

**Supplementary table 1. Details of electronic bibliographic database search strategies**

Database	Search strategies
Pubmed	((("acne vulgaris"[MeSH Terms] AND ("prevalence"[MeSH Terms] OR "incidence"[MeSH Terms])) AND ("China"[MeSH Terms] OR "Chinese"[MeSH Terms]))
Embase	Title or Abstract acne AND Title or Abstract ( china or chinese ) AND Title or Abstract ( prevalence or incidence or epidemiology )
Web of science	Title or Abstract:(acne) AND Title or Abstract: (prevalence or incidence or epidemiology) AND Title or Abstract: (china or Chinese)
China National Knowledge Infrastructure Periodicals	Keywords: acne AND Keywords: prevalence or incidence or epidemiology
The VIP Database for Chinese Technical	(1) Title or Keywords: acne; Property: dim AND Title or Keywords: prevalence; Property: dim (2) Title or Keywords: acne; Property: dim AND Title or Keywords: incidence; Property: dim
The Wan Fang Database for Chinese Periodicals	(1) Title or Keywords: acne; Property: dim AND Title or Keywords: prevalence; Property: dim (2) Title or Keywords: acne; Property: dim AND Title or Keywords: incidence; Property: dim