Additional file 1

PRISMA-P 2015 checklist: recommended items to include in a systematic review protocol[a]			
Section/topic	**Item #**	**Page #**	**Checklist item**
			ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
			Title
Identification	1a	1	Identify the report as a protocol of a systematic review
Update	1b	NA	If the protocol is for an update of a previous systematic review, identify as such
Registration	2	2	If registered, provide the name of the registry (e.g., PROSPERO) and registration number
			Authors
Contact	3a	1	Provide name, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address of all protocol authors; provide physical mailing address of corresponding author
Contributions	3b	14	Describe contributions of protocol authors and identify the guarantor of the review
Amendments	4	NA	If the protocol represents an amendment of a previously completed or published protocol, identify as such and list changes; otherwise, state plan for documenting important protocol amendments
			Support
Sources	5a	14	Indicate sources of financial or other support for the review
Sponsor	5b	14	Provide name for the review funder and/or sponsor
Role of sponsor/funder	5c	14	Describe roles of funder(s), sponsor(s), and/or institution(s), if any, in developing the protocol
			INTRODUCTION
Rationale	6	2	Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known
Objectives	7	5	Provide an explicit statement of the question(s) the review will address with reference to participants, interventions, comparators, and outcomes (PICO)
			METHODS
Eligibility criteria	8	7	Specify the study characteristics (e.g., PICO, study design, setting, time frame) and report characteristics (e.g., years considered, language, publication status) to be used as criteria for eligibility for the review
Information sources	9	6-7	Describe all intended information sources (e.g., electronic databases, contact with study authors, trial registers, or other grey literature sources) with planned dates of coverage
Search strategy	10	6-7	Present draft of search strategy to be used for at least one electronic database, including planned limits, such that it could be repeated
			Study records
Data management	11a	8	Describe the mechanism(s) that will be used to manage records and data throughout the review
Selection process	11b	8	State the process that will be used for selecting studies (e.g., two independent reviewers) through each phase of the review (i.e., screening, eligibility, and inclusion in meta-analysis)
Data collection process	11c	8	Describe planned method of extracting data from reports (e.g., piloting forms, done independently, in duplicate), any processes for obtaining and confirming data from investigators
Data items	12	9	List and define all variables for which data will be sought (e.g., PICO items, funding sources), any pre-planned data assumptions and simplifications
Outcomes and prioritization	13	8	List and define all outcomes for which data will be sought, including prioritization of main and additional outcomes, with rationale
Risk of bias in individual studies	14	10	Describe anticipated methods for assessing risk of bias of individual studies, including whether this will be done at the outcome or study level, or both; state how this information will be used in data synthesis
			Data
Synthesis	15a	10	Describe criteria under which study data will be quantitatively synthesized
	15b	11	If data are appropriate for quantitative synthesis, describe planned summary measures, methods of handling data, and methods of combining data from studies, including any planned exploration of consistency (e.g., I^2, Kendall's tau)
	15c	11	Describe any proposed additional analyses (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression)
	15d	11	If quantitative synthesis is not appropriate, describe the type of summary planned
Meta-bias(es)	16	11-12	Specify any planned assessment of meta-bias(es) (e.g., publication bias across studies, selective reporting within studies)
Confidence in cumulative evidence	17	NA	Describe how the strength of the body of evidence will be assessed (e.g., GRADE)

PRISMA-P Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic review and Meta-Analysis Protocols.