

335 references  
identified through database searching

101 references excluded  
-17 protocols  
-84 duplicates

234 references

88 references excluded by selection on title and abstract  
-Not a systematic review (n=26)  
-Duplicates/updated reviews (n=35)  
-Not a therapeutic intervention (n=2)  
-No or only 1 RCT included (n=11)  
-No meta-analysis performed (n=8)  
-No split-mouth RCT (n=2)  
-No parallel-arm RCT (n=4)

146 references

128 references eliminated by selection on full-text article  
-Design of included RCTs unclear (n=4)  
-No or only 1 RCT included (n=10)  
-No meta-analysis performed (n=38)  
-No split-mouth RCT (n=44)  
-No parallel-arm RCT (n=19)  
-Unclear or no effect size reported for each RCT (n=13)

18 eligible systematic reviews  
-18 meta-analyses with binary outcome  
-24 meta-analyses with continuous outcome

8 overlapping meta-analyses from 2 systematic reviews

18 eligible systematic reviews  
-15 meta-analyses with binary outcome  
-19 meta-analyses with continuous outcome