**Additional file 2: List of all articles reporting the included RCTs**

English titles in parentheses “( )” are the official translations of the Japanese title by the article authors, and those in square brackets “[ ]” are the translations made by us due to the lack of an official English translations from the article authors.

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木下晴都. 坐骨神経痛と針灸. 横須賀: 医道の日本社; 1969: p.136–8. (Kinoshita H. Acupuncture and moxibustion for the relief of sciatica. Yokosuka: Ido–no–Nippon–Sha; 1969: p.136–8)

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出端昭男. 洞刺の降圧作用について. 日本鍼灸治療学会雑誌. 1970;19(2):26–8. (Debata A. Utilization of “Do–shi” (puncture of the carotid sinus) to reduce the blood pressure. The Journal of the Japan Acupuncture & Moxibustion Society. 1970;19(2):26–8)

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