

4789 references retrieved from the literature databases

3803 references in the study database (duplicates removed)

221 potentially relevant reports retrieved for detailed evaluation

244 references included from conference searching and grey literature searching

465 potentially relevant reports retrieved for detailed evaluation

21 reports meeting inclusion criteria for data extraction

17 studies included (following linking of multiple publications per study)

3582 excluded at 1st screening stage

Language	192
Review/Editorial	2264
Disease	134
Intervention	239
Lidocaine formulation	264
Case study	269
Animal/in vitro	183
Study design	30
Full text unavailable	7

444 excluded at 2nd screening stage

Copy/Duplicate	4
Language	9
Review/Editorial	63
Disease	24
Intervention	29
Treatment naïve	233
Lidocaine formulation	40
Case study	14
Animal /in vitro	9
Study design	3
No subgroup analysis	5
Full text unavailable	9
Children only	1
Fibromyalgia only	1