

Appendix Table 1A

	1rst Author	Title	Country of affiliation	Nb co-authors	Protocol accessibility	Funding of the review	COI of reviewers	Language limitation	Nb studies included	Designs examined	Procedure rating £
Annals of internal Medicine											
A1§	Boland MV	Comparative Effectiveness of Treatments for Open-Angle Glaucoma: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	USA	10	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	No	379	Various	0/0/2/0/0/0
A2°	Chou R	Blood Tests to Diagnose Fibrosis or Cirrhosis in Patients With Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection A Systematic Review	USA	2	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed**	English	172	Diagnostic only	0/0/1/0/0/0
A3°	Chou R	Comparative Effectiveness of Antiviral Treatment for Hepatitis C Virus Infection in Adults: A Systematic Review	USA	6	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	English	90	Various	1/0/0/1/0/0
A4°	Chou R	Screening for Hepatitis C Virus Infection in Adults: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	USA	5	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	16 (166)	Various	1/0/0/0/0/0
A5°	Cottrell EB	Reducing Risk for Mother-to-Infant Transmission of Hepatitis C Virus: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	USA	5	No	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed**	English	18	Various	1/0/1/0/0/0
A6	Donovan L	Screening Tests for Gestational Diabetes: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	Canada	6	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	English	51	Various	1/0/1/0/0/0
A7§	Fink HA	Medical Management to Prevent Recurrent Nephrolithiasis in Adults: A Systematic Review for an American College of Physicians Clinical Guideline	USA	10	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	28	RCTs only	1/0/0/0/0/0
A8§	Fu R	Effectiveness and Harms of Recombinant Human Bone Morphogenetic Protein-2 in Spine Fusion A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	USA	7	Yes	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	English	44	Various	1/2/1/1/1/0
A9°	Greer N	Advanced Wound Care Therapies for Nonhealing Diabetic, Venous, and Arterial Ulcers A Systematic Review	USA	7	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	English	59	RCTs only	0/0/1/1/0/0

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A10	Hartling L	Benefits and Harms of Treating Gestational Diabetes Mellitus: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the National Institutes of Health Office of Medical Applications of Research	Canada	6	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	11	Various	0/0/2/0/0/0
A11°	Hollingsworth JM	Determining the Noninfectious Complications of Indwelling Urethral Catheters. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	USA	8	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	No	37	Various	1/1/1/0/0/0
A12°	Humphrey LL	Screening for Lung Cancer With Low-Dose Computed Tomography: A Systematic Review to Update the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation	USA	9	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	67	Various	0/0/1/1/0/0
A13	Hussey PS	The Association Between Health Care Quality and Cost. A Systematic Review	USA	3	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	English	61	quality/costs	0/0/0/0/0/-
A14	Jackson GL	The Patient-Centered Medical Home A Systematic Review	USA	12	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	English	60	Various	1/0/1/0/1/0
A15	Kansagara D	Treatment of Anemia in Patients With Heart Disease. A Systematic Review	USA	6	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed**	English	55	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0
A16°	Kramer CK	Are Metabolically Healthy Overweight and Obesity Benign Conditions?. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Canada	3	Yes	Perceived, no role	Detailed**	No	12	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0
A17°	Kwan JL	Medication Reconciliation During Transitions of Care as a Patient Safety Strategy. A Systematic Review	Canada	4	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	English	18	Various	0/2/1/0/0/0
A18§	Lee M	Risk–Benefit Profile of Long-Term Dual- Versus Single-Antiplatelet Therapy Among Patients With Ischemic Stroke A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Taiwan	6	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed**	No	7	RCTs only	1/0/2/0/0/0

