

## Additional file 1: Detailed search strategy

	Syntax element	Syntax in MEDLINE	Syntax in EMBASE
Cough	Cough in all possible wordings in title and/or abstract	cough*[TIAB] OR whoop*[TIAB] OR expectorat*[TIAB]	cough*.ti,ab. or whoop*.ti,ab. or expectorat*.ti,ab.
		OR	or
	Cough as Mesh term	"Cough"[Mesh]	exp coughing
		AND	and
Primary Care	Term 'primary care' in all possible wordings in title and/or abstract	"general practitioner" [TIAB] OR "general practitioners"[TIAB] OR "general practice" [TIAB] OR "family practice"[TIAB] OR "family practitioners" [TIAB] OR "family practitioner" [TIAB] OR "family medicine" [TIAB] OR "family physician" [TIAB] OR "family physicians" [TIAB] OR "family doctor" [TIAB] OR "family doctors" [TIAB] OR "primary care" [TIAB] OR "family practices" [TIAB] OR "GP" [TIAB] OR "GPs" [TIAB] OR "GPs'" [TIAB] OR "GP's" [TIAB]	(general adj1 practitioner).ti,ab. or (general adj1 practitioners).ti,ab. or (general adj1 practice).ti,ab. or (family adj1 practice).ti,ab. or (family adj1 practitioners).ti,ab. or (family adj1 practitioner).ti,ab. or (family adj1 medicine).ti,ab. or (family adj1 physician).ti,ab. or (family adj1 physicians).ti,ab. or (family adj1 doctor).ti,ab. or (family adj1 doctors).ti,ab. or (primary adj1 care).ti,ab. or (family adj1 practices).ti,ab. or GP.ti,ab. or GPs.ti,ab. or GP's.ti,ab.
		OR	or
	Journal representing our research area	"BMC Fam Pract"[TA] OR "Fam Pract"[TA] OR "J Fam Pract"[TA] OR "Fam Pract Res J"[TA] OR "J Am Board Fam Pract"[TA] OR "Br j gen pract"[TA] OR "J R Coll Gen Pract" [TA] OR "J Coll Gen Pract" [TA] OR "J Coll Gen Pract Res Newsl"[TA] OR "Can fam physician"[TA] OR "Ann Fam Med"[TA] OR "Aust fam physician"[TA] OR "Scand J Prim Health Care"[TA] OR "Eur J Gen Pract"[TA] OR "Archives of family medicine"[Journal] OR "J Gen Intern Med"[TA] OR "Atencion primaria / Sociedad Española de Medicina de Familia y Comunitaria"[Journal]	bmc family practice.jn. or family practice.jn. or journal of family practice.jn. or journal of the american board of family medicine.jn. or british journal of general practice.jn. or journal of the royal college of general practitioners.jn. or canadian family physician.jn. or annals of family medicine.jn. or australian family physician.jn. or scandinavian journal of primary health care.jn. or european journal of general practice.jn. or archives of family medicine.jn. or journal of general internal medicine.jn.
		OR	
	Term 'Primary Care' (different wordings) in mail address or name of institute of the author	"general practice" [AD] OR "family practice*" [AD] OR "family medicine" [AD] OR "primary care" [AD] OR community [AD]	-
		OR	or
	Primary Care as Mesh term	"General Practitioners"[Mesh] OR "Family Practice"[Mesh] OR "Physicians, Family"[Mesh] OR "Primary Health Care"[Mesh] OR "Physicians, Primary Care"[Mesh] OR "General Practice"[Mesh] OR "Community Health Services"[Mesh] OR "Rural Health Services"[Mesh] OR "Rural Health"[Mesh]	exp general practitioner/ or exp family medicine/ or exp primary medical care/ or exp general practice/
	NOT	not	

Limits	Limits to publications	editorial[pt] OR Addresses[pt] OR Bibliography[pt] OR Biography[pt] OR "Case Reports"[pt] OR Comment[pt] OR Dictionary[pt] OR Directory[pt] OR Festschrift[pt] OR "Government Publications"[pt] OR "Historical Article"[pt] OR "In Vitro"[pt] OR "Interactive Tutorial"[pt] OR Interview[pt] OR "Introductory Journal Article"[pt] OR Lectures[pt] OR "Legal Cases"[pt] OR Legislation[pt] OR News[pt] OR "Patient Education Handout"[pt] OR Portraits[pt] OR Webcasts[pt]	limit X to (book or book series or editorial or erratum or review)
		AND	and
	Limits to languages	Dutch[lang] OR English[lang] OR French[lang] OR German[lang] OR Italian[lang] OR Russian[lang] OR Spanish[lang] OR Swedish[lang]	limit X to (Dutch or English or French or German or Italian or Russian or Spanish or Swedish)