

Appendix 1. Search strategies

Table 1 The Cochrane Library (Wiley Online Library)

#1	MeSH descriptor: [Otitis Media with Effusion] explode all trees
#2	glue NEXT ear OR otitis NEXT media NEAR effusion* OR middle NEXT ear NEAR effusion* OR nonsuppurative NEXT otitis OR non NEXT suppurative NEXT otitis
#3	tympanitis OR serous NEXT otitis OR secretory NEXT otitis OR otitis NEXT serosa
#4	mucoid NEAR otitis OR mucous NEAR otitis OR seromuco* NEAR otitis OR sero NEXT muco* NEAR otitis
#5	mucoid NEAR middle NEXT ear OR mucous NEAR middle NEXT ear OR seromuc* NEAR middle NEXT ear
#6	adhesive NEAR otitis OR exudative NEAR otitis
#7	#1 or #2 or #3 or #4 or #5 or #6
#8	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Traditional] explode all trees
#9	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, African Traditional] explode all
#10	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Arabic] explode all trees
#11	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Ayurvedic] explode all trees
#12	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Chinese Traditional] explode all trees
#13	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, East Asian Traditional] explode all trees
#14	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Kampo] explode all trees
#15	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Korean Traditional] explode all trees
#16	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Mongolian Traditional] explode all trees
#17	MeSH descriptor: [Medicine, Tibetan Traditional] explode all trees
#18	MeSH descriptor: [Plants] explode all trees
#19	MeSH descriptor: [Plants, Medicinal] explode all trees
#20	MeSH descriptor: [Phytotherapy] explode all trees
#21	MeSH descriptor: [Ethnopharmacology] explode all trees
#22	MeSH descriptor: [Ethnobotany] explode all trees
#23	herb* OR plant* OR plant* extract
#24	#8 or #9 or #10 or #11 or #12 or #13 or #14 or #15 or #16 or #17 or #18 or #19 or #20 or #21 or #22 or #23
#25	#7 and #24

Table 2 Medline(PubMed)

- #1 otitis media with effusion[MeSH Terms]
 - #2 glue ear
 - #3 otitis AND media AND effusion*
 - #4 middle AND ear AND effusion*
 - #5 nonsuppurative AND otitis
 - #6 nonsuppurative otitis
 - #7 tympanitis
 - #8 serous otitis
 - #9 secretory otitis
 - #10 otitis serosa
 - #11 mucoid AND otitis
 - #12 mucous AND otitis
 - #13 seromuco* AND otitis
 - #14 mucoid AND middle ear
 - #15 mucous AND middle ear
 - #16 seromuc* AND middle ear
 - #17 adhesive AND otitis
 - #18 exudative AND otitis
 - #19 or/#1-18
 - #20 medicine, african traditional[MeSH Terms]
 - #21 medicine, arabic[MeSH Terms]
 - #22 medicine, ayurvedic[MeSH Terms]
 - #23 medicine, traditional[MeSH Terms]
 - #24 medicine, korean traditional[MeSH Terms]
 - #25 medicine, kampo[MeSH Terms]
 - #26 medicine, chinese traditional[MeSH Terms]
 - #27 Medicine, Tibetan Traditional[MeSH Terms]
 - #28 Drugs, Chinese Herbal[MeSH Terms]
 - #29 Medicine, Mongolian Traditional[MeSH Terms]
 - #30 herb, medicinal[MeSH Terms]
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#31 herbal therapy[MeSH Terms]
 #32 medicinal plants[MeSH Terms]
 #33 plant extracts[MeSH Terms]
 #34 ethnobotany[MeSH Terms]
 #35 ethnopharmacology[MeSH Terms]
 #36 phytotherapy[MeSH Terms]
 #37 Plants[MeSH Terms]
 #38 herb*[Title/Abstract]
 #39 or/#20-38
 #40 #19 and #39

Table 3. EMBASE

#1	'secretory otitis media'/exp
#2	'glue'/exp OR glue AND ('ear'/exp OR ear)
#3	'otitis'/exp OR otitis AND media AND ('effusion'/exp OR effusion)
#4	middle AND ('ear'/exp OR ear) AND effusion*
#5	nonsuppurative AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)
#6	non AND suppurative AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)
#7	'tympanitis'/exp OR tympanitis
#8	serous AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)
#9	'serous otitis media'/exp OR 'serous otitis media'
#10	'secretory otitis media'/exp OR 'secretory otitis media'
#11	'otitis'/exp OR otitis AND ('serosa'/exp OR serosa)
#12	mucoid AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)
#13	mucous AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)
#14	seromuco* AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)
#15	sero AND muco* AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)
#16	mucoid AND middle AND ('ear'/exp OR ear)
#17	mucous AND middle AND ('ear'/exp OR ear)
#18	seromuc* AND middle AND ('ear'/exp OR ear)
#19	'adhesive'/exp OR adhesive AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)

#20 exudative AND ('otitis'/exp OR otitis)

#21 #1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR
#11 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14 OR #15 OR #16 OR #17 OR #18 OR #19 OR #20

#22 'traditional medicine'/exp OR 'traditional medicine'

#23 'african medicine'/exp OR 'african medicine'

#24 'ayurvedic medicine'/exp OR 'ayurvedic medicine'

#25 'kampo'/exp OR kampo

#26 'korean medicine'/exp OR 'korean medicine'

#27 'latin american medicine'/exp OR 'latin american medicine'

#28 'mongolian medicine'/exp OR 'mongolian medicine'

#29 'oriental medicine'/exp OR 'oriental medicine'

#30 'tibetan traditional medicine'/exp OR 'tibetan traditional medicine'

#31 'traditional chinese medicine'/exp OR 'traditional chinese medicine'

#32 'herbal medicine'/exp OR 'herbal medicine'

#33 'herbal medicinal product'/exp OR 'herbal medicinal product'

#34 'herbaceous agent'/exp OR 'herbaceous agent'

#35 'medicinal plant'/exp OR 'medicinal plant'

#36 'plant'/exp OR plant

#37 'plant extract'/exp OR 'plant extract'

#38 'phytotherapy'/exp OR phytotherapy

#39 'ethnopharmacology'/exp OR ethnopharmacology

#40 'ethnobotany'/exp OR ethnobotany

#41 #22 OR #23 OR #24 OR #25 OR #26 OR #27 OR #28 OR #29 OR #30
OR #31 OR #32 OR #33 OR #34 OR #35 OR #36 OR #37 OR #38 OR #39 OR #40

#42 #21 AND #41