	1rst Author	Title	Country of affiliation	Nb co-authors	Protocol accessibility	Funding of the review	COI of reviewers	Language limitation	Nb studies included	Designs examined	Procedure rating £
A19§	Lin JS	Screening for Cognitive Impairment in Older Adults: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	USA	5	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	311	Various	2/0/1/1/0/0
A20	Lubick Goldzweig	Electronic Patient Portals: Evidence on Health Outcomes, Satisfaction, Efficiency, and Attitudes A Systematic Review	USA	8	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	English	46	Various	0/0/0/0/0/0
A21°	McDonald KM	Patient Safety Strategies Targeted at Diagnostic Errors A Systematic Review	USA	7	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	Not specified	109	Various	1/0/1/0/0/0
A22°	Miake-Lye IM	Inpatient Fall Prevention Programs as a Patient Safety Strategy. A Systematic Review	USA	4	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	Not specified	21	Various	0/0/0/0/0/0
A23	Navarese EP	Optimal Timing of Coronary Invasive Strategy in Non-ST-SegmentElevation Acute Coronary Syndromes A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Poland	12	No	None perceived	Detailed	Not specified	11	Various	1/0/0/0/0/0
A24°	Nelson HD	Use of Medications to Reduce Risk for Primary Breast Cancer: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	USA	4	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	89	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0
A25°	O'Connor E	Screening for and Treatment of Suicide Risk Relevant to Primary Care: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	USA	5	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	159	Various	1/1/0/0/0/0
A26°	Raman G	Management Strategies for Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	USA	9	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	English	56	Various	1/2/0/1/0/0
A27°	Rennke S	Hospital-Initiated Transitional Care Interventions as a Patient Safety Strategy. A Systematic Review	USA	6	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	English	47	RCTs only	0/0/1/0/0/0
A28°	Reston JT	In-Facility Delirium Prevention Programs as a Patient Safety Strategy A Systematic Review	USA	2	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	Not specified	19	Various	0/0/0/0/0/0
A29	Richardson K	Statins and Cognitive Function A Systematic Review	USA	9	No	None perceived	Detailed	Not specified	57	Various	0/0/1/0/0/0
A30°	Schmidt E	Simulation Exercises as a Patient Safety Strategy A Systematic Review	USA	4	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	38	Various	1/0/1/0/0/0

	1rst Author	Title	Country of affiliation	Nb co-authors	Protocol accessibility	Funding of the review	COI of reviewers	Language limitation	Nb studies included	Designs examined	Procedure rating £
A31°	Selph SS	Behavioral Interventions and Counseling to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect: A Systematic Review to Update the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation	USA	4	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	11	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0
A32°	Shekelle PG	Nurse–Patient Ratios as a Patient Safety Strategy. A Systematic Review	USA	1	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	English	17	Various	0/0/0/0/0/0
A33°	Sullivan N	Preventing In-Facility Pressure Ulcers as a Patient Safety Strategy A Systematic Review	USA	2	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	Other	51	Various	0/0/1/1/0/0
A34°	Sumamo Scheller	Lifestyle Interventions for Patients With and at Risk for Type 2 Diabetes A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Canada	5	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	20	RCTs only	1/2/1/1/0/0
A35	Tangri N	Risk Prediction Models for Patients With Chronic Kidney Disease A Systematic Review	Canada	10	No	None perceived	Detailed	English	13	Cohort only	0/0/1/0/0/0
A36§	Uhlig K	Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring in the Management of Hypertension. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	USA	5	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed**	No	55	Various	0/0/1/0/0/0
A37°	Vasilakou D	Sodium–Glucose Cotransporter 2 Inhibitors for Type 2 Diabetes. A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Greece	9	No	None perceived	Detailed	No	58	RCTs only	2/2/1/1/0/0
A38°	Weaver SJ	Promoting a Culture of Safety as a Patient Safety Strategy. A Systematic Review	USA	6	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	English	33	Various	0/0/2/0/0/0
A39	Winters BD	Rapid-Response Systems as a Patient Safety Strategy A Systematic Review	USA	6	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	No	43	Various	0/0/0/0/0/0
BMJ											
B1	Aburto NJ	Effect of lower sodium intake on health: systematic review and meta-analyses	Switzerland	6	No	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	77	Various	2/2/1/0/0/0
B2°	Aburto NJ	Effect of increased potassium intake on cardiovascular risk factors and disease: systematic review and meta-analyses	Switzerland	6	No	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	33	Various	2/2/1/0/0/0

