

Titles and abstracts from electronic  
(MEDLINE, EMBASE, Cochrane and  
PsychInfo, to Nov 2008): **n=2205**

Additional records identified through  
other sources (bibliographic searches):  
**n=42**

Records after duplicates removed: **n=1554**

Titles and abstracts screened;  
**n=1554**

Records excluded; **n=1453**

Full papers and conference abstracts  
assessed for inclusion: **101**

Full papers and conference abstracts  
included in qualitative synthesis: **22**  
Individual studies included: **14**  
Arms included: **23**

Papers excluded as not RCT,  
participants not humans aged 6+,  
intervention not iron vs. placebo, or  
objective measure of cognitive  
performance not assessed: **78**

Studies included in meta-analyses: **9**  
Arms included in meta-analyses: **14**