

Potentially relevant papers  
(n = 791)  
PubMed (247), Embase  
(246), NHS EED (104) and  
Cochrane (194)

Sift 1: 719 papers did  
not meet inclusion  
criteria or were  
duplicates

Papers retrieved for  
more detailed evaluation  
(n = 72)

Sift 2: 49 papers did  
not meet inclusion  
criteria

Potentially appropriate  
papers to be included in  
the review (n = 23)

Sift 3: 3 papers did not  
meet quality criteria

Papers included in the  
review (n = 20)