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B3°	Aghajafari F	Association between maternal serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D level and pregnancy and neonatal outcomes: systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies	Canada	6	No	Perceived, no role	None	No	31	9	1/1/1/0/0/0
B4°	Azad MB	Probiotic supplementation during pregnancy or infancy for the prevention of asthma and wheeze: systematic review and meta-analysis	Canada	9	Yes	None perceived	None	Not specified	20	RCTs only	1/2/1/2/0/0
B5°	Bermingham SL	Intermittent self catheterisation with hydrophilic, gel reservoir, and non-coated catheters: a systematic review and cost effectiveness analysis	UK	6	No	Perceived, role not reported	None	English	8	RCTs only	0/2/0/0/0/0
B6°	Castellucci LA	Efficacy and safety outcomes of oral anticoagulants and antiplatelet drugs in the secondary prevention of venous thromboembolism: systematic review and network meta-analysis	Canada	10	Yes	None perceived	Detailed	No	12	RCTs only	0/2/0/0/0/0
B7°	Cipriani A	Lithium in the prevention of suicide in mood disorders: updated systematic review and meta-analysis	Italy	4	Yes	None perceived	Detailed	No	48	RCTs only	1/2/1/0/0/0
B8	Downie A	Red flags to screen for malignancy and fracture in patients with low back pain: systematic review	Australia	11	No	None perceived	None	No	14	Various	0/0/0/0/0/0
B9°	El-Khoury F	The effect of fall prevention exercise programmes on fall induced injuries in community dwelling older adults: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials	France	4	No	None perceived	None	Other	17	RCTs only	1/2/1/0/0/0
B10°	Gagne JJ	Effect of smoking on comparative efficacy of antiplatelet agents: systematic review, meta-analysis, and indirect comparison	USA	6	No	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	9	RCTs only	1/0/1/0/0/0
B11	Gatta L	Global eradication rates for Helicobacter pylori infection: systematic review and meta-analysis of sequential therapy	Italy	4	No	None perceived	Detailed	No	46	RCTs only	1/2/0/0/0/0

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B12°	Gloy VL	Bariatric surgery versus non-surgical treatment for obesity: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials	Switzerland	8	Yes	None perceived	Detailed	No	11	RCTs only	2/2/0/0/0/0
B13°	Goto A	Severe hypoglycaemia and cardiovascular disease: systematic review and meta-analysis with bias analysis	Japan	5	No	Perceived, no role	None	No	6	Various	1/2/0/0/0/0
B14°	Green R	The effect of rising food prices on food consumption: systematic review with meta-regression	UK	7	Yes	Perceived, no role	None	English	136	Various	1/0/2/0/0/0
B15°	Haase N	Hydroxyethyl starch 130/0.38-0.45 versus crystalloid or albumin in patients with sepsis: systematic review with meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis	Denmark	7	Yes	Not reported	Detailed	No	9	Various	1/2/0/2/0/0
B16	Haider BA	Anaemia, prenatal iron use, and risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes: systematic review and meta-analysis	USA	6	No	Perceived, no role	None	No	92	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0
B17°	He FJ	Effect of longer term modest salt reduction on blood pressure: Cochrane systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised trials	UK	3	No	None perceived	Detailed	No	34	RCTs only	2/2/1/0/0/0
B18°	Kramer CK	Coronary artery calcium score prediction of all cause mortality and cardiovascular events in people with type 2 diabetes: systematic review and meta-analysis	Canada	7	Yes	Perceived, no role	Detailed	No	8	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0
B19§	Kynaston-Pearson	Primary hip replacement prostheses and their evidence base: systematic review of literature	UK	12	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	Not specified	157	Various	1/2/0/0/0/0
B20°	Langstrom N	Preventing sexual abusers of children from reoffending: systematic review of medical and psychological interventions	Sweden	6	No	Perceived, no role	None	Other	22	Various	0/1/1/0/1/0
B21°	Lansbury L	Interventions for non-metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of the skin: systematic review and pooled analysis of observational studies	UK	5	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	English	118	Various	0/0/1/1/0/0

