

Records identified from databases
(n = 3,500)

- PubMed: 1,800
- Embase: 1,200
- Cochrane: 500

Records identified from other sources
(n = 45)

- Citation search: 30
- Registers: 15

Records after duplicates removed
(n = 2,700)

Records screened (title/abstract)
(n = 2,700)

Records excluded
(n = 2,480)

Reports sought for retrieval
(n = 220)

Reports not retrieved
(n = 12)

Reports assessed for eligibility
(n = 208)

Reports excluded (n = 180):

- Wrong population: 72
- Wrong index test: 48
- Wrong outcome: 35
- Abstract only: 15
- Duplicate cohort: 10

Studies included in review
(n = 28)

Studies in quantitative synthesis
(n = 24)