

Number of articles retrieved from electronic search = 1226

Number of duplicates removed = 107

Number of articles after duplicates removed = 1129

Number of articles excluded after title and abstract screening = 1008

Not uk = 888  
Topic not relevant = 45  
Does not report medication error rate = 44  
Uses spontaneous report to measure error = 17  
Limited to one medication or therapeutic group = 3  
Only reports administrating or dispensing errors in secondary care = 8  
Compares different hcp in secondary care without other source = 2  
Publication out of print and unavailable = 1

Number of reviews identified = 22  
Full articles scanned for primary studies

Number of hand searched articles added = 18

Number of full articles evaluated = 117

Number of articles excluded after evaluation = 90

Not uk = 23  
Topic not relevant = 9  
Does not report medication error rate = 44  
Does not report detail of method of measuring error = 5  
Uses spontaneous report to measure error = 5  
Only reports administrating or dispensing errors in secondary care = 2  
Compares different hcp in secondary care without other source = 2

Number of articles included after evaluation = 27