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B22	Lavigne E	Breast cancer detection and survival among women with cosmetic breast implants: systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies	Canada	8	No	Perceived, role not reported	None	Other	22	Various	2/1/1/0/0/0
B23°	Litton E	Safety and efficacy of intravenous iron therapy in reducing requirement for allogeneic blood transfusion: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised clinical trials	Australia	3	No	None perceived	Detailed**	No	75	RCTs only	2/2/1/0/0/0
B24	Mercier E	Predictive value of S-100β protein for prognosis in patients with moderate and severe traumatic brain injury: systematic review and meta-analysis	Canada	15	No	Perceived, no role	None	No	41	Various	2/2/1/0/0/0
B25°	Mertz D	Populations at risk for severe or complicated influenza illness: systematic review and meta-analysis	Canada	11	No	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	Other	234	Various	1/1/1/0/0/0
B26	Myung SK	Efficacy of vitamin and antioxidant supplements in prevention of cardiovascular disease: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials	Korea	7	No	None perceived	None	No	50	RCTs only	2/0/1/2/0/0
B27°	Schmölzer GM	Non-invasive versus invasive respiratory support in preterm infants at birth: systematic review and meta-analysis	Canada	6	No	None perceived	Detailed	Not specified	4	RCTs only	2/0/1/0/0/1
B28°	Schouten HJ	Diagnostic accuracy of conventional or age adjusted D-dimer cut-off values in older patients with suspected venous thromboembolism: systematic review and meta-analysis	Netherlands	9	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	No	13	Diagnostic only	1/2/1/0/0/0
B29°	Schweizer M	Effectiveness of a bundled intervention of decolonization and prophylaxis to decrease Gram positive surgical site infections after cardiac or orthopedic surgery: systematic review and meta-analysis	USA	8	No	Perceived, no role	None	English	39	Various	2/2/1/0/0/0

	1rst Author	Title	Country of affiliation	Nb co-authors	Protocol accessibility	Funding of the review	COI of reviewers	Language limitation	Nb studies included	Designs examined	Procedure rating £
B30	Shaikh F	Ultrasound imaging for lumbar punctures and epidural catheterisations: systematic review and meta-analysis	Canada	7	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	No	14	RCTs only	1/2/1/0/0/0
B31	Stafford MR	Early interventions to prevent psychosis: systematic review and meta-analysis	UK	5	No	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	English	11	RCTs only	1/2/0/0/0/0
B32	Stegeman BH	Different combined oral contraceptives and the risk of venous thrombosis: systematic review and network meta-analysis	UK	7	No	None perceived	Detailed	No	25	Various	0/2/1/0/0/0
B33°	Ten Broek RPG	Burden of adhesions in abdominal and pelvic surgery: systematic review and met-analysis	Netherlands	9	Yes	None perceived	None	No	196	Various	1/0/1/0/0/0
B34°	Thompson M	Duration of symptoms of respiratory tract infections in children: systematic review	USA	6	No	Perceived, no role	None	English	48	Various	0/2/1/0/0/0
B35°	Threapleton	Dietary fibre intake and risk of cardiovascular disease: systematic review and meta-analysis	UK	9	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	English	22	Cohort only	1/0/1/0/0/0
B36°	Uthman OA	Exercise for lower limb osteoarthritis: systematic review incorporating trial sequential analysis and network meta-analysis	UK	7	Yes	Perceived, no role	Detailed**	No	60	RCTs only	0/2/1/0/0/0
B37°	Virtanen M	Perceived job insecurity as a risk factor for incident coronary heart disease: systematic review and meta-analysis	Finland	47	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	English	17	Cohort only	1/2/0/0/0/1
B38°	Wu HY	Comparative effectiveness of renin-angiotensin system blockers and other antihypertensive drugs in patients with diabetes: systematic review and bayesian network meta-analysis	Taiwan	9	Yes	None perceived	None	No	63	RCTs only	1/1/1/0/0/0
Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews											
C1	Arguedas JA	Blood pressure targets for hypertension in people with diabetes mellitus	Costa Rica	3	Yes	Perceived, role described	None	No	5	RCTs only	0/2/2/1/0/0
C2	Brown R	Aripiprazole alone or in combination for acute mania	UK	3	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	10	RCTs only	1/2/0/1/0/0
C3°	Chen N	Cerebrolysin for vascular dementia	China	6	Yes	Not reported	None	No	6	RCTs only	1/2/0/0/0/0

