

Additional file 2. Generic Search Strategy.**Targeted databases:** PubMed, EMBASE, Global Index Medicus, and Web of knowledge**Period:** from inception to 30 September 2019

Search	Search terms
#1	"ankylosing spondylitis" OR "Spondyloarthritis Ankylopoietica" OR "Ankylosing Spondylarthritis" OR "Spondylarthritis Ankylopoietica" OR "Bechterew Disease" OR "Bchterews Disease" OR "Marie Struempell Disease" OR "Rheumatoid Spondylitis" OR "Ankylosing Spondyloarthritis" OR 'spine disease' OR 'spondylarthropathy' OR spondylarthropathies OR spondylarthritis OR sacroiliitis OR "HLA-B27" OR Ankylosis
#2	Afghanistan OR Albania OR Algeria OR "American Samoa" OR Angola OR Argentina OR Armenia OR Azerbaijan OR Bangladesh OR Belarus OR Belize OR Benin OR Bhutan OR Bolivia OR "Bosnia and Herzegovina" OR Botswana OR Brazil OR Bulgaria OR "Burkina Faso" OR Burundi OR Cabo Verde OR Cambodia OR Cameroon OR "Central African Republic" OR Chad OR China OR Colombia OR Comoros OR "Democratic Republic of Congo" OR Congo OR "Republic of Congo" OR "Costa Rica" OR "Ivory Coast" OR "Cote Ivoire" OR Cuba OR Djibouti OR Dominica OR "Dominican Republic" OR Ecuador OR Egypt OR "El Salvador" OR Salvador OR "Equatorial Guinea" OR Guinea OR Eritrea OR Ethiopia OR Fiji OR Gabon OR Gambia OR Georgia OR Ghana OR Grenada OR Guatemala OR Guinea OR "Guinea-Bissau" OR Guyana OR Haiti OR Honduras OR India OR Indonesia OR Iran OR Iraq OR Jamaica OR Jordan OR Kazakhstan OR Kenya OR Kiribati OR Korea OR Kosovo OR Kyrgyz OR "Lao PDR" OR Lao OR Lebanon OR Lesotho OR Liberia OR Libya OR Macedonia OR Madagascar OR Malawi OR Malaysia OR Maldives OR Mali OR "Marshall Islands" OR Mauritania OR Mauritius OR Mexico OR Micronesia OR Moldova OR Mongolia OR Montenegro OR Morocco OR Mozambique OR Myanmar OR Namibia OR Nepal OR Nicaragua OR Niger OR Nigeria OR Pakistan OR Palau OR Panama OR Papua New Guinea OR Paraguay OR Peru OR Philippines OR Romania OR "Russian Federation" OR Russia OR Rwanda OR Samoa OR "Sao Tomé and Príncipe" OR Senegal OR Serbia OR "Sierra Leone" OR "Solomon Islands" OR Somalia OR "South Africa" OR "South Sudan" OR "Sri Lanka" OR "St Lucia" OR "Vincent and the Grenadines" OR Sudan OR Suriname OR Swaziland OR "Syrian Arab Republic" OR Syria OR Tajikistan OR Tanzania OR Thailand OR "Timor-Leste" OR Timor OR Togo OR Tonga OR Tunisia OR Turkey OR Turkmenistan OR Tuvalu OR Uganda OR Ukraine OR Uzbekistan OR Vanuatu OR Venezuela OR Vietnam OR "West Bank and Gaza" OR Gaza OR Yemen OR Zambia OR Zimbabwe
#3	#1 AND #2