APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Electronic search strategy

1. exp osteoarthritis, spine
2. degenerative arthritis. mp. or exp osteoarthritis
3. osteoarthr*
5. degenerative disc disease
6. exp low back pain
7. exp back pain
8. exp spine
9. exp lumbar vertebrae
10. chronic back pain. mp.
11. exp glucosamine/ or glucosamine. mp.
12. glucosamine sulphate. mp.
13. exp acetylglucosamine/ or acetylglucosamine. mp.
14. glucosamine hydrochloride. mp.
15. n-acetyl-d-glucosamine.tw.
16. or/1-5
17. or/6-10
18. or/11-15
19. 16 and 17 and 18
Appendix 2: Grades of Recommendation, Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE) criteria

**High quality**
(at least 75% of the RCTs with no limitations of study design have consistent findings, direct and precise data and no known or suspected publication biases)

Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect

**Moderate quality**
1 of the domains are not met

Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate

**Low quality**
2 of the domains are not met

Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate

**Very low quality**
3 of the domains are not met

Any estimate of effect is very uncertain

### 5 Domains:

Limitations of the study design, inconsistency, indirectness (inability to generalise), imprecision (insufficient or imprecise data) and publication bias.