	1rst Author	Title	Country of affiliation	Nb co-authors	Protocol accessibility	Funding of the review	COI of reviewers	Language limitation	Nb studies included	Designs examined	Procedure rating £
C4°	Cheng LM	Pedicle screw fixation for traumatic fractures of the thoracic and lumbar spine	China	7	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	8	RCTs only	1/2/2/0/0/0
C5	Foster C	Remote and web 2.0 interventions for promoting physical activity	UK	4	Yes*	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	11	RCTs only	2/2/1/0/0/0
C6°	Gois PHF	Pharmacotherapy for hyperuricemia in hypertensive patients	Brasil	2	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	1	RCTs only	1/2/2/0/0/0
C7	Gower EW	Perioperative antibiotics for prevention of acute endophthalmitis after cataract surgery	USA	5	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	4	RCTs only	1/2/0/1/0/0
C8°	Hunot V	'Third wave' cognitive and behavioural therapies versus other psychological therapies for depression	UK	10	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	3	RCTs only	2/2/1/0/1/0
C9	Lawrie TA	Pegylated liposomal doxorubicin for relapsed epithelial ovarian cancer	UK	5	Yes	None perceived	None	No	14	RCTs only	1/2/0/1/0/0
C10°	Moore ZEH	Dressings and topical agents for preventing pressure ulcers	Ireland	2	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	9	RCTs only	1/2/1/1/0/2
C11°	Morris R	Training to recognise the early signs of recurrence in schizophrenia	UK	5	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	Not specified	34	RCTs only	2/2/1/1/0/0
C12	Neumann I	Comparison of different regimens of proton pump inhibitors for acute peptic ulcer bleeding	Chile	8	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	22	RCTs only	2/2/2/0/0/0
C13	O'Meara S	Foam dressings for venous leg ulcers	UK	2	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	12	RCTs only	2/2/1/1/0/0
C14°	Riaz Y	Manual small incision cataract surgery (MSICS) with posterior chamber intraocular lens versus phacoemulsification with posterior chamber intraocular lens for age-related cataract	UK	3	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	8	RCTs only	1/2/1/1/1/0
C15	Suttajit S	Quetiapine versus typical antipsychotic medications for schizophrenia	Thailand	6	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	No	43	RCTs only	1/1/0/1/0/0

	1rst Author	Title	Country of affiliation	Nb co-authors	Protocol accessibility	Funding of the review	COI of reviewers	Language limitation	Nb studies included	Designs examined	Procedure rating £
C16°	Teixeira DM	Regular (ICSI) versus ultra-high magnification (IMSI) sperm selection for assisted reproduction	Brasil	7	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	9	RCTs only	2/2/1/1/0/0
C17°	Thompson DR	Wound drainage after axillary dissection for carcinoma of the breast	UK	3	Yes	None perceived	None	No	7	RCTs only	1/2/0/1/0/0
C18°	Wong T	Combined and alternating paracetamol and ibuprofen therapy for febrile children	Canada	7	Yes*	Perceived, role described	None	No	6	RCTs only	1/2/1/1/0/0
C19°	Yonemoto N	Schedules for home visits in the early postpartum period	Japan	4	Yes	Perceived, role not reported	None	No	12	RCTs only	1/0/1/0/0/0
JAMA											
J1°	Crochet JR	Does This Woman Have an Ectopic Pregnancy? The Rational Clinical Examination Systematic Review	USA	3	No	Not reported	None	English	14	Cohort only	0/0/0/0/0/0
J2°	Deb S	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery vs Percutaneous Interventions in Coronary Revascularization A Systematic Review	Canada	6	No	Perceived, no role	None	Not specified	18	Various	0/0/2/0/0/0
J3°	Flegal KM	Association of All-Cause Mortality With Overweight and Obesity Using Standard Body Mass Index Categories A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	USA	4	No	None perceived	None	No	97	Cohort only	0/1/0/0/0/0
J4°	Hermans J	Does This Patient With Shoulder Pain Have Rotator Cuff Disease? The Rational Clinical Examination Systematic Review	Netherlands	6	No	Not reported	Detailed	Other	28	Diagnostic only	0/2/0/0/0/0
J5°	Hollands H	Do Findings on Routine Examination Identify Patients at Risk for Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma? The Rational Clinical Examination Systematic Review	Canada	6	No	Not reported	Detailed	English	57	Diagnostic only	0/0/1/0/0/0
J6°	Kayentao K	Intermittent Preventive Therapy for Malaria During Pregnancy Using 2 vs 3 or More Doses of Sulfadoxine-Pyrimethamine and Risk of Low Birth Weight in Africa Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	UK	11	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	No	7	RCTs only	2/2/1/0/0/0

