

**Additional file 1: Search string and search results**

<b>Database</b>	<b>Search string</b>	<b>Identified</b>	<b>Duplicates excluded</b>	<b>Retrieved</b>
<b>PubMed</b>	(Deliri*[tw] OR Confusion*[tiab] OR Psychosis[tiab] OR Psychoses[tiab] OR Psychotic[tw] OR brain failure*[tiab]) AND (Intensive Care*[tw] OR ICU*[tiab] OR critical care*[tiab] OR critically ill*[tiab])	1917	15	(1902)
<b>Embase</b>	('intensive care psychosis'/de OR ((Deliri* OR Psychotic OR Confusion* OR Psychosis OR Psychoses) NEAR/6 ('Intensive Care' OR ICU OR 'critical care' OR 'critically ill' OR 'critical illness')):de,ab,ti )	1232	904	(328)
<b>PsycINFO</b>	((Deliri* OR Psychotic OR Confusion* OR Psychosis OR Psychoses) ADJ6 ('Intensive Care' OR ICU OR 'critical care' OR 'critically ill' OR 'critical illness'))	181	125	(56)
<b>Cochrane</b>	((Deliri* OR Psychotic OR Confusion* OR Psychosis OR Psychoses) NEAR/6 ('Intensive Care' OR ICU OR 'critical care' OR 'critically ill' OR 'critical illness'))	15	8	(7)
<b>CINAHL</b>	MM "ICU Psychosis" OR SU((Deliri* OR Confusion* OR Psychosis OR Psychoses OR Psychotic OR "brain failure*") AND ("Intensive Care*" OR ICU* OR "critical care*" OR "critically ill*"))	636	447	(189)
<b>Total:</b>				
		3981	1499	2482
<b>Total # of studies excluded before year 2000</b>				514
<b>Remaining # of identified studies</b>				<b>1968</b>