

**Appendix 1: Search strings**

Database and date	Yield	duplicates	Search string used
PubMed 11/12/20	435	6	"Community Health Workers"[Mesh] OR "community health volunteers" OR "lay health workers" ) AND "Hypertension"[Mesh]) OR "Cardiovascular Diseases"[Mesh]) OR "Blood Pressure"[Mesh]) AND "Developing Countries"[Mesh] OR "low and middle income countries") AND ("Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic"[Mesh] OR "Non-Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic"[Mesh])
CINAHL 11/12/20	151	3	"Community Health Workers"[Mesh] OR "community health volunteers" OR "lay health workers" ) AND "Hypertension"[Mesh]) OR "Cardiovascular Diseases"[Mesh]) OR "Blood Pressure"[Mesh]) AND "Developing Countries"[Mesh] OR "low and middle income countries") AND ("Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic"[Mesh] OR "Non-Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic"[Mesh])
PsycINFO 20/12/20	34	0	"Community Health Workers"[Mesh] OR "community health volunteers" OR "lay health workers" ) AND "Hypertension"[Mesh]) OR "Cardiovascular Diseases"[Mesh]) OR "Blood Pressure"[Mesh]) AND "Developing Countries"[Mesh] OR "low and middle income countries") AND ("Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic"[Mesh] OR "Non-Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic"[Mesh])
Cochrane 20/12/20	198	10	Community health workers [Mesh] and hypertension
EMBASE 20/12/20	116	1	('community'/exp OR community) AND ('health'/exp OR health) AND ('worker'/exp OR worker) AND ('cardiovascular'/exp OR cardiovascular) AND ('diseases'/exp OR diseases) AND ('intervention'/exp OR intervention)
Total	934	20	
Other sources	26		
52 duplicates removed by endnote			
A further 30 duplicates removed by covidence to give a total of 858			