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J7°	Lin SY	Sublingual Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Allergic Rhinoconjunctivitis and Asthma A Systematic Review	USA	7	Yes*	Perceived, role described	Detailed	English	63	RCTs only	1/0/1/1/0/0
J8	Maggard_Gibbon	Bariatric Surgery for Weight Loss and Glycemic Control in Nonmorbidly Obese Adults With Diabetes. A Systematic Review	USA	8	No	Perceived, role described	Detailed	Not specified	60	Various	0/2/0/0/0/0
J9°	Myers KA	Does This Patient Have Obstructive Sleep Apnea? The Rational Clinical Examination Systematic Review	Canada	3	No	Not reported	None	English	42	Diagnostic only	0/1/2/0/0/0
J10°	North CS	Mental Health Response to Community Disasters A Systematic Review	USA	2	No	Perceived, role not reported	Detailed	English	222	Various	0/0/0/0/0/-
J11	Rao R	Axillary Node Interventions in Breast Cancer. A Systematic Review	USA	4	No	Not reported	Detailed	English	17	Various	0/0/0/0/0/0
J12°	Zarychanski	Association of Hydroxyethyl Starch Administration With Mortality and Acute Kidney Injury in Critically Ill Patients Requiring Volume Resuscitation A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Canada	7	Yes	Not reported	Detailed	No	38	RCTs only	2/1/1/0/2/0
The Lancet											
L1°	Chan KY	Epidemiology of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia in China, 1990–2010: a systematic review and analysis	Australia	12	No	Perceived, no role	None	Other	89	Various	0/1/1/0/0/0
L2°	Chopra V	Risk of venous thromboembolism associated with peripherally inserted central catheters: a systematic review and meta-analysis	USA	7	No	None perceived	None	No	64	Various	2/2/1/0/0/0
L3°	Fowkes FGR	Comparison of global estimates of prevalence and risk factors for peripheral artery disease in 2000 and 2010: a systematic review and analysis	UK	11	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	Not specified	34	Various	0/2/0/0/0/0
L4	Jamal SA	Effect of calcium-based versus non-calcium-based phosphate binders on mortality in patients with chronic kidney disease: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis	Canada	9	No	None perceived	Detailed	No	8	Various	1/1/0/0/0/0

	1rst Author	Title	Country of affiliation	Nb co-authors	Protocol accessibility	Funding of the review	COI of reviewers	Language limitation	Nb studies included	Designs examined	Procedure rating £
L5°	Prost A	Women's groups practising participatory learning and action to improve maternal and newborn health in low-resource settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis	UK	28	No	Perceived, no role	Detailed	No	7	RCTs only	2/1/1/0/0/0
L6°	Shah ASV	Global association of air pollution and heart failure: a systematic review and meta-analysis	UK	8	No	Perceived, no role	None	No	35	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0
L7°	Stöckl H	The global prevalence of intimate partner homicide: a systematic review	UK	7	No	Perceived, no role	None	Not specified	163	Various	0/0/0/0/0/-
L8°	Ten Broek RPG	Benefits and harms of adhesion barriers for abdominal surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis	Netherlands	6	Yes	None perceived	None	No	28	RCTs only	2/0/1/2/0/0
L9°	Tustung LS	Socioeconomic development as an intervention against malaria: a systematic review and meta-analysis	UK	7	No	Perceived, role not reported	None	English	20	Various	1/0/1/0/0/0
L10°	Wong E	Diabetes and risk of physical disability in adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis	Australia	7	Yes	Perceived, no role	None	English	26	Various	1/2/1/0/0/0

COI: Conflict of Interest; RCT: Randomised Controlled Trials; £: Scoring of the 6 procedures applied (search for unpublished trials/contact with study authors/ search for duplicates/study sponsor/study author's COI/ethical approval) 0 = procedure not applied, 1 = partially applied, 2 = fully applied; *: Protocol not freely accessible; **: Detailed in supplementary files or online only; °: author answered our query; §: author not contacted

Appendix Table 2A. Characteristics of included systematic reviews according to journal of publication

