

## Supplementary material to Kanukula R, et al. Development of a checklist to detect errors in meta-analyses in systematic reviews of interventions: study protocol.

### Search strategies

#### Ovid MEDLINE

#	Search Statement
1	(Statistics as Topic/mt or Data Accuracy/) and (Systematic Reviews as Topic/ or Review Literature as Topic/ or exp Meta-Analysis as Topic/)
2	((((flaws or errors or incorrect* or mistakes or inappropriate or pitfalls) adj10 (statistic* or meta-analys* or sub-group or subgroup or analys* or data or cross-over or crossover or cluster or quality or reporting or conduct)) and (systematic reviews or meta-analyses)).tw.
3	(data adj1 accur* adj5 (systematic reviews or meta-analyses)).tw.
4	((((tool or checklist) adj5 (quality or conduct or reporting or errors) adj5 (statistic* or meta-analys* or sub-group or subgroup or analys* or data or cross-over or crossover or cluster)) and (systematic review* or meta-analysis or meta-analyses)).tw.
5	or/1-4

#### Ovid Embase

#	Search Statement
1	(*Statistics/ exp Data Quality/) and ("systematic review (topic)"/ or "meta analysis (topic)"/)
2	((((flaws or errors or incorrect* or mistakes or inappropriate or pitfalls) adj10 (statistic* or meta-analys* or sub-group or subgroup or analys* or data or cross-over or crossover or cluster or quality or reporting or conduct)) and (systematic reviews or meta-analyses)).tw.
3	(data adj1 accur* adj5 (systematic reviews or meta-analyses)).tw.
4	((((tool or checklist) adj5 (quality or conduct or reporting or errors) adj5 (statistic* or meta-analys* or sub-group or subgroup or analys* or data or cross-over or crossover or cluster)) and (systematic review* or meta-analys*)).tw.
5	or/1-4

## Scopus

Note: minor differences with the MEDLINE/Embase search include restriction to title and abstract (not keywords field) and limiting set 1 to meta-analyses alone, rather than meta-analyses or systematic reviews.

#	Search Statement
1	( TITLE-ABS ( flaws OR errors OR incorrect* OR mistakes OR inappropriate OR pitfalls ) W/10 ( statistic* OR meta-analys* OR sub-group OR subgroup OR analys* OR data OR cross-over OR crossover OR cluster OR quality OR reporting OR conduct ) ) AND ( TITLE-ABS ( meta-analyses ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "MEDI" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "NURS" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "DENT" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "HEAL" ) )
2	(( TITLE-ABS ( tool OR checklist ) W/5 ( quality OR conduct OR reporting OR errors ) W/5 ( statistic* OR meta-analys* OR sub-group OR subgroup OR analys* OR data OR cross-over OR crossover OR cluster )) ) AND (( TITLE-ABS ( "systematic review" OR "systematic reviews" OR meta-analysis OR meta-analyses ) ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "MEDI" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "NURS" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "DENT" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "HEAL" ) )
3	1 or 2

## Cochrane Colloquium Abstracts

Note: proposed terms, with final selection to be determined by assessing the relative recall of terms from eligible studies identified from searches of MEDLINE, Embase and Scopus.

Search Statement
(flaws OR errors OR incorrect* OR mistakes OR inappropriate OR pitfalls) AND (statistics OR statistical OR meta-analysis OR meta-analyses OR sub-group OR subgroup OR analysis OR analyses OR data OR cross-over OR crossover OR cluster)
(tool OR checklist) AND (statistics OR statistical)