CENTRAL search strategy
#1 MeSH descriptor: [Dexmedetomidine] explode all trees
#2 (dexmedetomidine or precede):ti,ab,kw
#3 #1 or #2
#4 MeSH descriptor: [Delirium] explode all trees
#5 (deliri* or “acute confusion*” or “acute organic psychosyndrome” or “acute brain syndrome” or “metabolic encephalopathy” or “acute psycho-organic syndrome” or “clouded state” or “clouding of consciousness” or “exogenous psychosis” or “toxic psychosis” or “toxic confusion” or obnubilat*):ti,ab,kw
#6 #4 or #5
#7 #3 and #6

Pubmed search strategy
#1 “Dexmedetomidine”[Mesh]
#2 (dexmedetomidine or precede)[Title/Abstract]
#3 #1 or #2
#4 “Delirium”[Mesh]
#5 (deliri* or “acute confusion*” or “acute organic psychosyndrome” or “acute brain syndrome” or “metabolic encephalopathy” or “acute psycho-organic syndrome” or “clouded state” or “clouding of consciousness” or “exogenous psychosis” or “toxic psychosis” or “toxic confusion” or obnubilat*)[Title/Abstract]
#6 #4 or #5
#7 (randomized controlled trial or controlled clinical trial)[Publication Type] or (random* or placebo or trial* or blind* or multicenter* or prospective)[Title/Abstract]
#8 #3 and #6 and #7

Embase search strategy
#1 'dexmedetomidine'/exp
#2 ('dexmedetomidine' or 'precede'):ab,ti
#3 #1 or #2
#4 'delirium'/exp
#5 ('deliri*' or 'acute confusion*' or 'acute organic psychosyndrome' or 'acute brain syndrome' or 'metabolic encephalopathy' or 'acute psycho-organic syndrome' or 'clouded state' or 'clouding of consciousness' or 'exogenous psychosis' or 'toxic psychosis' or 'toxic confusion' or 'obnubilat*'):ab,ti
#6 #4 or #5
#7 ('random*' or 'placebo' or 'trial*' or 'blind*' or 'multicenter*' or 'prospective'):ab,ti
#8 #3 and #6 and #7

ISI Web of Science search strategy
#1 TS=(dexmedetomidine or precede)
#2 TS=(deliri* or “acute confusion*” or “acute organic psychosyndrome” or “acute brain syndrome” or “metabolic encephalopathy” or “acute psycho-organic syndrome” or “clouded state” or “clouding of consciousness” or “exogenous psychosis” or “toxic psychosis” or “toxic confusion” or obnubilat*)
#3 TS=(random* or placebo or trial* or blind* or multicenter* or prospective)
#4 #1 and #2 and #3