	Journal					P-value	
	Ann Int Med	BMJ	JAMA	Lancet	Cochrane	p1	p2
	n %	n %	n %	n %	n %		
Number of systematic reviews	39 33%	38 32%	12 10%	10 8%	19 16%		
Answered inquiry	23 59%	27 71%	10 83%	9 90%	11 58%	0.198	0.313
Number of co-authors						0.001	0.012
Median (IQR)	6 (4 to 8)	7 (6 to 9)	6 (3.5 to 7)	7.5 (7 to 11)	5 (3 to 7)		
Country of affiliation of 1st author						<0.001	<0.001
USA	30 77%	4 11%	6 50%	1 10%	1 5%		
UK	0 0%	9 24%	1 8%	5 50%	8 42%		
Canada	6 15%	9 24%	4 33%	1 10%	1 5%		
Australia	0 0%	2 5%	0 0%	2 20%	0 0%		
Others	3 8%	14 37%	1 8%	1 10%	9 47%		
Protocol registration/accessibility						<0.001	0.014
No mention of protocol	37 95%	27 71%	10 83%	8 80%	0 0%		
Protocol exists/ not freely accessible	0 0%	0 0%	1 8%	0 0%	2 11%		
Protocol exists/ freely accessible	2 5%	11 29%	1 8%	2 20%	17 89%		
Source of funding of systematic review						<0.001	<0.001
Not reported	0 0%	1 3%	6 50%	0 0%	1 5%		
Reported that no funding was received	4 10%	14 37%	1 8%	3 30%	2 11%		
Reported that funding was received with details	35 90%	23 61%	5 42%	7 70%	16 84%		
Conflicts of interests of systematic reviewers						<0.001	<0.001
Not reported	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%		
Reported that there were none	0 0%	18 47%	4 33%	7 70%	13 68%		
Reported and detailed in the published report	26 67%	18 47%	8 67%	3 30%	6 32%		
Reported elsewhere (e.g, online)	13 33%	2 5%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%		
Number of databases searched						0.002	0.167
Median (IQR)	4 (3 to 5)	4 (3 to 7)	3 (2 to 5.5)	5 (4 to 7)	7 (6 to 9)		
Language limitations applied						<0.001	0.004
None	7 18%	23 61%	3 25%	5 50%	18 95%		
English only	26 67%	8 21%	6 50%	2 20%	0 0%		
Limitations to other languages	1 3%	4 11%	1 8%	1 10%	0 0%		
Not specified	5 13%	3 8%	2 17%	2 20%	1 5%		
Number of studies included						0.001	0.571
Median (IQR)	46 (18 to 60)	28 (13 to 60)	40 (17 to 61)	31 (20 to 64)	9 (6 to 12)		
Study designs examined						<0.001	0.003
RCT only	6 15%	16 42%	3 25%	2 20%	19 100%		
Cohort prospective only	1 3%	2 5%	2 17%	0 0%	0 0%		
Diagnostic studies only	1 3%	1 3%	3 25%	0 0%	0 0%		
Various designs	31 79%	19 50%	4 33%	8 80%	0 0%		

IQR: Inter-quartile range; RCT: Randomised controlled trials; P1: tests the null hypothesis of equal distribution across the five journals. P2: tests the null hypothesis of equal distribution across the four journals, excluding the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. Statistical tests: Chi2 test or Kruskal-Wallis equality of population rank tests, as appropriate.

Study sponsors' biases	
Not present	<p>Use of probiotic supplementation during pregnancy or infancy for the prevention of asthma. Nineteen of 20 trials were to some degree sponsored by industry. However, subgroup analyses did not identify significant sponsor bias.^{B4}</p> <p>Use of hydroxyethyl starch solutions in patients with sepsis. Sensitivity analyses excluding industry-sponsored trials did not identify sponsor bias.^{B15}</p> <p>Use of hydroxyethyl starch solutions in critically ill patients. Sensitivity analyses excluding industry-sponsored trials did not identify sponsor bias.^{J12}</p>
Unlikely	<p>Adhesion barriers for abdominal surgery. Authors reported that most trials were sponsored by industry, but sponsor-bias seemed unlikely since investigator-driven trials compared favourably with industry-sponsored trials.^{L8}</p>
Present	<p>Effects of vitamins E and B6 on myocardial infarction and cardiovascular death. Beneficial effects were found only in trials in which the vitamins were supplied by the pharmaceutical industry.^{B26}</p> <p>Association between combined oral contraceptives and the risk of venous thrombosis. <i>«The risk estimate for third generation users (compared with non-users) was lower in industry sponsored studies than in non-industry sponsored studies (relative risk 1.9 v 5.2)». «All risk estimates were higher in studies with objectively confirmed venous thrombosis, of which none were industry sponsored».</i>^{B32}</p>
Ethical approval of included studies	
Identified studies for which ethics and consent were not available	<p>Prevention of pressure ulcer. <i>«No information about ethics approval or participant consent was provided by Green 1974, Han 2011, Kalowes 2012, Qiuli 2010 or Van Der Cammen 1987. Although Smith 1985 had ethics approval, it was not reported whether participants consented. Information on ethics and consent for the remaining studies was not available (Houwing 2008; Nakagami 2007; Torra i Bou 2005)».</i>^{C10}</p>
Acknowledged that all studies had received ethical approval	<p>Perceived job insecurity as a risk factor for incident coronary heart disease. <i>«Each constituent study in the consortium was approved by the relevant local or national ethics committee and all participants gave informed consent to participate».</i>^{B37}</p> <p>Non-invasive versus invasive respiratory support in preterm infants at birth. <i>«All the studies required antenatal consent, preselecting more stable pregnancies and lowering the observed incidence of acute or serious antenatal and neonatal complications».</i>^{B27}</p>

