Appendix 1 – Search strategy for each electronic database

PubMed 22 Feb 2014 712 Results

(((((((((((((withdraw OR withdrawing OR withdrawal OR cease OR ceasing OR cessation OR stop OR stopping OR discontinue OR discontinuing OR discontinuation OR reduce OR reducing OR reduction OR deprescribe OR deprescribing OR optim*)) AND ("Prescription drug" OR medicines OR medication OR polypharmacy OR prescribing))) OR inappropriate prescribing)) AND ((Physician OR "family physician" OR "general practitioner" OR GP OR doctor OR clinician OR prescriber OR specialist OR health personnel OR "health professional" OR "health care professional" OR "health practitioner"))) AND ((((((("semi-structured"[TIAB] OR semistructured[TIAB] OR unstructured[TIAB] OR informal[TIAB] OR "in-depth"[TIAB] OR indepth[TIAB] OR "face-to-face"[TIAB] OR structured[TIAB] OR guide[TIAB] OR guides[TIAB]) AND (interview*[TIAB] OR discussion*[TIAB] OR questionnaire*[TIAB])) OR ("focus group"[TIAB] OR "focus groups"[TIAB] OR qualitative[TIAB] OR fieldwork[TIAB] OR "field work"[TIAB] OR "key informant"[TIAB])) OR "interviews as topic"[Mesh] OR "focus groups"[Mesh] OR narration[Mesh] OR qualitative research[Mesh])))))))))

Embase Search 24 Feb 2014 1786 Results

interview:ab,ti OR discussion:ab,ti OR questionnaire:ab,ti OR survey:ab,ti OR 'focus group':ab,ti OR 'focus groups':ab,ti OR qualitative:ab,ti OR 'qualitative research'/de AND [english]/lim AND [embase]/lim
AND
['inappropriate prescribing'/de OR (inappropriate:ab,ti AND prescribing:ab,ti) AND [english]/lim AND [embase]/lim
OR
(withdraw:ab,ti OR withdrawing:ab,ti OR withdrawal:ab,ti OR cease:ab,ti OR ceasing:ab,ti OR cessation:ab,ti OR stop:ab,ti OR stopping:ab,ti OR discontinue:ab,ti OR discontinuing:ab,ti OR discontinuation:ab,ti OR reduce:ab,ti OR reducing:ab,ti OR reduction:ab,ti ORdeprescribe:ab,ti OR deprescribing:ab,ti OR optim*:ab,ti AND [english]/lim AND [embase]/lim
AND
'prescription drug'/de OR medicines:ab,ti OR medication:ab,ti OR polypharmacy:ab,ti OR prescribing:ab,ti AND [english]/lim AND [embase]/lim)]
AND
physician:ab,ti OR 'family physician':ab,ti OR 'general practitioner':ab,ti OR gp:ab,ti OR doctor:ab,ti OR clinician:ab,ti OR prescriber:ab,ti OR 'medical specialist':ab,ti OR specialist:ab,ti OR 'health care personnel':ab,ti OR 'health professional':ab,ti OR 'health care professional':ab,ti OR 'health practitioner':ab,ti AND [english]/lim AND [embase]/lim

Scopus 12 Mar 2014 – 1966 search results

 (TITLE(physician OR "family physician" OR "general practitioner" OR GP OR doctor OR clinician OR prescriber OR specialist OR "health professional" OR "health care professional" OR "health personnel" OR "health practitioner" OR nurse OR pharmacist) AND SUBJAREA(MULT OR MEDI OR NURS OR VETE OR DENT OR HEAL)) AND (TITLE-ABS-KEY(interview OR discussion OR questionnaire OR survey OR "focus group" OR "focus groups" OR qualitative OR "qualitative research") AND SUBJAREA(MULT OR MEDI OR NURS OR VETE OR DENT OR HEAL)) AND (((TITLE-ABS-KEY(Withdraw OR withdrawing OR withdrawal OR cease OR ceasing OR cessation OR stop OR stopping OR discontinue OR discontinuing OR discontinuation OR reduce OR reducing OR reduction OR deprescribe OR deprescribing OR optim*) AND SUBJAREA(MULT OR MEDI OR NURS OR VETE OR

DENT OR HEAL)) AND (TITLE-ABS-KEY("Prescription drug" OR prescribing OR medicines OR medication OR polypharmacy) AND SUBJAREA(MULT OR MEDI OR NURS OR VETE OR DENT OR HEAL))) OR (TITLE-ABS-KEY(inappropriate AND prescribing) AND SUBJAREA(MULT OR MEDI OR NURS OR VETE OR DENT OR HEAL)))

CINAHL 20 Mar 2014 - 458 Search results

Physician or "family physician" or "general practitioner" or GP or doctor or clinician or prescriber or specialist or "health professional" or "health care professional" OR "health personnel" or "health practitioner"
AND
("inappropriate prescribing" OR (inappropriate and prescribing)
OR
("prescription drug" OR prescribing OR medicines OR medication OR polypharmacy) AND (Withdraw or withdrawing or withdrawal or cease or ceasing or cessation or stop or stopping or discontinue or discontinuing or discontinuation or reduce or reducing or reduction or deprescribe or deprescribing or optim*))
AND
interview OR discussion OR questionnaire OR survey OR "focus group" OR "focus groups" OR qualitative

PsycINFO 20 Mar 2014 – 565 Search results

 (((AnyField:("prescription drug" OR prescribing OR medicines OR medication OR polypharmacy)) AND (AnyField:(Withdraw or withdrawing or withdrawal or cease or ceasing or cessation or stop or stopping or discontinue or discontinuing or discontinuation or reduce or reducing or reduction or deprescribe or deprescribing or optim*))) OR (AnyField:("inappropriate prescribing" OR (inappropriate AND prescribing)))) AND (AnyField:(Physician or "family physician" or "general practitioner" or GP or doctor or clinician or prescriber or specialist or "health professional" or "health care professional" OR "health personnel" or "health practitioner")) AND (AnyField:(interview OR discussion OR questionnaire OR survey OR "focus group" OR "focus groups" OR qualitative OR "qualitative research"))

INFORMIT 20 Mar 2014 – Health collection – 516 Records

((((((Withdraw OR withdrawing OR withdrawal OR cease OR ceasing OR cessation OR stop OR stopping OR discontinue OR discontinuing OR discontinuation OR reduce OR reducing OR reduction OR deprescribe OR deprescribing or optim*) AND ("Prescription drug" OR prescribing OR medicines OR medication OR polypharmacy))) OR (inappropriate and prescribing))) AND (Physician OR "family physician" OR "general practitioner" OR GP OR doctor OR clinician OR prescriber OR specialist OR "health professional" OR "health care professional" OR "health personnel" OR "health practitioner" OR nurse or pharmacist) AND (interview OR discussion OR questionnaire OR "survey" OR "focus group" OR "focus groups" OR qualitative))