	15 (27)	23 (48)	3 (17)
	Consistency or exchangeability assumption	32 (58)	20 (42)	6 (33)
Reporting of conflict of interest		51 (93)	33 (69)	11 (61)

Data are number of reports featuring the corresponding item. For example 33 (60%) reports with public funding feature a description of the study selection process

†NMAs were classified as public funding if they were not funded or were funded by a public source

‡NMAs were classified as private funding if they were funded by at least one private source

Web table 5: Inadequate quality of conduct of the systematic review process with adequate reporting in NMAs

Items (Reported and inadequate)	Private sources	Private sources	Not reported
Electronic search of only one bibliographic database	6/54 (11)	5/47 (11)	2/17 (12)
Restriction of study selection based on publication status	7/40 (18)	7/31 (23)	2/11 (18)
Lack of independent duplicate study selection	12/33 (36)	18/37 (48)	4/9 (44)
Lack of independent duplicate data extraction	4/44 (9)	9/31 (29)	6/14 (43)

Data are number/total number (%)

Denominators of fractions indicate the number of reports in which the item concerned was reported

Web table 6: Examples of missing and reported elements of the systematic review process in network meta-analyses

Components of systematic review process	Example of inadequate reporting	Example of adequate reporting
Literature search (i.e., an electronic search of at least two bibliographic databases and supplemented by searching for any other sources, and ongoing studies)	<u>Methods section</u> : “The data of a recently published meta-analysis of RCTs on the IOP-lowering effects of all commonly used glaucoma drugs were used for this network meta-analysis.” (Van der Valk 2009) ¹	<u>Methods section</u> : “We searched MEDLINE (1966 to August 2008), EMBASE (1982 to August 2008), CINAHL (up to August 2008), The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, The Cochrane Library (issue 3, 2008), clinicaltrials.gov and controlled-trials.com. We hand searched abstracts of the national and international American Pediatric Society/Pediatric Academic Societies and The European Paediatric Research Societies and the Effective Care of the Newborn Infant. The authors were contacted for further information regarding unpublished trials and reports found in published databases. Search terms included MeSH: infant, newborn AND ductus arteriosus, patent AND, indomethacin OR ibuprofen OR cyclooxygenase inhibitors AND randomised controlled trial (RCT). No search limits were applied.” (Jones 2009) ²
Assessing risk of bias of individual studies (by at least 2 independent reviewers) (i.e., any scales or checklists or domain-based evaluation recommended by the Cochrane collaboration with separate critical assessments for different domains [i.e., allocation concealment, generation of sequence allocation, blinding, incomplete outcome data,	<u>Methods section</u> : “All published studies that met the eligibility criteria were assessed for methodological quality using the SIGN checklist for RCTs” <u>Results section</u> : The authors did not report the results of	<u>Methods section</u> : “We used standardised forms... to assess components of methodological trial quality (generation of randomisation sequence, allocation concealment, blinding of patients and handling of incomplete outcome data; for definitions see Methods S1 in the online supplement)”, independently by two reviewers. <u>Results section</u> : The authors reported the assessment results of risk of bias of individual studies. (Nuesch 2012) ⁴

or selective reporting] were reported)	assessment of methodological quality for RCTs. (Meader 2010) ³	
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