Appendix Table 3A: Details on study sponsors' and ethical approval of included studies. Texts in italic are cited from the original references.

Appendix Table 4A. Application of procedures protecting from research malpractice, according to journal of publication

	Journal					P-value	
	Ann Int Med	BMJ	JAMA	Lancet	Cochrane	p1	p2
	n %	n %	n %	n %	n %		
Number of systematic reviews	39 33%	38 32%	12 10%	10 8%	19 16%		
Search of unpublished trials and/or test for publication bias						0.001	0.005
Publication bias discussed only or not mentioned	18 46%	8 21%	9 75%	3 30%	1 5%		
Unpublished trials searched OR publication bias tested	19 49%	20 53%	1 8%	4 40%	12 63%		
Unpublished trials searched AND publication bias tested	2 5%	10 26%	2 17%	3 30%	6 32%		
Contact with authors of the studies						<0.001	0.001
Study authors not contacted	27 69%	8 21%	6 50%	3 30%	1 5%		
Study authors contacted for method or unspecified reason	3 8%	5 13%	3 25%	3 30%	1 5%		
Study authors contacted to identify unreported outcomes	9 23%	25 66%	3 25%	4 40%	17 89%		
Duplicate publications						0.092	0.106
Not searched or not mentioned	12 31%	10 26%	6 50%	3 30%	6 32%		
Searched and found, not referenced OR no mention of results	23 59%	28 74%	4 33%	7 70%	9 47%		
Searched, found and referenced	4 10%	0 0%	2 17%	0 0%	4 21%		
Sponsors of the studies						<0.001	0.121
Not mentioned	32 82%	33 87%	10 83%	9 90%	7 37%		
Yes, extracted	7 18%	1 3%	1 8%	0 0%	12 63%		
Yes, extracted and subgroup analyses performed	0 0%	4 11%	1 8%	1 10%	0 0%		
Conflicts of interests of study authors						0.500	0.731
Not mentioned	37 95%	37 97%	12 100%	10 100%	17 89%		
Yes, extracted	2 5%	1 3%	0 0%	0 0%	2 11%		
Yes, extracted and subgroup analyses performed	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%		
Ethical approval of included studies						0.510	0.351
Not mentioned	39 100%	36 95%	12 100%	10 100%	18 95%		
Yes, extracted	0 0%	2 5%	0 0%	0 0%	1 5%		
Yes, extracted and analysed	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%		
Number of procedures applied						<0.001	0.021
None	6 15%	1 3%	3 25%	1 10%	0 0%		
1 or 2 procedures	22 56%	14 37%	6 50%	4 40%	2 11%		
3 or 4 procedures	10 26%	23 61%	3 25%	5 50%	15 79%		
5 procedures	1 3%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	2 11%		
Median (IQR)	2 (1 to 3)	3 (2 to 3)	1 (0.5 to 2.5)	2.5 (2 to 3)	3 (3 to 4)		
Explicit mention of misconduct by review authors						0.461	0.318
No, or not mentioned	38 97%	36 95%	10 83%	9 90%	18 95%		
Yes	1 3%	2 5%	2 17%	1 10%	1 5%		

IQR: Inter-quartile range. P1: tests the null hypothesis of equal distribution across the five journals. P2: tests the null hypothesis of equal distribution across the four journals, excluding the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. (Chi2 test)