

Search Approach 1: Searching with text words in the title and abstract

DARE searched via CRD website at <http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/>

Searched: 31/03/05

(safe or safety or adverse or tolerability or toxicity or toxic or adrs or adr or tolerance or tolerate or harm or harms or harmful or complication\$ or risk or risks)/xoa OR side(w)effect\$/xoa OR undesirable(w)effect\$/xoa OR treatment(w)emergent/xoa OR

(safe or safety or adverse or tolerability or toxicity or toxic or adrs or adr or tolerance or tolerate or harm or harms or harmful or complication\$ or risk or risks)/ttl OR side(w)effect\$/ttl OR undesirable(w)effect\$/ttl OR treatment(w)emergent/ttl

Key

/xoa – restricts the search to the ‘outcomes assessed in the review’ field

/ttl – restricts the search to the ‘title’ field

\$ - truncation symbol

(w) – words must be adjacent to each other

Search Approach 2: Searching using indexing terms

DARE searched via the Cochrane Library at

<http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/cochrane.asp>

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#1 Any MeSH descriptor with qualifier: AE

#2 Any MeSH descriptor with qualifier: DE

#3 Any MeSH descriptor with qualifier: CO

#4 Any MeSH descriptor with qualifier: PO

#5 Any MeSH descriptor with qualifier: TO

#6 Any MeSH descriptor with qualifier: CI

#7 MeSH descriptor Drug Hypersensitivity explode all trees

#8 MeSH descriptor Drug Toxicity explode all trees

#9 MeSH descriptor Product Surveillance, Postmarketing explode all trees

#10 #1 or #2 or #3 or #4 or #5 or #6 or #7 or #8 or #9

Key

Sets #1 to #6 are ‘floating’ subheadings

Search Approach 3: Searching ‘provisional’ abstracts

All records in progress, ‘provisional’ abstracts, were scanned for relevant reviews of adverse effects.